

MD of Bighorn  
Agriculture Services and Environmental Advisory Board  
September 28, 2018 – 9:00am  
MD Administration Building, Council Chambers

<b>In Attendance</b>	Jackie Gemmill	Public Member & Chair
	Erik Butters	Councillor, MD of Bighorn
	Penny MacMillan	Public Member
	Dwight Tannas	Public Member
	Paul Clark	Deputy Reeve, M.D. of Bighorn
	Bryne Weerstra	Public Member
<b>Regrets</b>	Sandy Stafford	Key Contact, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
<b>Staff</b>	Kendra Tippe	Environmental Fieldman
	Lana Hill	Recording Secretary

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

**1. Agenda**

- a. Additions – 1) PRVD2018-13, Strychnine and Its' Associated End-use Products (Ground Squirrel Use), added to New Business (F)  
- 2) Foothills Forage and Grazing Association Request for Financial Support, added to New Business (G)
- b. Deletions – there were no deletions

**MOTION** by MacMillan to approve the agenda.

**Carried**  
**Seconded by Gemmill**

**2. Adoption of Minutes**

**MOTION** by McMillan to approve the June 1, 2018 minutes with the following amendments:

- 6. General Business, (e), third sentence from the top to read "...Horse Lake and the Sandhills where the landscape is being degraded"
- 6. General Business, (e), fifth sentence from the top to read "...officers could be in the area more often"

**Carried**  
**Seconded by Gemmill**

**3. Delegations –**

None

#### **4. Environmental Fieldman's Report – Tippe**

- B. Weerstra asked about the email he sent regarding the dirt pile at the Ghost Reservoir, wondering who's responsible for weed control? K. Tippe confirmed it was the MD's responsibility to inspect and enforce. B. Weerstra stated province was supposed to seed the hill, however, this has not happened he will speak with them.
- B. Weerstra asked K. Tippe to elaborate on the Workshop "Range Plant Community Guides and Recovery Strategies" K. Tippe stated it was a two-day workshop and confirmed that she was only able to attend the one day. The day she attended was a presentation that focused on how to use the guides. K. Tippe discussed the presenters and whom attended, she stated it was a great workshop.
- P. Clark commented that the AG staff did a great job on The Dirt. K. Tippe thanked him and said she would pass it on to her staff.
- P. Clark asked K. Tippe to elaborate about hazardous trees in the MD K. Tippe explained to the ASEAB that they receive calls about dangerous trees on MD property. K. Tippe confirmed that the MD will take care of trees if found to be dangerous.

#### **5. Business Arising from Minutes – Tippe**

##### **a) Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)**

- K. Tippe provided an article regarding CWD for information to ASEAB.

#### **6. General Business**

##### **a) Living in the Natural Environment**

- K. Tippe said LNE is progressing nicely. 1<sup>st</sup> presenter Julie Walker has been confirmed. 2<sup>nd</sup> presenter will include Karsten Heuer (Bison Reintroduction Program Manager for Banff National Park) and Dr. Keith Lehman (Chief Provincial Veterinarian), it was suggested that the MD might want to contact someone from the province, regarding the new protection zone for the bison.
- K. Tippe was asking for suggestions on whether to have two or three presenters at LNE.
- D. Tannas asked if anything regarding the recent Bison escape came out of the Fieldmen's Association. K. Tippe confirmed that this has not been discussed by the Fieldmen and that a meeting has not happen yet, so she could not provide any information.
- E. Butters like the idea of a third speaker, however, suggested that the third speaker not be another representative from government.
- E. Butters asked if possible to put time constraints on presentations to allow for more questions and to not lose participants.
- K. Tippe confirmed that would be ok to give the presenter clear directions for their presentations.
- B. Weerstra agreed that was a good idea as it might make the presenters focus more on what they are there to talk about.
- P. MacMillan stated that it was very important to have a balanced panel for discussion and in saying so agreed with E. Butters earlier suggestion of not having all three panel members be from the government.
- A discussion ensued regarding Bison control. E. Butters confirmed it can be done, however, Parks do not want to fence an area, due to restricting other wildlife movement.

- K. Tippe said she would speak to Karsten to see who the stakeholders were that they spoke with, and if any of them were neighbouring landowners that could present.
- P. Clark suggested handing out cards to people that could write their questions on them and then hand them to the Chair to ask. The board was agreeable with that idea.
- Gemmill stated the board will leave it up to K. Tippe to find presenters.
- K. Tippe wanted to clarify that the preference was three presenters and preferably not all from the province.
- B. Weerstra stated that K. Tippe can inquire into presenters from other areas, however, reminded the board that we must watch our budget constraints.

#### **b) Jumping pound Creek Watershed Partnership (JCWP)**

- S. Reimersma provided update at the last ASEAB meeting. The committee has a Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP) grant due at the end of October 2018 with another WRRP grant being approved for the committee taking them into 2020.

#### **c) Municipal Update**

- E. Butters stated that the Land Use Bylaw passed third reading. P. Clark confirmed the only item that would affect Wards 3 & 4 was that secondary suites were now going to be allowed.
- P. Clark stated that budget deliberations were proceeding, and nothing jumped out at him about Wards 3 & 4.
- Road work continues to be a big budget item, for Jamieson Road & Richards Road. Big upgrades were done this year and will continue for next year.
- Land swap still going on. M. Buckley, D. Cooper and P. Clark will be attending a meeting with the Minister next week.

