

Agricultural Service Board

Agenda

*Council Chambers, County Centre, Nisku, AB
Monday, November 9, 2020*

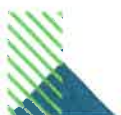
1. **Order – 10:00 a.m.**
2. **Nominations for CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR**
3. **Adoption of agenda**
4. **Adoption of previous minutes**
- September 14, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting ✓
5. **Public presentations**
a) 10:10 a.m. Tri-County Ag Business project update Bob Burden, Senior Director, Serecon
6. **Department reports and recommendations**

a) Action items progress report	✓	A. Van Beers
b) Agricultural Services department activity report	✓	Ag Svs administration
c) Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – key contact verbal report		T. Wallace
d) Vegetation Management programs – 2020 year in review	✓	B. de Milliano
e) Clubroot – Inspection Review	✓	A. Van Beers
f) Sustainable Agriculture – 2020 program activities	✓	K. Barkwell
g) Local Food – 2020 program activities	✓	S. Faye
h) 2021 ASB meeting schedule – proposed meeting date change	✓	A. Van Beers
7. **Agricultural drainage reports**
a) No agricultural drainage reports
8. **Information items** ✓
 - a) Grey Wooded Forage Association
 - i) GWFA Biochar project invited to full proposal
 - ii) The Blade newsletter
 - b) STOPDED – E-Bulletin
 - c) Agricultural Service Boards E-post – Weeds and Highways
 - d) Beef Cattle Research Council – The Wire newsletter
9. **Adjournment**



✓ Attachment provided

Leduc County is dedicated to serving its citizens and will create an enhanced quality of life through effective leadership, committed partnerships and open, transparent communication.



Agricultural Service Board Minutes

*Council Chamber, Leduc County Centre, Nisku, AB
Monday, November 9, 2020*

Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 9, 2020 by Manager of Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers with board members Glenn Belozar, Tanni Doblanko, Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Ray Scobie, Rick Smith, Kelly Vandenberghe, Larry Wanchuk and public members-at-large Roy Eckert and Russell Kushinski present.

Other attendees

- Garrett Broadbent, Director, Road Operations and Agricultural Services
- Aaron Van Beers, Manager of Agricultural Services
- Brendan deMilliano, Agricultural Foreman
- Lucinda Melnikel, Agricultural Services Administrative Assistant
- Alberta Agriculture and Forestry key contact, Trevor Wallace, Nutrient Management Specialist

Also present were three other individuals.

Nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board Chair

Manager of Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers called for nominations for Agricultural Service Board chair pursuant to Leduc County Bylaw 31-08 which states that "The Agricultural Service Board shall select a chair and a vice-chair at its first meeting following Council's annual organizational meeting".

Board member Vandenberghe nominated board member Ray Scobie for the position of Agricultural Service Board chair. Board member Scobie respectfully declined nomination for the position of Agricultural Service Board chair.

Board member Doblanko nominated board member Glenn Belozar for the position of Agricultural Service Board chair.

Aaron Van Beers called for nominations a second time.

Board member Lewis nominated board member Kelly Vandenberghe for the position of Agricultural Service Board chair.

Aaron Van Beers called for nominations for a third and final time.

Nominations cease – Agricultural Service Board chair

047-2020 Board Member Wanchuk - that nominations cease for the position of Agricultural Service Board chair.

Carried Unanimously

A secret ballot was conducted.

Appointment of Agricultural Service Board chair

Aaron Van Beers announced board member Glenn Belozar elected as Agricultural Service Board chair.



Chair Belozer assumed the chair

Chair Belozer expressed appreciation, assumed the chair and proceeded to chair the balance of the meeting.

048-2020 Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board authorizes the secret ballot votes be destroyed.

Carried Unanimously

Nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair

Chair Belozer called for nominations for the position of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair.

Board Member Kushinski nominated board member Kelly Vandenberghe for the position of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair.

Chair Belozer called for nominations a second time.

Chair Belozer called for nominations a third and final time.

Nominations cease – Agricultural Service Board vice-chair

049-2020 Board Member Eckert - that nominations cease for the position of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair.

Carried Unanimously

Appointment of Agricultural Service Board vice-chair

Chair Belozer announced board member Kelly Vandenberghe elected as Agricultural Service Board vice-chair.

Agenda adoption

050-2020 Board member Lewis – that the agenda for the Monday, November 9, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted with the following addition:

6. i) Culvert/beaver debris concern

Carried Unanimously

Adoption of previous minutes – September 14, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting

051-2020 Board member Lewis – that the September 14, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be confirmed with the following correction:

Order and roll call – Correct Board member Doblanko name spelling.

Carried Unanimously

Public presentation - Tri-County Ag Business project update

Serecon consultant, Darren Haarsma joined the meeting to provide a presentation with an update on the Tri-County Ag Business study project in person (Bob Burden, senior director, Serecon joined the meeting remotely).

