



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

Tuesday, February 28, 2023
1:00 PM
Council Chambers

Present	Reeve Glen Ockerman Councillor Darrell Younghans, Division 1 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 Roger Beaudin, Member at Large James Preston, Member at Large
Staff Present	Sheila Kitz, CAO Tim Mahdiuk, Director of Community Services Keith Kornelsen, Agricultural Fieldman Warren Leister, Manager Agricultural Services & Waste Arlene Shwetz, Communications Coordinator Betty Richard, Executive Assistant
Guests	Jake Battenfelder, Administrative Intern

1. Call to Order

The Agricultural Service Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Darrell Younghans at 1:38 p.m.

2. Minutes Approval

2.1 ASB Meeting Minutes August 23, 2022

Resolution ASB20230228.1001

Moved By: Councillor Louis Dechaine

to accept the August 23, 2022, Agricultural Service Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Carried

3. Addition to Agenda and Acceptance of Agenda

Resolution ASB20230228.1002

Moved By: Councillor Maxine Fodness

to accept the February 28, 2023, Agricultural Service Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Carried

4. Business Arising

4.1 SE 20-59-9-W4 Pest Notice Violation

Agricultural Fieldman, Keith Kornelsen reviewed the letter dated September 2022, to resident located in SE 20-59-9-W4, regarding the Pest Notice he was issued in November 2020. It has been suggested by the County that the landowner "lime" the approach to the infested field prior to seeding next year.

4.2 Strychnine Resolution

Our strychnine resolution passed at the Regional Conference in January.

Resolutions can be viewed at <http://agriculturalserviceboards.com>

Discussion around the use of Zinc Phosphide (out of Sask.) for mice/RGS infestations.

Committee would like feedback at the end of the season from residents that use Zinc Phosphide on its efficiency.

Resolution ASB20230228.1003

Moved By: Reeve Glen Ockerman

for ABS staff to look into purchasing Zinc Phosphide for the 2023 season, with reports back to this Committee regarding the efficiency of the product.

Carried

4.3 Clubroot Policy Discussion

Total cost in 2022 was \$10,500 about \$22/field for 475 fields inspected in 2022.

In 2021, two of our fields presented with a clubroot generation change, with our 2022 fields showing no clubroot generation change.

Farmers in our area moved very quickly to clubroot resistant varieties after 2017, we have had almost 100% compliance since.

We have worked with producers to reduce the notice by one year. Last year we had two producers that planted canola a year early.

Resolution ASB20230228.1004

Moved By: Councillor Kevin Wirsta

to leave the ASB-11 Clubroot Policy as it stands for the next three years, 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Carried

4.4 Federal Fertilizer Targets

Officially the fertilizer targets remain voluntary, where a regulatory backstop has been discussed should voluntary practices not hit targets. There is a lack of reliable ways to measure fertilizer emissions.

On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) - 187 million - 33 million to RDAR 22 million to Canola County 10 million to Canadian Forage and Grassland Association. (These we can access in Alberta)

LARA was holding one on one sessions for producers who want to access the program.

4.5 Noxious Weeds and Canada Thistle

Louis Dechaine, Division 6 Councillor left Council Chambers at 2:00 p.m.

Canada Thistle to be highlighted in our next newsletter.

Discussion on dealing with other weed issues on a complaint basis, and where we will inspect.

Focus spot spraying in Division 6 where the bulk of the roadside spraying was done last year.

Intersections with weed and brush problems have been identified.

Chairman Darrell Younghans, Division 1 Councillor, left at 2:16 p.m. and re-entered at 2:19 p.m.

4.6 Brushing and Backsloping Agreements (spraying)

The Brushing / Backsloping Agreements will be on the agenda at the March 14th Council meeting for approval.

5. New Business

5.3 Richardson Ground Squirrel Problem

Dale Hedrick, Division 5 Councillor left Council Chambers at 2:25 p.m. and re-entered at 2:27 p.m.

Resolution ASB20230228.1005

Moved By: Councillor Kevin Wirsta

for ASB staff to work with County resident of the following: Roll #6604300, Roll#6604100, Roll#6603300, which currently has a RGS infestation on these lands, and provide him with a Zinc (20kg) Phosphide bag, pending availability, on a trial basis, and to assist with the evaluation of the efficiency of the product.

Carried

5.4 Resolution to Review the Water Act

January 1,1999 the Water Act replaced the Water Resources Act.

The provincial government used to review these Acts every 5 years but now only review them on a complaint basis, and they may review parts of the act from year to year.

The Water Act is 135 pages long, with the regulations being 50 pages, and tied to different acts like the EPEA, with 8 Codes of Practice.

There was discussion at the ASB conference how it did not allow farming through temporary bodies of water or puddles.

