



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Monday, September 10, 2018

1. **ORDER – 9:00 a.m.**
2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
3. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
  - Agricultural Service Board Meeting – June 11, 2018 ✓
4. **PRESENTATIONS**
  - a) 9:05 a.m. Potato Growers of Alberta ✓ Aaron Van Beers
5. **MUNICIPAL POLICY - AGRICULTURAL SERVICES**
  - a) Agricultural Services Policy Review Schedule Garrett Broadbent
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) Growing Forward 2 Producer Environmental Programs ✓ Kim Barkwell
  - e) Rural Roads Mowing Program Status Report ✓ Brendan deMilliano
  - f) Clubroot Status Report ✓ Aaron Van Beers
  - g) Proposed 2019 Budget ✓ Garrett Broadbent
    - i. Agricultural Services Department Proposed 2019 Budget Report
    - ii. 2018-2021 Leduc County Council Strategic Plan
    - iii. 2019 Council Budget Guidelines
    - iv. 2019 Proposed Budget ASB Report of Adjustments
    - v. 2019 Proposed Equipment Rental/Product Sale Schedule
    - vi. 2019 Proposed Agricultural Services Budget – Revenue/Expenses
    - vii. Agricultural Drainage Proposed 2019 Budget Report
    - viii. 2019 Proposed Agricultural Drainage Budget – Revenue/Expenses ✓ Garrett Broadbent
  - h) Proposed 2019 ASB Meeting Schedule ✓ Garrett Broadbent
  - i) NW Region ASB Conference
7. **AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE REPORTS**
  - a) Proposed Clearwater Creek Cleanout – Verbal Report Garrett Broadbent
  - b) Small Drainage Project Application – S ½ 28-50-27-W4 ✓ Garrett Broadbent

## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

### Monday, September 10, 2018

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#### 8. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

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All Attached

- a) Canada Thistle Stem Weevil Plot Photos (RE: Activity Report)
- b) AlbertaFarmerExpress-Local Producer ALUS Project
- c) The Verge-Enemy at the Grates
- d) CFIA-Livestock ID and Traceability Program Regulatory Update
- e) West Coast Reduction Ltd-Raw Material Policy
- f) The Blade Newsletter
- g) Pest Insider Newsletter
- h) Correspondence to PMRA – Strychnine Re-Evaluation
  - i. Letter from Starland County ASB
  - ii. Letter from ASB Provincial Committee
- i) ASB Bursary Advertisement
- j) Coming Events
  - i. Growing from Here – Ag Food Business Conference - November 2, 2018
  - ii. The Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth Conference – November 5-8, 2018
  - iii. FarmFair International – November 7 – 11, 2018
  - iv. 2018 Green Industry Show & Conference – November 15-16, 2018

#### 9. **ADJOURNMENT**



**MINUTES OF LEDUC COUNTY, AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE COUNTY CENTRE, NISKU, ALBERTA**

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**Order and Roll Call**

The Agricultural Service Board meeting was called to order at 8:59 a.m., Monday, September 10, 2018 by Chair Glenn Belozar with Board Members (Mayor) Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuck and Public Members-At-Large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present.

Also present were:

- Rick Thomas, Deputy County Manager/General Manager, Community & Protective Services
- 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

Two individuals were present as well.

**Adopt Agenda**

**055-2018** Board Member Lewis - that the agenda for the September 10, 2018 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted with the following addition:

6 j Verbal Recap of Provincial ASB Summer Tour

Carried Unanimously

**Previous Minutes**

**056-2018** Board Member Doblanko - that the June 11, 2018 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**One Individual**

One individual entered the Council Chambers at 9:02 a.m.



**Potato Growers of Alberta – Presentation**

Mr. Thomas McDade, Agricultural Director, Potato Growers of Alberta; Mr. Russell Van Boom, Board of Directors Chair, Potato Growers of Alberta; and Dr. Mike Harding, Research Scientist, Plant Pathology, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry were introduced to the Board.

