

Agricultural Service Board**Agenda***Council Chamber, County Centre, Nisku, AB****Monday, November 20, 2023***

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1. **Order – 10:00 a.m.**
 2. **Nominations for CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR**
 3. **Adoption of agenda**
 4. **Adoption of previous minutes**
- September 11, 2023 Agricultural Service Board meeting √
 5. **Public presentations**
No Presentations scheduled
 6. **Department reports and recommendations**

a) Action items progress report	√	A.Van Beers
b) Agricultural Services department activity report	√	Ag Svs staff
c) Vegetation Management programs report	√	N.Berg
d) 2024 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference	√	A.Van Beers
e) Agricultural Service Board Bursary	√	A.Van Beers
f) Agri-Recovery Livestock Drought Relief	√	A.Van Beers
g) Grain bag recycling discussion	√	A.Van Beers
 7. **Information items**

a) Avian Influenza	√
b) Letter from Brazeau County	√
c) 180 day precipitation report	√
d) 60 day precipitation report	√
e) Letter from County of Warner	√
f) Letter from Big Lakes County, Agriculture and Agri-Food	√
g) Letter from Big Lakes County, Advanced Education	√
h) Farm Safe	√
 8. **Next meeting date – December 11, 2023**
 9. **Adjournment**



√ Attachment provided

Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 20, 2023 by Manager of Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers and Agricultural Service Board members Glenn Belozar, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Dal Virdi, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Larry Wanchuk, and public members-at-large Debbie Hofstra and Russell Kushinski present. Absent: Tanni Doblanko

Other attendees

- Aaron Van Beers, Manager – Agricultural Services
- Nathanael Berg, Coordinator – Agricultural Services
- Sharon Faye, Coordinator – Local Food
- Kim Barkwell, Coordinator – Sustainable Agriculture
- Nicole Fuhsel, Administrative Assistant – Agricultural Services

Nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board Chair

Manager of Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers called for nominations for the Agricultural Service Board Chair pursuant to Leduc County Bylaw 31-08 which states that “The Agricultural Service Board shall select a Chair and a Vice-Chair at its first meeting following Council’s annual organization meeting”.

Board member Kushinski nominated board member Belozar for the position of Agricultural Service Board Chair.

Mr. Van Beers called for nominations a second time.

Mr. Van Beers called for nominations for a third and final time.

Nominations cease – Agricultural Service Board Chair

050-2023 Board member Lewis - that the nominations cease for the position of Agricultural Service Board Chair.

Carried Unanimously

Appointment of Agricultural Service Board Chair

Manager of Agricultural Services announced board member Belozar elected as Chair.

Board member Belozar assumed the Chair

Chair Belozar expressed appreciation to fellow board members, assumed the Chair and proceeded with the balance of the Agricultural Service Board meeting.

Nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chair

Chair Belozar called for nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chair.

Board member Kushinski nominated board member Scobie for the position of Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chair.

Chair Belozar called for nominations a second time.



Chair Belozer called for nominations a third and final time.

Nominations cease – Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chair

051-2023 Board member Wanchuk - that nominations cease for the position of Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chair.

Carried Unanimously

Appointment of Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chair

Chair Belozer announced board member Scobie elected as Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chair.

Agenda adoption

052-2023 Board member Lewis – that the agenda for the Monday, November 20, 2023 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Previous minutes – September 11, 2023

053-2023 Board member Hofstra – that the minutes for the September 11, 2023 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Action items progress report

054-2023 Board member Scobie – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the action items progress report as information.

Carried Unanimously

Garett Broadbent, Director – Road Operations and Agricultural Services entered chambers at 10:06.

Agricultural Services department activity report

055-2023 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Agricultural Services department activity report for the September – October 2023 reporting period as information.

Carried Unanimously

Sustainable Agriculture Program

056-2023 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Sustainable Agricultural Program for the June – August 2023 reporting period as information.

Carried Unanimously

Vegetation Management programs report

057-2023 Board member Viridi – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Vegetation Management programs report for the 2023 season as information.

Carried Unanimously

2024 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference

058-2023 Board member Wanchuk – that with reference to the 2024 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference, Board members respond to administration by December 1, 2023 to advise of their intentions with reference to conference attendance.

Carried Unanimously



2021 Agricultural Service Board Bursary

059-2023 Board member Smith – that the Agricultural Service Board approve the awarding of the 2023 Leduc County Agricultural Service Board bursary of \$1000 each to Katie Abel, Ian Bendig, and Taylor Bentley.
Carried Unanimously

Agri-Recovery Livestock Drought Relief

060-2023 Board member Hofstra – That the Agricultural Service Board direct administration to draft a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation regarding the exemption of Leduc County from the 2023 Agri-Recovery Program for livestock Producers. Send a copy of this letter to Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), the Premier, and local MLA.

Carried Unanimously

061-2023 Board member Lewis – That the Agricultural Service Board direct administration to draft a letter to Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), and Agriculture and Agri-food Canada to request clarification of the reasoning for exempting Leduc County from the Agri-Recovery Livestock Drought Relief program for producers. Send a copy to the Premier and MLA.

Carried Unanimously

Grain bag recycling program discussion

- The grain bag recycling program that is administered by Cleanfarms, provides collection of used grain bags that are clean and properly rolled for recycling.
- The contractor that picks up these bags is a self-sufficient operation that can load the wrapped and rolled grain bags when they come to pick them up. Typically 110 to 120 bales of wrapped grain bags is required for a full load.
- Cleanfarms would prefer to not have collection sites located at regional landfills and prefers local facilities in order to have more control over the condition they are in they are dropped off by producers. Often, municipal Public Works shops are the collection site for several municipalities to ensure the grain bag bales are inspected and in an acceptable condition for recycling.
- The centre that recycles grain bags is located in Bashaw, AB. There is a possibility that due to the close proximity of Leduc County to the recycler, individual producers who have a large number of baled bags may be able to have on-site pickup.
- Cleanfarms will be at the Agricultural Service Board Conference in January
- At the last regional landfill meeting, there was an indication that the commission would be willing to discuss applying for the grain bag recycling program again.

062-2023 Board member Scobie – That the Agricultural Service Board direct administration to reach out to Leduc County producers to gauge interest in grain bag recycling with the expected recycling condition criteria.

Carried Unanimously

Information items

063-2023 Board member Lewis – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the following correspondence as information:

- a) Avian Influenza
- b) Letter from Brazeau County
- c) 180 day precipitation report
- d) 60 day precipitation report



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- e) Letter from County of Warner
 - f) Letter from Big Lakes County, Agriculture and Agri-Food
 - g) Letter from Big Lakes County, Advanced Education
 - h) Farm Safe

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

064-2023 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.



Agricultural Service Board Chair

Manager - Agricultural Services