



**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING AGENDA
Monday, March 11, 2019**

1. ORDER – 9:00 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Agricultural Service Board Meeting – January 21, 2019

✓

4. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations scheduled

5. MUNICIPAL POLICY - AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

a) PC-02 Control of Clubroot Disease in Canola

✓

Aaron Van Beers

b) Agricultural Services Policy Review Schedule

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Garett Broadbent

6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

a) Action Items – Progress Report

✓

Garett Broadbent

b) Agricultural Services Department Activity Report

✓

Ag Svs Administration

c) Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – Key Contact Verbal Report

Trevor Wallace

d) City of Edmonton – Mosquito Abatement Program

✓

Garett Broadbent

e) Agricultural Services + Public Works Communications Calendar

✓

Brendan deMilliano

7. AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE REPORTS

a) LeBlanc Drainage Canal Verbal Report

Garett Broadbent

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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8. INFORMATION ITEMS

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All Attached

- a) The Chamber – Business Awards & Gala
- b) Big Hay Lake Drainage District – Annual Meeting
- c) Class 1 Driver's Licence Regulations
 - i. Alberta Canola Producers Commission News Release
 - ii. Brazeau County Letter to Minister of Transportation
- d) Herbicide Resistant Weeds in Alberta
- e) Grey Wooded Forage Association –January & February Editions of The Blade
- f) Livestock Identification and Traceability Program Update – February 2019
- g) AFAC – Livestock Welfare Insights February 2019
- h) ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee – Ag Producer Member Vacancy
- i) Coming Events:
 - i. Chickens & Coops – March 16, 2019
 - ii. Bee Culture Solutions – Bee Culture Workshops
 - iii. Grazing Through Adverse Conditions – March 12, 2019
 - iv. AF Webinar – Alberta Health Services Food Regulations for Farmers' Markets – March 13, 2019
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3621357391024415747>
 - v. Natural Health Products Research Conference – May 26-29, 2019

9. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES OF LEDUC COUNTY, AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD ON MARCH 11, 2019 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 March 11, 2019 by Chair Glenn Belozor with Board Members, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuk and Public Members-At-Large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present. Board Member Rick Smith was not in attendance. Board Member Tanni Doblanko arrived after the call to order.

Also present were:

- Mr. Garrett Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services
- Mr. Aaron Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman
- Mr. Brendan deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman
- Mr. Rick Thomas, Deputy County Manager/General Manager, Community & Protective Services
- Ms. Katherine Degaust, Communications Coordinator
- Mrs. Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist

Adopt Agenda

013-2019 Board Member Kushinski - that the agenda for the March 11, 2109 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted with the following addition:

6 f. ASB Grant Program Review – ASB Member Face-to-Face Session
Board Member Report

Carried Unanimously

Previous Minutes

014-2019 Board Member Scobie - that the January 21, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Municipal Policy – Agricultural Services

PC-02 Control of Clubroot Disease in Canola

- Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman presented his report providing background information for the annual review of Policy PC-02 Control of Clubroot Disease in



Canola. Three focus group meetings were hosted following the annual information session for the purpose of gathering feedback from producers and other ag industry representatives:

- Topics of discussion at the focus group meetings included pathotype shifting, second generation genetics, soil movement effects on the spread of clubroot
- One topic that received particular attention was the restriction of the growing of potatoes on cropland under notice. Potato growers support the intent to limit intensive tillage on cropland under notice, but have concerns about potatoes, as a crop, being specified instead of tillage practices
- Most producers indicate that low/no tillage is their normal practice although there are circumstances where the need for tillage arises such as wet fall conditions, heavy trash, deeply rutted fields

Board Member Doblanko

Board Member Doblanko entered the Council Chambers at 9:06 a.m.

- All producers reported following at least a 1-in-3 rotation although most desired the flexibility to temporarily tighten a rotation in a particular field should circumstances arise
- Producers and agronomists both urged continuing education and targeting producers who are not adopting beneficial practices
- A clubroot management agreement developed by Smoky Lake was provided for review at two of the focus group meetings. In the current policy there is a requirement for the submission of a management plan when a notice is issued due to a pathotype shift, although to date, no formal template for a management plan has been developed.

Mr. Van Beers indicated that it was administration's recommendation to remove "potatoes" from the wording of the policy and replace that with wording to the effect to specify restriction on high-intensity tillage practices such as rototilling and high-speed disking for the duration of the notice.

Board Member comments were heard and discussed on the proposed update to the policy:

- What about specifying "plowing" along with high-intensity tillage
- "High-intensity tillage practices such as *or including, but not limited to* roto-tilling, high-speed disking, plowing"
- How can tillage practices be verified and enforced? Fields with pathotype shift would require additional inspection to monitor tillage.



- Let economics motivate producers who may not adopt beneficial management practices. Mr. Van Beers' response that neighbouring cropland can potentially be effected by poor management on adjoining or downstream cropland.
- Management "check-list" outlining ideal management tools, and potentially utilizing it as an agreement for management practices for cropland under notice.
- Target problem producers or cropland under notice, but don't "over regulate" all producers, the majority of whom are diligent with management.
- Studies on tillage erosion indicate speed of tillage is a significant factor in movement of soil by 2-3 times over slower tillage practices.