Mr. McDade provided comments on the Potato Growers of Alberta (PGA) presentation "A Proud Alberta Success Story":

- 1899 first recorded commercial potato crop in Alberta
- 155 grower members in Alberta
- Currently over 50,000 acres in production, both seed and fresh/processing potatoes
- Farm gate value over \$250 million
- Economic value over \$1 billion in Alberta
- 80% of process production is exported
- Over 50% of the seed production is exported representing over \$20 million annually to growers
- Production follows a strict 1 in 4 year rotation with a rigorous phytosanitary program as directed by Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Seeding and harvesting equipment is routinely washed
- High tillage is a fact of potato production in Alberta

Board Member comments and PGA delegation responses were heard:

- Concerns with the tillage activities necessary for potato production on cropland under notice for clubroot. PGA representative response: As discussed in potato producer meeting, growers would not plan to go into potatoes on noticed land. Suggest amending existing clubroot policy to specify heavy tillage i.e. rototill.
- What are the concerns of the PGA regarding specifying potatoes in the clubroot policy? PGA representative response: The potato industry is small, visible, and relies heavily on export. The wording of the clubroot policy could be perceived to suggest that potatoes, themselves, are a negative impact.
- Concerns with soil tag on potatoes. PGA representative response: Potato seed growers have encountered this concern and some seed producers do not have canola in their rotation at any time. Dr. Harding commented that any soil movement presents a risk of carrying diseases, including clubroot. Mr. Van Beers commented that concerns with the potential to spread clubroot spores is with tillage activities, regardless of crop, but that intensive tillage is almost always carried out in potato production practices.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'LB' or similar initials, located at the bottom right of the page.

**057-2018** Board Member Scobie – that the presentation by representatives of the Potato Growers of Alberta be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Three Individuals

Three individuals exited the Council Chambers at 9:35 a.m.

**Municipal Policy – Agricultural Services Department – Verbal Report**

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services reported that Agricultural Services administration undertook a thorough policy review when Agricultural Services department Municipal Policies were reformatted to standard one year ago. A policy review schedule was developed at that time. All policies are currently in the process of being updated to the new format and will be reviewed at an upcoming Municipal Policy Review Committee meeting before the end of 2018.

**058-2018** Board Member Kushinski – that administration's verbal report with reference to the Agricultural Services department municipal policy review schedule and upcoming updates be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Action Items – Progress Report**

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services reviewed the action items progress report:

- Administration will endeavor to coordinate a more thorough ditch garbage cleanup along County main roads prior to the start of the mowing season in 2019 and review outcomes following that.
- With reference to the drainage complaint on SW 11-49-01-W5, administration met again with complainant and the neighbouring property owner. Provided information about the Small Drainage program guidelines and urged consideration of approaching the complainant's concern in this manner, if agreeable to the neighbouring property owner.

**059-2018** Board Member Wanchuk – that the Action Items progress report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Agricultural Services Department Activity Report**

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services indicated that the department activity report covers the majority of the growing season program period of June, July, and



August. Agricultural Services administration provided the following comments in relation to the reporting for the period:

- Rural roadside mowing trial – Approximately 5,165 acres were mowed; the dry conditions yielded few rained out days and quicker passes with some second mowing passes in some places.
- Weed/brush control – Coordination of spraying activities to support Public Works road operations for shoulder pull activities.
- Pest Control – Review of process to meet requirements to remove beaver dams including clearances through Alberta One-Call and precautions to minimize risk to the public in the immediate area of blasting activities.
- Municipalities and Wetlands Management course – Designed by Ducks Unlimited with support of the Government of Alberta; a full day course designed to help municipalities understand their role and resources available in the implementation of the Alberta Wetland Policy.
- Local Food and Agricultural Innovation will be a new activity report item – Have approached Alberta Farm Fresh Producers Association to promote holding their annual conference in Nisku. Partnering with Leduc County and the Leduc Regional Chamber of Commerce would support common goals.
- Discussion took place on the topic of ground water.

**060-2018** Board Member Doblanko – that administration coordinate attendance of a hydro-geological specialist to speak on the topic of ground water at an upcoming meeting of the Agricultural Service Board.

Carried Unanimously

- Invasive species – Working with the Provincial Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist following a property owner report of the presence of a large population of goldfish in a dugout. The Province is aware of several waterbodies with these invasive fish (Prussian carp) and are working with property owners and municipalities on management solutions to control the serious threat to local aquatic ecosystems and native fish habitats.

**061-2018** Board Member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Services Department activity report for the period of June, July, and August 2018 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

### Recess

The meeting recessed at 10:54 a.m. and reconvened at 11:01 a.m. with Chair Glenn Belozor with Board Members (Mayor) Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuck and Public Members-At-Large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present.



