

**MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EOC MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021.**

**CALL TO ORDER** N. Chambers, Acting Manager of Agricultural Services, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**PRESENT** Dallas Ekstrom, Councillor  
Randy Swap, Councillor  
Anthony Heinrich, Councillor  
Mike Mueller, Member at Large  
Liz Seutter-Rosell, Member at Large (by telephone)  
Jeff Bundt, Member at Large  
Nancy Chambers, Acting Manager of Agricultural Services  
Amber Kynoch, Assistant Ag Fieldman  
Rita Bijeau, Administrative Assistant / Recording Secretary

**ABSENT** Matt Martinson, Agricultural Fieldman

**GUESTS** Doug Macaulay, ASB Program Manager  
Melissa Keeley, Junior Economic Development Officer, Brazeau County

**INTRODUCTIONS** Members and Administration introduced themselves.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Additions/Deletions to and Adoption of Agenda**

**126/21** Moved by D. Ekstrom to adopt the agenda as amended:  
Added - 10.a) Appointment of Members to the Hemp Working Group  
Renumbered - 10.b) Hemp Working Group (renumbered)  
Added - 12.f) Expense Claims

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Adoption of Minutes**

**127/21** Moved by M. Mueller to adopt the minutes of the Agricultural Service Board meeting of October 6, 2021 as amended:  
▪ Page 5 bottom of the page, second last paragraph changing "...expend..." to "...extend..."  
▪ Page 8 under hemp working group changing "...interested generated..." to "...interest generated..."

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**BUSINESS ARISING** none



**ASB BRAZEAU  
ORIENTATIONS**

N. Chambers and A. Kynoch provided an orientation for the Board members, including an overview of their binders, paperwork required for participating on the ASB, safety, summer programming, and other housekeeping items. M. Keeley provided information on the Hemp Working Group. N. Chambers advised the Board that the Provincial ASB Conference is scheduled for January 25-27, 2022.

**ELECTION OF  
CHAIRPERSON AND  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

**Election of Chairperson**

Members agreed to vote by a show of hands.

N. Chambers reviewed the process for nominations and opened the floor for nominations for the position of ASB Chairperson.

D. Ekstrom nominated M. Mueller for ASB Chairperson. M. Mueller declined the nomination.

M. Mueller nominated D. Ekstrom for ASB Chairperson. D. Ekstrom accepted the nomination.

N. Chambers called a second time for nominations.

D. Ekstrom nominated R. Swap for ASB Chairperson. R. Swap accepted the nomination.

N. Chambers called a third time for nominations. No additional nominations were received and the nomination period was closed.

Voting ensued, with D. Ekstrom receiving the majority of the votes.

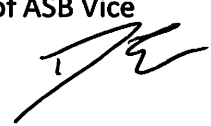
**128/21** Moved by M. Mueller that D. Ekstrom be appointed as ASB Chairperson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Election of Vice Chairperson**

N. Chambers asked if D. Ekstrom would like to assume the Chair or if he would like her to continue with the election of the Vice Chairperson. D. Ekstrom asked N. Chambers to continue.

N. Chambers, opened the floor for nominations for the position of ASB Vice Chairperson.



D. Ekstrom nominated R. Swap for ASB Vice Chairperson. R. Swap accepted the nomination.

N. Chambers called a second and third time for nominations. No further nominations were received and the nomination period was closed.

R. Swap was acclaimed as ASB Vice Chairperson.

**129/21** Moved by D. Ekstrom that R. Swap be appointed as ASB Vice Chairperson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **Public Input Session**

D. Ekstrom assumed the Chair and opened the Public Input Session at 10:02 a.m.

Allan Taylor brought up concerns regarding the Herbicide Rebate Program, specifically:

- Resolution 116/21 honoring late applications to the end of October; the extension should have been advertised as the only people that knew about it were in the room.
- Resolution 117/21 to extend the 50% rebate for the 2022 year prior to the new Board being in place.
- Extending the application period for the Herbicide Rebate Program as it is difficult to determine if it was spray or frost that killed the weeds.
- Minutes from the last meeting showed total rebates of \$28,983.79 to 37 applicants; 7 reached the \$1,600 cap. Another motion 122/21 allowed for the 7 applicants that reached the cap to receive additional funding. Talked to a lot of people and the herbicide rebate is not fair as it affects a portion of the residents. The tax rebate applies to more people and is fair.
- What area east of the river was sprayed?
- The County mowed the right of way adjacent to his property while thistle was in seed; spreading it out for next year.

