



County of St. Paul No 19
Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Minutes

Tuesday, April 26, 2022
2:00 PM
Council Chambers

Present

Reeve Glen Ockerman
Councillor Darrell Younghans, Division 1, Chairman
Councillor Kevin Wirsta, Division 2
Councillor Ross Krekoski, Division 3
Councillor Maxine Fodness, Division 4
Councillor Dale Hedrick, Division 5
Councillor Louis Dechaine, Division 6
Sheila Kitz, CAO
Tim Mahdiuk, Director of Community Services
Keith Kornelsen, Agricultural Fieldman
Warren Leister, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
Arlene Shwetz, Communications Coordinator
Betty Richard, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

The Agricultural Service Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Darrell Younghans at 2:04 p.m.

2. Minutes Approval

2.1 December 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Resolution ASB20220426.1001

Moved By: Councillor Louis Dechaine

to adopt the Minutes of the December 1st, 2021, Agricultural Service Board meeting as presented.

Carried

3. Addition to Agenda and Acceptance of Agenda

Resolution ASB20220426.1002

Moved By: Councillor Maxine Fodness

to approve the agenda for the Agricultural Service Board Meeting April 26, 2022, with the following addition:

6.8 Farm Safety Centre Request

Carried

4. Delegation

4.1 Clean Farms Ag Plastics Recycling - Tammy Shields

Tammy Shields, Western Region Program Coordinator with Cleanfarms entered the meeting via zoom at 2:05 p.m. to present to the Agricultural Service Board, their current Cleanfarms presentation which contained the following information:

- Canada-wide program history and vision
- Six collection programs, 3 permanent and 3 pilot
- Permanent Programs in Alberta (up to 23L Pesticide & Fertilizer Containers, above 23L Pesticide & Fertilizer Containers, unwanted Pesticide & Livestock Medication)
- Pilot programs (Alberta Ag-Plastic. Recycle It! Program, Industry Pilot Seed, Pesticide and Inoculant (SPI) Bags, CASPP Pilot: AB Bale Wrap and Silage Film Collection)

Reeve Glen Ockerman left the meeting at 2:10 p.m. and reentered at 2:13 p.m.

Delegation left the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

4.2 Linda Sallstrom - STEP EDO - Seed Plant Expansion

Linda Sallstrom, STEP Economic Development Officer entered the meeting via zoom at 2:37 p.m. with updates for the board on the following:

- Seed Plant Association Expansion.

- HEMP update, recent workshops, the level of service the Rocky Mountain Hemp Company offers local Hemp farmers.
- Vegreville has emerged as a global investment destination for industrial hemp seed, fiber and CBD, processing and manufacturing.
- Beef Processing in our region to be brought to the next STEP meeting for review.

Delegation left the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

5. Business Arising

5.1 Drainage on Private Lands

The Water Act Essentials handout from the GOA was distributed for review. Discussion on whether or not there is a need for a bylaw and/or the need for a Farmers Advocate.

5.2 Strychnine

Currently the County has no more strychnine in stock or for sale. There are alternative options available at the UFA if residents are still inquiring to purchase.

Mountain View County has used the Emergency Use Registration from time to time to assist with control of the Richardson's Ground Squirrel in their area.

ACTION Keith Kornelsen to draft RMA letter

Resolution ASB20220426.1003

Moved By: Reeve Glen Ockerman

to continue advocating the Federal Government that approves the use of strychnine, for the continued use of Strychnine in the County of St. Paul, to control the Richardson's Ground Squirrel population, and further that administration cc the letter to the RMA.

Carried

5.3 Herbicides in the Fall

Board discussed the divisional plans to spray the County roadsides as needed when weeds are growing.

5.4 Clubroot Expenses

The cost of the Clubroot Program for 2021 as circulated for the boards review and discussion. Areas of discussion were as follows:

- program started in 2017, with approximately 600 fields inspected/year
- on average 10 notices/year are sent out
- less as the producers are moving to a Clubroot resistant variety of seed.
- most Counties are now picking a random number of fields to check
- reduced County staff this year for the program
- Clubroot is under the Pest Act, so we are obligated in some way, even if we discontinue the program
- past pest notices are to be upheld
- the Clubroot Policy will need to be reviewed and amended

ACTION Phyllis Corbiere, Director of Corporate Services, to review Clubroot Policy and bring forth changes to Council

Resolution ASB20220426.1004

Moved By: Reeve Glen Ockerman

to discontinue the Clubroot inspection program within the County of St. Paul effective immediately.