Also present were:

- Rick Thomas, Deputy County Manager/General Manager, Community & Protective Services
- 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

### **Alberta Agriculture & Forestry – Key Contact Verbal Report**

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist recapped a few of the projects he has been working on, including:

- Health Canada proposed ban on two neonicotinoid pesticides in a three-year phase out plan.
- Social media attention to glyphosate and the food industry.
- Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs and provincial Farm Energy and Agri-Processing program.

**062-2018** Board Member Wanchuk – that the Alberta Agriculture & Forestry Key Contact's verbal report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

### **Growing Forward 2 Producer Environmental Report**

Mrs. Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager presented her report regarding Growing Forward 2 (GF2) aggregate data for Leduc County and County of Wetaskiwin showing projects and funds paid to producers. Dollar figures represents only GF2 funding percentage.

**063-2018** Board Member Kushinski – that the September 4, 2018 report regarding Growing Forward 2 producer environmental programs be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

### **Rural Roads Mowing Program Status Report**

Mr. deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman presented his status report regarding the Rural Roadside Mowing program trial:



- Key Performance Indicators reveal that more mowing was achieved than was forecast owing to favourable mowing weather conditions and the efficiency of the mowing operator.
- Feedback from completed surveys was generally positive.
- Board Members reported on the comments received from residents with those comments varying from “not necessary”, “cut too high”, “needed in some areas, but not others”, “good management of sweet clover”. Additional Board Member remarks were heard:
  - If no rural roadside mowing was done in the next growing season, there will be requests for it.
  - Concerns about timing if only one unit is covering the entire County and strategy development to optimize roadside mower time and mileage.
- Only 10 hours of down time was experienced due to non-routine repairs which speaks to the care and competence of the operator and the caution undertaken in managing the height of the cut given uneven topography and grading debris off of the shoulder area.

**064-2018** Board Member Kushinski – that the Rural Roadside Mowing status report dated September 10, 2018 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

### **Clubroot Status Report**

Mr. Van Beers presented his clubroot status report and provided details regarding an extremely high infestation that a crop producer had called about with concerns in his crop of clubroot resistant canola. Administration met with the producer along with Mr. Orchard with the Canola Council of Canada and Mr. Manolii with the University of Alberta. It was concurred that this field is likely a severe case of pathotype shifting. Mr. Manolii took samples for clubroot pathotyping and Mr. Orchard will request the seed company to confirm variety through varietal testing.

Mr. Van Beers reported on his attendance at the International Clubroot Workshop in August 2018 and noted that pathotype shifts are happening world-wide.

Field inspections in canola crops are ongoing into the fall. As of August 17, 2018 451 fields have been inspected, with 63 confirmed to have clubroot and 18 of those at high levels of infestation. Approximately 351 fields remain to be inspected.

### **Ms. Wice**

Ms. Wice, Director of Finance entered Council Chambers at 11:26 a.m.



**065-2018** Board Member Eckert – that administration invite representatives from the Alberta Canola Producers Commission and the Canola Council of Canada to attend an upcoming meeting of the Agricultural Service Board to discuss clubroot resistant varieties and management of clubroot in canola.

Carried Unanimously

**066-2018** Board Member Kushinski – that the clubroot status report dated September 10, 2018 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

### **Proposed 2019 Budget**

#### **Agricultural Services Department**

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services presented the proposed 2019 Agricultural Services department budget:

- Consideration was given to ensure that priorities align with the new strategic plan.
- No new services or staffing has been included in the proposed 2019 budget. The operating budget reflects maintenance of current programs and services with existing staff.
- New initiatives open for consideration that could affect the proposed operating budget for 2019 or in upcoming years include the Rural Roadside Mowing program and an Agricultural Land Use Planning Specialist:
- No major adjustments to revenue proposed, including the Agricultural Service Board grant, shared employee agreements, and the Fees and Charges schedule.
- Function 63-00: Increase grant to organizations from \$9500 to \$22,500 to provide \$10,000 in sponsorship of the Alberta Farm Fresh Producers Association conference; increase ASB Bursaries to five from two \$1000 bursaries.
- Function 63-01: No net changes, adjustments to cost increases equals decreases.
- Function 63-02: No net changes, pending review of fuel costs. Additional operating costs of \$170,000 for staff, fuel, and maintenance of equipment only if decision is made to full implement Rural Roadside Mowing program.

