

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO PROVINCIAL A.S.B. CONFERENCE

FEbruary 24, 25, 26, 27, 1975

1. WHEREAS there is a serious erosion problem in the Peace River area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Environmental Conservation Authority conduct a survey of the Peace River area concerning the serious problem;

ALSO LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Agricultural Service Board in the different areas enter a petition in support of the resolution encouraging the Environmental Conservation Authority to conduct the survey.

Improvement District No. 16

CARRIED

2. WHEREAS many of the small erosion problems at the farm level are caused by major water divisions and/or drainage problems; and

WHEREAS the current program through S.C.A.P. does not allow for large enough sums of money to correct the major source of water erosion; and

WHEREAS any program designed to compensate individual farmers for repairing small erosion problems does not allow all long term corrections of the major source of the erosion problem;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that serious consideration be given by the Department of Economic Resources as to setting up a program for repairing and improving soil erosion control measures of major water erosion problems. These programs could then be carried out on an organized basis through the Municipal, Improvement District, and County Agricultural Service Boards, with the technical assistance to be provided by the Department of Environment and the Water Resources Branch.

M.D. of Fairview No. 135

CARRIED

3. BE IT RESOLVED that this conference go on record to urge the Federal Minister of Agriculture Hon. E. Whalen to make the Vegreville Soil Research Sub-Station a full fledged or autonomous soils and crop station and that the research work from this station, in addition to solonetzic soils be extended to crop production on other soil types in this region.

County of Minburn No. 27

CARRIED

4. WHEREAS the Department contributes an amount equal to one half of the purchase cost of a portable livestock scale delivered to the Municipal shipping point to a maximum of \$600.00;

WHEREAS any one Alberta Municipality, County, Improvement District or Special Area may receive assistance on the purchase on a maximum number of two portable scales;

WHEREAS these scales are maintained in good working order, whereby a rental policy is imposed;

WHEREAS the Plant Industry Division does not generally allow grants for purchase of large capital items;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a similar method be adopted on the purchase of portable weed sprayers having high pressure, adequate hose length, and at least a 100 gallon capacity.

M.D. of Spirit River No. 133

CARRIED

5. WHEREAS it has been established that Warble control is of great importance to the livestock industry;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary in order to operate an effective program, to have specific regulations governing Warble Control;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Hon. Dr. H. Horner, Alberta Minister of Agriculture, be requested to include the Warble Fly as an Agricultural Pest under the new Agricultural Pests Act and to make its control compulsory.

County of Lamont No. 30

CARRIED

6. WHEREAS the warble control program benefits farmers in the Province of Alberta by reducing production costs; and

WHEREAS the majority of Municipalities are already declared Warble Control Areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of Alberta be declared a warble free province.

Improvement District No. 16

CARRIED

7. WHEREAS it had been established that the warble fly causes great economic loss to cattlemen; and

WHEREAS it is necessary for strict controls governing the treatment of warble infested cattle; and

WHEREAS many warble infested cattle are being transported to Alberta from outside the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Honourable Dr. Hugh M. Horner, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, pass the regulation declaring the warble fly an Agricultural Pest as proposed to the new Agricultural Pests Act.

M.D. of Starland No. 47

CARRIED

8. WHEREAS Counties and M.D.'s need provincial legislation to support their efforts to control warbles in their areas; and

WHEREAS most of the counties and M.D.'s in Alberta would like to have the whole province adopt a complete program of warble control; and

WHEREAS warble flies are a serious economic pest to the livestock industry in Alberta;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Alberta Government provide the necessary legislation to allow all counties and M.D.'s to administer a complete warble control program.

County of Mountain View No. 17

CARRIED

1. WHEREAS during past year, various farmers have attempted to purchase dairy stock through the Provincial Government Import Program to bring dairy heifers from Ontario. However, many delays occurred because of the strict departmental testing programs and some farmers never received dairy heifers that they had anticipated; and

WHEREAS in recent days some farmers have inquired at District Agricultural Officers about dairy heifers being imported by livestock promoters and at the present time there is not evidence that any of these cattle are being blood tested; and

WHEREAS recent reports have indicated that Ontario has many dairy herds under quarantine because of Bang's Disease; and

WHEREAS the Peace River Region has a young growing and viable livestock industry that could be seriously affected if Bang's Disease would be introduced from negligent importation of dairy stock;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all dairy calves imported into Alberta be vaccinated or blood tested upon arrival.

