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**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING AGENDA
Monday, September 9, 2019**

1. **ORDER – 9:00 a.m.**

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

3. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- Agricultural Service Board Meeting – June 10, 2019

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4. **PRESENTATIONS**

No Presentations Scheduled

5. **MUNICIPAL POLICY - AGRICULTURAL SERVICES**

No Policy Items

6. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS / RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a) Action Items – Progress Report
- b) Agricultural Services Department Activity Report
- c) Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – Key Contact Verbal Report
- d) 2019 ASB Resolutions Report Card
- e) Local Food Initiative Report
- f) Moisture and Precipitation Update
- g) Proposed 2020 ASB Meeting Schedule
- h) NW Region ASB Conference

- ✓ Garrett Broadbent
- ✓ Ag Svs Administration
Trevor Wallace
- ✓ Aaron Van Beers
- ✓ Garrett Broadbent
- ✓ Aaron Van Beers
- ✓ Aaron Van Beers
- ✓ Aaron Van Beers

7. **AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE REPORTS**

No Agricultural Drainage Items

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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8. INFORMATION ITEMS

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All Attached

- a) ASB Grant Program Review Engagements - Stand Outs
- b) Seed Royalty Survey
- c) Ropin' the Web – Letters of Concern
 - i. Red Deer County
 - ii. County of Minburn
 - iii. Clearwater County
- d) Grey Wooded Forage Association – The Blade Newsletter
- e) West Central Forage Association – Forage Views Newsletter
- f) Livestock Identification and Traceability Program-TRACE Newsletter
- g) Sustainable Agriculture Attachment Items
 - i. ALUS Monitoring – South Wetland Comparison and North Wetland Comparison
 - ii. Canada Thistle Stem Mining Weevil Trial
- h) Upcoming Events
 - i. Cows and Chaos, Feed, Forage and Management Strategies Webinar
 - ii. 100 Years of Soil Science at the University of Alberta
 - iii. Western Canada Conference on Soil Health & Grazing Conference
 - iv. Farmfair International – Edmonton EXPO Centre
 - v. Leduc Farmers Market – Thursdays + Saturdays 10 am – 1:30 pm at Leduc Heritage Grain Elevator
 - vi. South Common Farmers Market – Saturdays + Sundays 10 am – 4 pm at Parsons Road + 19 Avenue NW Edmonton

9. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES OF LEDUC COUNTY, AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 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, September 9, 2019 by Chair Glenn Belozar with Board Members Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Larry Wanchuk and Public Members-At-Large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present. Board Member Tanni Doblanko was unable to attend for personal reasons, and Board Member Kelly Vandenberghe was absent due to a personal commitment.

Also present were:

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

One individual was present as well.

Adopt Agenda

037-2019 Board Member Wanchuk - that the agenda for the September 9, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted with the following additions:

- 4. Public Presentation – Mr. Mahon, County resident
- 6. i) Verbal Report – Alberta Care Conference

Carried Unanimously

Previous Minutes

038-2019 Board Member Scobie - that the June 10, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously



Public Presentation

Mr. John Mahon, Leduc County resident addressed the Agricultural Service Board with his concerns regarding beaver activity and flooding:

- Relating concerns on behalf of himself and neighbour, Mr. Renneberg, who has cropland adjacent to his property.
- Reports flooding on cropland due to blockage at a culvert on Airport Road and that he and his neighbour have been endeavouring to clean it out; but beaver activity blocks it up again quickly.
- Related that Mr. Renneberg has received promises from Leduc County staff that the road culvert will be cleared out, but so far that has not happened.
- Would like to have culvert plunged out and beaver screens installed.
- Mr. Mahon distributed a letter prepared by Mr. Renneberg.

