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**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING AGENDA
Monday, January 21, 2019**

1. ORDER – 9:00 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Agricultural Service Board Meeting – December 10, 2018

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4. PRESENTATIONS

a) 9:05 a.m. Groundwater Presentation – Jason Sanders, Physical Hydrogeology Discipline Lead, Millennium EMS Solutions Ltd.

5. MUNICIPAL POLICY - AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

a) Agricultural Services Policy Review – Verbal Update

Garett Broadbent

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 Provincial ASB Conference - Resolutions
- e) Clubroot Status Report – Verbal Report
- f) Appointment of Weed Appeal Committee & Pest Appeal Committee

√ Garett Broadbent
√ Ag Svs Administration
√ Trevor Wallace
√ Aaron Van Beers
Aaron Van Beers
√ Aaron Van Beers

7. AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE REPORTS

a) SE 31-49-22-W4 – Drainage Concern Verbal Report

Garett Broadbent

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Monday, January 21, 2019

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

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All Attached

- a) Agricultural Service Board Grant Program
 - i. ASB Grant Program Fact Sheet
 - ii. ASB Member Face-to-Face Sessions
- b) Agricultural Plastics Recycling in Alberta
- c) Health and Safety on Alberta Farms and Ranches
 - i. Farm Health and Safety Producer Grant
- d) West-Central Forage Association – Forage Views November
- e) Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Update
- f) Working Well Workshop Schedule & Call of the Land Interview
- g) Coming Events:
 - i. Solar Energy Workshop and Farm Tour – January 22, 2019
 - ii. Growing Healthy Farmers, Fields, and Food – January 25-26, 2019
 - iii. Can Organics Diversify Your Farm? – January 26, 2019
 - iv. The Grazier's Marketing School – February 18-19, 2019
 - v. Farm to Market to Table Conference – February 28 – March 1, 2019 (draft agenda included)
 - vi. Ladies Ranching Retreat – March 1, 2019
 - vii. Back Yard Flocks – March 16, 2019
 - viii. Beef Cattle Research Council – Webinars
 - ix. Land Rental Agreements – TBA

9. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES OF LEDUC COUNTY, AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 21, 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, January 21, 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 Tanni Doblanko arrived after the call to order. Board Member Rick Smith was unable to attend for personal reasons.

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. Katherine Degaust, Communications Coordinator
- Mrs. Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- Mr. Nicholaus Moffatt, Supervisor of Parks Planning

Mr. Rick Thomas, Deputy County Manager/General Manager, Community & Protective Services arrived after the call to order.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Mr. Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist was not in attendance.

Eight individuals were also in attendance.

Adopt Agenda

001-2019 Board Member Scobie - that the agenda for the January 21, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Previous Minutes

002-2019 Board Member Wanchuk - that the December 10, 2018 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously



Board Member Doblanko and Mr. Thomas

Board Member Doblanko and Mr. Thomas, Deputy County Manager/General Manager, Community & Protective Services entered the Council Chambers at 9:02 a.m.

Presentation

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services introduced Mr. Jason Sanders, Physical Hydrogeology Discipline Lead, Millennium EMS Solutions Ltd. and provided information that Mr. Sanders has been working on the water point project in coordination with Capital Power.

Groundwater in Alberta presentation:

- Groundwater is a renewable resource of great importance in Alberta
- 21% of Albertans rely on groundwater as their water supply
- Estimated that there is approximately 40,000 km³ of groundwater in Alberta; only 0.01% is believed to be recoverable due to its depth below ground surface
- Groundwater falls into two categories: Non-saline <4,000 mg/l TDS (shallow) and saline >4,000 mg/l TDS (typically at depths greater than 600 meters in Leduc County area)
- Groundwater recharge: Water that enters the subsurface and becomes part of the groundwater system; typically about 5% of annual precipitation enters aquifers as recharge. In Alberta recharge is a spring time event occurring just after frost leaves the ground and is local in effect.
- Groundwater discharge occurs in areas where there is an overall upward movement of groundwater. Typically springs or marshes.
- Aquifers: A body of rock or sediment that is sufficiently permeable to conduct groundwater. Sufficiency is expressed in terms of end use i.e. domestic vs industrial igpm yield
- There are no "underground rivers" in Alberta. Water is present in sand, gravel, or fractures in bedrock.
- Aquifers in surficial deposits is constrained to locations of sand and gravel, is typically hard water with high concentrations of iron, manganese and calcium. Bedrock aquifers are typically soft water with higher concentrations of sodium.
- Water wells require regular, on-going maintenance. Wellhead protection, servicing pump and pressure system, shock chlorination. 95% of water quantity or quality changes are due to issues with the water well itself.
- Licensing is required for all non-domestic/agricultural use of non-saline water. Domestic and traditional ag use has priority over industrial use. In Alberta: First in time, first in line.



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- Review of Leduc County/Capital Power waterpoint project: 17.4 igpm long term yield fresh water well. Development for non-potable agricultural use.
- Decommissioning old water wells: An abandoned water well can be an open conduit for contamination, hence the importance of proper procedures for decommissioning. Grant funding is available for decommissioning.

Discussion took place about the Alberta Orphan Well program: Assessments, remediation/reclamation.

003-2019 Board Member Vandenberghe – that the groundwater presentation by Mr. Sanders with Millennium EMS Solutions Ltd. be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Ms. Degaust, Mr. Moffatt, and Eight Individuals

Ms. Degaust, Mr. Moffatt, and eight individuals exited the Council Chambers at 10:14 a.m.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 10:21 a.m. with Chair Glenn Belozer and Board Members Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuk and Public Members-At-Large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present.