M.D. of Peace No. 135

AMENDED

RESOLUTION CARRIED

10. WHEREAS it is stated that the Brucellosis infection in North Eastern Alberta is due to infected cattle from Saskatchewan;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal Health of Animals Branch be requested to immediately improve their program to a degree which will correct this situation.

County of Vermilion River No. 24

CARRIED

11. WHEREAS considerable interest and publicity has been created in regard to the use of pesticides by the appointment of the Environmental Conservation Authority and the Hearings that these people have been holding throughout the Province, and

WHEREAS a series of Information Bulletins numbering 1 to 8 were published and circulated throughout the Province,

WHEREAS while there is much good information printed in these bulletins there is much of the information that is misleading, opinionated, and suggestive in a negative manner, especially considering Bulletins #3 through to #7 inclusive involving information from the Ad Hoc Committee on Biocides, and

WHEREAS these bulletins are available for educational purposes in our public libraries and schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Government take active steps to correct or collect this information by having these bulletins removed from public libraries and schools and have this information replaced by the findings of the Environmental Conservation Authority.

M.D. of Kneehill No. 48

CARRIED

12. WHEREAS there are new agricultural chemicals continually coming on the market, and

WHEREAS there are continuously new regulations being made relating to the chemicals that are on the market, and

WHEREAS there appears to be a lack of information in the field on restrictions on agriculture chemicals as well as banning of certain agricultural chemicals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a method of compiling information on such agricultural chemicals be set up and adequate information be supplied to keep records and field staff up to date on all changes.

M.D. of Kneehill No. 48

CARRIED

13. WHEREAS the Department of Agriculture has requested suggestions for improvement the 1975 Wild Oat Control Program, and,

WHEREAS the 1974 Wild Oat Control Program was well subscribed to, and

WHEREAS little or no assistance has been offered to control a wide ranging infestation of Sow and Canada Thistle which is continually on the increase, and

WHEREAS Canada and Sow Thistle severely reduces the yield of the growing crops,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Alberta Department of Agriculture make the 1975 Wild Oat Program flexible in order that individual Boards may apply the grant to Canada and Sow Thistle where Wild Oats are not a major problem.

Improvement District No. 14

CARRIED

14. WHEREAS there appears to be a shortage of certain commodities, fertilizer for example, in our Province, and

WHEREAS even with a shortage of certain commodities, fertilizer for example, some of these commodities are being shipped out of our Province to the United States for resale.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Government of the Province of Alberta in conjunction with the Government of Canada take the necessary steps to stop black market exports of such commodities until the needs of our people are realized.

M.D. of Kneehill No. 48

CARRIED

15. WHEREAS the limited tree growth on the prairies enhances the amenity value of farmstead and field shelterbelts and

WHEREAS a considerable number of problems from disease and insects arise each year in our domestic trees and shrubs, and

WHEREAS limited numbers of personnel in horticulture are available to assist in these problems, and

WHEREAS the work load of the District Agriculturist and Agricultural Fieldmen is too heavy to allow them to carry out Horticultural work to the necessary extent,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture take a good look at the situation and consider the possibility of additional field staff, Specialists in Horticulture, either on a local or regional basis, to assist with these problems on a local level on specified days.

M.D. of Kneehill No. 48

CARRIED

16. WHEREAS the Provincial Government encourages the establishment of farm shelterbelts; and

WHEREAS the number of acres of native tree cover in the Province is diminishing due to expansion of cultivated acreage; and

WHEREAS the absence of trees from farmland can cause changes in climate and weather;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Government take steps to encourage the retention of native shelterbelts and tree cover in the Province, by providing compensation to the land owner for the retention of these areas.

County of Beaver No. 9

AMENDED

RESOLUTION CARRIED

17. WHEREAS it has been difficult to hire Weed Inspectors during the past few years; and

WHEREAS the existing pay schedule is extremely low compared to local wage scales;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Weed Inspector salary be increased to \$35.00 per day and travelling expenses be paid equivalent to Regulations governing the Payment of Subsistence and Travelling Allowance pursuant to the Public Service Act.