Keith to draft a resolution to review the Water Act. for the Regional ASB Conference.

Resolution ASB20230228.1006

Moved By: Councillor Maxine Fodness

to direct ASB staff to draft a resolution for the next Regional ASB Conference for the Provincial Government to review the Water Act.

Carried

5.5 AG Fieldman Report

Keith Kornelsen provide Committee with the following:

- Staffing update, seasonal workers
- Water issues
- Roadside Seeding: RR72 Correction Road
- Rock Picking: cleaning of ditches to assist with saving our blades
- Blanket Spraying, Weed Issues, Mowing
- Rats, Coyotes

Chairman Darrell Younghans, Division 1 Councillor, left Council Chambers at 2:51 p.m. and re-entered at 2:55 p.m.

- Clubroot
- Other surveys; Grasshoppers
- Other Projects
- Seed Plant
- Rentals
- Workshops and Conferences
- Dogs

Reeve Glen Ockerman left Council Chambers at 2:57 p.m.

ASB shed update: still waiting on an answer on whether we are going to get the roof replaced or get the whole shed replaced.

Resolution ASB20230228.1007

Moved By: Councillor Ross Krekoski

to file as information.

Carried

5.7 Water Fill - Whitney Lake Well

Reeve Glen Ockerman re-entered Council Chambers at 3:00 p.m.

Resolution ASB20230228.1008

Moved By: Councillor Maxine Fodness

to direct the AG Fieldman and Utilities Supervisor to look into the feasibility of using the facility/site as a truck fill for area residents and bring back findings to Council.

Carried

5.8 Census Change - Long Form for AG being Discontinued

Brief discussion on the changes of the Census Long Form for AG and how the data will be collected for livestock moving forward.

5.9 Used Oil

Discussion on what residents can do with their used oil product. Currently Recycle West is picking up what is being brought into the Transfer Station for disposal, for a price. Would they consider picking up from residents, if the quantity was worth their while? Is there any other company that offers this service? Doesn't seem to be many options available. If Recycle West or another company is willing to pick up used oil from residents, this can be communicated in the County newsletter and social media.

Chairman Darrell Younghans, Division 1 Councillor left the meeting at 3:10 p.m., appointing Reeve Glen Ockerman as Chair in his absence.

Ross Krekoski, Division 3 Councillor left Council Chambers at 3:14 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

5.6 Provincial ASB Conference Discussion

Brief discussion from Committee regarding the Banquet speakers and the voting system, both could be improved upon for next time.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Farm Safety Funding Request

Resolution ASB20230228.1009

Moved By: Councillor Ross Krekoski

to approve a donation in the amount of \$2,000 for the 2022 school year for the Safety Smarts program offered by the Farm Safety Centre.

Carried

6.2 Animal Shelter Proposal

Resolution ASB20230228.1010

Moved By: Councillor Maxine Fodness

to file as information.

Carried

6.3 AISC Funding Request

Resolution ASB20230228.1011

Moved By: Councillor Maxine Fodness

to file as information.

Carried

6.4 Two Hills Trade Show

Louis Dechaine, Division 6 Councillor entered Council Chambers at 3:29 p.m.

Resolution ASB20230228.1012

Moved By: Councillor Kevin Wirsta

to approve the request from the Two Hills Agri Day and Tradeshow 2023 Committee and provide a \$300 bronze level sponsorship.

Carried

5. New Business

5.1 2023 Mowing Scopes

Ag Fieldman presented to the Committee the following:

Roadside Mowing

Cost per mile for the County

2017-2020 - \$105

2021 - \$120

2022 -\$125

2023 - \$130??

Estimated cost for 2023 for Contractors

Two Hills Contractor \$115 linear mile (both sides)

Elk Point Contractor \$140 linear mile (both sides)

Resolution ASB20230228.1013

Moved By: Councillor Louis Dechaine

to tender out the mowing of identified roads, based on the road classifications presented on the mowing maps, with the exception of our subdivision roads, which will continue to be completed by AS staff.

Carried

5.2 2023 Spraying Maps

The roads identified in green will either get a blanket or a spot spray this summer, with a focus on the weeds and trees, including a list of intersections that are in need of spraying to improve visibility. Some of last years road will be spot sprayed again this summer, in addition to the roads that are currently being brushed.

Keeping in mind that chemical prices have increased 2 or 3% this year, and we use different chemicals to kill trees and grass, thistle etc.

Resolution ASB20230228.1014

Moved By: Councillor Dale Hedrick

to accept the 2023 Spraying Maps as presented.

Carried

8. Adjournment

Business on the agenda being concluded, Appointed Chairman, Reeve Glen Ockerman adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

Date

ASB Chairman