015-2019 Board Member Doblanko – that with reference to the annual review of the Control of Clubroot Disease in Canola Pest Control Policy PC-02:

- I. The March 11, 2019 clubroot policy review report be received s information, and further
- II. That the Policy be referred to the Municipal Policy Review Committee.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services Policy Review Schedule

016-2019 Board Member Lewis – that the Agricultural Services policy review schedule be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Action Items – Progress Report

017-2019 Board Member Wanchuk – that the Action Items progress report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – Key Contact Verbal Report

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist provided comments on the following projects:

- Canadian Agricultural Partnership – Environmental Stewardship & Climate Change Producer Program updated to include commercial manure applicators
- Climate Change Grants – Financial assistance available for ag societies for improvements to lighting, heating, ventilation, and rink/arena equipment
- Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program – Three-year pilot program coordinated by Alberta Beef Producers on behalf of the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group to work out logistical and operational and financial feasibility of



operating a recycling program. Pilot program will include both grain bags and twine.

- Development of crop varieties factsheets to help producers make sound decisions when deciding on grains, oilseeds, pulse, and forage crops.
- Recent work on the Alberta Farm Fertilizer Information and Recommendation Manager (AFFIRM) software – Decision support to evaluate nutrient requirements for crop production.

018-2019 Board Member Wanchuk – that the verbal report provided by Mr. Wallace, Alberta Agriculture + Forestry Key Contact, be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services Department Activity Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services informed Board Members that a Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) producer member is being sought from within Leduc County for Alternative Land Use Services.

Mr. deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman provided information about an evaluation of the potential for solar generation on the Community and Operations Centre building that has been performed as directed by the Executive leadership team. Representatives from two solar industry companies were invited to view the facility and develop proposals on viable options. It was identified, by both companies, that the current central distribution panel is a restriction for handling an increase in power received with a solar power generator. Once the proposals are received, they will be presented to Leduc County Council.

Discussion took place about community based micro-generation projects. A request was heard to append the 2015/2016 solar review and payback period to the upcoming report to Council to provide a comparison of current costs and incentives now available under the Alberta Municipal Solar Program.

019-2019 Board Member Eckert – that the Agricultural Services Department activity report for the January 15 through February 28, 2019 period be received as information.

Carried Unanimously



City of Edmonton – Mosquito Abatement Program

020-2019 Board Member Doblanko – that administration respond to the City of Edmonton granting permission to conduct their 2019 mosquito monitoring and control program activities on Leduc County owned, operated, or leased lands utilizing products containing *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* only.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services and Public Works Communications Calendar

Mr. deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman reported on discussions with Communications, GIS technical staff and Agricultural Services and Public Works operations staff to develop a synopsis of road programs and maintenance timelines with the goal of providing information to Leduc County residents.

021-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that the March 6, 2019 Agricultural Services and Public Works Communications Calendar report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

ASB Grant Program Review – ASB Member Face-to-Face Session Board Member Report

Agricultural Service Board Chair Glenn Belozer and Vice Chair Ray Scobie attended the ASB Member Face-to-Face session in Barrhead on February 12, 2019 and provided the following comments:

- It was a valuable, informative session comprised of grants and program review discussion with provincial representatives and Agricultural Service Board members from throughout the region
- Many points of common interest were discussed, including advocacy of primary agriculture; inventory of expertise on ag-related topics; not enough grant funding dollars; not enough information being made main stream to mitigate the misinformation broadly perceived about GMO's; ag promotion in urban schools; provincial resolutions are poorly responded to and regional issues lose significance at the provincial conference level; attendance of an Alberta Agriculture and Forestry representative at Agricultural Service Board meetings

Board Members gratefully acknowledged the support and expertise provided by Mr. Trevor Wallace, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact though his regular attendance at Leduc County Agricultural Service Board meetings.



022-2019 Board Member Lewis – that the Board Member report regarding the Agricultural Service Board grant program review face-to-face session be received as information.

Carried Forward

LeBlanc Drainage Canal Verbal Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services informed Board Members that the City of Beaumont has approached administration regarding the existing license held by Leduc County on the LeBlanc drainage canal. LeBlanc canal downstream impacts have historically been a concern with reference to stormwater management within Beaumont boundaries. The Blackmud/Whitemud Master Drainage Plan area includes the extent of the LeBlanc drainage canal along with an agreed upon release rate.

023-2019 Board Member Doblanko – that the verbal report regarding the existing license held by Leduc County for the LeBlanc drainage canal be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Information Items

Board Member comments were heard that the China canola ban has had immediate impacts on markets and the movement of canola product. The local crushing plant is back-logged and shipping has been halted.

024-2019 Board Member Eckert – that the following correspondence be received as information:

- a) The Chamber – Business Awards & Gala
- b) Big Hay Lake Drainage District – Annual Meeting
- c) Class 1 Driver's License Regulations
 - i. Alberta Canola Producers Commission News Release
 - ii. Brazeau County Letter to Minister of Transportation
- d) Herbicide Resistant Weeds in Alberta
- e) Grey Wooded Forage Association –January & February Editions of The Blade
- f) Livestock Identification and Traceability Program Update – February 2019
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- h) ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee – Ag Producer Member Vacancy
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- iv. AF Webinar – Alberta Health Services Food Regulations for Farmers' Markets – March 13, 2019
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3621357391024415747>
- v. Natural Health Products Research Conference – May 26-29, 2019
- j) News Release – China Canola Ban

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

025-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting concluded at 10:30 a.m.



CHAIR

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL
SERVICES