

MINUTES

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING

Mountain View County

Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Monday, June 15, 2015, in the Council Chamber, 1408 Twp. Rd. 320, Didsbury, AB

PRESENT: Chair E. Iversen
Vice Chair B. Rodger
Councilor K. Heck
Councilor J. Sayer
Councilor D. Milne
Member B. Buschert
Member G. Cunningham

IN ATTENDANCE: Jane Fulton, Manager Agricultural Services
Fiona McCarthy, Recording Secretary
Lorelee Grattidge, Sustainable Agricultural Specialist
Chris Chrenek, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman

CALL TO ORDER: Chair E. Iversen called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

An additional delegation was added to the Agenda, Grant Lastiwka, Forage / Grazing / Beef Specialist, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development at 11:30 a.m.

AGENDA Moved by G. Cunningham
ASB15-024 That Agricultural Service Board adopt the agenda of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting of June 15, 2015 as amended.
Carried.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES Moved by Councilor K. Heck
ASB15-025 That Agricultural Service Board adopt the Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board of April 20, 2015.
Carried.

4.0 OLD BUSINESS

4.1 ALUS Partnership

Lorelee Grattidge reviewed the PAC considerations and the ALUS Project Selection Guidelines, with the Agricultural Service Board. The following endorsements of the guidelines were made;

- That an eligible applicant would be someone who made their living off the land i.e. Farmer or Rancher, and could be Owner or Renter.

-The size of the project and farm/ranch area was not limited but the land had to be in agricultural service.

- In considering applications, the longevity of the project, and the willingness to continue the project after payments had ceased is important.
- Each project will be considered on a case by case basis.
- Farmers would still be encouraged to apply for Growing Forward funds as part of the application process.
- The use of consultants on the first one or two projects was accepted.

The meeting was recessed at 10:15 and reconvened at 10:28

3.0 DELEGATION

3.1 Joan Gabrielson ALUS Coordinator

Joan Gabrielson, ALUS Coordinator gave an overview of ALUS projects from both the perspective of being a coordinator for the County of Vermillion River, and being the recipient of ALUS funds on her family farm.

4.0 OLD BUSINESS

4.1 ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee

Lorelee Grattidge then introduced two ALUS Projects.
N 1/2 14-32-04-05 is a sheep farm (300 units).

ALUS Project - N1/2-14-32-04-W5									
Project Expenses	Estimated Costs	GF2%	MVC%	Acres	Annual Payment	\$ GF2 Allocated	\$ MVC Allocated	Actual Spent	Amount Paid
Fencing	\$6,943.00	70%	30%			\$4,860.10	\$2,082.90		
Fencing Labour/Equipment	\$5,557.00	70%				\$3,889.90	\$0.00		
Seed, Stakes, Plugs	\$6,121.00	70%	30%			\$4,284.70	\$1,836.30		
Planting Labour/Equipment	\$1,800.00	70%				\$1,260.00	\$0.00		
Consultation	\$1,480.00	70%				\$1,036.00	\$0.00		
Reporting/Monitoring	\$1,480.00		100%			\$0.00	\$1,480.00		
3 year Annual Payments									
Restored Wetlands				16.5	\$825.00		\$2,475.00		
Small Native Upland				5.3	\$53.00		\$159.00		
Large Wetland				43	\$86.00		\$258.00		
Total Annual Payment					\$964.00		\$2,892.00		
Totals	\$23,381.00			64.8	\$964.00	\$15,330.70	\$8,291.20		\$ -
Total ALUS Funds							\$36,812.50		\$36,812.50
Total ALUS Funds Remaining							\$28,521.30		\$36,812.50

The second possible application (not received yet) for ALUS Project funds is at S ½ 06-31-26-W4, a Class 4 wetlands on the Kneehills Creek Watershed. This project includes Tame pasture seeding of land and a watering system.

Administration to bring this project back to the next Agricultural Service Board in July 2015.

ASB15-026 Moved by Brian Rodger
That the Agricultural Service Board review and approve the project decision considerations guidelines as discussed, and that the Agricultural Service Board recommend that Mountain View County will enter into three year contracts with successful applicants for ALUS Projects.
Carried

ASB15-027 Moved by Brent Buchert
That the Agricultural Service Board approves funding for the 2015 Mountain View County (MVC) ALUS Project at N ½ 14-32-04-05 as presented for \$8,291.20.
Carried.