The Board discussed A. Taylor's concerns clarifying that the primary concern on the costs is that the acreage of spraying being applied for does not match that of the Weed Inspection Report. The benefits of spot spraying versus broad spraying was discussed.

L. Oberle requested that the Board read the Act and the [County] Code of Conduct; questioned why the recipients of the Herbicide Rebate Program are not made public; stated that if there are funds remaining in a program the program should be reevaluated and/or ended; concerns about funding the Breton Plots; concerns about paying for COVID tests for Councilors to attend

conferences and training when there is a free vaccine available; and concerns about beaver control.

D. Ekstrom closed the Public Input Session at 10:28 a.m.

The Chair called for a break at 10:28 a.m.

Meeting was called back to order at 10:38 a.m., L. Seutter-Rosell was absent.

#### **ASB Provincial Orientation**

D. Macaulay, ASB Program Manager provided the Board with a review of the ASB legislation. It was clarified that Dawnia McCann will need to be reappointed as Agricultural Fieldman by Council when she returns from leave.

A. Heinrich inquired into the change of status with Fusarium, why it was changed and what municipalities are doing. D. Macaulay advised that the change was due to reducing red tape due to the weed being throughout Alberta and each municipality will be addressing their concerns individually.

M. Mueller inquired into responsibilities to manage weeds on orphan wellsites. D. Macaulay explained that ultimately it falls to the landowner; however, there is a working group discussing this concern with the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER).

A. Kynoch asked how reclamation under the Act is different from Weed Notices. D. Macaulay explained that reclamation involves the municipality being on title and responsible for the reclamation process with net revenue going to the landowner.

A. Heinrich inquired into the issue of industry transporting weeds, prohibited noxious or otherwise, between lands and how a municipality can address this. D. Macaulay explained that this is also being discussed with the AER Working Group and that there the mechanism to add, through Bylaw, to the list of prohibited noxious weeds in the county.

D. Ekstrom exited the meeting at 11:50 a.m. and returned at 11:53 a.m.

A. Heinrich also requested information on the status of Kochia. D. Macaulay advised that it is not a prohibited noxious weed however; there may be an opportunity for a resolution to go to conference and see if there is support from other municipalities to have it added to the Provincial regulation.

D. Ekstrom inquired into the workshop hosted by ADM John Conrad. D. Macaulay advised that the workshop was rescheduled for December and information will be shared through the Chair and Vice-Chair.



D. Macaulay reviewed the recommendations from the last Brazeau County site visit; advising that there may be some policies out of date and to look at the Strategic Plan.

A. Heinrich exited the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

A. Heinrich returned to the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

D. Macaulay informed the Board of a Resolution coming to the provincial conference regarding resources like 310-FARM that are no longer available.

The Chair called for a break at 12:07 p.m.

Meeting was called back to order at 12:11 p.m.

**130/21** Moved by J. Bundt to add to the agenda "Delegation Debrief" under 10. c).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **AGRICULTURE REPORTS**

### **Acting Manager of Agricultural Services Report October/November 2021**

N. Chambers provided a verbal review of the Acting Manager of Agricultural Services report including a review of the follow up action list outstanding items, development of an ASB Bylaw, and requested permission to formerly thank M. Martinson for his assistance with the Board. The Board gave consensus to recognize M. Martinson's contributions.

### **Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Report October/November 2021**

A. Kynoch provided a verbal review of the Assistant Agricultural Fieldman report including working on renewing her spray operator license, as well as weed inspections, pest control inquiries, soil samples, completed inspections for haying and grazing leases, and clarified terminology used for weed reports and weed notices.