#### **d) Alberta Agriculture & Forestry Update**

- K. Tippe provided an update regarding the reorganization of Agriculture and Forestry. K. Tippe provided updates from Sandy on the Canadian Agriculture Partnership programs that are currently open.
- P. Clark asked if Tippe can help with program applications to the province.
- K. Tippe said yes, she can help and is more knowledgeable in the Environmental Stewardship program.

#### **e) Ghost Watershed Alliance Society (GWAS)**

- B. Weerstra said that the state of the watershed report was completed this summer and available on website. He also stated that there were some small corrections to the shorter report summary that was put out, however, nothing that would change the outcome of the report.
- B. Weerstra said that GWAS has no appetite for the development of the Watershed management plan, therefore, it has been deferred to after the election.
- B. Weerstra said that GWAS was looking to hold an event to bring the stakeholders together regarding the state of the watershed report.
- P. MacMillan asked who would be involved as stakeholders.
- B. Weerstra gave examples such as TransAlta, Spray Lakes would be great.
- D. Tannas suggested the invite should be extended to the First Nations community and to any neighbouring municipalities.

- B. Weerstra shared with the board that they have been advised by the provincial government that any projects happening on Crown land would have to have an Occupational Health & Safety Plan. Which means that clean up of the TransAlta road would need an Occupation Health & Safety Plan.
- B. Weerstra said that lots of their programs are in jeopardy if an Occupational Health & Safety Plan is not put in place.
- B. Weerstra confirms that the AGM for GWAS is November 2018 at The Crossing, for more details check out website.
- P. Clark asked if GWAS had requested a grant from the MD.
- B. Weerstra confirmed that the grant application was submitted.

#### **f) Public Member Reports**

- B. Weerstra said that the MD paved lots on Jamieson Road.
- P. Clark confirmed lots of grading work going on.
- A conversation on the transfer site ensued. The discussion was on the grounds of people illegally dumping stuff there, MD put a sign up, however, that doesn't seem to be working. One member brought up the use of a dumpster, however, that was quickly dismissed as a viable option as it promoted dumping there. The consensus was that there are general infrastructure issues.
- P. MacMillan asked for a clarification on grazing in road allowance leases.
- K. Tippe confirmed there is a policy that does not permit open grazing on developed road allowances however, residents can apply for a caretaker agreement.
- P. MacMillan was interested to hear what the thoughts were on weevils being introduced into Banff National Park to combat yellow toadflax.
- K. Tippe has not looked at where exactly they are being used in Banff. She stated that it takes about 10 years to get biological control agents approved in Canada, with lots of criteria having to be met.
- K. Tippe did confirm the impression she did get was that most of their weed issues are in the busy front country areas of Banff.
- D. Tannas stated that if you do not have your feed by now, you could be out of luck, due to weather and the very little harvested hay.
- J. Gemmill stated that she will be going to school again to get her Ecological Restoration certificate.
- J. Gemmill said she has seen lots of bears in the Fox Creek area.
- D. Tannas said there is also lots of bears in the Chain Lakes Park.

### **7. New Business**

#### **a) 2019 Workshop Ideas**

- Bee box building workshop build a bee box they can take home
- P. Clark suggested bat box building
- Workshops that show how to utilize plants that are native to Alberta
- P. Clark clarified he was wanting more information on free range chickens and containment.
- K. Tippe then asked if the board comes up with anymore ideas to let her know via email.

**b) 2018 Resolution Responses & Report Cards.**

- K. Tippe read through the report, said there were two points that stuck out for her.
- Resolution # 2-18 Weed and Pest appeals, they wanted a faster response times from the province.
- Resolution #4-18 Weed Control on Vacant Land the committee requires further explanation as to what the provinces plan is.

**c) Provincial ASB Conference/ Central Regional Meeting**

- Central Regional ASB Conference is being hosted by Wetaskiwin on November 14, 2018, need to confirm people attending by October 26, 2018. Board members would like to wait and see what the agenda looks like.
- The Provincial ASB Conference is scheduled for January 21 to 24, 2019 at the Hyatt in Calgary. The South Region is hosting, and the agenda has not come out yet. Early December 2018 is typically when rooms are booked so there is lots of time. K. Tippe will update as information is received.

**d) ASEAB Members Expiring**

- Reminder to get those applications in. P. MacMillan and B. Weerstra expiring this year.

**e) Water & Agriculture Conference**

- K. Tippe brought information regarding a conference, that is being held the same time as ARMA meeting that both councillors attending. J. Gemmill is interested in attending this meeting. If anyone else wants to attend they can register online with Eventbrite.

**f) PRVD2018-13, Strychnine and Its' Associated End-use Products (Ground Squirrel Use)**

- K. Tippe advised group that Strychnine use is under review by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA). They were considering not renewing the registration.
- P. Clark asked if province asking for any input from us.
- K. Tippe advised no.
- K. Tippe advised the main concern of the product by the PMRA was off target poisonings.

**g) Foothills Forage and Grazing Association**

- K. Tippe advised that Foothills Forage and Grazing Association has asked the MD for an annual contribution. For the past 2 years we have contributed \$200.00, K. Tippe asked board if they would like to go ahead and contribute again this year. The question was asked if this is manageable within the operating budget. K. Tippe stated it was.

**MOTION** by MacMillan to contribute \$200.00 to the Foothills Forage and Grazing Association

**Carried  
Second by Weerstra**

**8. Information**

- Various publications were made available at the meeting.

**9. Next Meeting Date**

- Friday, December 14, 2018

10. **Adjournment**

**MOTION** by MacMillan to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

**Carried**



Chairman



Recording Secretary