

MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EOC MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER Dallas Ekstrom, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

PRESENT Dallas Ekstrom, Chairperson & Member at Large
Sara Wheale, Vice Chairperson & Councillor
Donna Wiltse, Councillor (Via GoTo Meeting)
Heidi Swan, Councillor (Via GoTo Meeting)
Cody Brooks, Member at Large
Mike Mueller, Member at Large (Via GoTo Meeting)
Matt Martinson, Agricultural Fieldman (Via GoTo Meeting)
Nancy Chambers, Acting Manager of Agricultural Services
Corbyn Pankonin, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
Amber Kynoch, Agricultural Technician/Recording Secretary

ABSENT Shawn McKerry, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

GUESTS None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Additions/Deletions to and Adoption of Agenda

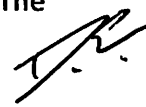
Additions: 7a) Federal Fertilizer Emissions Requirements

056/21 Moved by S. Wheale to adopt the agenda as amended.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES Adoption of Minutes
057/21 Moved by C. Brooks to adopt the minutes of the Agricultural Service Board meeting of April 21, 2021 as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING none

AGRICULTURE REPORTS Acting Manager of Agricultural Services Report April/May 2021
N. Chambers provided a verbal review of the Acting Manager of Agricultural Services report. We had a weed inspectors appointed for Drayton Valley last Council meeting. The Village of Breton appointed C. Pankonin and R. Gressler to be the weed inspectors. The town of Drayton Valley Council's next meeting is June 9th, that is when C. Pankonin and R. Gressler will be appointed. The



Village of Breton weed inspecting contract is in year 2 of a 3 year contract. The Town of Drayton Valley is a one year contract.

Key contact position has not been assigned, details are still being worked out. We are very grateful to have that position back. D. McAnley is still working out the details and is willing to help out until someone is assigned.

ASB Grant Reporting for 2020 will cover what we used our money for, how many weed inspections were done, how many enforcements, etc.

Hemp seeding delayed with the West Central Forage association. Melissa Howard informed us that there is a seed supply delay. Provider doesn't believe to have the seed until July. Normally it is in ground June 1st. The land owner is wanting it to still be planted. This can be a research opportunity on planting times, and they will share the results. Members asked about difficulties getting seed. It is unsure what is causing the difficulty and if it is related to the challenges of Covid.

Updating the website is currently in progress, focusing on links and contacts. The Mountain Pine Beetle program is in Full swing. 1330 acres have been surveyed and we have 440 acres to go. Only on County owned/leased land are being surveyed this year. So far 55 trees have been found that need to be controlled. Felling will start May 19, 2021. Surveying should be done by May 22, 2021. Everything completed by May 31, 2021.

Members asked what are they doing with the trees after. They are leaving trees where they fall, but are being de-limbed and peeled to control the beetle. Members also mentioned a number of private sawmills that would be willing to take the trees. Brazeau County now has Vebeenone for beetle control. Clearwater County is looking into the possibility of selling beetle wood and what is involved. Next year they could include control that would be in need to be in place to sell the wood. Currently not allowed. Will need to include in the grant proposal. Brazeau may consider doing the same.

Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Report April/May 2021

C. Pankonin provided a verbal review of the Assistant Agricultural Fieldman report. Advertised the summer programs. Brazeau County hosted a weed webinar. It had a low turnout but will post on YouTube. The county has had lots of Spruce tree calls, believed to be winter kill. Likely from our mild winter, not enough water. Sending pictures to forestry for help. Lots of soil samples have come in. Summer staff will be spraying and weed inspecting likely next week. Seed and Forage samples have also come in.

Member Reports

Member at Large M. Muller reported on:

- Winter wheat is looking good. Planted oats before the rain. Read about robotics that can take soil samples and can analyze out there. Amazing technology coming out. Rain will not last long and get back to seeding.



Councillor H. Swan reported on:

- Read a U of A club root study where variant of viruses and bacteria in clubroot were found. 19 resistance stains were identified. They were found in southern Alberta and Manitoba. Back to drawing board. Good job keeping out of our County.

Councillor D. Wiltse reported on:

- Hopefully everyone got their seeding completed, this weather we are getting is wonderful.

Councillor S. Wheale reported on:

- Got new hay land that may need to be seeded. Got the green feed in before the rain. Working on fencing with fence posts being hard to find. Someone close to the county is looking into getting a peeler. Waiting for the last 7 cows to calve. Cattle market is seeming fairly stable. Cow calf pair are on high end. Grain prices are through the roof. Members asked about opinions on metal posts. Wildlife can bend the posts. Over time metal can costs less, need to see if it's worth it. Plastic posts were also mentioned.

