

Agricultural Service Board

Agenda

Leduc County Centre, Nisku, AB

Monday, November 8, 2021

1. **Order – 10:00 a.m.**
2. **Nominations for CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR**
3. **Adoption of agenda**
4. **Adoption of previous minutes**
- September 13, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting ✓
5. **Public presentations**
a) No presentation scheduled
6. **Department reports and recommendations**
 - a) Action items progress report ✓ A. Van Beers
 - b) Agricultural Services department activity report ✓ Ag Svs administration
 - c) Sustainable Agriculture program report ✓ K. Barkwell
 - d) Local Food program report ✓ S. Faye
 - e) Vegetation Management programs report ✓ Berg/Van Beers
 - f) Clubroot report ✓ A. Van Beers
7. **Agricultural drainage reports**
 - a) Clearwater Creek licensed drainage cleanout ✓ A. Van Beers
8. **Information items** ✓
 - a) Agricultural Service Board bursary
 - b) Canadian Agricultural Partnership–Farm Technology Program
 - c) ALUS
 - i) Six Years and Growing online workshop
 - ii) Before and after photo contest winners
 - d) ASB News and Views–Fall 2021
 - e) Alberta Land Linking workshop series
 - f) Preparing for CanadaGAP webinar series
 - g) Getting Into Horticulture
 - h) Cleanfarms–Recycle every container! initiative
 - i) Alberta Farm Mental Health Network
 - j) Upcoming industry events and conferences
 - i) Farmfair International
-Farm Family Awards–Hofstra Farms
 - ii) Farm Credit Canada–Farm business webinars
 - iii) Do More Agriculture Foundation–Talk It Out



✓ Attachment provided

Leduc County is dedicated to serving its citizens and will create an enhanced quality of life through effective leadership, committed partnerships and open, transparent communication.





Agricultural Service Board

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Monday, November 8, 2021

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- iv) Beef Cattle Research Council–webinar series
 - v) 2021 Green Industry Conference
 - vi) Advancing Women in Agriculture conference
 - vii) Farm Forum Event
 - viii) Alberta Canola-Grower Engagement meeting

9. Next meeting date – December 13, 2021

10. Adjournment

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "C.D.", is located at the bottom right of the page.

✓ Attachment provided

Agricultural Service Board

Minutes

Council Chamber, Leduc County Centre, Nisku, AB

Monday, November 8, 2021

Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 8, 2021 by Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers and Agricultural Service Board members Glenn Belozher, Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Larry Wanchuk and public member-at-large and Russell Kushinski present.

Board members Rick Smith, Kelly Vandenberghe and Public member-at-large Roy Eckert were absent due to personal reasons.

Other attendees

- Rick Thomas, Deputy County Manager
- Garrett Broadbent, Director - Road Operations and Agricultural Services
- Nathanael Berg, Agricultural Services Coordinator
- Lucinda Melnikel, Agricultural Services Administrative Assistant
- Kim Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator
- Sharon Faye, Local Food Coordinator

Nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board chair

Manager – 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 organizational meeting”.

Board member Kushinski nominated board member Belozher 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

048-2021 Board member Scobie - that nominations cease for the position of Agricultural Service Board chair.

Carried Unanimously

Appointment of Agricultural Service Board chair

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers announced board member Belozher elected as chair.

Chair Belozher assumed the chair

Chair Belozher expressed appreciation, assumed the chair and proceeded to chair the balance of the Agricultural Service Board meeting.



Nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair

Chair Belozer called for nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair.

Board member Wanchuk nominated board member Scobie for the position of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair.

Chair Belozer called for nominations a second time.

Chair Belozer called for nominations a third and final time.

Nominations cease – Agricultural Service Board vice-chair

049-2021 Board member Doblanko - 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

050-2021 Board member Lewis – that the agenda for the November 8, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted with the following additions:

- 6. g) Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board conference verbal report
- 6. h) State of agriculture in Leduc County

Carried Unanimously

Previous minutes – September 13, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting

051-2021 Board member Wanchuk – that the September 13, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Action items progress report

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers made note of the ongoing action items:

- Monitoring for beaver activity continues at the large diameter centerline culvert on Township Road 502.
- Administration will discuss coordination of quarterly meetings with the regional key contact and region Agricultural Service Boards, as opportunity permits.
- Administration has been monitoring feed barley pricing and is seeking additional information about relative impacts of imported feed corn.

052-2021 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 staff activity report and provided additional information:

- Agricultural Service Board bursary opportunities are being advertised via various means locally and on social media.
- The non-potable water point facility systems are now operational and a couple of local residents have been given the opportunity to test access to the facility. An opening event is being planned to bring attention to the facility and to initiate assignment of access PINs.

053-2021 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept as information the Agricultural Services department activity report for the September through October 2021 report period.

Carried Unanimously

Sustainable Agriculture program report

Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator Kim Barkwell presented a staff report providing additional comments on the following points highlighting 2021 program activities:

- There has been an increase in uptake on Environmental Farm Plans as a requisite for Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs and other agency programs.
- The virtual delivery of workshops has been a success with large participant numbers.
- ALUS “Six years and growing” celebration/outreach event will take place on November 18, 2021 with keynote speaker Leona Watson.

054-2021 Board member Lewis – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the November 8, 2021 report reviewing the Sustainable Agriculture program 2021 highlights as information.

Carried Unanimously

Local Food program report

Local Food Coordinator Sharon Faye provided a staff report summarizing 2021 program activities:

- Ag tour events were held in coordination with Parks and Recreation. Tour registration was limited due to pandemic restrictions and all tours were fully subscribed. This event was very successful overall and plans are underway to expand on the concept for 2022 growing season.
- Working with Young Agrarians to host a two-part webinar series “Got Land? Want Land?”

In response to a question, clarification was provided about mechanisms for advertising these events, including social media, notifications to town offices and community halls, established email group lists. A suggestion was noted to institute posting event posters in the community.

055-2021 Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the November 8, 2021 report reviewing the Local Food program 2021 highlights as information.

Carried Unanimously

Vegetation Management programs report

Agricultural Services Coordinator Nathanael Berg provided a staff report summarizing vegetation program activities through the 2021 growing season. Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers also clarified the weed inspection process leading up to issuing a weed notice.



056-2021 Board member Scobie – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the November 8, 2021 report summarizing the 2021 vegetation management programs as information.

Carried Unanimously

Clubroot report

Manager – Agricultural Services Van Beers presented the staff report providing crop inspection statistics for the 2021 clubroot in canola inspection season.

057-2021 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the November 8, 2021 report reviewing the clubroot inspections for 2021 as information.

Carried Unanimously

Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board conference verbal report

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers provided a verbal report with reference to the virtual Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board (ASB) conference which took place on October 27, 2021:

- The scheduling of the conference meeting date conflicting with municipal organizational meetings was an unfortunate choice and this was noted for future planning.
- The regional ASB conferences are an opportunity to review resolutions prior to submitting to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board committee. Two resolutions were reviewed: Alberta Transportation vegetation management; Exemption of natural gas and propane for agriculture under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act.
- The Northwest Region is hosting the Provincial ASB conference the week of January 24-28, 2022 at the Westin in Edmonton. Planning has been going ahead as an in-person event.

058-2021 Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the verbal report with reference to the Northwest Regional Agricultural Service Board conference as information.

Carried Unanimously

State of agriculture in Leduc County

Public member-at-large Kushinski provided information to the Agricultural Service Board with reference to challenges confronting agricultural producers:

- Fertilizer prices are expected to more than double in cost and there is forecast to be a scarcity on product for spring 2022
- Herbicide product prices are anticipated to increase significantly (i.e. glyphosate is already in short supply and product pricing is anticipated to more than double)
- Diesel costs are up 40%
- Equipment parts are frequently unavailable
- Concerns around a federal statement about a 30% reduction in fertilizer by 2030 (only eight years in the future)
- Dairy Board announcement of an 8.4% increase at the producer level is anticipated to translate to many times that increase at the grocery store shelf

059-2021 Board member Kushinski - that the Agricultural Service Board direct administration to investigate options for an emergent resolution for the 2022 Provincial Agricultural Service Board conference regarding the development of a provincial communication bulletin with reference to the disparity between consumer "grocery store" prices and producer revenues.

Carried Unanimously



060-2021 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board direct administration to research the development of a resolution for the 2022 Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board conference concerning potential federal government mandated cuts in fertilizer usage of up to 30% by 2030.

Carried Unanimously

Clearwater Creek licensed drainage cleanout

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers provided a staff report with reference to the cleanout completed within the licensed portion on the Clearwater Creek. This work was completed under budget and concludes the outstanding maintenance on the portion of the Clearwater Creek/Rolly View water management project area under license to Leduc County.

061-2021 Board member Lewis – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the November 8, 2021 staff report with reference to the Clearwater Creek drainage cleanout as information.

Carried Unanimously

Information items

062-2021 Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the following correspondence items as information:

- a) Agricultural Service Board bursary
- b) Canadian Agricultural Partnership–Farm Technology Program
- c) ALUS
 - i) Six Years and Growing online workshop
 - ii) Before and after photo contest winners
- d) ASB News and Views–Fall 2021
- e) Alberta Land Linking workshop series
- f) Preparing for CanadaGAP webinar series
- g) Getting Into Horticulture
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 - iii) Do More Agriculture Foundation–Talk It Out
 - iv) Beef Cattle Research Council–webinar series
 - v) 2021 Green Industry Conference
 - vi) Advancing Women in Agriculture conference
 - vii) Farm Forum Event
 - viii) Alberta Canola-Grower Engagement meeting

Carried Unanimously



Adjournment

063-2021 Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.


Agricultural Service Board Chair


Manager - Agricultural Services