

MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EOC MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2022.

CALL TO ORDER D. Ekstrom, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

PRESENT Dallas Ekstrom, Councillor & Chairperson
Randy Swap, Councillor & Vice-Chairperson
Anthony Heinrich, Councillor
Mike Mueller, Member at Large
Jeff Bundt, Member at Large
Erin McAdam, Manager of Agricultural Services
Amber Kynoch, Assistant Ag Fieldman
Nancy Chambers, ALUS Coordinator / Recording Secretary

ABSENT Liz Seutter-Rosell, Member at Large

GUESTS none

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Additions/Deletions to and Adoption of Agenda

122/22 Moved by R. Swap to adopt the agenda as amended:
6) To indicate September/October 2022 Reports
7b) Resolution Discussion – Supporting Documentation
7d) Herbicide Rebate Report and 2023 Request
7e) 2023 Agricultural Research Funding

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Adoption of Minutes

123/22 Moved M. Mueller to adopt the minutes of the Agricultural Service Board meeting of September 21, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INTRODUCTIONS No introductions were required.

L. Seutter-Rosell entered the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

BUSINESS ARISING none

AGRICULTURE REPORTS

Manager of Agricultural Services Report for September/October 2022

E. McAdam provided a verbal review of the Manager of Agricultural Services report. Members asked about training request submissions, asked if any

board members were interested in further training, and discussed upcoming training opportunities.

Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Report for September/October 2022

A. Kynoch provided a verbal review of the Assistant Agricultural Fieldman report. Members asked about site inspections on County owned lands and asked about pasture conditions. Members asked about grazing and haying lease holders submitting a form at the end of the season to indicate usage and also discussed utilizing Weed Inspectors to inspect agricultural leases.

Member Reports

Councillor A. Heinrich reported on:

- Fall work complete.

Members discussed that the focus of member reports is intended to be on events, conferences, ASB related business, or unique farming items, rather than personal farming operations.

Member at Large J. Bundt reported on:

- Attended meeting to review regional resolutions.

Member at Large M. Mueller reported on:

- Nothing to report.

Councillor R. Swap reported on:

- Still dealing with tetanus in a colt.

Members discussed vaccination for tetanus.

Councillor D. Ekstrom reported on:

- Received a ratepayer request for a post driver for rental equipment.
- A ratepayer asked about the County hiring a seasonal fencing crew.

Members advised that local rental companies rent post pounders and discussion then turned to fencing costs.

Member at Large L. Seutter-Rosell reported on:

- Standard operating for the bees and the farm.

124/22 Moved by A. Heinrich to receive the reports for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OLD BUSINESS

NW Regional Conference Agenda

A. Kynoch and E. McAdam reviewed the agenda for the November 2, 2022, NW Regional ASB Conference.

Resolution Discussion

E. McAdam provided the draft copies of resolutions submitted to the NW Region by Leduc County and Parkland County. The Northwest Regional Resolution Committee has reviewed the draft resolutions and provided feedback to the respective Counties. E. McAdam discussed the Resolution 101 Writing Course that is offered to Agricultural Fieldmen.

DELEGATIONS

Public Input Session

D. Ekstrom opened the Public Input Session at 10:02 a.m. No members of the public were in attendance or online that asked to speak. D. Ekstrom closed the Public Input Session at 10:03 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED

Discussion continued regarding resolutions, the media reporting on the farming industry, agriculture education in schools, and operating a business.

R. Swap left the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Discussion continued regarding the effectiveness of resolutions and distribution of herbicide in small quantities.

R. Swap returned to the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

125/22 Moved by A. Heinrich for the ASB to support the resolutions at the Regional Conference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Ekstrom called for a break at 10:19 a.m. and the meeting resumed at 10:32 a.m.

Agriculture Department Summer Recap 2022

A. Kynoch reviewed summer operations. Discussion ensued regarding spraying of undeveloped road allowances. The policy does not currently give direction regarding spraying of undeveloped road allowances but can be reviewed by Administration and Council prior to next season. Once Herbicide Rebate applications are all processed, a tally of acres sprayed will be provided to the board. D. Ekstrom asked members to reflect on the past season and provide a report to the board.

Herbicide Rebate Report and 2023 Request

A. Kynoch and E. McAdam discussed the 2023 herbicide rebate report. There is currently \$25,000 requested by Administration in the proposed 2023 budget. Members discussed the \$5000 cap in the AG-3 Herbicide Rebate Policy and the ability to pay applicants funds over the cap amount.

126/22 Moved by A. Heinrich to recommend the AG-3 Herbicide Rebate Policy be amended to remove the reference to distribute remaining funds after September 30 and to recommend allocating \$75,000 total to the 2023 Herbicide Rebate budget with a 50% rebate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023 Agricultural Research Funding

A. Kynoch and E. McAdam discussed previous funding provided to the University of Alberta Breton Plots and the West-Central Forage Association.

127/22 Moved by A. Heinrich to recommend allocating \$15,000 budget to the West-Central Forage Association for research, \$10,000 to University of Alberta Breton Plots for research, and \$3500 to the West-Central Forage Association for education and outreach.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Western Canada Conference on Soil Health & Grazing

D. Ekstrom discussed the upcoming conference scheduled for December 13, 14 & 15, 2022, in Edmonton.

128/22 Moved by R. Swap to authorize the attendance of two members to attend the Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing in December 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Beef Cattle Research Council – Webinar Series

A. Kynoch discussed a free webinar series hosted by the Beef Cattle Research Council and will share the links with members and possibly on the County website or social media sites.

Canadian Forage and Grassland Association – Fall Webinar Sessions

A. Kynoch discussed additional webinars hosted by the Canadian Forage and Grassland Association.

129/22 Moved by J. Bundt to receive items 8a, b & c for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CORRESPONDENCE
/ ITEMS FOR
DISCUSSION**

Veterinarian Shortage – Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Economic Development – Nate Horner’s Response

130/22 Moved by L. Seutter-Rosell to receive the letter for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2022 ASB Meeting Schedule

No changes were noted.

ADJOURNMENT

131/22 Moved by J. Bundt to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



ASB CHAIRPERSON



AG FIELDMAN