DELEGATION

3.2 Grant Lastiwka
Forage/Beef Specialist,
Alberta Agriculture and
Rural Development

Grant Lastiwka addressed the Agricultural Service Board on crop issues related to the very dry weather the Province is currently experiencing. 43% of the Province is rated as having poor soil moisture, and 49% of Hay and pasture conditions are rated as poor. Grant Lastiwka also informed the Board of upcoming workshops such as “Improving the profitability of livestock”, “Sanfoin Training Grazing”, the “2015 Western Canada Conference on Soil Health” from the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta, and the “Soil Carbon Challenge” with Peter Donovan of the Soil Carbon Coalition.

Councilor Duncan Milne and Gordy Cunningham left the meeting at 12:19.
Recess the meeting at 12:19 and reconvene at 12:50 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Riparian & Ecological
Enhancement Projects

NE 36-31-06-W5 is on a tributary of Community Creek, the producer has 20 cow/calf pairs and 8 horses adjacent to a moderate ESA in the Little Red Deer River Watershed – This is a 2014 project and involves 3 creek crossings.

Project NW 02-32-04-W5 – there are 2 dugouts and a well on tributaries to the Dogpound Creek, the producer has 40 cow/calf adjacent to a very high ESA in the Little Red Deer River Watershed.

Project NE 28-33-07-W5 – there are 2 dugouts on tributaries to the Bearberry Creek, the producer has 25 cow/calf, 15 yearlings adjacent to a very high ESA in the James River Watershed.

Project SE 01-22-06-W5 – there is 1 dugout with 50 cow/calf adjacent to a low ESA in the James River Watershed.

Project SW¼ 35-32-06-W5 - the producer has 50 cow/calf pairs adjacent to a very high ESA in the James River Watershed. The board denied funding for project SW ¼ 35-32-06-W5,

ASB15-029 Moved by Brian Rodger

That the Agricultural Service Board approves funding for the 2015 Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) Riparian and Ecological Enhancement Projects for; SE ¼ 01-33-06-W5, SE ¼ 01-33-06-W5, NW ¼ 02-32-04-W5 and NE ¼ 28-33-07-W5 for a total of \$6,271.

Carried.

Moved by Brian Rodger

ASB15-028 That the MVC Riparian & Ecological Enhancement Project on NE 36-31-06-W5 for 3 creek crossings be approved for funding at \$1,322.

Carried

4.0 OLD BUSINESS (continued)

4.2 Summer Synergy Participation

Any member wishes to attend the Summer Synergy event, at Olds Exhibition to let staff know by June 26 2015. The County Banner would be at the event and displayed ringside.

4.3 Agricultural Service Board Shop

The deadline for the Request for Proposal for the new Agricultural Shop is June 30th, 2015. 3 councilors and Administration will review the proposals, and then presentation will be made to Council at the Regular Council meeting of July 8th 2015.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

5.2 Update Clubroot Pathotypes

Jane Fulton gave a verbal update on the Clubroot situation in Alberta.

6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 a) Seed Plant Updates

There were no seed cleaning plant updates this meeting.

6.1 b) Workshop Updates

Lorelee Grattidge introduced the Agricultural Services Board to two forthcoming workshops the "Christie Jones Building Soils 2" workshop on July 23, 2015, and the "Bees, Trees and More" Workshop on July 7th, 2015. Lorelee Grattidge also updated the Board on several other workshops that had already been held and notified the Board the Beaver workshop had been cancelled.

6.1 c) Eagle Hill 4H Beef & Multi Club

Eagle Hill 4H Beef and Multi Club invited Mountain View County Agricultural Services Board (as a Gold Sponsor) to an Award night & Supper on June 29, 2015. Councilor Ken Heck will be attending on behalf of Mountain View County.

6.1 d) Resolutions &
Responses

Included in the package were the 2015 Resolutions and Responses for the Agricultural Services Board to review. At the next Agricultural Service Board Meeting the Board will be asked to provide scores on the Resolutions and Responses for the Provincial Agricultural Service Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by E. Iversen
ASB15-030 That the Agricultural Service Board meeting of June 15, 2015 be adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Carried.

Next meeting Monday, July 20, 2015

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are correct.

Chief Administrative Officer