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**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING AGENDA
Monday, June 11, 2018**

1. **ORDER – 9:00 a.m.**
2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
3. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
- Agricultural Service Board Meeting – April 9, 2018 √
4. **PRESENTATIONS**
No Presentations scheduled
5. **MUNICIPAL POLICY - AGRICULTURAL SERVICES**
No reviews scheduled
6. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS / RECOMMENDATIONS**
 - a) Action Items – Progress Report √ Garrett Broadbent
 - b) Agricultural Services Department Activity Report √ Ag Svs Administration
 - c) Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – Key Contact Verbal Report Trevor Wallace
 - d) Regional Agriculture Master Plan Report √ Garrett Broadbent
 - e) 2019 Agricultural Services Budget - Preliminary Discussion √ Garrett Broadbent
 - f) Clubroot Status Report √ Aaron Van Beers
7. **AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE REPORTS**
 - a) Spring 2018 Run Off in Review – Verbal Report Garrett Broadbent
 - b) Drainage Complaint – SW 11-49-02-W5 √ Garrett Broadbent
8. **INFORMATION ITEMS** √ All Attached
 - a) AAF - Wild Boar at Large Bounty Program 2018-2020
 - b) Alberta Farm Animal Care – April 10, 2018 Letter
 - c) The Pest Insider – April 2018
 - d) WCFA Forage News – April 2018 and May 2018
 - e) GWFA The Blade Newsletter – April 2018
 - f) Environmental Stewardship News – May 2018
 - g) Verified Beef Production Plus – Canadian Beef Sustainability Acceleration Pilot
 - h) CFIA – Livestock ID and Traceability Program Regulatory Update
 - i) ALUS Press Release – Alberta Environment and Parks' Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program

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j) Coming Events

- i. ALUS Farm Tour – June 16, 2018
- ii. 2018 Provincial ASB Summer Tour – July 10-13, 2018
- iii. Olds College Hort Week – July 16-19, 2018
- iv. Growing from Here Ag-Food Business Conference – November 2, 2018

9. **ADJOURNMENT**



MINUTES OF LEDUC COUNTY, AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD ON JUNE 11, 2018 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE COUNTY CENTRE, NISKU, ALBERTA

Order and Roll Call

The Agricultural Service Board meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., Monday, June 11, 2018 by Chair Glenn Belozar with Board Members Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Larry Wanchuck and Public Member-At-Large Russell Kushinski present. Public Member-At-Large Roy Eckert arrived after the call to order.

Board Members Rick Smith and Kelly Vandenberghe were unable to attend due to commitments at the American Water Works Association conference.

Also present were:

- Duane Coleman, County Manager
- Garrett Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services
- Aaron Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman
- Brendan deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman
- Kim Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager
- Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- Katherine Degaust, Communications Coordinator

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist arrived after the call to order.

Adopt Agenda

040-2018 Board Member Doblanko - that the agenda for the June 11, 2018 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted with the following additions:

- 6 g. Soil Infilling – Verbal Report
- 7 c. Legal Opinion – Drainage Districts Special Bylaw

Carried Unanimously

Previous Minutes

041-2018 Board Member Lewis - that the April 9, 2018 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously



Mr. Wallace

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist entered the Council Chambers at 9:02 a.m.

Action Items – Progress Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services provided comments with reference to the Regional Agriculture Master Plan (RAMP) Task Force meeting that took place at the Calmar Legion on June 15, 2018. Mr. Broadbent confirmed that Leduc County's nomination of the Ter Borgh family dairy was submitted and has been formally acknowledged by the Northlands BMO Farm Family awards committee.

042-2018 Board Member Doblanko – that the Action Items progress report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services Department Activity Report

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman reported on the Hemp Production Focus group meeting attended by twelve individuals including a representative from the Leduc Nisku Economic Development Authority.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry will be conducting pea leaf weevil surveys, with permission from landowner/producers. Bertha Armyworm surveys will be conducted by Agricultural Services staff on behalf of AAF; traps will be set out next week.

One Individual

One individual entered the Council Chambers at 9:05 a.m.

Mr. Van Beers informed the Board members that the rural roadside mowing trial is underway with eight days of mowing accomplished to date. Administration has received positive remarks from residents who have taken note of these mowing activities. Overall, we are happy with the performance of the mower although some tweaks are going to be made to provide better coverage on the rock guard skirt.

Mr. Eckert

Public Member-At-Large Roy Eckert entered the Council Chambers at 9:08 a.m.

Mr. de Milliano, Agricultural Foreman related his ongoing discussions with Alberta Transportation regarding their 2018 vegetation management plans including herbicide spraying and right-of-way mowing.

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There has been good Orange Hawkweed spraying program uptake. The physiology of the plant demands quick management in the growing season to catch it before it bolts to seed.

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services noted that the Assistant position for pest control was a big asset for early spring work on beaver issues. Timely beaver dam work on Tide Creek permitted passage of spawning fish.

Mrs. Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager provided comments about the programs currently open under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership program; Farm Water and Stewardship Producer are programs of chief interest.

