

**SMOKY LAKE COUNTY**

Minutes of the **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** held on Thursday, **June 11, 2009** at 2:02 p.m. in the County Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to Order by the Chairperson, Mr. Cory Ollikka in the presence of the following persons:

		<u>A T T E N D A N C E</u>
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Thursday, June 11, 2009</u>
1	Dareld Cholak	Present
2	Ron Bobocel	Present
3	Barton Coady	Present
4	Lori Danyluk	Present
5	Cory Ollikka	Present
A.F.	Scott Franchuk	Present
Asst. A.F.	Kurt Holdis	Present
C.A.O.	Cary Smigerowsky	Present
Asst. C.A.O.	Lydia Cielin	Present
Cons. Tech	Evonne Wirstuk	Absent

\*\*\*\*\*

2 members of the Public.

2. **Agenda:**

550-09: Cholak

That the Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Thursday, June 11, 2009 be adopted with the following addition(s):

1. Adjacent Landowners concerns to Iron Horse Trail.

Carried Unanimously.

3. **Minutes:**

551-09: Coady

That the Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 be adopted as presented.

Carried

**Action List: April 14, 2009**

552-09: Cholak

That the Action List of the Agricultural Service Board dated April 14, 2009, be filed for information.

Carried.

7. **Delegation(s):**

**Accurate Assessment Group  
GIS Presentation**

Present before the Agricultural Service Board at 2:05 p.m. to 2:32 p.m. was Jon Jenner, Senior Technician, Accurate Assessment Group to update Council on the GIS Presentation on the Weed Inspection Program.

4. **Request for Decision:**

**Policy Statement No. 62-02-03: Bounty for Pocket Gopher Tails**

553-09: Cholak

That **Policy Statement No. 62-02-03** entitled “Bounty for Pocket Gopher Tails” remain at the bounty of one dollar (\$1.00) per tail.

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 62-06-03: Charge for Application of Trees**

554-09: Coady

That **Policy Statement No. 62-06-03:** entitled “Charge for Application of Trees” be amended:

<b>Purpose:</b>	To facilitate the ordering and distribution of trees.
<b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>	
<p>That Smoky Lake County charge:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00)</b> per bundle of trees to compensate for freight.</p> <p>The applicant be required to pick up their own trees from the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board shop.</p>	


Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 62-21-04: Beaver Control – Fee for Removal with Explosives**

555-09: Cholak

That **Policy Statement No. 62-21-04:** entitled “Beaver Control – Fee for Removal with Explosives” be amended:

<b>Purpose:</b>	To provide procedures to facilitate the removal of beaver dams.
<b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>	
<p>Beaver Control Program Policy for the removal of beaver dams on private property within the jurisdictional boundaries of Smoky Lake County.</p> <p>A service fee per parcel of land and a per stick charge for dynamite for blasting of beaver dams may be determined by the Agricultural Service Board Committee.</p> <p>The service fee must accompany the request for the work to be done, along with a signed <b>Schedule “A”</b>: <b>Permission to Enter Land(s)</b> Form prior to any work being done. In addition, per stick charge for dynamite used will be charged. The blaster/trapper in the employment of Smoky Lake County shall be responsible for collecting fees and getting the <b>“Permission to Enter Land(s)”</b> Form signed.</p> <p>A <u>service fee</u> of <b>ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)</b> shall be collected prior to entry upon the land. This allows entry up to three (3) times per parcel of land. <b>If more than three (3) entries are required, an additional charge of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) shall be collected.</b> In addition, a per stick charge of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15.00) shall be collected after the removal of the beaver dam. Charges are subject to change as the cost of dynamite and supplies change.</p> <p>The timing and amount of water lowered at any one time will be at the sole discretion of Smoky Lake County employee, bearing in mind effects on other landowners, down and up stream from the work area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCHEDULE “A”</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PERMISSION TO ENTER LAND(S)</b></p>	

		<b>PERMISSION TO ENTER LAND(S)</b>	<b>SCHEDULE "A"</b>
I, _____ <b>APPLICANT NAME</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Owner</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lessee</b>	
<b>ADDRESS</b>		<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</b> <b>FAX NUMBER:</b>	
<b>LEGAL DESCRIPTION (hereinafter referred to as the "Lands"):</b> ¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M			
I, _____ <b>APPLICANT NAME</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Owner</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lessee</b>	
<b>ADDRESS</b>		<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</b> <b>FAX NUMBER:</b>	
<b>LEGAL DESCRIPTION (hereinafter referred to as the "Lands"):</b> ¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M			
I (We), do hereby grant permission to <b>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</b> and its employees or agents, to enter upon the "Land(s)" and use such equipment and materials as considered necessary for the removal or destruction of <u>Beaver dams</u> . OR Other work(s) as described on the reference "Land(s)" _____ I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless the <b>Smoky Lake County</b> , its Councillors, officers, employees and agents from any claim, damages, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of <b>Smoky Lake County</b> on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performance of the above described work(s).			
<b>I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS PERMISSION AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND AGREE TO THE CONDITIONS.</b>			
DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20____.			
SIGNATURE OF OWNER: _____		SMOKY LAKE COUNTY: _____	
DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20____.			
SIGNATURE OF LESSEE: _____		SMOKY LAKE COUNTY: _____	