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services provided background information on behalf of administration:

- Provided an aerial map overview of the Clearwater Creek drainage basin area, and the local movement of water northward through a centerline ~~culvert~~ culvert situated at Airport Road.
- Commented on the history with seasonal flooding concerns around the Lake No. 10 wetland area on either side of Range Road 234 south of Airport Road.
- A landowner on the north side of Airport Road has, historically, been reluctant to consent to Leduc County access to manage dams and beavers on his property. However, he was agreeable to permit foot access to Leduc County workers to hand pull dams after meeting with Mr. Broadbent to discuss the flooding threat to the road.
- Public Works road operations staff has communicated that arrangements are being made to situate a track hoe on Airport Road to plunge out the culvert.

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman provided additional comments:

- No beaver activity has been noted on the north side of Airport Road and dams that have been hand pulled have resulted in the flow of water with no new beaver rebuilds.
- There may be some beaver activity on Mr. Mahon's property as well as an accumulation of vegetation and deadfall debris as water moves downstream.



039-2019 Board Member Wanchuk – that the public presentation regarding blockage at the Airport Road centerline culvert be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

One Individual

One individual exited the Council Chambers at 9:20 a.m.

Staff Introduction

Introductions of Agricultural Service Board members were made around the table to Ms. Sharon Faye, Local Food Coordinator.

040-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that the Board Member introductions to the Local Food Coordinator be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Action Items – Progress Report

041-2019 Board Member Lewis – that the Action Items progress report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services Department Activity Report

Agricultural Services administration staff provided additional information on reporting within the Agricultural Services Department activity report:

- Pest Control Officer beaver control activities have been focused on County road infrastructure; seasonal staff have worked at hand pulling dams repeatedly at various locations to facilitate movement of water in drainages.
- 632 canola fields inspected for the presence of clubroot to date, 128 confirmed to have clubroot, secondary surveys will be conducted on 24 of those due to severity and suspected pathotypes shift.
- In spite of wet conditions, the mowing program has progressed well through the season.
- Some funding is still available through ALUS for new projects.
- Final weed inspections are taking place and Weed Inspectors are urging late season control on Canada Thistle and Common Tansy.
- Additional conditions were added to some of the weed notices issued due to the extremely wet conditions and in acknowledgment that fields might have been inaccessible during the control period.



- Due to rain and wind, it has been an extremely challenging season for spraying work for the various programs. As seasonal staff have completed their seasonal employment terms, Mr. deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman, will continue to work at completing spraying for as long as the growing season permits.
- Fenceline spraying program - Adjustments will have to be made to spray from the roadside as accessing private lands from the crop side, as is usual practice, will not be possible in most situations due to wet conditions.
- PW-AG Operations Cooperation - Shared mapping has supported planning for field operations to coordinate effective control in brushing areas.
- In response to a Division One resident who expressed concern about biosolids applications on cropland in her neighbourhood, administration was able to talk to the Nutri-Gold program foreman on the application site. The foreman provided detailed information about pre-site assessments, soil testing through proposed application field space, 30 hour time limit on incorporation and all aspects of application site and activities are fully vetted through Alberta Environment.

042-2019 Board Member Eckert – that the Agricultural Services department Activity Report for the June, July, and August program period be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

2019 ASB Resolutions Report Card

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman presented a “report card” review of responses received by the Provincial ASB Committee on resolutions passed at the 2019 Provincial ASB Conference and forwarded to the federal and/or provincial government agencies.

043-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that with reference to the 2019 Agricultural Service Board Responses, the September 3, 2019 report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

044-2019 Board Member Scobie – that with reference to the 2019 Agricultural Service Board Responses, administration submit Leduc County Agricultural Service Board opinions as presented, to the Provincial ASB Committee.

Carried Unanimously



Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – Key Contact Verbal Report

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist provided comments about recent Alberta Agriculture & Forestry activities:

- Restructuring, five divisions have been blended to four
- Working on the “red tape reduction” initiatives
- No discussions on funding yet beyond CAP cost-share which has been reduced to 50% from 75%
- Strategy development African Swine flu in the event of an outbreak and the potential consequences of loss of slaughter facilities

045-2019 Board Member Wanchuk – that the verbal report provided by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Local Food Initiative Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services highlighted Section 2 (d) and (e) of the Agricultural Service Board Act *“to promote, enhance and protect viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving economic viability of the agricultural producer”*
“to promote and develop policies to meet the needs of the municipality”

Ms. Faye, Local Food Coordinator presented her report regarding local food and agricultural innovation:

- Currently developing short and long-term priorities and an operational work plan.
- Networking with County administration, other organizations, and some of the local producers
- Has had the opportunity to undertake some touring throughout the County to see community areas and halls and meet with some of the producers

046-2019 Board Member Lewis – that the Local Food and Agricultural Innovation report dated September 3, 2019 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Recess

The meeting recessed at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 10:45 a.m. with Chair Glenn Belozer and Board Members Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Larry Wanchuk and Public Members-At-Large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present.