### **Member Reports**

Councillor A. Heinrich reported on:

- Attended Hemp plot tours
- Bio-mile decorticator Dan Madlung

Member at Large J. Bundt:

- Discussed the haying and grazing leases and potential economic opportunities with the leases. N. Chambers provided information on the lands that can be used for haying or grazing and changes may be made to Policy AG-31 by Council at the Board's request.

Member at Large M. Mueller reported on:

- Weather is nice, finished fall work



- Working on planning for next year, fertilizer and seed
- Argentina has 40% of their wheat crop as GMO and is drought resistant
- Scientists are working on genome splicing to develop a Fusarium resistant plant

Councillor R. Swap reported on:

- Inquired if there was something that can be done for owners who do not manage their weeds. D. Ekstrom advised that this will be discussed at a future meeting when the Ag Fieldman is back.

Member at Large L. Seutter-Rosell was absent.

Councillor D. Ekstrom reported on:

- Alberta Seed Guide Magazine article "Red Letter Day for Hemp"
- AFAC article on conditions of the animals may prompt discussions in ASBs towards including fielding animal welfare calls as a duty of the Ag Fieldman.

**131/21** Moved by A. Heinrich to receive all of the reports for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Appointment to Hemp Working Group**

N. Chambers reviewed the establishment of the Hemp Working Group, advising that an individual needs to be appointed. The Board discussed the benefit of the group and whether or not to continue.

**132/21** Moved by M. Mueller to appoint A. Heinrich as the ASB representative to the Hemp Working Group with representation from Administration in Ag Services and Economic Development.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Hemp Working Group**

M. Keeley provided a report on the activity within the Hemp Working Group, including a hemp tour, information on the different profit streams of hemp, and tour of Bio-Composites facility. The Board discussed hemp promotion in the region including the origins.

R. Swap exited the meeting at 1:29 p.m.



**Delegation Debrief**

The Board discussed the items brought up during Public Input time.

R. Swap returned to the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Closed Session**

**133/21**

Moved by R. Swap to move into closed session for the purpose of discussing the ASB Bursary selections, as per FOIP Section 17 at 2:09 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

N. Chambers and A. Kynoch were present to discuss the ASB Bursary.

**134/21**

Moved by A. Heinrich to come out of closed session at 2:15 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Chair called for a break at 2:15 p.m.

Meeting was called back to order at 2:20 p.m.

**135/21**

Moved by A. Heinrich to award the ASB Bursaries to Wyatt William Davie and Tell Donald Calvert.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CORRESPONDENCE  
/ ITEMS FOR  
INFORMATION**

**MD of Fairview – Funding for Agricultural Service Boards**

**Woodlands County – Funding for Agriculture and Agricultural Service Boards**

**Woodlands County – Synthetic Fertilizer Emissions**

**136/21**

Moved by A. Heinrich to receive the above items for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2021 ASB Meeting Schedule**

The Board reviewed the approved 2021 ASB Meeting Schedule, noting the November 18, 2021, meeting was changed to November 8, 2021.

**2022 Draft ASB Meeting Schedule**

The Board reviewed the proposed 2022 ASB Meeting Schedule.



**137/21**

Moved by R. Swap to adopt the 2022 ASB Meeting Schedule as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Expense Claims**

N. Chambers advised that Councilors are eligible to claim travel time to attend meetings and if there is an interest in claiming similarly for the ASB meetings.

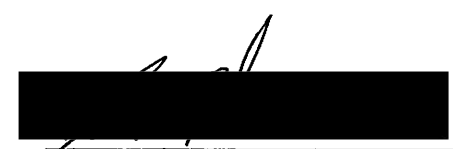
**138/21** Moved by R. Swap to direct Administration that ASB members will only charge for regular ASB meeting time and mileage.

R. Swap requested permission to withdraw his motion. M. Mueller granted permission.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**139/21** Moved by M. Mueller to adjourn at 2:54 p.m.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

  
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**ASB CHAIRPERSON**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**AG FIELDMAN**