#### **Board Member Smith**

Board Member Smith exited the Council Chambers at 11:58 a.m.

- Function 63-03: No net changes
- Function 63-04: Increase of \$5000 to host/support local food events and initiatives
- Function 64-05: No net changes
- Function 63-06: No net changes



- Function 63-07: No net changes

**Major Projects/Capital Plan**

- Replace #167 2009 F350 truck, retain old unit for use in Ag Services fleet
- Replace #170 2008 F250 truck, transfer old unit to Parks & Recreation
- Rural Roadside Mowing program, if implemented
- Replace #374 2014 New Holland T7.170 tractor, trade-in old unit

**067-2018** Board Member Lewis – that the proposed 2019 Agricultural Services Department budget be referred to council for consideration during the budget review process.

Carried Unanimously

**Agricultural Drainage**

- No changes proposed. Funds for maintenance on licensed drainage to be carried forward for work in 2019:
  - Carry forward \$175,000 for Blackmud Creek maintenance (cost-shared with other contributing municipalities)
  - Carry forward balance for Clearwater Creek drainage maintenance

**068-2018** Board Member Doblanko – that the proposed 2019 agricultural drainage budget be referred to Council for consideration during the budget review process.

Carried Unanimously

**Proposed 2019 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Schedule**

**069-2018** Board Member Belozor – that with reference to the Agricultural Services Board meeting schedule for the 2019 calendar year, meetings are to commence at 9:00 a.m. in the Leduc County Council Chambers as follows:

- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Monday, January 21, 2019 | • Monday, September 9, 2019   |
| • Monday, March 11, 2019   | • Thursday, November 14, 2019 |
| • Monday, April 8, 2019    | • Monday, December 9, 2019    |
| • Monday, June 10, 2019    |                               |

Or, at the call of the Chair.

Carried Unanimously



Mr. Wallace and Ms. Wice

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist and Ms. Wice, Director of Finance exited the Council Chambers at 12:16 pm

**Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board Conference**

**070-2018** Board Member Eckert – that Agricultural Service Board members advise administration of their intentions with regard to their attendance at the October 18, 2018 Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board Conference prior to September 28, 2018.

Carried Unanimously

**Provincial ASB Summer Tour – Board Member Verbal Report**

Board Members Belozer, Lewis, and Vandenberghe provided a verbal report of the highlights of the 2018 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Summer tour event.

**071-2018** Board Member Kushinski – that the Board members' verbal report regarding the 2018 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Summer Tour event be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Proposed Clearwater Creek Cleanout – Verbal Report**

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services informed the Board that clean out work was performed last fall in a portion of the licensed Clearwater Creek drainage and additional clean out work is scheduled to be done this fall.

**072-2018** Board Member Vandenberghe – that administration's verbal report regarding the proposed maintenance activities scheduled for the fall of 2018 on the Clearwater Creek be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Small Drainage Project Application – S ½ 28-50-27-W4**

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services reviewed his report on the drainage improvement work undertaken by Mr. Thimer to repair an existing farm crossing prior to the realization that the project may be eligible for small drainage program funding.

**073-2018** Board Member Kushinski – that a Small Drainage Project grant payment of \$750 be approved to reimburse a portion of the cost of drainage works performed by the property owner, Mr. Thimer, on S ½ 28-50-27-W4 as per policy SW-02 Small Drainage Projects Policy Guidelines and Conditions.

Carried Unanimously

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J.B.', is located at the bottom right of the page.

**Information Items**

**074-2018** Board Member Doblanko – that the following correspondence be received as information:

- a) Canada Thistle Stem Weevil Plot Photos (RE: Activity Report)
- b) AlbertaFarmerExpress-Local Producer ALUS Project
- c) The Verge-Enemy at the Grates
- d) CFIA-Livestock ID and Traceability Program Regulatory Update
- e) West Coast Reduction Ltd-Raw Material Policy
- f) The Blade Newsletter
- g) Pest Insider Newsletter
- h) Correspondence to PMRA – Strychnine Re-Evaluation
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  - iv. 2018 Green Industry Show & Conference – November 15-16, 2018

Carried Unanimously

**Adjournment**

**074-2018** Board Member Lewis – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting concluded at 12:30 pm.

  
CHAIR

  
DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL  
SERVICES