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**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING AGENDA
Monday, January 27, 2020**

1. **ORDER – 9:00 a.m.**

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

3. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- Agricultural Service Board Meeting – December 9, 2019

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4. **PRESENTATIONS**

a) 9:05 a.m. Mental Health in Agriculture Communities

– Sara Russell, Community Support Services Manager, FCSS

5. **MUNICIPAL POLICY - AGRICULTURAL SERVICES**

a) Agricultural Services Policy Review

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Aaron Van Beers

b) Local Food Policy Report

✓

Aaron Van Beers

6. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS / RECOMMENDATIONS**

a) Action Items – Progress Report

✓

Aaron Van Beers

b) Agricultural Services Department Activity Report

✓

Ag Svs Administration

c) Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – Key Contact Verbal Report

Trevor Wallace

d) Clubroot Status Report

✓

Aaron Van Beers

e) Sustainable Agriculture Program Joint Agreement Verbal Report

Aaron Van Beers

7. **AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE REPORTS**

No drainage reports

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8. INFORMATION ITEMS

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All Attached

- a) 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate – Registration Renewal
- b) Letter from Lesser Slave River to Provincial ASB Conference Committee
- c) News Releases and News Items
 - i. Farmer-Led Research Public Engagement + Online Survey
 - ii. Alberta Farmer Express – 2019 Difficulties + Progress
 - iii. Financial Post – Canola Uncertainty
- d) The Blade Newsletter
- e) Upcoming Events:
 - i. Ladies Ranching Retreat
 - ii. Holistic Management & Organic Alberta Conference
 - iii. CanadaGAP Level 1 & Level 2 Workshops
 - iv. Alberta Agriculture + Forestry Webinar Series
 - v. Before the Plate Screening + Group Discussion
 - vi. Introductory Veggie Production Workshop
 - vii. 2020 Farm to Market to Table Conference
 - viii. Working Well Workshop
 - ix. 2020 Livestock Care Conference

9. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES OF LEDUC COUNTY, AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 27, 2020 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 27, 2020 by Chair Glenn Belozar with Board Members Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuk and Public Member-At-Large Russell Kushinski present. Public Member-At-Large Roy Eckert was not in attendance due to personal reasons.

Also present were:

- Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services
- Brendan deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman
- Sharon Faye, Local Food Coordinator
- Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- Sara Russell, Community Support Services Manager

Rick Thomas, Deputy County Manager, Garrett Broadbent, Director Road Operations and Agricultural Services and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist were unable to attend due to other meeting commitments.

One individual was also in attendance.

Adopt Agenda

001-2020 Board Member Doblanko - that the agenda for the January 27, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted with the following addition:

6 f) 2020 ASB Conference Verbal Report

Carried Unanimously

Previous Minutes

002-2020 Board Member Lewis - that the December 9, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Presentation – Mental Health in Agriculture Communities

Sara Russell, Community Support Services Manager provided additional comments and highlighted points of her Mental Health in Agriculture Communities presentation:



- Mental health vs mental wellness by definition: Everyone has mental health; mental wellness or mental illness describes aspects of the state of an individual's mental health.
- Characteristics of mental wellness – Resilience, ability to establish goals and set priorities, balance, flexibility, self-actualization.
- Statistics from National Survey of Farmer Mental Health as submitted to a committee of Agriculture and Agri-Food: Farmers are statistically more likely to experience chronic stress. i.e. 68% of farmers are more susceptible than the general population to chronic stress which can lead to physical and mental illness.
- Risk factors for farmers include solitary work, factors such as weather, politics, and markets are beyond individual control, physically taxing work, stress can be long lasting with few options for taking a break from circumstances due to crop and livestock responsibilities.
- Stigma frequently prevents individuals from seeking professional help in addition to the often prohibitive cost of doing so.
- The Do More Agriculture Foundation – Not-for-profit organization championing mental health in agriculture across Canada.
- Bell Let's Talk Day Campaign January 29

003-2020 Board Member Scobie – that the presentation Mental Health in Agriculture Communities be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Sara Russell

Sara Russell, Community Support Services Manager exited the Council Chambers at 9:37 a.m.

Municipal Policy – Agricultural Services

Agricultural Services Policy Review

Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services presented the Agricultural Services Vegetation Management policies scheduled for annual review as of February 2020. There are currently no updates to the legislated responsibilities or authorities in relation to the current policies nor changes to the programs to implement the policies.

