

**MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EOC MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022.**

**CALL TO ORDER** A. Kynoch, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**PRESENT** Dallas Ekstrom, Councillor  
Randy Swap, Councillor  
Anthony Heinrich, Councillor  
Mike Mueller, Member at Large  
Jeff Bundt, Member at Large  
Liz Seutter-Rosell, Member at Large  
Erin McAdam, Manager of Agricultural Services (via Go to Meeting)  
Amber Kynoch, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman  
Nancy Chambers, ALUS Coordinator / Recording Secretary

**ABSENT** none

**GUESTS** Dick Puurveen, University of Alberta, Breton Plots  
Becky Doherty, West-Central Forage Association

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Additions/Deletions and Adoption of Agenda**

**132/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to adopt the agenda as amended with the addition of:  
8b) Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing - D. Ekstrom  
9d) Alberta Beef Industry Conference 2023 – D. Ekstrom  
9e) Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) – D. Ekstrom  
9f) Role of ASB Within the Agricultural Community – M. Mueller  
9g) Provincial ASB Conference Attendance – A. Kynoch

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Adoption of Minutes**

**133/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to adopt the minutes of the Agricultural Service Board meeting of October 19, 2022, as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**BUSINESS ARISING** none

**ASB ORIENTATION**

A. Kynoch provided an orientation for the board members, including policies, summer programming, sample testing, and agricultural research.

**ELECTION OF  
CHAIRPERSON AND  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

**Election of Chairperson**

Members agreed to vote by a show of hands.

A. Kynoch opened the floor for nominations for the position of ASB Chairperson.

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

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

A. Kynoch called a second and third time for nominations. No additional nominations were received, and the nomination period was closed.

R. Swap was acclaimed as ASB Chairperson.

**134/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to appoint R. Swap as ASB Chairperson.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Election of Vice Chairperson**

A. Kynoch opened the floor for nominations for the position of ASB Vice Chairperson.

R. Swap nominated D. Ekstrom. D. Ekstrom accepted the nomination.

M. Mueller nominated L. Seutter-Rosell. L. Seutter-Rosell accepted the nomination.

A. Kynoch called a second and third time for nominations. No further nominations were received, and the nomination period was closed.

Voting ensued with L. Seutter-Rosell receiving the majority of the votes.

**135/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to appoint L. Seutter-Rosell as ASB Vice  
Chairperson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

R. Swap assumed the Chair and reminded members that all meetings are recorded.

## **AGRICULTURE REPORTS**

### **Manager of Agricultural Services Report for October/November 2022**

E. McAdam provided a verbal review of the Manager of Agricultural Services report.

### **Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Report for October/November 2022**

A. Kynoch provided a verbal review of the Assistant Agricultural Fieldman report. Members discussed the two resolutions that were presented at the NW Regional ASB Conference with one resolution passing and the other not being supported by the region. Members asked about any previous clubroot notices. There are two clubroot notices issued, which is currently in its fifth and final year. Members discussed the dollars distributed through the 2022 Herbicide Rebate program and will discuss in detail at the next meeting.

### **Member Reports**

Member at Large J. Bundt reported on:

- Attended the regional resolution conference.
- Networking with fellow ASB members at the NW Regional conference.

A. Kynoch left the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Member at Large M. Mueller reported on:

- Attended a synergy meeting, with discussion on the next wave of energy use affecting farmers and landowners.
- Local synergy meeting on November 24 at the Obsidian Energy building.

A. Kynoch returned to the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Councillor R. Swap reported on:

- Nothing to report.

Councillor D. Ekstrom reported on:

- Attended the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) meeting and can share the agenda and highlights with members.
- Resolution 5-19 for the Multi-Stakeholder Committee to Work at Reducing the Use of Fresh Water by the Oil and Gas Industry in Alberta is still on the table.
- Provincial ASB website is a good way to connect, and an email subscription is available to receive updates.

Member at Large L. Seutter-Rosell reported on:

- Attended NW Regional ASB Conference.
- Enjoyed the process for resolutions and the opportunity to network.

Councillor A. Heinrich reported on:

- Nothing to report.

**136/22** Moved by A. Heinrich to receive the reports for information.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**DELEGATIONS**

**Public Input Session**

R. Swap opened the Public Input Session at 10:00 a.m. Graham Kathol asked about programs such as the Clean Farms program for recycling agricultural plastics. He spoke about building a compactor to compress the plastic into 500-to-700-pound bales and is wondering if the board can do some research. Clean Farms has a blueprint to build a compactor.

The Agricultural Services Department is working with the Utilities Department to discuss options for twine recycling and can also discuss the possibility of agricultural plastics recycling.

R. Swap closed the Public Input Session at 10:06 a.m.

R. Swap called for a break at 10:06 a.m. and the meeting resumed at 10:15 a.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Twine Collection Update**

A. Kynoch discussed additional details on the progress for a twine collection program. This has been passed on to the Utilities Department, as they manage the transfer stations and will be discussed further at budget meetings.

**Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing**

D. Ekstrom discussed the conference scheduled for December 13-15, 2022, in Edmonton. He expressed interest in attending and encouraged other members to attend.

**137/22** Moved by M. Mueller to accept the twine collection update and the Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing discussion as information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**138/22** Moved by M. Mueller to authorize D. Ekstrom to attend the Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**139/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to move the ASB Bursary Application to item 10c.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Rental Equipment Discussion**

J. Bundt discussed the issue of equipment rental liability and asked what process is followed when the rental equipment is picked up and returned. Members discussed the risks and asked if the benefits of the program outweigh the risks.

