



Alfalfa Seed Commission (Alberta)

March 1, 2018

MHC Brooks

Meeting called to order @ 9:13am

**Present:** Brian Slenders, Ben Nickel, Brad Alexander, Ben Dyck, Greg Klassen, Chad Skrove, Jodi Niznik,

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes read by Jodi, adopted by Ben D; Greg 2nds.

**Financial Report:** Bank Balance as of February 27, 2018 \$371,116.99 in the chequing account.

Financials are in at the accountants and Ben awaiting the outcome to prepare a budget.

**Business Arising from Minutes:**

**a. Vapona Monitor** - \$5000.00 – discussions about using this as a risk management project for environmental exposure, so it would be eligible for CAP funding. Danika has already applied for some other funding as well bringing ASCA's contribution down. Brian suggested adding this to Danika's project

**b. Cinnamon** trials having amazing in lab results; if parasites come out, they die right away. Preliminary – cinnamon is inhibiting the growth of the chalk brood as well with no adverse effects on the bees

**c. PGR's** - Len is working on this but funding is pending on these performance parameters

**Brad's Report:** Included

**a. Peace River Project** – actually called the Agri-Science Project – discussions on budget and the costs to the project have reduced with the inclusion of our portion; their budget has varied yearly costs

**Amendment to Bill's motion from February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018: Greg moves to amend Bill's motion and moves that we commit a flat yearly rate of \$10,000 for 5 years. Ben N. 2nds all; in favor**

-Brad to check the website information and update meetings and info-

**Old Business**

**a. Amendments to the Constitution** – Brian is looking into doing what the wheat growers are doing with regards to tax write offs for levy contributions with regards to research contributions. Won't change our budget but could be significant to the growers.

Discussions regarding the change in the 1.25% to 1%; with proactive budgeting, 5 year commitments to projects, and levy's being a wild card the decision was made to leave that alone and readdress in the future if the budget allows

Jodi to contact Reuben regarding process of actual vote taking and counts

**b.Spring Meeting**

8:30am Coffee

9am Brian opening

9:10 Brad - report

9:20Darren/Kelly - CLBC

9:35 Chad PPMUC

9:45 Danika – update

10am Coffee

10:15am Guest Speaker - Steve Evett

11:00am AGM

Noon

1:00pm New Equipment Info

\*adding cost of \$30 for lunch to the information – Jodi to have a float

**c. PPMUC** - Ron Pidskalny says there's no possibility that DOW Canada will authorize the use of Transform in Canada again. We should take a look into Fierce; it's registered for soybean use but no research into alfalfa yet; consult with Ron. Brad to talk to Chris Neesor about consulting on a crop tolerance trial or test plots.

Authority still in a grey area and hopefully we have answers for the Spring meeting.  
Pesticide Applicator License – is it a good idea to have? Brad's Alberta license has lapsed it was suggested he challenge the course  
Discussions regarding collaborating with the County of Newell on running a pesticide applicator course together – Ben calls Todd Green at the County and he agreed this was a good idea; too late for this year maybe a Jan/Feb of next year. Or possibility of a one day course to see if there's interest to offer the 3 day one; stressing the producers need to be as responsible as possible or we will lose the use of more of these chemicals.

### **New Business**

**a. Increasing** seats with advisors – discussions regarding inviting on more advisors to allow for more industry advice and input.

**Greg moves that we invite Bruce Balog and Katie Cowie to join the Commission as advisors Chad 2nds; all in favor.** Greg to call Bruce/Brian to call Katie.

### **Upcoming Events**

**AFIN AGM** Leduc March 8<sup>th</sup> Brad and Bill attending

**Governance training** in Taber March 19<sup>th</sup>; Jodi is registering herself, Brian, Bill, Chad and Ben D.

Greg adjourns the meeting at 11:25am

**Next meeting April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ MHC**