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 62-12-01: Clubroot**

556-09: Cholak

That **Policy Statement No. 62-12-01:** entitled "Clubroot" be adopted:

<b>Purpose:</b>	To recognize that Clubroot is a serious problem and Smoky Lake County supports the principle to control the spread of Clubroot which is a pest under the <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i> .
<b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>	
<b>1. DEFINITION:</b>	
1.1	"Clubroot" is a disease of canola, mustard and other crops in the cabbage family ( <i>Cruciferae</i> ), caused by a fungus ( <i>Plasmodiophora brassicae</i> ) that lives in the soil and characterized by knobby or club-shaped swellings on the roots and wilting, yellowing, and stunted growth of aboveground parts.

**2. BACKGROUND:**

- 2.1 Clubroot can only spread through resting spores in the soil or in canola plant material containing galls. Resting spores are extremely long lived, surviving in soil for up to 20 years; and are most likely to spread via contaminated soil carried from field to field by equipment. Tillage equipment represents the greatest risk of spreading the disease as soil is frequently carried on shovels and discs from field to field.

**3. OBJECTIVE:**

- 3.1 To minimize the spread and build-up of Clubroot in canola, mustard and market garden fields.
- 3.2 To prevent economic loss and prevent the spreading caused by Clubroot.

**4. STATEMENT:**

- 4.1 The Agricultural Service Board, under the authority of the *Agricultural Pests Act*, will undertake the following measures to assist in the prevention of Clubroot (canola, mustard, and vegetable crops such as cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, turnip, and radish).

4.1.1 Perform random testing of susceptible crops and confirm suspected infestations through laboratory testing (PCR).

4.1.2 Advertise Public Awareness of County's random testing program.

4.1.3 Implement an Action Plan based on the Provincial Clubroot Policy Guidelines and Best Management Practices developed by the Alberta Clubroot Management Committee, *as per Schedule "D": **Best Management Practices***.

**4. SURVEY PROCEDURE:**

- 4.1 Clubroot disease development is favored by wet and acidic soil conditions. The pathogen is mainly spread by movement of soil and infected plant material, as well as run-off water.

- 4.2 Symptoms: The pathogen infects the roots of susceptible hosts, causing the formation of club-shaped galls or swellings that restrict the uptake of water and nutrients by the plant. Above-ground symptoms include yellowing, stunting, premature, ripening and wilting of plants under moisture stress.

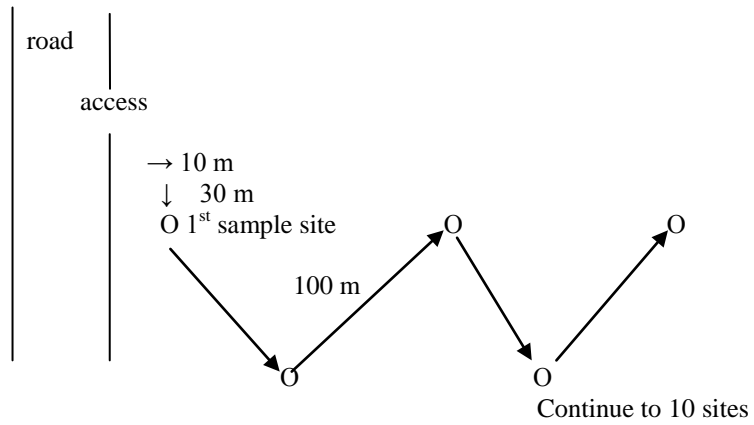
- 4.3 Equipment and Materials needed: Clipboard, Record sheets, Hand towel, Pocket knife, Paper bags, 5% bleach solution, Plastic tray or pail, Disposable boot covers, GPS Unit.

- 4.4 Clubroot Field Inspections will be conducted by the Agricultural Fieldman.