Tri-County Agriculture Business Study final report presentation highlights:



- Project path – interviews with industry leaders to identify macro drivers and compared to region profile; interviews with region agribusiness and primary producers to identify specific business opportunities and principles for successful agrifood economic development; interviews with tri-county mayors to refine collaboration recommendations.
- Examined nine agribusiness opportunities to assess strengths of market opportunities and tri-county success factors i) agrifood technology ii) irrigation iii) vertical farming and aquaponics iv) food processing v) protein fractionation vi) meat processing vii) hemp fibre viii) oat processing ix) automated grocery fulfillment centres
- Three recommendations developed out of findings: 1. principles of effective agrifood economic development; 2. structured agrifood economic development strategy; 3. collaborate sub-regionally on projects with specified goals and boundaries
- Collaboration suggestions: Agrifood economic development committee and tri-county agrifood database development
- Conclusions: A framework has been developed that is both specific and adaptive, prioritizing existing businesses and providing insights that can be applied across all opportunities.

052-2020 Board member Smith – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the presentation on the Tri-County Ag Business project.

Carried Unanimously

Mr. Haarsma

Mr. Haarsma exited the council chamber at 11:01 a.m.

Action items progress report

053-2020 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the action items progress report.

Carried Unanimously

Agricultural Services department activity report

Manger of Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers reviewed the Agricultural Services department activity report for the September through October 2020 reporting period.

054-2020 Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the Agricultural Services department activity report for the September through October 2020 reporting period.

Carried Unanimously

Alberta Agriculture + Forestry – key contact verbal report

Alberta Agriculture + Forestry key contact, Trevor Wallace, nutrient management specialist provided a verbal report referencing the agriculture sector strategies within the Alberta's Recovery Plan:

- Investment to enhance value-added processing capacity
- Increasing export opportunities for processors to access key global markets
- Expansion to irrigation infrastructure for southern Alberta



- Transition of agriculture research programs and researchers – Transfers of programs and research staff to:
 - University of Alberta – beef and dairy, poultry, cereals
 - Olds College – barley programs
 - University of Lethbridge – apiculture, specialty crops, irrigation
 - University of Calgary – animal health research

055-2020 Board member Eckert – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the Alberta Agriculture + Forestry key contact verbal report.

Carried Unanimously

Vegetation Management programs – 2020 year in review

Agricultural Foreman Brendan deMilliano presented a staff report reviewing a summary of the 2020 vegetation management programs.

056-2020 Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the 2020 vegetation management programs summary itemized in the staff report, Vegetation Management programs 2020 year in review dated November 4, 2020.

Carried Unanimously

Staff member Barkwell

Sustainable Agriculture Program Coordinator Kim Barkwell entered the council chamber at 11: 29 a.m.

Clubroot – Inspections review

Manager of Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers provided a staff report reviewing the outcomes of the 2020 crop inspections for the presence of clubroot in canola. While more clubroot was identified (percentage of fields infected), it was not as much as was expected given the wet field conditions. Van Beers commented that it is likely that the annual clubroot information meeting will have to be cancelled in light of COVID limits on gathering and other options are being considered for distributing information and collecting producer feedback.

057-2020 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the staff report dated November 4, 2020 providing a review of the 2020 crop inspections for the presence of clubroot in canola.

Carried Unanimously

Sustainable Agriculture – 2020 program activities

Sustainable Agriculture Program Coordinator Kim Barkwell provided a staff report summarizing the Sustainable Agriculture 2020 program activities.

058-2020 Board member Vandenberghe – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the staff report dated October 30, 2020 itemizing Sustainable Agriculture 2020 program activities.

Carried Unanimously



Staff members Barkwell and Faye

Sustainable Agriculture Program Coordinator Kim Barkwell exited the council chamber and Local Food Coordinator Sharon Faye entered the council chamber at 11:43 a.m.

Local Food – 2020 program activities

Local Food Coordinator Sharon Faye provided a staff report summarizing highlights of program activities for 2020.

059-2020 Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board receives as information the summary of 2020 Local Food program activities itemized in the staff report dated November 3, 2020.

Carried Unanimously

Staff member Faye

Local Food Coordinator Sharon Faye exited the council chamber at 11:57 a.m.

2021 ASB meeting schedule – proposed meeting date change

060-2020 Board member Smith – that the Agricultural Service Board approve cancellation of the scheduled December 14, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting and re-schedule the January 25, 2021 meeting to take place on January 18, 2021.

Carried Unanimously

Culvert/beaver debris concern

Board member Lewis provided a verbal report on a letter received jointly from two property owners requesting placement of beaver screens on a centerline culvert through Airport road east of Range Road 234. Photos of various beaver screen configurations were also provided.

Manager of Agricultural Services Aaron Van Beers commented that Road Operations staff undertake periodic clean out of mud and debris accumulated in the culvert and that this is an ongoing maintenance task. The current culvert end is cut diagonally and beveled and would require a specific type of screen construction to be effective over the long term as well as lending itself to regular cleaning.

061-2020 Board member Lewis – that with reference to beaver screens or gates to protect road culverts from beaver damming activities:

- 1) staff investigate various options for beaver screens or gates and the relative costs and maintenance requirements associated with those options, and further that
- 2) staff undertake an inventory of other road culverts of this approximate size that are currently subject to beaver caused obstructions.

Carried Unanimously

Information items

062-2020 Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board receive the following correspondence as information:

- a) Grey Wooded Forage Association
 - i) GWFA Biochar project invited to full proposal
 - ii) The Blade newsletter



- b) STOPPED – E-Bulletin
- c) Agricultural Service Boards E-post – Weeds and Highways
- d) Beef Cattle Research Council – The Wire newsletter

Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

063-2020 Board member Eckert – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.



Agricultural Service Board Chair

Manager of Agricultural Services