Also present were:

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

Moisture and Precipitation Update

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman provided data on precipitation and soil moisture level information compiled by Alberta Agriculture + Forestry. Lac Ste. Anne has just recently made a declaration of a state of agricultural disaster based on the severe and widespread flooding of cropland experienced throughout that area.

Board Member comments were heard about conditions being experienced by producers and how that bears on the current calendar date in terms of potential recovery and losses already experienced.

047-2019 Board Member Smith – that the September 3, 2019 Moisture and Precipitation Update be received as information, and further

- that administration prepare a recommendation for review at the September 24, 2019 County Council meeting with reference to consideration of a declaration of agricultural disaster, and
- that a public statement be prepared by administration for communication via social media regarding the difficulties and stresses being experienced by local agricultural producers and consideration being given to a declaration of agricultural disaster and inviting feedback.

Carried Unanimously

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the initials 'AB' or a similar stylized mark.

Proposed 2020 ASB Meeting Schedule

048-2019 Board Member Lewis – that with reference to the Agricultural Service Board meetings for the 2020 calendar year, meetings are to commence at 9:00 a.m. in the Leduc County Council Chambers as follows:

- Monday, January 27, 2020
- Monday, March 9, 2020
- Thursday, April 16, 2020
- Monday, June 8, 2020
- Monday, September 14, 2020
- Monday, November 9, 2020
- Monday, December 14, 2020

Carried Unanimously

NW Region ASB Conference

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman informed the Board that an agenda for the upcoming Northwest Region ASB Conference will be distributed to the Board Members as soon as it is received.

049-2019 Board Member Lewis – that the 2019 Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board Conference report dated August 30, 2019 be received as information, and further that Agricultural Service Board members advise administration of their intentions with regard to their attendance prior to September 30, 2019.

Carried Unanimously

Alberta Care Conference – Board Member Verbal Report

Chair Belozer provided comments on a presentation about a CleanFarms pilot “Alberta Ag-Plastic” for the recycling of agricultural plastics at the recent Alberta Care Conference:

- Net wrap is comprised of multiple materials and is not suitable for recycling under this program, as well, silage wrap will not be included initially and another end use is being sought.
- 5 year program scheduled to start up in October 2019
- Grain bags and twine will be collected for recycling at 20 designated pilot drop off sites with five more sites to be designated in 2020
- The closest site currently designated is Riley
- Twine to be recycled for processing in to car bumpers (in Mexico via US). Polypropylene bumpers are a recyclable product.
- Grain bags will be processed in to garbage bags.

050-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that the Board Member verbal report regarding the agricultural plastics recycling pilot program be received as information.



Carried Unanimously

Information Items

051-2019 Board Member Eckert – that the following correspondence be received as information:

- a) ASB Grant Program Review Engagements - Stand Outs
- b) Seed Royalty Survey
- c) Ropin' the Web – Letters of Concern
 - i. Red Deer County
 - ii. County of Minburn
 - iii. Clearwater County
- d) Grey Wooded Forage Association – The Blade Newsletter
- e) West Central Forage Association – Forage Views Newsletter
- f) Livestock Identification and Traceability Program-TRACE Newsletter
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 - vi. South Common Farmers Market – Saturdays + Sundays 10 am – 4 pm at Parsons Road + 19 Avenue NW Edmonton

Carried Unanimously



Adjournment

052-2019 Board Member Eckert– that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting concluded at 11:31 a.m.



CHAIR

MANAGER OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICES