



Agricultural Service Board

Agenda

Leduc County Centre, Nisku, AB

Monday, June 14, 2021

1. **Order – 10:00 a.m.**
2. **Adoption of agenda**
3. **Adoption of previous minutes**
 - March 8, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting ✓
4. **Public presentations**

No presentations scheduled
5. **Department reports and recommendations**
 - a) Action items progress report ✓ A. Van Beers
 - b) Agricultural Services department activity report ✓ Ag Svs staff
 - c) Alberta Agriculture + Forestry-Key contact verbal report T. Wallace
 - d) 2020 Agricultural Service Board Program Field Visit Report ✓ A. Van Beers
 - e) Local Food ✓ S. Faye
 - f) Sustainable Agriculture ✓ K. Barkwell
 - g) Clubroot ✓ A. Van Beers
 - h) Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Resolutions A. Van Beers
 - i) 2021 Resolution grading responses ✓
 - ii) 2022 Provincial ASB conference resolutions discussion
6. **Agricultural Drainage Reports**

No drainage items
7. **Information items** ✓
 - a) 2021 Provincial Agricultural Service Board conference
 - i) Red Deer County Agricultural Service Board letter
 - ii) Saddle Hills County Agricultural Service Board letter
 - b) County of Wetaskiwin letter to Alberta Environment – Pigeon Lake weir management
 - c) County of Grande Prairie letter to Minister Dreeshan – Provincial funding to Agricultural Service Boards
 - d) Invasive Mussels in aquarium moss balls
 - e) Growing Canada's Forests Program
 - f) Fusarium graminearum free seed labeling
 - g) Advancing resolutions with Agriculture and Forestry
 - h) West-Central Forage Association-Forage Views
 - i) Alberta Farm Fresh Producers – Direct Currents
 - j) Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food: Ag Tour
 - k) Riparian Grazing Schools
8. **Next meeting date – September 13, 2021**
9. **Adjournment**

✓ Attachment provided

Agricultural Service Board**Minutes***(via Zoom) Leduc County Centre, Nisku, AB****Monday, June 14, 2021*****Order and roll call**

The meeting was called to order *(via Zoom)* at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 14, 2021 by Glenn Belozar as chair and board members Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuk and public member-at-large and Russell Kushinski present. Board member Rick Smith joined the meeting after the call to order. Public member-at-large Roy Eckert was absent due to personal reasons.

Other attendees

- Garrett Broadbent, Director - Road Operations and Agricultural Services
- Aaron Van Beers, Manager - Agricultural Services
- Brendan deMilliano, Agricultural Services Coordinator
- Kim Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator
- Sharon Faye, Local Food Coordinator
- Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- Trevor Wallace, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry - Key Contact

Agenda adoption

022-2021 Board member Wanchuk – that the agenda for the June 14, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Previous minutes – March 8, 2021

023-2021 Board member Kushinski – that the March 8, 2021 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Action items progress report

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers provided information about ongoing monitoring of the culvert at Airport Road east of Range Road 234 to ensure that it remains free-flowing and discussed beaver activity on private property downstream. Van Beers confirmed that a review of culvert screens and other options for maintaining flow at the culvert are all being investigated by staff.

024-2021 Board member Lewis– 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 provided a staff activity report for the March through May 2021 reporting period and supplied the following additional information:



- Seasonal staff have been performing brushing work in support of Road Operations when weather conditions are unfavourable for spraying activities.
- The Pest Control Officer was able to address a number of beaver dams remaining from last year that were submerged throughout the 2020 season but are now accessible due to drier conditions. Beavers are more concentrated in pond pockets versus the flooded circumstances of the previous year with beavers spread out over-land. There has been a significant population explosion of muskrats and while they do not create dams, their burrowing habits have created road slope issues in a number of places.

025-2021 Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board accept as information the Agricultural Services department activity report for the March through May 2021 reporting period.

Carried Unanimously

Board member Smith

Board member Smith joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry – Key contact verbal report

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry key contact Trevor Wallace provided a verbal report:

- Crop moisture conditions in central Alberta are better than most of the province
- Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) announcement on June 11, 2021: streamlining grant process; nine programs have been condensed under three topic areas 1) Growth and Value-Added 2) Farm Efficiency 3) Public Trust
- \$1 million in program funding for beekeepers to help with post-pandemic recovery
- Online survey for CAP: seeking engagement as part of the first phase of the Next Policy Framework
- Agricultural Service Boards Town Hall meeting with the Assistant Deputy Minister on June 15, 2021

026-2021 Board member Vandenberghe – that the Agricultural Service Board accept as information the verbal report provided by the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry key contact.

Carried Unanimously

2020 Agricultural Service Board program field visit report

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers presented his report with reference to the field visit by representatives from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF) to assess Leduc County's program delivery in relation to legislated duties and requirements. A field visit summary detailing recommendations has been provided to administration.

Van Beers indicated that only minor changes to some processes are required and with reference to seed cleaning plant inspection review procedure and sample selection protocols clarified that AAF prefers that seed sampling was done periodically throughout the year rather than samples collected only at the time of the plant inspections.

Director – Road Operations and Agricultural Garrett Broadbent commented on the decrease in Agricultural Service Board grant funding from \$168,000 grant (sometimes more) in years past to \$123,000 at the current grant level.

027-2021 Board member Scobie – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the June 14, 2021 report with reference to the Agricultural Service Board program field visit and recommendations as information.

Carried Unanimously



Local Food

Local Food Coordinator Sharon Faye presented her report highlighting program activities to date in 2021. Faye responded to a board member inquiry about direct sales for local food producers remarking that producers are seeing an increase in online sales and the e-commerce webinar was hosted with this business tool in mind. The map on the Discover Leduc Region site includes farmers markets and will continue to expand with additional locations and business categories.

028-2021 Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Local Food program highlights report dated June 14, 2021 as information.

Carried Unanimously

Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator Kim Barkwell reviewed her report providing program highlights for the March through May 2021 period. With reference to the recent Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs announcement, Barkwell affirmed that a current Environmental Farm Plan will continue to be a requirement for grant applicants.

029-2021 Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Sustainable Agriculture program highlights report dated June 14, 2021 as information.

Carried Unanimously

Clubroot of canola

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers reported that a total of eight notices restricting the growing of canola will be issued resulting from pathotype testing results received from the University of Alberta. Six fields have been identified to contain pathotypes to which there is currently no commercially available genetic resistance and two fields will receive notices due to severity of infestations.

030-2021 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the clubroot of canola report dated June 14, 2021 as information.

Carried Unanimously

2021 Provincial Agricultural Service Board resolution grading responses

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers presented his report reviewing the 2021 Provincial Agricultural Service Board resolution responses and the Provincial Agricultural Service Board committee (ASBC) grading of the responses. Van Beers noted that the two resolutions graded “incomplete” received responses after the deadline for the Committee review.

Board member comments were heard with reference to Resolution 9-21 right to farm saved seed and Resolution 10-21 federal fuel charge and board member interest in being kept apprised of any further information or upcoming resolutions on those topics.

031-2021 Board member Kushinski – that with reference to the 2021 Provincial Agricultural Service Board resolution grading responses:

- I. Leduc County Agricultural Service Board accept the report dated June 14, 2021 as information, and further that
- II. Leduc County Agricultural Service Board direct administration to submit opinions on behalf of the board to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board committee.

Carried Unanimously



2022 Provincial Agricultural Service Board conference resolutions discussion

Manager – Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers discussed timelines for resolution submissions to be put forward for consideration for the 2022 Provincial Agricultural Service Board conference and noted that the deadline for submission of resolutions for the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) conference is prior to the next meeting of the Agricultural Service Board.

Information items

032-2021 Board member Vandenberghe – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the following correspondence items as information:

- a) 2021 Provincial Agricultural Service Board conference
 - i) Red Deer County Agricultural Service Board letter
 - ii) Saddle Hills County Agricultural Service Board letter
- b) County of Wetaskiwin letter to Alberta Environment – Pigeon Lake weir management
- c) County of Grande Prairie letter to Minister Dreeshan – Provincial funding to Agricultural Service Boards
- d) Invasive Mussels in aquarium moss balls
- e) Growing Canada's Forests Program
- f) Fusarium graminearum free seed labeling
- g) Advancing resolutions with Agriculture and Forestry
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- i) Alberta Farm Fresh Producers – Direct Currents
- j) Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food: Ag Tour
- k) Riparian Grazing Schools

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

032-2021 Board member Scobie – 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 of Agricultural Services