

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
Mountain View County

Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Monday, January 12, 2015, in the Council Chambers, 1408 Twp Rd. 320, Didsbury, AB.

- PRESENT: Councilor J. Sayer
Councilor K. Heck
Councilor D. Milne
Chair E. Iversen
Member G. Cunningham
Member B. Buschert
- IN ATTENDANCE: J. Fulton, Manager of Agricultural Services
Fiona McCarthy, Recording Secretary
Lorelee Grattidge, Sustainable Agricultural Specialist
Chris Chrenek, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
Darcy Alm, Agriculture Coordinator
- ABSENT: Vice-Chair Brian Rodger
Andrew Wild, Communications Coordinator
- CALL TO ORDER: Chair E. Iversen called the meeting to order at 9.05 a.m.
- AGENDA: Moved by Councilor D. Milne
ASB15-001 That the Agricultural Service Board adopts the Agenda for the Agricultural Services Board meeting of January 12, 2015.
Carried.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Moved by Councilor D. Milne
ASB15-002 That the Agricultural Service Board adopts the Minutes of the October 20, 2014, Agricultural Service Board.
Carried.
- NEW BUSINESS
5.2 Nathan Ryan
Next Generation
Next Generation Advisory Council – Delegation - Nathan Ryan.
Nathan is an appointed member of Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development’s Next Generation Advisory Council. His family operates the Fallentimber Meadery. The Council’s role is to provide advice and recommendations to best support and enhance the next generation of agricultural, food and rural entrepreneurs.
Nathan introduced the Next Generation Advisory Council’s recommendations;
1) Enable access to the Industry and its’ resources
2) Develop lifelong learners and leaders
3) Develop industry messaging and communication that speaks with one voice

The Fallentimber Meadery participated in Open Farm Days, Nathan indicated although it did not suit all operations, it was successful for the Meadery.

5.1 Agricultural Service Board Appointments

The following Agricultural Services Board Appointments were ratified (please note Brian Rodger had previously accepted the appointment as Vice Chair);

Moved by Councilor D. Milne

ASB15-003 That the Agricultural Service Board appoint Eric Iversen as Chair. That the Agricultural Services Board appoint Brian Rodger as Vice Chair.

That the Agricultural Service Board appoint Duncan Milne as the Agricultural Service Board representative on the Olds Seed Processing Coop board

That the Agricultural Service Board appoint Brent Buschert as the Agricultural Service Board representative on the Mountain View Seed Cleaning Plant board.

Carried

5.3 2015 Riparian Enhancement Projects Program Review

ASB reviewed the procedure for the applications, qualifications for funding and the definitions in the current program for Riparian Enhancement Grant funding projects. With the addition of ALUS projects which are not always Riparian in nature, Staff suggested the name of the grant fund be changed to "Riparian & Ecological Enhancement Project Funding. Regarding discussions over whether to fund projects which were dugouts, the Agricultural Service Board decided that each Riparian & Ecological project would still be presented to ASB and judged individually on a merit basis, and would be funded at the levels suggested. (Topic continued after Delegation presentation).

5.6 BSE Surveillance In Alberta

Delegation – Dr. Gord Krebs DVM

Dr. Krebs (For Alberta Agriculture) is passing on the message to local producers about BSE Testing. Although Alberta has not had a reported case of BSE since 2011, testing is vital for the protection of the export market.

Dr. Krebs described what producers should be doing according to the regulations, on animals at risk;

- Provide information on the animal's records and clinical history
- Maintain carcass ID (properly affixed tags)
- Secure the carcass until notified of negative BSE results
- Dispose of the carcass properly and timely
- The carcass cannot be used for human consumption

Dr. Krebs advised the ASB that producers would receive \$75 compensation for an animal that was tested.

The Agricultural Service Board suggested putting information on BSE on the Mountain View website, and having information

available at the ASB Conference. The deadline for testing for BSE is April 30, 2015.

5.3 2015 Riparian Enhancement Projects Program Review (continued)

Producers applying for Mountain View County grants will be requested to apply for other grants as well, such as Growing Forward 2. Currently not all Mountain View County Riparian grant funds are being spent, and staff anticipates there is sufficient budget to also include possible pilot ALUS projects. The Agriculture Service Board continued to review the changes to internal procedure 6300-01 Riparian Enhancement Projects Funding, such as the rating form, which now includes ecological projects, (incorporating buffers and native vegetation), as well as looked at the suggested changes in the funding ratios. Copies of the new application form were also reviewed.