Mr. Broadbent reported that annually, prior to the startup of the roadside mowing program, seasonal staff are assigned garbage clean up in Leduc County main road right-of-ways where mowing is performed. The target is debris that may cause interference with the equipment or large debris scatters when mowed over. Discussion took place about manpower costs and public expectations about the frequency and detail of the cleanup activities. A Board Member suggestion was heard to provide information about the costs of garbage pickup as a public education initiative. Additionally, a suggestion to investigate the potential for community groups such as 4-H to undertake the clean-up activities was heard.

043-2018 Board Member Kushinski – that administration investigate the potential for community group coordination for Leduc County road right-of way clean-up activities and bring back a report to the next meeting of the Agricultural Service Board in September, 2018.

Carried Unanimously

Mr. Broadbent provided comments about his visit to Ter Borgh's dairy operation in association with completion of the nomination application for the Farm Farm award and the outstanding, highly innovative dairy facility the family manages.

Ms. Johnson

Ms. Laurie Johnson, Senior Regional Planner entered the Council Chambers at 9:44 a.m.

044-2018 Board Member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Services department activity report for the months of April through May, 2018 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

A handwritten signature in dark ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page. The signature is stylized and appears to be the initials 'LB' followed by a flourish.

Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – Key Contact Report

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist remarked upon the projects he has been involved with as the growing season is underway and noted the following:

- New Deputy Minister of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Andre Corbould
- Anticipating full roll out of Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs

Ms. Klimosko

Ms. Renee Klimosko, General Manager of Financial and Corporate Services entered the Council Chambers at 9:52 a.m.

045-2018 Board Member Wanchuk – that the Alberta Agriculture + Forestry Key Contact verbal report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Regional Agriculture Master Plan Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services provided an update on the Regional Agriculture Master Plan (RAMP). Board Member Doblanko, in her role as a member representing Leduc County on the Regional Agriculture Master Plan Task Force, also provided comments.

- The Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) target to develop a decision making tool prioritizing agriculture
- EMRB.ca is the RAMP main hub for information resources
- Public meeting of the RAMP Task Force was held at the Calmar Legion on June 15 where the draft “Situation Analysis” report was presented.
- LESA (land evaluation and site assessment) ag impact assessment tool to support decision-making regarding land uses
- Optimism: Discussion about value of agriculture at a regional level for the future sustainability of the industry.

046-2018 Board Member Scobie – that the Regional Agriculture Master Plan status report dated May 30, 2018 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Ms. Johnson

Ms. Laurie Johnson, Senior Regional Planner exited the Council Chambers at 10:08 a.m.

2019 Agricultural Services Budget – Preliminary Discussion



Mr. Broadbent Director of Agricultural Services invited discussion with the Board to provide direction with regard to budget development for the proposed 2019 Agricultural Services department budget for presentation at the September Agricultural Service Board meeting.

One Individual

One individual entered the Council Chambers at 10:09 a.m.

- ASB grant application – Contingent upon prescribed responsibilities to provide enforcement of Acts and programs to support those responsibilities
- Reviewed a framework of anticipated budget points in order of functions.
- One of the biggest items for consideration will be the rural roadside mowing program. Equipment and manpower resources to expand the program to provide full rural roadside coverage represents a significant capital expenditure and operating commitment. If at 25 km/day, a single pass would take four months of mowing work; the challenge is to time mowing at the right place at the right time spaced over the growing season.
- Five years ago, Council approved a \$20,000 reserve to support the Sustainable Ag Program. That reserve fund has now been depleted. Propose \$20,000 annually to support Sustainable Ag program along with ALUS support.
- Staffing considerations contingent on outcome of rural roadside mowing program development, possibly adjust the nine month seasonal PCO/RRM into a full time position for lead hand/foreman. As well, future consideration for ag land use planning specialist/RAMP land evaluation in coordination with Planning and Development.
- Agricultural drainage – Blackmud/Whitemud clean out as ongoing maintenance; Clearwater Creek continuing clean out for maintenance.
- Future consideration: Exploring ideas to develop an integrated GPS/GIS program for vegetation management/pest management data management.

Discussion took place about the process of enforcing weed notices: Currently weed enforcement is performed by private contractors hired by Leduc County. Support of the Sustainable Agriculture Program and additional extension support to the community through information sessions.

047-2018 Board Member Doblanko – that administration proceed with using the following documents and information, as presented, in the development of the proposed 2019 Agricultural Services budget:

- i. 2018 – 2020 Agricultural Services Operational Plan
- ii. 2017 – 2019 ASB Grant Application



Carried Unanimously

Ms. Klimosko

Ms. Renee Klimosko, General Manager of Financial and Corporate Services exited the Council Chambers at 10:39 a.m.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 10:39 a.m. and reconvened at 10:43 a.m. with Chair Glenn Belozer and Board Members Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Larry Wanchuck and Public Members-At-Large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present.