D. Ekstrom left the meeting at 10:52 am

**140/22** Moved by A. Heinrich to direct Administration to have the agreement sent for a legal opinion to review liability, and to ask the question of liability in the case of the equipment becoming unhooked while travelling.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The idea of an equipment fitness checklist was also discussed.

D. Ekstrom entered the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

L. Seutter-Rosell left the meeting at 10:57 a.m. and returned at 10:59 a.m.

**DELEGATIONS**

**Dick Puurveen, University of Alberta, Breton Plots**

Dick Puurveen has managed the Breton Plots for almost 30 years and continues to participate in agricultural research. He provided an explanation of the funding expenditures for the 2022 Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance (CHTA) National Variety Trial which included: student wages, fuel, seeding, sampling, maintenance, harvesting, analysis, reporting and others. Hemp trials included 10 different varieties, with 4 grain varieties and 5 dual purpose varieties at 13 sites across Canada. Weather was a factor in growth, with wet conditions not being favorable for successful industrial hemp growth. Extension opportunities were also provided at the Breton Plots in 2022. In 2023, it is hoped to continue the partnership CHTA to continue the trials. If the variety trial project doesn't continue, he asked what the County thinks about other small research trials and asked what the County wants them to do.

Mr. Puurveen clarified that the CHTA does not provide funding, but they provide the industrial hemp seed and the agronomist.

R. Swap left the meeting at 11:28 a.m. and returned at 11:29 a.m.

Members discussed seed breeders, the value of hemp fibre sales, and additional research including a perennial wheat and perennial rye intercropping trial. Crop data and climatic data for the Breton Plots go back to the 1920's.

A. Kynoch left the meeting at 11:41 a.m. and returned at 11:45 a.m.

**Becky Doherty, West-Central Forage Association**

Becky Doherty presented a review of West-Central Forage Association's (WCFA) 2022 year and thanked the County for their continued support. In Brazeau County, they hosted a small plot hemp variety trial, as well as a medium plot silage trial with soil amendments. WCFA also provides support for Environmental Farm Plans, ALUS, On-Farm Climate Action Fund, and producer support. Results for the 2022 hemp trials were not desirable due to field prep, staff limitations and other factors. Moving forward, a new website will be constructed, as well as enhanced extension and quality applied and adaptive research. 2023 proposals include continued hemp variety small plot trials, hemp medium scale trials, perennial forage trials, regional silage/alternatives trials, cover crop trials, extreme event planning, and others. Most funding comes through Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) and industrial funding, and they also have received municipal funding in the past.

L. Seutter-Rosell left the meeting at 12:14 p.m. and returned at 12:16 p.m.

Members asked if data and testing for industrial hemp as a harvested product can be collected, as we work toward de-regulating industrial hemp for livestock feed. Members asked about how to proceed with a 10-acre plot. Applying for a license is the first step, followed by obtaining the seed from a grower.

**141/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to receive the U of A Breton Plots and WCFA presentations for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

R. Swap called for a break at 12:29 p.m. and the meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS  
CONTINUED**

**West-Central Forage Association**

The contents of the letter were addressed in the WCFA association presentation.

### **Alberta Beef Industry Conference 2023**

D. Ekstrom advised the Alberta Beef Industry Conference is scheduled for February 22 & 23, 2023 at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel.

**142/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to authorize L. Seutter-Rosell's attendance at the Alberta Beef Industry Conference on February 22 & 23, 2023.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR)**

D. Ekstrom provided information about the January 10, 2023, RDAR conference at the Renaissance Edmonton Airport Hotel. It is a free conference, but registration is required.

**143/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to direct Administration to register the ASB members to attend the RDAR conference on January 10, 2023.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**144/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to approve mileage and per diem for members for travel to the January 10, 2023, RDAR conference.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Role of ASB Within the Agricultural Community**

M. Mueller asked about the ASB's role in promoting all agricultural crops, activities, and opportunities such as sunflowers, fish farms, greenhouses, alternative energy, and others. Members discussed the possibility of the Alberta Farm Fresh website being added to the County website and advertised in the County newsletter.

**145/22** Moved by M. Mueller to direct Administration to look into the possibility of adding farming resources to the County website.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Provincial ASB Conference Attendance**

The Provincial ASB Conference is scheduled for January 17-19, 2023, in Grande Prairie.

**146/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to authorize the attendance of all ASB members at the Provincial ASB Conference.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CORRESPONDENCE  
/ ITEMS FOR  
DISCUSSION**

**2022 ASB Meeting Schedule**

**147/22** Moved by J. Bundt to change the December 21, 2022, meeting time to 1 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2023 Draft ASB Meeting Schedule**

**148/22** Moved by L. Seutter-Rosell to adopt the 2023 ASB Meeting Schedule as presented but find an alternate meeting date for the January 2023 meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2022 ASB Bursary Application – Closed Session**

**149/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to move into closed session at 1:47 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the ASB Bursary selections, as per FOIP Section 17.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

E. McAdam left the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

A. Kynoch was present in the closed session to discuss the ASB Bursary.

**150/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to come out of closed session at 1:55 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Chair called for a break at 1:55 p.m. and the meeting was called back to order at 1:59 p.m.


**151/22** Moved by D. Ekstrom to award the ASB Bursary in the amount of \$1000 to Lexis Rae Elliott.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**152/22** Moved by A. Heinrich to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

  
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ASB CHAIRPERSON

  
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AG FIELDMAN