Carried

5.5 Wild Boar in the County

It has been reported that there have been two sightings of Wild Boar, with no reported damage, within the County of St. Paul south of Two Hills and in the Vermilion River area.

5.6 NE Regional ASB Meeting

The NE Regional ASB Meeting will be held this year at the Ashmont Agriplex on November 4, 2022, with time to be determined.

Historically the same speakers address the group, however we are responsible for finding a few extra speakers. Some possible additional speakers for this year could be from LARA, Trevor Kotowich to speak about the Farm Extrication Program, Melanie Wowk from the Alberta Beef Association and/or the Veterinary Association.

ACTION Keith Kornelsen to book the Ashmont Agriplex, Caterer and additional speakers for the event.

5.7 Grass Seed Prices

The 2022 Seed Price list was circulated for review and discussion. The County currently uses both coated and non-coated seed, which was ordered from P&H and Nutrien for the 2022 season. The Agricultural department had received direction at the last ASB meeting to purchase the "best deal" for each as outlined in the price list.

6. New Business

6.1 Wild Boar Bounty

A municipality is only allowed to either trap or partake in the wild boar bounty but can't participate in both. Historically the county has only seen 1 or 2 pairs of ears/year brought in, not enough in the County to warrant a bounty.

Alberta government only has 2 traps for all of Alberta and have trapped 216 since the inception of the program.

Other municipalities have passed a bylaw to disallow wild boar farms. Currently there are 9 wild boar farms in Alberta, with one in the Boscombe area, which has been inspected and it was found to have decent fencing, with no complaints to date received.

Resolution ASB20220426.1005

Moved By: Councillor Kevin Wirsta

to not participate in the wild boar bounty at this time.

Carried

CAO, Sheila Kitz left the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

Resolution ASB20220426.1006

Moved By: Councillor Ross Krekoski

to draft a bylaw, that disallows a new facility/operation, to establish an inhibited species (wild boar) farm, and further that within the bylaw the one wild boar farmer in the Boscombe area is to be grandfathered in.

Carried

6.2 Appoint Weed and Pest Inspectors for 2022

ACTION Keith Kornelsen to order name tags for weed/pest inspectors for the 2022 season.

Resolution ASB20220426.1007

Moved By: Reeve Glen Ockerman

to appoint Mienna Starosielski, Edward Palmer, Dean Hedrick and Douglas Slowski as the Weed and Pest Inspectors for 2022.

Carried

CAO, Sheila Kitz reentered the meeting at 3:39 p.m.

6.3 Spring Newsletter

Circulated previously to board for review with the following recommendations:

- the wild boar information to amended as discussed
- beaver trapping on private lands, now being referred to private trappers, unless it is affecting our roads
- strychnine to be bolded on newsletter

Changes will be done and printing to begin tomorrow.

6.4 Mowing and Spraying Plans

Mowing will be very similar to the previous year, with spraying to be adjusted accordingly as required.

The mowing/spraying plans will be distributed to the board for review.

ACTION Keith Kornelsen to send documents to divisional Councillors.

6.5 Future Agricultural Services in the County Discussion

Discussion regarding what future agricultural services in the County could look like.

- information sessions for producers possibly
- we need to establish a contact list/resource of whom to contact regarding specific inquiries from residents, e.g. LARA

Councillor Dale Hedrick left the meeting at 3:44 p.m. and reentered at 3:46 p.m.

6.6 ASB Board Committee

ACTION Betty Richard to send letters to Members at Large

Resolution ASB20220426.1008

Moved By: Councillor Louis Dechaine

to appoint David Dechaine, Allan Tkachyk, Ron Wirsta, and James Capjack as members at large of our ASB Weed/Pest Appeal Board for the County of St. Paul for 2022, with Kellie Nichiporik from LARA and Derick Plante to serve as the alternate members at large.

Carried

6.7 Resolution Grading for 2022

Discussion on the board's satisfaction with the grading system of the resolutions at the Zone Meeting.

6.8 Farm Safety Funding Request 2022

Their 2022 request is based on the 2021 delivery to 415 children @ \$3.50/student, totaling \$1,452.50.

Resolution ASB20220426.1009

Moved By: Councillor Maxine Fodness

to support the Farm Safety Centre's, Safety Smarts program, with a donation in the amount of \$1452.50 for 2022.

Carried

7. Correspondence

7.1 Administrative Assistant for the Provincial ASB

The Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee has received grant funding to support the Administrative Assistant position for a period of three years.

8. Upcoming Meetings

Call of the Chair - Tentative in early September 2022.

9. Adjournment

Business on the agenda being concluded, Chairman Darrell Younghans adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

Date

ABS Chairman