

M.D. of Bighorn
Agricultural Services and Environmental Advisory Board
January 14th, 2011
MD Administration Building, Council Chambers

In Attendance: Jackie Gemmill – Chairman
Bryne Weerstra
Marla Hingley
Penny MacMillan
Dene Cooper

Absent: Erik Butters

**Alberta Agriculture
And Rural Development:** Doug Macaulay, AARD

Staff: Dwight Tannas, Environmental Fieldman
Emily Smith (arrived at 11:40 am to make a short report on LINE)

Delegations: None

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:15 am

1. Agenda

a) **Additions**
None

b) **Approval**
MOTION PENNY THAT: the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously

2. Adoption of Minutes

a) **MOTION BRYNE THAT:**
The minutes of the ASE&AB meeting September 17th, 2010 and those of the Special Meeting Dec. 10th 2010 be approved with noted grammatical/spelling changes.

Carried Unanimously

3. Delegation:

None

4. Agricultural Fieldman's Report

- Reports accepted as presented:
- It was discussed that all thought that our Municipal Tour was useful and that we would continue to tour different parts of the MD in the future. It was also discussed the possibility of holding a board meeting in the north part of the MD.

5. Business Arising From Minutes

a) Living in a Natural Environment (LINE)

A brief discussion was held and it was agreed that everything is coming together well. Emily informed the board that we have received \$4,150 in sponsorship funding so far. She also explained that each speaker had an hour to make their presentations.

b) Municipal Update

Brief update provided by D. Cooper.

Emily Smith will be coordinating a Sustainable Economic Development/Tourism Strategy study. Dene handed out copies of the EcDev Solutions Delegation Report to the board members. Some ratepayers will be contacted for individual interviews in person or by phone. As well there will be a survey on the MD webpage. There will also be public forums. These meetings are important as there is a need to know what kinds of development is acceptable to the residents, this lead to a discussion on recreational use in the MD. It was noted that there are a couple of board members that are not aware of our Forest Reserve Multi – Use Dialogue (FRMUD) study. The board requested that an update from our CAO, who is our representative at the Ghost Stewardship Monitoring Group, be provided. The last item was to inform us that the Bow River Basin Council and the Ghost Watershed Alliance would be making a presentation to the next MD of Bighorn Council meeting.

c) Ranching Opportunities and Ladies Livestock Lesson:

Dwight informed the board that the planning of both events is almost completed. There has been a better response to the Ranching Opportunities workshop than in the past. We have involved the Olds College students more and with the addition of reps from Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development and Foothills Forage we have tried to make our conference different than others. The ladies grazing school planning is almost completed. It will be held on June 15th and 16th. More information can be found at <http://ladieslivestocklessons.blogspot.com/>

d) ASB Conference

Final travel plans were discussed and the MD Suburban has been booked for us to use.

6. New Business

a) Alberta Invasive Plant Council Membership

The membership was discussed and it was decided to renew our membership. Dwight explained that the fact sheets and other educational material they provide are very useful.

MOTION BRYNE THAT: we renew our membership.

Carried Unanimously

b) Red Deer Watershed Alliance Membership

There was discussion about the amount of funding that we should provide. It was decided that we would provide the same amount as we did last year.

MOTION BRYNE THAT: we provide the Red Deer Watershed Alliance \$250 the same as we did last year.

Carried Unanimously

c) Provincial ASB Conference Resolutions

We discussed each resolution and determined which ones we would support or not. We also determined that there were some that it would be best to decide after hearing the discussions at the conference.

7. Information

Items circulated

8. Next Meeting

Friday March 11th, 2011

9. Adjournment

MOTION PENNY TO ADJOURN the meeting at 12:30 pm.



Chairman



Designated Office