



Alfalfa Seed Commission
January 9, 2020
Medicine Hat College, Brooks

Meeting called to order @ 9:15am

Attendance: Brian Slenders, Bill Dickinson, Brad Alexander, Bruce Balog, Jodi Niznik, Alex Geerligs, Greg Klassen

Secretaries Report: Jodi read the minutes from the November meeting.

Financial Report: There were no financials to attach other than the financial wrap up from the Fall Meeting totalling \$4903.52. Payroll submissions are at the accountants and she is working on T4's, and Jodi is working on completing the year end to submit to Carrie as well. We have 5 GICs due February 7, 2020 totalling \$403,944.49. Jodi will contact the bank and Ben to discuss options to bring to February's meeting for a decision to be made.

Brad's Report (Included):

a.PGR's – Brad is to look into if Parlay has already been looked into years back and we will discuss with Len later how he would like to partner doing more extensive studies with the PGR's and irrigation.

b.Disease Forecasting Models – it will be presented in an app form, but humidity is crucial and needs to be factored in somehow. Also add the ASIS website information because it's already there, easy to use, and can link back to our website.

c.Ag For Life Trailer – board decided to wait and see for now with the gov't cuts and what some of the other big players are going to contribute.

d. Drones –There is potential to partner with Chris Neesor, but there may be further push back from the growers without the outcomes and benefits to them. We can't move forward without the algorithms however and need the advanced technology to do so. Brad is to have Chris put together a proposal.

Alex moves that we all reports be adopted as read; Bill 2nds.

Old Business: Brian attended the meeting in Reno and there was talk about weevil resistance from Montana to California. Further discussions continued about weevil movement & reasons; fall irrigation, new fields with early growth, depth of snow pack, length of snowpack over winter. Chad is to look into some new chemical possibilities solicam/synbar.

New Business:

a.Alberta Bee Project – Information was passed onto Greg from the Alberta Farm Animal Care for us to consider but the study is focusing on honey bees not leaf cutters so it won't be considered.

b.Spring Meeting – tentatively set for March 24, 2020. Cassils hall is available, Brad is checking to see if Shane Cook is available. Greg's term is up and his seat needs to be replaced and there is still one open seat if there's more than 1 candidate.

c.Bathyplectes Model – Bruce presented a comparison. Hector plans to go into Richard's field earlier to see if the parasites are present. Possibility to discuss this at the Spring meeting; tabled to the

next meeting after Brad talks to Hector to see if there's more information or direction regarding beneficial's vs spraying practise.

d. Bruce informed the board that he is doing a grower survey again this year.

Len Hingley joins the meeting: discussions regarding the provincial government cutbacks and he doesn't know what more is still to come over the next few months. He would like to continue working with ASCA and research projects, but cannot commit to anything at this time; should know by April 1, 2020.

Work will move forward planning for the next research project, bringing Len and irrigation into the PGR project, in the hopes that Len will be there in April. Len will see if there is the possibility of working with the Federal plot at Vauxhall. It must be a replicated trial, single PGR application with varying irrigation and a multiple application with the same irrigation as trial 1. Len will focus on the irrigation and Brad will manage the PGR's. CAP funding is still in place for the next 4 years, but uncertain what provincial model will look like. Len will keep the board up to speed on the changes with any government and his employment.

Next meeting February 6, 2020 @ MHC 9am.

Meeting adjourned @ 11:55am by Greg.