- 4.5 Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Clubroot methods, reporting form and calculation of disease incidence will follow standard protocols as recommended by the Alberta Clubroot Management, *as per Schedule "A": **Clubroot Survey Form***. The standard methods is as follows: Scout for clubroot by visually inspecting canola/mustard/cole crop roots for galls. As symptoms may take 6-8 weeks to develop, they are most detectable later in the summer (late July or August). Do not drive into field or access, but park on the road whenever possible.

4.5.1 Put on new disposable boot covers. Survey the field in a "**W**" pattern, sampling 10 plants at each of 10 equally spaced sites along

the arms of the **W**. Begin 30 m to the right of the field access. 10 m from field edge and allow 100 m between sampling points.



4.5.2 At each sample site, dig up roots from 10 plants and shake off excess soil. Examine roots for presence of galls. Record sample site GPS location and findings on form; at fields where infection is found or suspected, collect 5 – 10 root specimens, by cutting off stems and placing roots in a paper bag labeled with field location. Retain sample for submission to lab for confirmation (if needed), or to Dr. Strelkov for pathotype identification (if requested).

4.5.3 Prior to leaving potentially infested field, discard disposable boot covers into garbage bag and incinerate later. If boot covers were not used, remove lumps of soil from boots, and then wash in plastic tray with 5% bleach solution (in order to prevent disease spread). Disinfect sampling tools with bleach solution.

**5. NOTIFICATION PROCESS:**

- 5.1 When land is verified positive for Clubroot, the landowner will be **notified in writing**, *as per **Schedule "B": Notification To Landowner Of Clubroot*** with a legal notice in accordance with the Province of Alberta *Agricultural Pest Act*, *as per **Schedule "B": Legal Notice To Control Pests.***
- 5.2 Fields that have a low incidence of Clubroot disease (1 positive site out of 10 samples sites in field), the occupant shall not plant canola or other susceptible crops in the three (3) following years. Proper cleaning of field equipment prior to transport from infested fields is required.  
  
Fields that have a moderate to high incidence of Clubroot disease (2 or more positive sites out of 10 sample sites in field), the occupant shall not plant canola or other susceptible crops for five (5) subsequent years. Proper cleaning is mandatory and of highest priority.
- 5.3 If a host crop is sown on land that has Clubroot and a notice has been issued on this property restricting the growth of host crops, the host crop shall be destroyed.



**SCHEDULE "A"**

**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD CLUBROOT SURVEY FORM**

Surveyor name: \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Field location: (Legal Property):**

Section      Quarter      Township      Range      Median

Name of producer farming that field: \_\_\_\_\_

Date surveyed: \_\_\_\_\_

Crop Cultivar: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous crops: 2007 \_\_\_\_\_  
2006 \_\_\_\_\_  
2005 \_\_\_\_\_

Field soil pH from previous soil tests, *if available*: \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 1. Survey results**

Strictly according to protocol (sample 10 plants at each of 10 sites using W pattern).

Sample Site	GPS Coordinates	Number of Infested Plants
1 (nearest access)		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

# of positive sites / 10: \_\_\_\_\_

Lab Test Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Draw map of field and landmarks with sampling points (on the back of page).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Scott Franchuk, Agricultural Fieldman



**SCHEDULE "B"**

**NOTIFICATION TO LANDOWNER OF CLUBROOT**

DATED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

Box                      City or Town                      Postal Code

Dear: \_\_\_\_\_:

This letter is to serve as notification that Clubroot, which has been declared a "Pest" under the *Agricultural Pests Act*, has been found on the Property:

\_\_\_\_\_.

As a result, Smoky Lake County has issued a notice against this property restricting the growth of canola or any other host crop for *as per Agricultural Pest Act, Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation*.

Please be aware that the Clubroot is a very serious crop disease and all landowners within our municipality must be very diligent in their management practices to keep this disease at bay.

I have included a copy of Smoky Lake County's Clubroot Policy and a copy of the Provincial Plan: Best Management Practices for your review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 780-656-3730.

Sincerely,

Scott Franchuk  
Agricultural Fieldman

c.c. Renter/Leasee (if different from the Landowner)



**SCHEDULE "C"**

**NOTICE TO CONTROL PESTS**

**Agricultural Pests Act  
Section 6(1) - Form 2**

**PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL REGULATION**

To: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

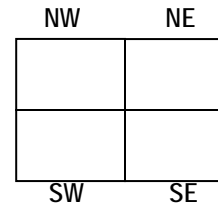
Box

City or Town

Postal Code

You are hereby notified that the \_\_\_\_\_ quarter of section \_\_\_\_\_ township \_\_\_\_\_ range \_\_\_\_\_ west of the 4<sup>th</sup> meridian, Alberta, as indicated on the diagram below, contains Clubroot, which has been declared a pest by the *Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation* made under the *Agricultural Pests Act*, and you are directed to take the following measures:

1. Do not plant canola on \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Property  
until \_\_\_\_\_.  
Year



2. Keep \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Property

free of volunteer canola, wild mustard and shepherds purse or any other host vegetation.

