

MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EOC MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022.

CALL TO ORDER L. Seutter-Rosell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

PRESENT Liz Seutter-Rosell, Chairperson & Member at Large
Bart Guyon, Reeve (attended as a 2nd for Councillor R. Swap)
Anthony Heinrich, Councillor
Dallas Ekstrom, Councillor
Mike Mueller, Member at Large
Jeff Bundt, Member at Large
Amber Kynoch, Acting Agricultural Fieldman (via Go To Meeting)
Nancy Chambers, ALUS Coordinator / Recording Secretary

ABSENT none

GUESTS none

MOMENT OF SILENCE The board observed a moment of silence in honor of Randy Swap, Division 1 Councillor and Harvey Miller, President of the Drayton Valley & District Agricultural Society.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA **Additions/Deletions and Adoption of Agenda**
153/22 Moved by D. Ekstrom to adopt the agenda with the addition of:
8g) Weed Inspection – D. Ekstrom
9b) 2023 Priorities – D. Ekstrom
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES **Adoption of Minutes**
154/22 Moved by D. Ekstrom to adopt the minutes of the Agricultural Service Board meeting of November 16, 2022, with the following changes:
page 3 – “There ~~is~~ are two clubroot notices issued, ...”
page 6 – “Members *asked* if data and testing ...”
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING none

STAFFING UPDATE

With the departure of the Acting Manager of Agricultural Services, Amber Kynoch was appointed by Council as the Acting Agricultural Fieldman effective December 12, 2022.

AGRICULTURE REPORTS

Agriculture Report for November/December 2022

A. Kynoch provided a verbal review of a combined Acting Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and the Manager of Agricultural services report as the Agricultural Fieldman report.

Member Reports

Member at Large J. Bundt reported on:

- Nothing to report.

Member at Large M. Mueller reported on:

- Price list for Union Forage.
- Article about canola and biofuels.

Member at Large L. Seutter-Rosell reported on:

- Nothing to report.

Councillor D. Ekstrom reported on:

- Nothing to report.

Reeve B. Guyon reported on:

- Bison eating more than ever.
- Quality of hay is good.

Councillor A. Heinrich reported on:

- Nothing to report.

155/22 Moved by A. Heinrich to receive the members reports and Acting Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OLD BUSINESS

Twine Collection Update

A. Kynoch discussed additional details on the progress for a twine collection program. The Utilities Supervisor of Brazeau County’s Public Works Department has conversed with Clean Farms. While it is planned for the County to offer the service, it has not been determined which transfer stations will be set up to accept the twine. Members discussed a plastics recycling program that turns plastics into gas or diesel.

Provincial Conference Resolution Review

A. Kynoch began discussion on the Provincial Resolutions.

156/22 Moved by M. Mueller to move the January 18, 2023, meeting to January 12, 2023, at 1:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

157/22 Moved by A. Heinrich to table the review of the Provincial ASB Resolutions to the January 12, 2023, meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WCFA Proposal/Funding Request

Members reviewed the funding request submitted by the West-Central Forage Association (WCFA). The original budget request of \$15,000 for agricultural research and \$3500 for education and outreach was passed in the County's 2023 interim budget. This proposal asks for an additional \$15,000 for agricultural research. Members discussed the return on the investment, reporting expectations, staffing, and how the ASB can assist in lobbying efforts for additional funding. A. Kynoch will ask if WCFA can provide a report of how the 2022 funds were allocated.

158/22 Moved by J. Bundt to table discussion until the March 22, 2023, ASB meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fall Dinner with Megz Reynolds

A. Kynoch asked about hosting an event in the summer or fall of 2023, instead of 2022 as originally planned. An in-person presentation would have significant costs. The other budget consideration is the cost of a meal. Members asked about partnering with local Ag Societies to bring a speaker in.

159/22 Moved by A. Heinrich to direct Administration to explore opportunities with local Ag Societies, particularly the Breton Ag Society and the Drayton Valley & District Ag Society to partner in bringing forward a mental health event in February.

D. Ekstrom offered a friendly amendment to remove the mental health wording and add "an event with ag related topics to advance agricultural wellness".

D. Ekstrom offered a friendly amendment to host the event in June.

A. Heinrich accepted the friendly amendments.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

Public Input Session

L. Seutter-Rosell opened the Public Input Session at 2:11 p.m. No members of the public were in attendance or online that wished to speak. L. Seutter-Rosell closed the Public Input Session at 2:12 p.m.

L. Seutter-Rosell called for a break at 2:13 pm and the meeting resumed at 2:26 pm.

ASB/Conference Budget

A. Kynoch discussed the current ASB budget limitations for the ASB Provincial Conference and other conferences. Members discussed knowing the costs for each conference at the time of conversation when determining who will be attending.

RDAR Attendance

Members discussed attendance at the January 10, 2023, Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) conference. The following members will be registered to attend: L. Seutter-Rosell, J. Bundt, D. Ekstrom, and possibly M. Mueller.

Weed Inspection

D. Ekstrom discussed the revenue item in the 2023 interim budget for weed inspection services provided and billed to the Town of Drayton Valley and the Village of Breton. Both agreements have expired, so new agreements would be required with both municipalities. Members discussed the staff time dedicated as well as the revenue recovered by providing the service. Members asked if a conversation with the municipalities would be beneficial to discuss the *Weed Control Act*, the expectations on both sides, the billing rate, and other topics.

D. Ekstrom left the meeting at 2:51 p.m. and returned at 2:52 p.m.

Members expressed interest in having the board be involved in the review of the agreement. Members also discussed the option of not providing this service going forward, so that County staff can be utilized for County weed inspections.

160/22

Moved by D. Ekstrom to bring back to the February 15, 2023 meeting the contract and information to further the discussion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

A36 Spray Truck

The board discussed Council's motion to re-activate the second spray truck, unit A36, for the 2023 season. Spraying weeds has a limited window, so this helps get the task complete in a timely manner.

161/22 Moved by D. Ekstrom to receive the reports for items 8a-g for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023 Priorities

D. Ekstrom discussed the 2022 Agricultural Services Department accomplishments and 2023 priorities that were presented in the 2023 interim budget.

162/22 Moved by D. Ekstrom to receive items 9a&b for information.

D. Ekstrom requested permission to remove the motion. Permission was granted by B. Guyon.

163/22 Moved by A. Heinrich to direct Administration to pursue getting Alberta Transportation signs to identify Breton Plots and West-Central Forage Association plots.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

164/22 Moved by D. Ekstrom to receive the spray truck discussion for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CORRESPONDENCE
/ ITEMS FOR
DISCUSSION**

Cypress County - Vet Shortage Letter

Cardston County - Vet Shortage Letter

165/22 Moved by D. Ekstrom to receive both letters for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023 ASB Meeting Schedule

166/22 Moved by D. Ekstrom to approve the 2023 schedule as amended.

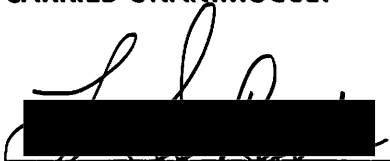
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

167/22

Moved by B. Guyon to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY


[Redacted]

ASB CHAIRPERSON

[Redacted]

ACTING AG FIELDMAN