



WHEATLAND COUNTY

Agricultural Service Board Minutes

July 8, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chair J. Wilson
Vice Chair G. Koester
A. Link
B. Van Laar
B. Armstrong
B. Walker
D. Biggar
T. Ikert
S. Klassen (alternate)

Members Absent: R. Harwood

Administration: M. Ziehr, GM of Transportation and Agriculture
R. Muenchrath, Manager of Agriculture and Environment
M. Soltys, Communications Specialist
G. Mowat, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER AND RELATED BUSINESS

1.1 Call To Order

Note: meetings are recorded and may be posted on the official Wheatland County website and/or via social media.

Chair WILSON called the meeting to order - time 9:01 A.M. [Note: Chair Wilson, Members Biggar, Link, Ikert, Armstrong, Van Laar, Walker and the following Wheatland County staff members Muenchrath, Ziehr and Robb, Environmental Coordinator, participated in-person. Members Vice Chair Koester, Klassen (alternate), Wheatland County staff members Soltys, Mowat and B. Archibald, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact, participated remotely.]

Chair Wilson informed that the July 8, 2020 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) meeting will be conducted in person and via conference call in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199. Public attendance at ASB meetings will be facilitated through virtual means (conference call). Chair Wilson reviewed the process for the meeting. [Note: a 'notice of meeting' was posted on the County website.]

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-01

Moved by LINK

THAT the agenda is approved, as presented.

• Carried

1.3 Adoption of Minutes

1.3.1 ASB Meeting Minutes - April 29, 2020

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-02

Moved by IKERT

THAT the April 29, 2020 Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes are approved, as presented.

• Carried

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND RELATED BUSINESS

2.1 Unfinished Business or Business Arising

2.1.1 Soil Movement Educational Campaign

Manager Muenchrath presented the request for decision regarding the proposed Soil Movement Educational Communication Strategy Campaign. A copy of the fact sheet documents was included in the request for decision.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-03

Moved by KOESTER

That the Board accept the Soil Movement Educational Communication Strategy and "Accepting Soil onto Agricultural Land" fact sheet documents as information.

• Carried

2.1.2 Support for Alberta Farmland Trust Resolution

Manager Muenchrath presented the request for decision regarding advocacy efforts in support of the protection, conservation and enhancement of agricultural lands in Alberta, **including a submission of support for Alberta Farmland Trust Resolution.** A copy of the resolution and document titled 'The Urgent Need for the Formation and Support of an Alberta Farmland Trust' was included in the request for decision.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-04

Moved by LINK

That the Board approve the submission of the Support for Alberta Farmland Trust Resolution to the South Region Agricultural Service Board conference for endorsement consideration.

And further that the Board forward the Support for Alberta Farmland Trust Resolution to the August 18, 2020 Council Meeting for Council review and submission to the Central Rural Municipalities of Alberta – District 2 Fall General Meeting for endorsement consideration.

• Carried

2.2 New Business

2.2.1 Agricultural and Environmental Policy Section Revisions

Manager Muenchrath presented the request for decision providing revisions to the Agriculture and Environmental Policy Section 3. The amendments ensure policies are up to date, serving their purpose, and reflect the current structure and operation of the department. A copy of the

'Agriculture and Environment Policies' was included in the request for decision.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-05

Moved by ARMSTRONG

That the Board recommend to Council the amendments to Agriculture and Environment Policy Section 3 as presented.

• Carried

2.2.2 Ratification of ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee Meeting

Manager Muenchrath presented the requested for decision informing a special meeting (via conference call) for the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) was called on June 9, 2020 to discuss project applications. Moving forward ALUS PAC minutes will be included in future ASB Agenda Packages. A copy of the ALUS PAC June 9, 2020 unapproved minutes, was included in the request for decision.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-06

Moved by BIGGAR

THAT the Board ratify attendance of appointed members to the Partnership Advisory Committee meeting held June 9, 2020 via conference call and

Further THAT the board accepts the June 9, 2020 Partnership Advisory Committee meeting minutes as information.

• Carried

2.2.3 Fusarium Graminearum Press Release

Manager Muenchrath presented a request for decision regarding the removal of Fusarium graminearum (fusarium) from the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation as provided in the press release 'Helping Alberta's farmers stay competitive'. A copy of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry press release 'Helping Alberta's farmers stay competitive' was included in the request for decision.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-07

Moved by KOESTER

THAT the Board accept the "Helping Alberta's farmers stay competitive" press release as information.

• Carried

3. REPORTS AND RELATED BUSINESS

3.1 Chair's Report

Chair Wilson presented the Chair's Report. The verbal report highlighted the following: a slow spring; ALUS PAC projects approved; planning and priorities meeting; numerous gopher complaint calls and the future of strychnine sales. The verbal report is included in the recording of the meeting and is posted on the County Website.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-08

Moved by WILSON

THAT the Board accepts the Chair's Report as information, as presented.

• Carried

3.2 Manager of Agriculture and Environment Report

R. Muenchrath presented highlights from the 'Manager of Agriculture and Environment Report'. In addition, Muenchrath provided the following as information: updates on strychnine, mowing, and grain bag collection; the Agriculture and Environment Department Strategic Plan 2021-2023; and the shelterbelt and ecobuffer seedling program. A copy of the report was included in the agenda package.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-09

Moved by BIGGAR

THAT the Board accepts the Manager of Agriculture and Environment Report as information, as provided/presented.

• Carried

3.3 Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact Report

B. Archibald presented the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact Report. The verbal report highlighted the following: update on the Canadian Agriculture Partnership Program (CAP). Assisting with rural extension staff on Webinars, how to do extension virtually, with good response. Staff reductions at the Agriculture information office in Stettler; more reductions in fall in applied research which will be replaced with new organization Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR). This organization will be funding research projects for livestock and crop industries, functional in spring 2021. Government operating system is changing, and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is a trial department for this system. The verbal report is included in the recording of the meeting and is posted on the County Website.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-07-10

Moved by VAN LAAR

THAT the Board accepts the Agriculture and Forestry Key Contact Report as information, as presented.

• Carried

4. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION

5. CLOSED SESSION (IN CAMERA)

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting - time 9:58 A.M.

Chair

GM of Transportation and Agriculture

Recording Secretary

UNAPPROVED COPY