

Meeting Minutes
of the
Agricultural Service Board – Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
July 3, 2024 – MD Council Chambers

Present: Chair Anna Welsch, Reeve Dave Cox, Members Frank Welsch, Martin Puch and Mark Zoratti.

Also Present: CAO Roland Milligan, Agricultural Fieldman Shane Poulsen, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Absent: Councillor Tony Bruder

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Martin Puch 24/021

Moved that agenda for July 3, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

ALUS

Kelly Cooley, with CoolPro Solutions, attended the meeting at this time to update ASB on current activities:

ALUS

- ALUS Pincher Creek 2024 funding is stable
- 2025 and beyond, they are looking at Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program, as well as other smaller grant opportunities
- Drought and Flood Protection Program is now open, and the MD has applied to assist with water issues
- ALUS had a table at the ASB Provincial Conference
- Hosted a Beaver Creek Watershed Group at Spring Point Hall in February
- Pincher Creek Trade Fair, assisting the MD
- Crown Managers Forum, Cranbrook BC
- Beavers gone missing (Lee Lake and Buckhorn area)
- Creating Drought Resilience by Harnessing Nature's Engineers in Maycroft
- Beaver Dam Analogue Tour Waldron Ranch

SWIM

- Early Detection and Rapid Response Workshop
- EDRR Workshop
- Day on the Creek (PlayCleanGo)
- Weed control events – Summerview/Oldman River
- Alberta Invasive Species Council
- Montana Invasive Grasses Tour

Kelly Cooley left the meeting at this time, the time being 2:15pm.

C. MINUTES

Councillor Mark Zoratti 24/022

Moved that the minutes of May 1, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Deadstock Bin Update

We are still looking at places for 2 of the bins; Shane will contact more landowners or perhaps have it on an MD roadway. Issues surrounding the bins include improper usage, cleaning, and the lack of people calling to report they have put something in the bin. Repairs are needed on a couple of the bins.

F. 2024 AES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Frank Welsch 24/023

Moved to accept for information the departmental reports from the Agricultural Fieldman for June 2024.

Carried

G. WEED NOTICE

Crews will start with prohibited noxious weeds (specifically spotted knapweed) as the first weed and noxious blueweed second. Shane stated that crews would leave information on door handles and mail weed letters to residents. Should the letters not force the landowners to take responsibility, the next step is to send weed notices before going onto the land and dealing with it ourselves, which would result in the expense being billed to the landowner.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

1. For Action

2. For Information

Martin Puch 24/024

Moved that the following be received as information:

a) Grizzly Bear Concerns

- Letter from MD Council to Ministers/Municipalities along Eastern Slopes
- b) Resources for Recognizing Various Grasshoppers
- Information provided by University of Lethbridge

Carried

I. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Corporate Policy C-FIN-529 Fees and Charges

Mark Zoratti

24/025

Moved that ASB recommend to Council to approve the changes to policy C-FIN-529 Fees and Charges, as presented.

Carried

- b) Downy Brome

Discussion on the emergence of widespread infestations seen this year. Expect to see it next year as well.

- c) Yellow Hawkweed

Discussion on abundance and what it will look like in the future. Expect to see it next year as well. Came in with the last big forest fire and has been spreading ever since.

J. CLOSED SESSION

K. NEXT MEETING – September 4, 2024

K. ADJOURNMENT

Frank Welsch

24/026

Moved to adjourn the meeting, the time being 3:15 pm.

Carried

ASB Chairperson

ASB Secretary