Member at Large C. Brooks reported on:

- If current trends continue, thinks that there will be good growing seasons. Will be too busy to worry about building and having to worry about costs of materials.

Member at Large D. Ekstrom reported on:

- Commodity prices are holding and are high. Had 30 mm of precipitation and its being well received. Believes that snow on May long is a good omen. Looking optimistic.

058/21 Moved by C. Brooks to receive all of the reports for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OLD BUSINESS

Rural Health Initiative

N. Chambers advised that following last meeting motion to set up a date at the end of June that the Rural Health Initiative dates are booked and planned for June 23, 2021. Advertisement will start soon. Brazeau County has created an ad to go out over social media. There is a link on the ad to sign up through the Farm Safety Center, we don't have to worry about registration. There is also a QR code that can be scanned through the camera on phones and it will take you to the website to sign up. We are offering 3 smaller meeting rooms. Members discussed when the newsletter was out, that date has passed. But we can make sure to get it out on the Brazeau County Express, the Breton

booster, Drayton Valley and District Free Press and social media. We can distribute posters at the Warburg seed plant, Rock Rapids Store, UFA, and the vet clinic.

AFSC AgriStability Webinar Replay

N. Chambers spoke about the AgriStability webinar request. A. Kynoch reached out over phone and was directed to email their marketing team. No response as of yet. There was a video that was found on the AFSC YouTube page, of a previously hosted webinar covering the topic. It was reviewed and believed to cover everything in good timing. Members discussed that the videos are good and if you contact the office they are a great help. One thing to be aware of for there has been a lot of movement with the cattle prices say strong, catching the formula changing what it kicks out for benefit. That the having those links are good.

059/21 Moved by S. Wheale to receive for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Federal government has changed the terms and conditions of the 30% emissions reduction for fertilizer. Fertilizer Canada has mentioned that is was not the original plan. Members discussed sending a letter to the rest of the ASB boards of Alberta to see if they would be on board to send a letter to the Federal government expressing concerns on the targeted amounts. The reduction used to be production focused and now it's across the board. This would be a 60% reduction is less than a year. Fertilizer companies are concerned on how they will accomplish this.

060/21 S. Wheale moved to draft a letter to the Federal Minister responsible for the Fertilizer Emissions Reduction plan, send to the ASB boards and to have the letter brought to the next meeting for review.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CORRESPONDENCE
/ ITEMS FOR
INFORMATION**

ASB AAAF Radio Podcast sponsorship

Members discussed the ASB AAAF Radio Podcast. They are asking for sponsorship and have someone to appear on their show. We would have to go to Council for the sponsorship money and does the Ag Fieldman want to do it. C. Pankonin would prefer not to. Can look into this next year. Members discussed that it would be important to have everyone who would be involved wanting to. There was an agreeance that we should see what all is covered too see if it's something we would want to support. Clearwater County has decide to partake in the podcast and has found that the direction is more about the interesting facts of the county and information that would be good to share. If was further explained that for the money that would be

given that Brazeau County would also receive all the recordings to post to our own social media and also out podcast forms of our choosing.

061/21 S. Wheale moved to receive the information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Municipal District of Willow Creek County No. 26 ASB – Provincial ASB Conference

062/21 Moved by S. Wheale receive for information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Provincial ASB Resolution Process response letter

Members discussed the letter about the resolution process for the Provincial ASB Conference. There is support shown for the people handling the situation. The writer was good to respond back and cover that the message is for everyone, professionalism is key.

063/21 Moved by D. Wiltse to receive for information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Wheat Head Survey Update

Members discussed the letter about the Wheat Head Survey Update and the survey was completed in 2020 by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. Ergot was found in 22% of the fields and Don was found 53.4% of the fields in Alberta. Brazeau County is not on the list and it is believed to be that way because not enough wheat was grown.

064/21 Moved by C. Brooks to be received for information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

Public Input Session

D. Ekstrom opened the Public Input Session at 10:00 a.m. No members of the public were in attendance or on the conference call. D. Ekstrom closed the Public Input Session at 10:01am.

2021 ASB Meeting Schedule

No changes were required.



ADJOURNMENT

065/21

Moved by H. Swan that the regular Agricultural Service Board meeting of May 19, 2021, adjourn at 10:01 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FOIP: s.17 (4) (g)

[REDACTED]

ASB CHAIRPERSON

FOIP: s.17 (4) (g)

[REDACTED]

AG FIELDMAN