3. Use direct seeding and any soil conservation practices to minimize soil movement.

4. Clean soil and crop debris from field equipment before entering or leaving all fields.

5. Avoid the use of straw, hay, greenfeed, silage or manure from the \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Property

**IMMEDIATE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE COMPLETED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

All of the above measures must be completed within \_\_\_\_\_ years from the date of issue of this notice, failing which action may be taken in accordance with the legislation referred to above.

This notice is issued under Section 12(1) of the *Agricultural Pests Act*. An appeal against this notice may be served on the municipal secretary, accompanied by a deposit of **\$100.00**, before the expiry of the time stated above or the period of 10 days from service of the notice, whichever expiry date occurs first and otherwise made in accordance with the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

Date of Issue

Inspector – Smoky Lake County  
Telephone Number: 780-656-3730

c.c. Renter/Leasee (if different from the Landowner)



**SCHEDULE "D"**

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

**ALBERTA CLUBROOT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

1. Use long rotation breaks between canola crops. Although crop rotation will not prevent the introduction of clubroot to clean fields, it will restrict disease development within the field and probably avert a severe infestation of clubroot and other diseases such as blackleg. Canola growers in high risk situations (confirmed clubroot in the area) should follow traditional canola rotation recommendations (one canola crop every four years). Under very light infestations, a three-year rotation break from canola will keep the clubroot level very low. Under moderate to high infestations, the rotation break needs to be five years or more to reduce clubroot to low levels.
2. Volunteer canola and cruciferous weeds must be controlled on infested fields to prevent more than three weeks of growth to avoid the production of new resting spores.
3. Practice good sanitation to restrict the movement of potentially contaminated soil (this approach will also help reduce the spread of other diseases, insects and weed seeds). The resting spores are most likely to spread via contaminated soil. Moderate to high infestations will leave high spore concentrations in soil on field machinery – thus sanitation is very important in these situations. All producers should follow the practice of cleaning soil and crop debris from field equipment before transport from all fields. Cleaning equipment involves knocking or scraping off soil lumps and sweeping off loose soil.
  - For risk averse producers or for fields with heavy infestations, additional cleaning steps will slightly decrease the risk of spread, but these steps involve considerably more work and expense:
    - After removal of soil lumps, wash equipment with a power washer, preferably with hot water or steam.
    - Finish by misting equipment with weak disinfectant (1 – 2% active ingredient bleach solution). The use of a disinfectant without first removing soil is not recommended as soil inactivates most disinfectants.
    - Seed an area to grass near the field exit to clean off equipment more effectively.
4. Use direct seeding and other soil conservation practices to reduce erosion. Resting spores can also readily move in soil transported by wind or water erosion. Reducing the amount of tillage on any given field will reduce the spread of the organism within the field and to other fields.
5. Minimize traffic to and from fields.
6. In situations where fields are lightly infested only near the current access, create a new exit at another distant edge of the field if possible.
7. Scout canola fields regularly and carefully. Identify causes of wilting, stunting, yellowing and premature ripening – do not assume anything!
8. Avoid the use of straw, hay or greenfeed, silage and manure from infested or suspicious areas. Clubroot spores may survive through the digestive tracts of livestock.

9.	Avoid common untreated seed (including canola, cereals, and pulses). Earth-tag on seed from infested fields could introduce resting spores to clean fields. The effect of current seed treatment fungicides on resting spore viability on seed needs research.
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Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 62-09-01: Pocket Gopher Traps**

557-09: Danyluk

That **Policy Statement No. 62-09-01:** entitled “Pocket Gopher Traps” be amended:

<b>Purpose:</b>	To provide to the public Pocket Gopher Traps.
<b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>	
That Smoky Lake County will sell:	
<b>Victor Black Box Mole/Gopher Traps</b>	
to County residents at	
<b>Cost + 5% per trap</b>	
to compensate for freight and handling.	

Carried.

Councillor Barton Coady left the Council Chambers, time 2:50 p.m.

**Mons Lake Area Structure Plan: Open House**

558-09: Bobocel

That Smoky Lake County schedule an Open House for the Mons Lake Area Structure Plan on Saturday, August 22, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Carried.