004-2020 Board Member Doblanko – that pursuant to the Agricultural Services policy schedule for annual review, the following Agricultural Services policies are not requiring changes or updates and are, therefore, referred to Council for approval:

- I. VM-01 Vegetation Management in Road Right-of-Way and Controlled Lands
- II. VM-02 Mowing in a Leduc County Road Right-of-Way and Controlled Lands



- III. VM-04 Toadflax Spraying
- IV. VM-05 Hawkweed Spraying

Carried Unanimously

Local Food Policy

Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services reviewed the proposed draft of the Local Food Policy and requested input from the Board Members. A suggestion was heard to include referencing to the Leduc County Land Use bylaw as well as specifics for engagement.

005-2020 Board Member Kushinski – that the proposed Local Food Policy be referred to the Municipal Policy Review Committee for consideration.

Carried Unanimously

Recess

The meeting recessed at 9:56 a.m. and reconvened at 10:03 a.m. with Chair Glenn Belozer and Board Members Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuk and Public Member-At-Large Russell Kushinski present.

Also present were:

- Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services
- Brendan deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman
- Sharon Faye, Local Food Coordinator
- Lucinda Melnikel, Recording Secretary
- One individual

Action Items – Progress Report

Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services provided an update regarding municipal agricultural disaster declarations, informing the Board that discussions are taking place via the Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldmen with reference to unharvested 2019 crops as well as yield and quality losses experienced by producers throughout the province.

006-2020 Board Member Smith – that the Action Items progress report be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'LVB', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

Agricultural Services Department Activity Report

007-2020 Board Member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Services Activity Report for the month of December 2019 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Clubroot Status Report

Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services recapped highlights of the annual clubroot information meeting which took place on November 12, 2019:

- A review of the 2019 clubroot survey results.
- Explanation about the new pathotype naming convention and discussion about the potential for confusion with some naming generalities made in referencing resistance in canola varieties.
- Clubroot management topics including the use of lime to raise soil pH and the utilization of grassed areas.
- Presentation by Epcor representative on Epcor's Nutri-Gold program for farmers describing biosolid delivery and application; the regulations and conditions for eligibility.

Clubroot focus group meetings are planned for February for the purpose of engaging producers, retailers, and industry representatives in discussion on topics relating to the current Control of Clubroot Disease in Canola policy and to gauge whether there is a need to update the current policy.

008-2020 Board Member Kushinski – that the clubroot status report dated January 14, 2020 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Sustainable Agriculture Program Joint Agreement Verbal Report

Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services informed the Board that the 2017-2019 Sustainable Agriculture program joint agreement with County of Wetaskiwin for the shared Sustainable Agriculture position is due for renewal. Drafting of the agreement will be initiated by the County of Wetaskiwin pending confirmation of provincial grant funding.

009-2020 Board Member Smith – that the verbal report regarding the Sustainable Agriculture Program joint agreement with County of Wetaskiwin be received as information.

Carried Unanimously



2020 ASB Conference Verbal Report

Board Members and administration who were in attendance at the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Conference provided their comments about the event:

- Interesting and informative presentations on themes around farm to table business and technological innovation in farming:
 - Fully autonomously farmed experimental plot was very interesting
 - Presentation by an Alberta local distiller and some of the licensing challenges
- Discussion about the future potential of stipulating a requirement for the utilization of the locally produced beverage and food products at the conference centre hotel.
- Disappointed that there was little to no provincial government attendance/representation.
- 75 year anniversary of the Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldmen

010-2020 Board Member Lewis – that the verbal report regarding the 2020 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

Information Items

011-2020 Board Member Kushinski – that the following correspondence be received as information:

- a) 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate – Registration Renewal
- b) Letter from Lesser Slave River to Provincial ASB Conference Committee
- c) News Releases and News Items
 - i. Farmer-Led Research Public Engagement + Online Survey
 - ii. Alberta Farmer Express – 2019 Difficulties + Progress
 - iii. Financial Post – Canola Uncertainty
- d) The Blade Newsletter
- e) Upcoming Events:
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 - iv. Alberta Agriculture + Forestry Webinar Series
 - v. Before the Plate Screening + Group Discussion
 - vi. Introductory Veggie Production Workshop
 - vii. 2020 Farm to Market to Table Conference



- viii. Working Well Workshop
- ix. 2020 Livestock Care Conference

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

012-2020 Board Member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting concluded at 11:02 a.m.



CHAIR

MANAGER OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICES