AGENDA

Monday, January 6, 2020
9:00 AM
Council Chambers
County Administration Building

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. CONSENT AGENDA
   3.1 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes, December 18, 2019
   3.2 Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Information Items

4. DELEGATIONS

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
   5.1 Draft Emergent Resolution for Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference – Fuel Charge Exemption – Report

6. NEW BUSINESS
   6.1 2020 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Planning – Report

7. INFORMATION ITEMS
   7.1 2019 Agricultural Bursary Thank You Correspondence – Jacob Parker – Report

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

9. ADJOURN
Agricultural Service Board Meeting
MINUTES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019
Council Chambers
County Administration Building

Present
Board Member Ken Adair
Board Member Josh Bishop
Board Member Stephan Dewald
Board Member Bill Krahm
Board Member Garth Parker
Board Member Kathy Rooyakkers
Board Member Mike Schmidt

Staff Present
Stephen Majek, Director of Agricultural Services
Kim Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator
Jeff Chipley, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Carmen Reimer, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER
The Agricultural Service Board meeting for the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 was called to order by Chairperson J. Bishop in the Council Chambers of the County of Wetaskiwin Administration Office, commencing at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2019.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Resolution AG20191218.001
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair
that the Agenda be accepted as presented.
Carried Unanimously

3. CONSENT AGENDA
Resolution AG20191218.002
MOVED: by Board Member M. Schmidt
that Council approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:
• Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes, October 30, 2019
• Agricultural Service Board Organizational Meeting Minutes, October 30, 2019
• Director of Agricultural Services Report for October 23, 2019 to December 18, 2019
• Agricultural Services Project Costing Report to November 30, 2019
• Sustainable Agriculture Report for November 1, 2019 to December 18, 2019
• Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Information Items
• Horticultural Report for October 22, 2019 to November 20, 2019
Carried Unanimously

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
5.1 von Arx Properties Leasing Agreements – December Update – Report
Resolution AG20191218.003
MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald
that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Lease Agreements between the County of Wetaskiwin and Mr. Paul Kalk, Mr. George Heslup, Mr. Nagib Krameddine, and Mr.
Agricultural Service Board Meeting, December 18, 2019

Tim Lessing as presented and further recommend to County of Wetaskiwin Council for final ratification.

Carried Unanimously


Resolution AG20191218.004
MOVED: by Board Member K. Rooyakkers

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the updated details regarding the 2020 Provincial Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Conference as information.

Carried Unanimously

5.3 2020 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Provincial Conference Resolutions – Report

Resolution AG20191218.005
MOVED: by Board Member B. Krahn

that the Agricultural Service Board table discussions regarding the Resolutions that will be presented at the 2020 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Provincial Conference to later in the meeting due to time constraints.

Carried Unanimously

4. 9:30 A.M. DELEGATION – Inside education

A delegation consisting of Mr. Andre Morson, Educator, and Ms. Kathryn Wagner, Program Director, from Inside education entered the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

4.1 Inside education – Teacher Professional Development Programs – Report

Resolution AG20191218.006
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair

that the Agricultural Service Board work with Inside education to create a proposal for a Professional Development Day for teachers for consideration by Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools.

Carried Unanimously

The delegation left the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.4 2020 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Provincial Conference Resolutions – Report

Resolution AG20191218.007
MOVED: by Board Member M. Schmidt

that Administration investigate the inclusion of the removal of livestock into the Emergency Management Plan of the County of Wetaskiwin.

Carried Unanimously

Resolution AG20191218.008
MOVED: by Board Member G. Parker

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Resolutions that will be presented at the 2020 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Provincial Conference as information.

Carried Unanimously

6. NEW BUSINESS
6.1 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Strategic Planning – Report
Resolution AG20191218.009
MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald
that the Agricultural Service Board host the Strategic Planning Session in-house on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 9 a.m. at the County of Wetaskiwin.
Carried Unanimously

6.2 Young Agrarians – Central Alberta Mixer Sponsorship Request – Report
Resolution AG20191218.010
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair
that the Agricultural Service Board deny the request for sponsorship funding for the Young Agrarians Central Alberta Mixer as funds have not been allocated in either the 2019 Budget or 2020 Interim Budget and the event is not covered under Grants to Organizations Policy 12.3.2.
Carried Unanimously

6.3 Trapping & Snaring in the County of Wetaskiwin – Report
Resolution AG20191218.011
MOVED: by Board Member K. Rooyakkers
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the discussions regarding trapping and snaring as information.
Carried Unanimously

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

Resolution AG20191218.012
MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald
that an emergent resolution be created for the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Conference for an exemption to the federal fuel charge for all farm/agricultural uses.
Carried Unanimously

7.2 Mountain Pine Beetle Funding – Report
Resolution AG20191218.013
MOVED: by Board Member K. Rooyakkers
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Mountain Pine Beetle correspondence as information.
Carried Unanimously

8. NEXT MEETING DATE
Resolution AG20191218.014
MOVED: by Board Member B. Krahn
that the date of the next Agricultural Service Board meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
Carried Unanimously

9. ADJOURN
Resolution AG20191218.015
MOVED: by Board Member B. Krahn
that the meeting adjourn at 11:08 a.m.

Carried Unanimously

_________________________
CHAIRMAN

_________________________
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Information Items - Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2020/01/06

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background
The ALUS e-newsletter titled: "The Post, December 2019: Season’s Greetings from ALUS Canada!" is provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.
The Post, December 2019:
Season's Greetings from ALUS Canada!

Season's greetings from all of us at ALUS Canada!
[Click here to watch the video]
In this issue

1. Here’s to 2019!
2. Give them what they really need.
3. Flood prevention in eastern Ontario
4. Thinking about future generations in Quebec
5. Meet Charlie and Theresa Maltais from ALUS Brazeau, Alberta

What is ALUS?

ALUS Canada, A Weston Family Initiative, is a national program helping farmers and ranchers produce cleaner air, cleaner water, more biodiversity and other ecosystem services in their communities. As a recent Alberta Emerald Award-winner, and guided by a Clean16 Award-winning team, ALUS Canada is a recognized leader in sustainability that is revolutionizing the way Canadians support the environment. For more, visit ALUS.ca

DONATE NOW: Click here to help create a healthy landscape that sustains agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for all Canadians, one acre at a time.
Here's to 2019!

As 2019 draws to a close, the ALUS Canada team wants to wish you the very best for 2020 and thank everyone who helped make this ALUS' most successful year so far!

A few highlights:

- **New funding:** TD Bank Group became the first corporate sponsor to invest in ALUS Canada's New Acre™ Project; And the *Intact* Foundation pledged nearly $250,000 to fund ALUS projects near Ottawa, Calgary and Brandon.

- **PEI:** Innovative ALUS pilot program for *grassland bird* conservation shows positive results and gains federal support from SARPAL.

- **Quebec:** ALUS Montérégie hosted 25 ALUS communities at this year's national ALUS field conference; Quebec's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Fonds d'Appui au Rayonnement des Régions (FARR) program provided $160,000 to ALUS Montérégie!

- **Ontario:** Successful "A Taste of ALUS" reception at Queen's Park co-hosted MPP Toby Barrett; Ontario Trillium Foundation funding for six ALUS communities and
ALUS guidebooks; official launch events for new communities of ALUS Chatham-Kent and ALUS Middlesex!

- **Manitoba**: ALUS Canada, the GROW program and the Conservation Trust greatly increased conservation funding for ALUS projects in the province; launched the new community of ALUS Seine Rat River!

- **Saskatchewan**: Funding of nearly $140,000 from the Government of Canada’s Lake Winnipeg Basin Program, benefiting ALUS Saskatchewan Assiniboine Project (ASAP) and ALUS Little Saskatchewan River; ALUS Canada’s annual strategic planning and board meetings on location in Saskatoon this fall.

- **Alberta**: Work is on track for the Modeste Natural Infrastructure Project, funded by a $720,000 grant from Alberta Environment and Parks’ Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program; ALUS active at Rural Municipalities of Alberta’s Spring and Fall Conventions; 2019 Dave Reid Awards presented in Red Deer County; announced the new community of ALUS Vulcan!

---

**Give them what they really need!**
This year, I’m giving the gift of cleaner air, cleaner water and better wildlife habitat.

ALUS.ca

Make a meaningful donation in honour of someone special this holiday season!
ALUS Canada’s seasonal fundraising campaign supports vulnerable wildlife species and ecosystems that thrive on ALUS projects. When you donate in honour of someone on your gift list, you can send them a beautiful, free e-card celebrating some of the vulnerable birds, dragonflies, pollinators and fragile ecosystems your gift will help to support (click to see all the options on our CanadaHelps page).
PLUS: No stock photos here! Our series of beautiful birds and pollinators were photographed on site by scientific researchers working on ALUS farms this past summer. Read all about them on our website here.

Flood Prevention in Eastern Ontario
As part of their support to ALUS Canada, Intact helped fund a tour of ALUS Ontario East projects, allowing members of the public to meet farmers Kurt MacSweyn, Mike MacGillivray, Christian Lalande, André Pommainville and Marc Bercier to find out why they participate in ALUS and how they produce cleaner air, cleaner water and more biodiversity for the community. Read more...

---

**Thinking about future generations in Quebec**

![Image of ALUS Montérégie participant Olivier Martin](image)

ALUS Montérégie participant Olivier Martin, from Saint Mathias-sur-Richelieu, Quebec, grows field crops and raises hogs on his 2,000-acre farm, while also managing three important ALUS projects intended to produce ecosystem services to benefit the environment and the local community. Read more...

---

**Meet Charlie and Theresa Maltais from ALUS Brazeau, Alberta**
"I like being part of ALUS because it is making a difference," says Charlie Maltais, ALUS Brazeau’s original participant, who has devoted 45 acres to the production of cleaner water in Alberta’s Modeste subwatershed. Read the story here...
Foundational Partner

DELTA

ALUS
Canada

New Acre™
Project.

Make a difference. Make an acre.

A Weston Family Initiative

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2020/01/06

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

At the December 12, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting, the Board resolved that an emergent resolution be created for the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Provincial Conference for an exemption to the federal fuel charge for all farm/agricultural uses.
(Ref. Resolution #AG20191218.012)

Administration has drafted a resolution for review by the Agricultural Service Board, which has been provided.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board review the Fuel Charge Exemption Emergent Resolution and provide Administration with input in order to finalize the resolution prior to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board review the Fuel Charge Exemption Emergent Resolution and provide Administration with input in order to finalize the resolution prior to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference.
FEDERAL FUEL CHARGE

WHEREAS the Federal Fuel Charge (Carbon Tax) mandated under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act came into effect in Alberta on January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS the Federal Fuel Charge amount varies by fuel product offering and the Federal Government has announced targeting relief for certain sectors and individuals including farmers; and

WHEREAS the Climate Leadership Implementation Act effective January 1, 2017 states “that every recipient shall pay a carbon levy on purchases of natural gas and propane”; and

WHEREAS as purchasers, farmers cannot pass the additional costs on to consumers or international markets; and

WHEREAS certain categories of customers are exempt from paying the Federal Fuel Charge, including:

- Farmers for gasoline, light fuel oil (diesel);
- Fishers for gasoline, light fuel oil (diesel);
- Registered Distributors;
- Registered Air Carriers;
- Registered Rail Carriers;
- Registered Road Carriers;
- Remote Power Plant Operators that generate Electricity for remote Communities for light fuel oil; and
- A partial exemption at eighty per cent (80 %) for propane supplied to Greenhouse operators; and

WHEREAS propane and natural gas used by many farming operations in their agricultural production is not included in the list of eligible exemptions; and

WHEREAS under the Act (which Act?) eligible machinery means property that is primarily used for the purpose of farming and that is a farm truck or tractor, a vehicle not licensed to be operated on a public road, an industrial machine, or a stationary or portable engine,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST
that the Government of Alberta jointly lobby the Government of Canada with Alberta’s Agricultural Service Boards and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) to provide an exemption for all (consumption) of propane and natural gas for all recognized agricultural production, (including, but not limited to grain farming, greenhouse, etc).
SPONSORED BY: County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

MOVED BY: __________________________

SECONDED BY: ________________________

CARRIED: ____________________________

DEFEATED: __________________________

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and Alberta Environment and Energy.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Copy of the Backgrounder targeted Relief for Farmers and Fishers, and Residents of Rural and Remote Communities

Fuel Charge Exemption Certificate for Farmers
2020 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Planning – Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2020/01/06

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

Annually, the Agricultural Service Board holds a Strategic Planning Session. The Agricultural Service Board provides direction to Administration on how they would like the Agriculture Department to move forward.

A copy of the Agricultural Service Board Strategic Planning presentation as compiled by Administration has been provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board provide direction through the Strategic Planning Session for 2020 Strategic Plan for Agricultural Services with Administration to bring forward a finalized Strategic Plan based on the feedback received for consideration at the next Agricultural Service Board meeting.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board provide direction through the Strategic Planning Session for 2020 Strategic Plan for Agricultural Services with Administration to bring forward a finalized Strategic Plan based on the feedback received for consideration at the next Agricultural Service Board meeting.
Business Unit: Agriculture
• Vision
  – Strong proactive leadership, safe progressive communities.

• Mission
  – The County of Wetaskiwin provides transparent governance in the allocation of resources to deliver quality services in a sustainable manner.

• Core Values
  – Ethical: Ensure and promote integrity, honesty and accountability in all our dealings.
  – Service-Focused: Provide services reliably, effectively and efficiently.
  – Leadership: Provide leadership to establish respect and promote trust through a teamwork concept.
  – Safety: Provide safe, healthy and productive work environments and promote job satisfaction.
  – Collaboration: Promote communication and collaboration with internal and external stakeholders.
  – Sustainability: Conduct all our business with fiscal responsibility to ensure long-term sustainability.
Strategic Priorities

• Develop Agricultural Service Board Communication Strategy on key issues
  – Confirm Weed Enforcement Strategy with Council and Agriculture Service Board (ASB)
  – Host Agriculture Service Board Conference internal to County
Core Services: Agricultural Services

Core Services

- Administration
- Pest Management
- Producer Awareness
- Vegetation Management
- Water Management
The Agricultural Service Board of the County of Wetaskiwin is responsible for numerous facets of promoting and sustaining agricultural production within the County’s boundaries.

Legislation in the form of the *Weed Control Act*, the *Pest Control Act*, the *Water Act*, the *Soil Conservation Act*, the *Agricultural Operations Practices Act* and the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* help the County set policies to ensure that producers are using sound farming practices on their land.
Core Service: Agricultural Administration

Core Outcome

Ensure the long-term sustainability of agriculture
• Provide three $1,000.00 bursaries to residents with co-terminus boundaries of the County who have entered into agriculture related post secondary education
Core Service: Pest Management

Department Plans

• Provide beaver control measures on County owned property including road allowances and water management projects
• Provide Beaver dam removal on private property at cost
• Develop a Communication Strategy on key issues
• Educate the public regarding problems with flooding issues due to beavers
Core Service: Pest Management

Department Plans

• Educate residents regarding control strategies and options for the prevention of pests
  – Surveys performed by the Service Board include: Weed, Grasshopper, Clubroot, Fusarium Headblight and Bertha Army Worm.
  – Crop reporting

• Educate the public on control techniques other than poison for ground squirrel control
Core Service: Pest Management

Department Plans

• Provide coyote control devices to producers
• Purchase and distribute strychnine-based product for producers to help control ground squirrels
Producer Awareness promotes programs relating to agriculture using various communication strategies.
Core Service: Producer Awareness

Department Plans

• Develop a Communication Strategy on key issues.

• Host a one-day Conference.
Core Service: Producer Awareness

Department Plans

• Educate the public through the Environmental stream of the ASB Grant program on sustainable agriculture practices
  – Continue Partnership with Leduc County?
  – Confined Feeding Operation, Horse Nut & Pasture Management, Environmental Farm Plan, Long Term Water Management Plan
Core Service: Producer Awareness

Department Plans

• Educate & Encourage environmental Stewardship along riparian areas and around lakes.
Core Service: Producer Awareness

Department Plans

• Educate the public through the horticultural practices
Core Service: Producer Awareness

Department Plans

- Rent equipment to producers that cannot be rented through the private sector
• Inspect annually the Wetaskiwin Seed Plant operations
Core Service: Producer Awareness

- Enforce the Agricultural Pests Act.
1. What changes to Service Levels does Service Board/Council want to see in order to better meet stakeholder needs?

2. What are the risks to delivering that level of service?

3. What Resources are required in order for Administration to achieve these changes in Service Levels?
The County of Wetaskiwin is committed to helping producers maximize crop production as well as the prevention of losses through sound agricultural programs.
Core Service: Vegetation Management

Department Plans

• Educate the public regarding prohibited noxious and noxious weeds
• Communicate with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to be more diligent on weed control on Primary and Secondary Highways
Core Service: Vegetation Management

Department Plans

• Implement an effective integrated vegetation management program to control noxious and prohibited noxious weeds in right of ways.
• Maintain one permanent pesticide container site and several temporary sites for the disposal of pesticide containers

• Partner with City of Wetaskiwin for weed inspection services on a user pay plus basis with the hiring of one seasonal FTE
Core Service: Vegetation Management

Department Plans

- Inspect annually all accessible properties within the County of Wetaskiwin for noxious and prohibited noxious weeds
Core Service: Vegetation Management

Department Plans

• Enforce the Weed Control Act.
• Develop a Communication Strategy on key issues
  – Host weed ID workshops
  – Provide label and product information to producers
Agricultural Services attempts to secure funding to complete water management projects where flooding of agricultural land is a concern to producers.
Core Service: Water Management

Department Plans

• Participate as a facilitator in water management projects where County infrastructure is affected.

• Develop 10-year plan for water management projects affecting County infrastructure.
1. What changes to Service Levels does Council want to see in order to better meet stakeholder needs?

2. What are the risks to delivering that level of service?

3. What Resources are required in order for Administration to achieve these changes in Service Levels?
Background
On October 30, 2019, the Agricultural Service Board resolved to award three (3) Agricultural Bursaries to Tristan Rasmuson, Miranda Wirch, and Jacob Parker, all of whom have not previously received the Agricultural Bursary. (Ref. Resolution #AG20191030.014)

Administration has received the following thank you card from Mr. Jacob Parker, which reads as follows:

“Thank you for the 2019 Agricultural Bursary this will help me focus on my studies and is greatly appreciated.”

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the thank you card from Mr. Jacob Parker regarding his selection as a 2019 Agricultural Bursary recipient as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the thank you card from Mr. Jacob Parker regarding his selection as a 2019 Agricultural Bursary recipient as information.
Thank you for the 2019 Agricultural Bursary - this will help me focus on my studies and is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jade Parker