**5. Issues for Information:**

**Agricultural Service Board: Report**

- Manager’s Report: May 14, 2009 to June 11, 2009.
- Spraying: Update
  - Awareness – leaching from ditches.
- Beaver Trapping: Concerns regarding Beaver Dam Controls.
- Assistant Agricultural Fieldman: Training
  - CCA: Certified Crop Advisor Designation – level of agronomic resource.
  - P. AG Designation and University Degree: Bachelor of Science Degree in General Agriculture – Professional Agrologist.
- Fire Chief’s Convention: Update.
- Fire Dispatching: Researching companies for the Emergency Services Management/personnel – 911 Call Answer.
- Fire Code Inspections: Uniform Quality Management Plan and Scope of Accreditation.

559-09: Cholak

That the updated report presented by the Agricultural Fieldman, dated May 14, 2009 to June 11, 2009, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

**Alberta Environmental Sustainable Agriculture (AESAs) Technician Report:  
Updated Report presented by the Agricultural Fieldman, Scott  
Franchuk on behalf of Evonne Wirstuk, Municipal  
Conservation Technologist:**

**Month of April:**

- Sent out Agri-News Newsletter “What’s All the Stink About?” to 1473 producers in Smoky Lake and St. Paul Counties.
- One-day of Green Certificate Testing.  
Member of the Alberta Environmental Stewardship Calendar Committee: Delaney got started with this group and still is involved, and asked if I would like to join.
- Finished the Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP) presentations: six presentations in total this year.
- Attended Alberta Environment’s – Education Basics Workshop.

**Month of May:**

- Lots of planning for the Grazing School for Women.
- Talked to several Conservation Officers (formally Fish and Wildlife) about the Migratory Bird Convention Act.
  - Completed site assessments for Warspite lagoon and the road construction site.
- Green Certificate testing.
- Helped with the planning of the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Farmers & Ranchers Appreciation Day BBQ.
  - Printed and mailed out posters to Smoky Lake County residents.
  - Next year I’m hoping to incorporate it with the Grade 5 Wetland presentation.
- Attended AESA/Growing Forward training in Camrose.
  - Growing Forward is the new funding program for producers.
  - Funding is not yet released to producers as Alberta Agriculture is still working out the “kinks” in the system.
  - This program will have a completely new approach compared to previous funding opportunities (LOTS more paperwork, will definitely be interesting to see how the next couple months unfold with this program).

**Month of June:**

- Helping with the Bellis Beef 4-H Show and Sale along with the Farmers and Ranchers BBQ.
- The day has finally arrived for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Grazing School for Women.
- Two Grade 5 Wetland presentations at H.A. Kostash and Vilna School. Had a great time with the kids. It’s a nice refreshing change and they were so excited to learn.
- On holidays from June 18 – 26, 2009.

**Upcoming Activities:**

- Wetlands presentation for the Lac Sante Watershed Group – July 5.
- Attending a 2 day riparian area training session: July 14-15.
- Silkworm Garden Tour: July 17.
- Biodiversity Day: July 21.
- Alberta Environmental Stewardship Calendar Meeting – July 30.
- Carbon Credit Workshop – August 12.
- Monthly Forage and Drought Monitoring Conditions Reports.
- Hoping to participate in the TD Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up again this year.

560-09: Cholak

That the Alberta Environmental Sustainable Agriculture (AESAs) report presented by the Agriculture Fieldman, Scott Franchuk on behalf of Evonne Wirstuk, Municipal Conservation Technologist, be accepted, and filed for information.

Carried.

Councillor Barton Coady entered the Council Chambers, time 3:20 p.m.

**Addition to the Agenda:**

**Iron Horse Trail**

Discussion

Discussion was held in regards to the concerns that the adjacent landowners to the Iron Horse Trail with the gates – open and closing issues.

**6. Correspondence:**

**2009 ASB Summer Tour**

Confirmation

Three County Council members and three administration confirmed the attendance to the Agricultural Service Board 2009 Summer Tour: Beyond The Horizon in Lacombe County on July 6 – 9, 2009.

**NE Regional Resolution Response Committee Meeting**

561-09: Danyluk

That the minutes received on the NE Region Resolution Response Committee Meeting held on Friday, May 29, 2009 in County of Two Hills, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Emergency Medical Technician: Scott Franchuk**

Smoky Lake County acknowledged and extended congratulations to Scott Franchuk for the successful completion of the practicum as an EMT: Emergency Medical Technician.

**Next Meeting**

562-09: Cholak

That the next **Agricultural Service Board Meeting and Utilities Meeting: Natural Gas and Water, Wastewater and Waste Management** be scheduled for **August 11, 2009** at 1:00 p.m. to held at the Council Chambers.

Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

563-09: Bobocel

That this meeting be adjourned, time 3:45 p.m.

Carried.

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CHAIRMAN

S E A L

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER