



Agricultural Service Board

Agenda

Council Chamber, County Centre, Nisku, AB

Monday, January 17, 2022

1. Order – 10:00 a.m.
2. Adoption of agenda
3. Adoption of previous minutes
- December 13, 2021 v
4. Public presentations
a) 10:05 a.m. West Central Forage Association
-Becky Doherty, General Manager
5. Department reports and recommendations
a) Action items progress report v A.Van Beers
b) Agricultural Services department activity report v Ag Svs staff
c) Young Agrarians report v S. Faye
6. Agricultural Drainage Reports
a) Small Acreage Drainage Project funding application v A.Van Beers
7. Information items v
a) AgriRecovery: Phase two update
b) County of Warner letter to Minister of Environment and Climate Change
c) Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development
Letter of Response to County of Paintearth Agricultural Service Board – ASB Funding
d) Woodlands County letter of support – Veterinary Services Incorporated
e) Upcoming Events
i) Grazing for Water Management
ii) Nutrient Management Webinar Series (Trevor Wallace presenting)
iii) Winter Post-Drought Feeding Strategies
iv) Get in the Know about Mental Health Literacy
v) Alberta Farm Animal Care-Overwintering Poultry
vi) Virtual Grazing Conference
vii) Working Well workshop
8. Next meeting date – March 7, 2022
9. Adjournment

v Attachment provided



Agricultural Service Board

Minutes

Council Chamber, Leduc County Centre, Nisku, AB

Monday, January 17, 2022

Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 17, 2022, by Glenn Belozar as chair and board members Tanni Doblanko, Ray Scobie, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuk and public member-at-large Russell Kushinski present. Board member Rick Smith attended via teleconference.

Board member Kelly-Lynn Lewis was unable to attend due to a Subdivision Appeal Board commitment and public member-at-large Roy Eckert was unable attend due to personal reasons.

Other attendees

- Garrett Broadbent, Director - Road Operations and Agricultural Services
- Aaron Van Beers, Manager - Agricultural Services
- Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- Becky Doherty, General Manager, West Central Forage Association (*virtual attendance via TEAMS*)

Rick Thomas Deputy County Manager arrived after the call to order.

Agenda adoption

001-2022 Board member Doblanko – that the agenda for the January 17, 2022 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Previous minutes – December 13, 2021

002-2022 Board member Scobie – that the December 13, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Mr. Thomas

Deputy County Manager Rick Thomas entered the council chamber at 10:07 a.m.

Public presentation

West Central Forage Association – virtual presentation via TEAMS

Becky Doherty, General Manager, West Central Forage Association provided a presentation about the West Central Forage Association (WCFA) organization and programs:

- Non-profit organization providing support to forage and livestock producers in the region through extension work and applied research since 1978
- WCFA works in cooperation with a number of provincial and federal government agencies, local industry and six local municipalities: Brazeau, Lac Ste Anne, Leduc, Parkland, Woodlands, and Yellowhead counties

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- Three small plot research sites: hemp variety trials, regional silage trials, perennial forage trials
 - Current projects include: sire-progeny links in multi-sire commercial herds; soil moisture probes in forage systems, soil revitalization, soil health benchmark monitoring
 - Biological control agent program: Canada thistle stem-gall fly and Canada thistle stem-mining weevil
 - Large network of partnerships
 - Seven members on the Board of Directors; annual general meeting typically scheduled for mid-March
 - Website enhancements planned for 2022 with member portal including expanding links for presentations and testimonials
 - Specialist on-call service provides referrals for producers

Responding to a board member inquiry about hemp trials Ms. Doherty provided comments about a project under development for a future large scale plot utilizing equipment that typical crop producers would have available to them, as well as developing producer information about potential markets for hemp fibre and seed.

003-2022 Board member Kushinski– that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the presentation by Becky Doherty, General Manager West Central Forage Association.

Carried Unanimously

Ms. Doherty

Ms. Doherty disconnected from the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Action items progress report

004-2022 Board member Scobie– that the Agricultural Service Board accept as information the action items progress report.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services department activity report

Manager-Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers presented the Agricultural Services department staff activity report for the month of December and provided additional comments about the non-potable water point facility recently completed and now open in the Genesee area. The opportunity to access non-potable water in that area has generated a great deal of local resident interest and over 46 access applications have been received to date. Most users will be utilizing the non-potable water for livestock and seasonal use for watering gardens and shelterbelt plantings.

005-2022 Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board accept as information the Agricultural Services department activity report for the month of December 2021.

Carried Unanimously

Young Agrarians

Manager-Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers presented a staff report providing an overview of the Young Agrarians organization and programs.

006-2022 Board member Vandenberghe – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the January 17, 2022 report providing an overview of the Young Agrarians organization as information.

Carried Unanimously



Small Acreage Drainage Projects – Grant application

Manager-Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers provided information about a drainage improvement project undertaken by a property owner on two adjacent parcels of land to address a long-standing drainage issue. The project included clean out of an existing drainage course and upgrading of a field crossing culvert to better handle seasonal drainage flow through the properties.

007-2022 Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board approve two Small Acreage Drainage project grant payments of \$750 each to Jody Laurion.

Carried Unanimously

Information items

008-2022 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the following correspondence items as information:

- a) AgriRecovery: Phase two update
- b) County of Warner letter to Minister of Environment and Climate Change *support/background on research into resolution development*
- c) Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development Letter of Response to County of Paintearth Agricultural Service Board – ASB Funding
- d) Woodlands County letter of support – Veterinary Services Incorporated
- e) Upcoming events
 - i) Grazing for Water Management
 - ii) Nutrient Management Webinar Series (Trevor Wallace presenting)
 - iii) Winter Post-Drought Feeding Strategies
 - iv) Get in the Know about Mental Health Literacy
 - v) Alberta Farm Animal Care-Overwintering Poultry
 - vi) Virtual Grazing Conference
 - vii) Working Well workshop

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

009-2022 Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously



The Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



Agricultural Service Board Chair



Manager of Agricultural Services