Improvement District No. 16

CARRIED

(Note - Phil Stonehouse stated that the conditions had been met)

18. WHEREAS there could be a continuous turnover of Agricultural Fieldmen due to retirement and job changes making an increased demand for Agricultural Fieldmen, and

WHEREAS there is no formal training set up as such for new Agricultural Fieldmen and for those interested in becoming Agricultural Fieldmen other than yearly short course training; and

WHEREAS such a training course could qualify successful participants for a certificate of accomplishment designating him as a person with Agricultural Fieldman Training;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT a committee be set up to arrange such a course; that the committee be made up of representatives from the A.A.M.D. & C., Department of Municipal Affairs, Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Fieldman's Association that the course be set up by correspondence similar to the one now available to M.D. and County Secretaries and Assessors; that it be available by the winter of 1975-76 for those wishing to take it.

M.D. of Kneehill No. 48

CARRIED

19. WHEREAS the Provincial Government introduces various programs that are administered in whole or in part by the local authority;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the local authority be consulted in regards to the establishment of program guidelines and that the programs be administered uniformly over the entire Province.

County of Beaver No. 9

CARRIED

20. BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of the Environment, Mr. W. Yurko, be asked to appoint a farmer representative of the Department of Agriculture to the Biological Review Committee for Water Resources (Management Division) Projects to serve the interest of Agriculture.

County of Lamont No. 30

CARRIED

21. WHEREAS the family farm is an important and dominant way of Alberta Rural Life; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government policy towards Co-op Dairy Program is detrimental to the FAMILY FARM concept,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North-West Regional A.S.B. Conference request the Provincial Government to reconsider the promotion of the Co-op Dairy Plan.

County of Lac Ste. Anne No. 28

CARRIED

22. WHEREAS we realize that resolutions passed at the Annual Agricultural Service Board Conferences cannot be adopted as hard and fast rules but rather taken as recommendations; and

WHEREAS when a resolution has been passed, at such a conference, the subject matter of these resolutions must be of great concern to have been brought to the floor of such a conference and passed as a resolution, and

WHEREAS it could appear that some resolutions are taken quite lightly by some of the departments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all resolutions passed at Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference be taken as concern of a large group of people representing Alberta Agriculture; that before such resolutions are shelved, the department, to whom that resolution was directed confer with the local governmental body, who submitted the resolution.

M.D. of Kneehill No. 48

CARRIED

23. WHEREAS the movement of farm machinery on primary, secondary and County roads and Highways is becoming more common due to increased demand for farm machinery.

WHEREAS most farmers have no alternative means of movement of feed without travelling on some portion of a primary, secondary and County roads and highways.

WHEREAS restriction on daylight operation is not realistic considering operating hours at harvest.

WHEREAS red tape creates unnecessary delays in time of harvesting operations.

WHEREAS cost of enforcement and acquisition of these permits will be prohibitive.

WHEREAS farming operations are year round and three months restriction is not adequate for farming operations.

WHEREAS we do agree with the insurance provisions and that machines be well lit and have a slow moving vehicle sign.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a more workable policy be formulated by the Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the Department of Highways (Enforcement Division) to control movement of the said equipment. We request the Provincial Government to reconsider these restrictions imposed on farmers and make such equipment exempt.

County of Parkland No. 31

CARRIED

24. WHEREAS fieldmen are knowledgeable in all matters pertaining to Agricultural Service Boards activities and are aware of local needs; and

WHEREAS Municipal Secretaries are knowledgeable in matters pertaining to administration of Acts that apply to Agricultural Service Boards activities; and

WHEREAS it is not always possible for all members of an Agricultural Service Board to attend conferences

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Agricultural Fieldmen, Municipal Secretaries or Managers be authorized to move, speak and vote on resolutions providing such employees are appointed as delegates to conferences by their employers

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that different colors of name tags or ribbons be used to differentiate between voting delegates and others attending the conference.

County of Camrose No. 22

CARRIED

25. WHEREAS considerable concern has been aroused with the use of pesticides in the past with indications of continued concern of their use in the future, and

WHEREAS the common names of pesticides can be and are confusing to people who are not familiar with pesticides,

Example #1 - The common names of D.D.T. and 2-4-D are very similar and while D.D.T. is an insecticide that has been banned except for specific uses, 2-4-D is a very commonly used herbicide that presents very little hazard to our environment,

Example #2 - When it is advertised that 1080 baits are to be placed in an area, this can be misunderstood and it be taken to mean one thousand and eighty baits are to be placed in that area,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the chemical companies be encouraged to use common names for pesticides that would be less confusing to the public.

M.D. of Kneehill #48

CARRIED