Also present were:

- Mr. Rick Thomas, Deputy County Manager/General Manager, Community & Protective Services
- 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
- Mrs. Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary

Municipal Policy – Agricultural Services

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services reported that the first nine policies have been reviewed at Municipal Policy Review Committee and will be presented to Leduc County Council for final approval shortly. The remaining seven policies are scheduled for review on January 31, 2019.

004-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that the verbal report with reference to the Municipal Policy review and the review of Agricultural Services policies by the Municipal Policy Review Committee be received as information.



Carried Unanimously

Action Items – Progress Report

Mr. deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman provided comments on his meeting with Public Works staff and Ms. Degaust, Communications Coordinator in the past week to discuss communication of programs to Council and residents.

005-2019 Board Member Lewis – that the Action Items progress report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services Department Activity Report

Mrs. Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager provided an update on the funding list for On-Farm Energy programs. Mrs. Barkwell highlighted upcoming workshops and the Farm to Market to Table Conference.

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services reported that Warburg Seed Cleaning Plant is investigating funding opportunities for proposed upgrades.

006-2019 Board Member Eckert – that the Agricultural Services department activity report for the December 1, 2018 through January 15, 2019 period be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

2019 Provincial ASB Conference – Resolutions

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman provided a review of the six resolutions for review at the upcoming 2019 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference and invited Board Member discussion:

- Loss of 2% liquid strychnine – Support
- Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement – Enhancements to reporting for a more timely confirmation – Support
- Deadstock Removal – Provincial government compensation to producers @ 50% - Support
- Carbon Credits for Permanent Pasture and Forested Lands – Include permanent pasture and land left forested under carbon credit program. Board discussion about practicality and realistic details of accessing the program – There will be opportunity to learn more through discussion at the Conference
- Multi-Stakeholder Committee to Work at Reducing the Use of Fresh Water by the Oil and Gas Industry in Alberta – Support



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- STEP Program Agricultural Eligibility – Currently limited to registered businesses, doesn't include family farm enterprises – Support

Mr. Van Beers alerted the Board Members that there might be an emergent resolution relating to the development of an ag producer mental health hotline and that there will be an opportunity for review with the sponsoring municipality prior to the Resolution Sessions at the Conference.

007-2019 Board Member Wanchuk – that the 2019 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Resolutions report dated January 15, 2019 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Clubroot – Verbal Status Report

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman provided a verbal status report regarding his January 7, 2019 presentation at the Rockyview clubroot information meeting. The session was attended by 200 participants and Mr. Van Beers spoke on a municipality's role in supporting producers and enforcement of the Agricultural Pests Act. Additionally, Mr. Van Beers reviewed the January 18, 2019 clubroot information session that he hosted at the Nisku Recreation Centre for local producers and industry representatives, where a number of topics were covered:

- 2018 crop survey results,
- Dr. Strelkov, Mr. Dan Orchard, and a seed company representative spoke on varieties/resistance coming up
- Message from all industry representatives was to urge rotation
- Policy discussion, including engagement over specifying tillage vs crop that typically requires intensive tillage, such as potatoes
- Communicated invitation for upcoming focus group meetings

Discussion took place about updating the current clubroot policy to specify limiting tillage practices on lands under notice and the value of education.

008-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that the verbal status report regarding recent clubroot information meetings be received as information.

Carried Unanimously



Appointment of Weed Appeal Committee & Pest Appeal Committee

Mr. Van Beers, Agricultural Foreman presented his report with reference to appointment of an Appeal Committee as required under the Alberta Weed Control Act and the Agricultural Pests Act.

009-2019 Board Member Eckert – that the appointment of the following Leduc County Weed Appeal Committee and Pest Appeal Committee members for the 2019 calendar year, January 1 through December 31, 2019, be approved as follows:

1. Doug Balzer
2. Allan Halwa
3. Rod Sagert

Carried Unanimously

SE 31-49-22-W4 – Drainage Concern Verbal Report

Mr. Broadbent, Director of Agricultural Services provided background information regarding a complaint from a property owner located west of the New Sarepta sewage lagoons with concerns about ongoing flooding on his property. This concern is long-standing and has been responded to by the Village of New Sarepta, Alberta Environment, Leduc County Utilities, and Agricultural Services in the past. The complainant's property is located in an area that is relatively flat and is subject to slow drainage during spring runoff and seasonal rainfall events.

010-2019 Board Member Kushinski – that the verbal report regarding a drainage concern in relation to SE 31-49-22-W4 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Information Items

An inquiry was heard about the "backyard" flocks information session planned for March 16, 2019. Administration responded that Planning and Development staff will attend to clarify where flock husbandry is permissible under the Leduc County Land Use bylaw.

011-2019 Board Member Lewis – that the following correspondence and notification of upcoming events be received as information.

- a) Agricultural Service Board Grant Program
 - i. ASB Grant Program Fact Sheet
 - ii. ASB Member Face-to-Face Sessions
- b) Agricultural Plastics Recycling in Alberta
- c) Health and Safety on Alberta Farms and Ranches



- i. Farm Health and Safety Producer Grant
- d) West-Central Forage Association – Forage Views November
- e) Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Update
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 - vi. Ladies Ranching Retreat – March 1, 2019
 - vii. Back Yard Flocks – March 16, 2019
 - viii. Beef Cattle Research Council – Webinars
 - ix. Land Rental Agreements – TBA

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

012-2019 Board Member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting concluded at 11:19 a.m.



CHAIR



**DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL
SERVICES**