Also present were:

- Duane Coleman, County Manager
- Garrett Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services
- Aaron Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman
- Brendan deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman
- Kim Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager
- Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- Katherine Degaust, Communications Coordinator
- Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist
- Mr. Leonard Loyek, Leduc County resident
- Mr. Eugene Pohlka, Town of Thorsby resident

Drainage Complaint – SW 11-49-01-W5

Mr. Pohlka showed a drawing he had made a number of years ago to show where the water run had existed at that time and some workings he described adjacent to the creek flood plain on private property. Mr. Loyek had formed a swale, at that time, to direct drainage, but currently run off travels further south of that definition.

Mr. Broadbent summarized Mr. Loyek and Mr. Pohlka's presentation at the June 5, 2018 Leduc County Council meeting. Mr. Broadbent also related historical points:

- Creek tributaries/seasonal run drainage area contributed to by approximately 17 quarters of agricultural land.
- Grassed waterways are encouraged by Leduc County to mitigate erosion in seasonal water runs.
- Alberta Environment is the ruling authority and has indicated that they consider this to be natural drainage.



- Historical aerial mapping shows the existence of tributary development and trees along the water course in 1999.

A Board Member commented, to provide context, that the significant incident of flooding that affected a business property within the Town of Thorsby happened at the time that flooding on Weed Creek washed out the culvert crossing at Highway 39.

Mr. Loyek expressed his dissatisfaction with the response from Alberta Environment; additionally, that the Farmers Advocate office has not been responsive on this issue. It is his wish that Leduc County advocate for a resolution to direct the waterway in a more easterly direction on lands to the south of his property.

048-2018 Board Member Doblanko – with reference to the drainage concern on the SW 11-49-01-W5, that the June 7, 2018 administration report and presentation by property owners be received as information and further, that administration endeavor to arrange a meeting with Mr. Loyek and his adjoining property owner to discuss concerns.

Carried Unanimously

Two Individuals

Two individuals exited the Council Chambers at 11:21 a.m.

Clubroot Status Report

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman reported receiving confirmation on May 15, 2018 that ten of the fields sampled in 2017 for the presence of clubroot have been confirmed to contain novel pathotypes to which there is currently no commercially available resistance. All of the property owners have been contacted by phone. Nine of the ten contain pathotype 3A which is one of the most prevalent of the new virulent pathotypes that have been confirmed. It is hoped that there will be rapid development of resistant varieties.

Board Member comments were heard regarding the value of timing field work and sanitation of equipment to prevent spreading infection and especially in light of the consequences of novel pathotypes. Recommended reiterating this message and communicating a statement regarding the confirmation of novel pathotypes on cropland within Leduc County.

049-2018 Board Member Kushinski – that the clubroot status report dated June 5, 2018 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously



Soil Infilling Working Group – Verbal Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services provided a verbal report regarding the Soil Infilling Working Group. Leduc County Council had expressed interest in having four Board Members sit on the working group. A working group is currently under development and a suggestion was made to manage the size of the group to about ten members in the interest of productivity. The consensus of the Board was that Board member Vandenberghe, having previously expressed particular interest in the soil infill group, be the Agricultural Service Board member appointed to participate in the working group.

050-2018 Board Member Doblanko – that Board Member Vandenberghe be appointed to the Infilling, Lot Grading & Stockpiling Working Group.

Carried Unanimously

Spring 2018 Run Off in Review – Verbal Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services reviewed the 2018 spring run-off and remarked that the Blackmud flood plain was totally filled with spring run-off flows, and functioned very well as did a number of the other local drainages. Clearwater Creek did take some time to “catch up” to accumulating run off from the large drainage area, but also functioned quite well. Credit was given to Public Works road operations in managing culvert failures.

051-2018 Board Member Eckert – that the verbal report by administration providing a review of the 2018 spring run-off be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Legal Opinion – Drainage Districts

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services upon direction from Council, has sought a legal opinion with reference to a special bylaw to collect tax levies on behalf of the Cameron Drainage District. The legal opinion recommended that Leduc County does not enact a special bylaw and incur the risk that this bylaw be legally challenged.

A Board Member comment was heard inquiring if administration could make arrangements to include a notification with the Leduc County tax notice that drainage district levies are due and payable to the respective drainage districts.

052-2018 Board Member Wanchuk – that with reference to consideration of enacting a special tax bylaw to collect drainage tax levies on behalf of the Cameron Drainage District, the May 29, 2018 opinion letter from Brownlee LLP be received as information.

Carried Unanimously



Information Items

053-2018 Board Member Kushinski – that the following correspondence be received as information:

- a) AAF - Wild Boar at Large Bounty Program 2018-2020
- b) Alberta Farm Animal Care – April 10, 2018 Letter
- c) The Pest Insider – April 2018
- d) WCFA Forage News – April 2018 and May 2018
- e) GWFA The Blade Newsletter – April 2018
- f) Environmental Stewardship News – May 2018
- g) Verified Beef Production Plus – Canadian Beef Sustainability Acceleration Pilot
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 - iv. Growing from Here Ag-Food Business Conference – November 2, 2018

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

054-2018 Board Member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting concluded at 11:54 a.m.


CHAIR


DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL
SERVICES