



## Agricultural Service Board

### Agenda

Council Chamber, County Centre, Nisku, AB

Monday, June 9, 2025

1. Order – 10:00 a.m.
2. Adoption of agenda
3. Adoption of previous minutes
  - March 24, 2025 Agricultural Service Board meeting ✓
4. Public presentations
  - Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI)
5. Department reports and recommendations
  - a) Action items progress report ✓ A.Van Beers
  - b) Agricultural Services department activity report ✓ Ag Svs staff
  - c) Poultry processing – Verbal Report N. Berg
  - d) ASB Resolution response grading ✓ A.Van Beers
  - e) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) ✓ A.Van Beers
  - f) City of Edmonton Mosquito Management Program ✓ A.Van Beers
6. Information items
  - a) AgKnow-Cypress County ✓ A.Van Beers
  - b) Bill C-293-Parkland County ✓ A.Van Beers
7. Next meeting date – Monday, September 8, 2025
8. Adjournment

✓ Attachment provided

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**Order and roll call**

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. on Monday, June 9, 2025 by Glenn Belozar as chair and board members Kelly-Lynn Lewis, Tanni Doblanko, Ray Scobie, Larry Wanchuk, and public members-at-large Debbie Hofstra and Russell Kushinski present.

Board members Dal Viridi and Rick Smith were absent with regrets.

**Other attendees**

- Garrett Broadbent, Director – Road Operations and Agricultural Services
- Aaron Van Beers, Manager – Agricultural Services
- Nathanael Berg, Coordinator – Agricultural Services
- Sharon Faye, Coordinator – Local Food
- Kim Barkwell, Coordinator – Sustainable Agriculture
- Nicole Fuhsel, Administrative Assistant – Agricultural Services
- Dillis Pelletier – Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI)
- Kerrienne Koehler-Munro – Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI)
- Trevor Wallace – Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI)

**Agenda adoption**

**009-2025** Board member Wanchuk – that the agenda for the Monday, June 9, 2025 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted as circulated, with the addition of 5. g) Non-Potable Water Point update, verbal report and 5. h) Town Hall, verbal report.

Carried Unanimously

**Previous minutes – March 24, 2025**

**010-2025** Board member Doblanko – that the minutes for the March 24, 2025 Agricultural Service Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Member Ray Scobie entered Chambers at 10:03

**Public Presentation – Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI)**

- AGI does a field visit rotating through all municipalities on a 5 year cycle.
- Required by the Auditor General to do these visits.
- ASB's are 80 years old; ASB's are unique to Alberta, and are nowhere else in North America
- Purpose of visit is to validate how the grant money is spent, as well as build the relationship with the ASB Boards.
- The visits allow AGI to share successes and suggestions of other ASBs, as well as give recommendations and requirements for our improvement.
- The visit is to check if there is a clear pathway from the ASB (advice, recommendations) to Council. For example, are recommendations in our ASB minutes and Council's minutes? It protects the ASB and the County.
- AGI will provide feedback after the field visit with possible enhancements or practices that potentially need to be changed.



- Question to AGI: This field visit is based on the agreement that was already in place. A new agreement is going to be coming. Will there be changes to the format based on the new agreement?
  - The format of the report is going to change, but the checklist and requirements will be still similar. They will be more comparable to the application moving forward so that the whole process is better understood by all parties.
- Question to AGI: Will there be an increase in funding?
  - There is still room for discussion on future ASB funding increases. Budgets are already set for this year but the request for increased funding can be addressed in future years.

**011-2025** Board member Lewis – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation presentation as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Action items progress report**

**012-2025** Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the action items progress report as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Agricultural Services department activity report**

**013-2025** Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Agricultural Services department activity report for the March-May 2025 reporting period as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Poultry processing – verbal report, Nathanael Berg**

- History on this topic is the Pigeon Lake plant has shut down, and Leduc County was asked for help to see if crates could be added to the rental program.
- Crate rentals are not recommended for sanitation and safety reasons (e.g. Avian flu).
- The Warburg colony and Pine Haven colony are not able to assist with those needing services.
- There will be an auction for the Pigeon Lake processors inventory.
- Trevor Wallace will reach out the appropriate provincial inspector to see if they can come to a future ASB meeting and explain why the plant was shut down.

**014-2025** Board member Scobie – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the verbal Poultry processing report as information.

Carried Unanimously

**ASB Resolution response grading**

**015-2025** That the Agricultural Service Board accept the June 9, 2025, report with reference to the 2025 Provincial Agricultural Service Board resolution grading responses as information and further, direct administration to submit a response which agrees with Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee response grading.

Carried Unanimously

**Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)**

**016-2025** Board member Lewis – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the June 9, 2025, report regarding Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza as information.

Carried Unanimously



**017-2025** Board member Doblanko – that the Agricultural Service Board direct administration to respond to the City of Edmonton, granting permission to conduct their 2025 mosquito monitoring and control program activities on Leduc County owned, operated, or leased lands utilizing products containing *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti)* only within Sections 4,5,6,8, and 9-51-24-W4.

Carried Unanimously

**Non-Potable Water Point – verbal report, Aaron Van Beers**

- For the last couple of years, this has been an open area for residents in the area for basic water requirements (gardening, etc.); not to be used for large usage requirements (spraying).
- Overall it has been working quite well, except for a bit of line repairs in winter.
- In the first weekend in May, there was excessive usage, with 95 individual usages in 2 days.
- Administration received calls the site was down. Administration inspected and it seemed fine.
- Administration again received calls, and an electrician was called in. It was discovered the cistern was dry.
- Since the beginning of May, the water is below the intake.
- The system has been shut down since then, and is continuing to be monitored for when and if the intake comes back up.
- If it comes back up, options such as limited usage, increased cisterns, etc. might need to be considered. The water monitoring company will be asked to check the system and give recommendations.
- Most users are doing well with the access, though there are definitely some that are accessing it much more than the 1000 litre allowance.

**018-2025** Board member Hofstra – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Non-Potable Water Point report as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Town Hall with Assistant Deputy Minister John Conrad – verbal report, Nathanael Berg**

- The vet school in Calgary has gone from 55 to 100 seats available.
- Abandon well site weed notices go back on the land owner. The province is working on the notices going back to the companies instead.
- Wild boar updates: trappers are getting more sounders; more training being provided.
- Solar farms: a document is being created indicating that solar farms will not be allowed on class 1 and 2 soils. For areas without class 1 or 2 soils, there is discussion on how to still preserve the best soil areas.

**019-2025** Board member Kushinski – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Town Hall with Assistant Deputy Minister John Conrad verbal report as information.

Carried Unanimously

**Information items**

**020-2025** Board member Wanchuk – that the Agricultural Service Board accept the following correspondence as information:

- a) AgKnow-Cypress County
- b) Bill C-293-Parkland County

Carried Unanimously

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'AB' with a stylized flourish.

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**Adjournment**

**021-2025** Board member Scobie – that the Agricultural Service Board meeting be adjourned.


Carried Unanimously

The Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.



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*Agricultural Service Board Chair*



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*Manager - Agricultural Services*