ASB15-004 Moved by Councilor J. Sayer

That the Agricultural Service Board recommends approval of the reviewed changes to “Riparian & Ecological Enhancement Projects”, and receives the proposed changes to Internal Procedure #6300-01, Riparian Enhancement Projects for information.

Carried.

ASB15-005 Moved by Councilor D. Milne

That the Agricultural Services Board recommend to Council to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into a Memorandum Of Understanding with ALUS.

Carried.

3.3 Alberta Agriculture

Delegation – Alberta Agriculture Update – Grant Lastiwka Forage/Grazing/Beef specialist Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development

G. Lastiwka briefly discussed forthcoming workshops, and how to prevent overlapping topics in the educational workshops between the rural municipalities and Alberta Agriculture. Workshops are being held now as it is a quiet time for farmers. Clubroot continues to be an ongoing concern. It is important that producers follow best management practices and crop rotation. The Alberta Forage Industry Network has their AGM on February 12th in Olds.

5.5 Voting members for 2015 ASB Conference

Moved by Councilor D. Milne

ASB15-006 That Eric Iversen and Brian Rodger be appointed as voting members for the 2015 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference.

Carried.

IN CAMERA

Moved by Councilor D. Milne

ASB15-007 That the Agriculture Service Board Meeting of January 12

5.8 Farm Family Award 2015, go in camera meeting at 11:45 a.m. Carried.

Moved by Councilor D. Milne
ASB15-008 That the Agriculture Service Board of January 12, 2015 came out of camera at 11:55 a.m.

Carried.

Chair E. Iversen recessed the meeting of Agricultural Services Board at 12:00 p.m. Chair E. Iversen reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. January 12, 2015.

Agriculture Services Board were joined by the following members of the Planning Team Director Margaretha Bloem, Matthew Palow, Manager Planning, Christian Tinney, Planner, and Dolu Gonzalez, Planner.

5.6 Bearberry Area Structure Plan

Delegation Dolu Gonzalez - Planning & Development to discuss the Bearberry - Red Deer River Corridor Area Structure Plan

D. Gonzales introduced the changes to the current Bearberry Area Structure Plan as discussed at the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is 4 members at large and 3 Councilors.

The Agricultural Service Board identified that there seemed to be a contradiction between 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 of the plan, regarding the use of land for CFO's.

"6.3.1 - The use of land within the Agricultural Area shall be primarily for agricultural operations and related activities.

6.3.2 - New or expanded confined operations of a size or intensity that activates an approval under the provisions of the Natural Resource Conservation Board (NRCB) is not preferred in the Plan area."

The Agriculture Service Board felt that this would negatively affect a farmers' ability to stay on the land, to make profits and would take away rights that they currently have.

5.7 Bergen Area Structure Plan

Delegation Christian Tinney - Bergen Area Structure Plan.

The Bergen Area Structure Plan is similar to the Bearberry Area Structure Plan in many ways, but each plan has to be tailored to the land use and physical nature of each area. In the Bergen Area Structure Plan there are regulations concerning the gravel pit seam. Agriculture Service Board felt that 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 should be re-thought for the same reasons given above in the Bearberry Structure Plan. C. Tinney offered to take Agricultural Services Board comments back to the Steering Committee.

INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 a) Seed Plant Updates

Olds Seed Plant - Met on December 8, 2014. Councilor D. Milne did not attend this meeting and has not received feedback.

Mountain View Seed Plant - Member B. Buschert said the last meeting was in November 2014 and another meeting is not scheduled until 1st February 2015.

b) Upcoming Workshops

L. Grattidge introduced the upcoming workshops; Ladies Livestock Lessons January 16, 2015, in Strathmore Ranching Opportunities February 26, 2015, in Olds Farm Succession Planning Workshops February 11, 2015, in Cremona

c) Aspen Ranch Farm

Agricultural Service Department received a “thank you letter” regarding support for the Aspen Ranch Sustainable Agriculture & Farm Safety day, an annual camp for grade 4 children with farm safety demonstrations, Environmental Stewardship and animal demonstration/education by 4-H members.

d) Farm Women Decision & Vision Funding request

Mountain View County received a copy of a request for donation letter, the group is based out of Rocky View County and the M.D. of Foothills. Attendance by Mountain View County residents will be requested for consideration for future support.

7. Next Meeting Date

Next Meeting March 16th. 2015

ASB15-008

Moved by Councilor J. Sayer
That the Meeting of January 12, 2015 be adjourned at 1:45 p.m.
Carried.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are correct.

Manager, Agricultural Services