AGENDA
Tuesday, May 19, 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 Minutes, March 11, 2020

   3.2 May 2020 Director of Agricultural Services Report

   3.3 March - April 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Report

   3.4 April - May 2020 Horticulturist Report

   3.5 Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Information Items

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS


   Jeff Chipley, Stephen Majek

5. NEW BUSINESS

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

   6.1 Soil Conservation Act – Appointment of Appeal Committee – Report

   Stephen Majek

   6.2 Farm Safety Centre – 2020 Funding Thank You Correspondence – Report

   Stephen Majek

   6.3 News Release – Championing Alberta’s Agriculture Sector – Report

   Stephen Majek

6.5 News Release – Supporting Alberta’s Agriculture Industry – Report

7. NEXT MEETING DATE

8. ADJOURN
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 9:06 a.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Resolution AG20200311.001
MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald
that the Agenda be accepted as presented.
Carried Unanimously

3. CONSENT AGENDA
Resolution AG20200311.002
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair
that the Agricultural Service Board approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:
- Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes, January 6, 2020;
- March 2020 Director of Agricultural Services Report; and
- January - February 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Report
Carried Unanimously

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
5.1 Weed Inspection Services Agreement with the City of Wetaskiwin – Withdrawal of Previous Direction – Report
Resolution AG20200311.003
MOVED: by Board Member M. Schmidt
that the Agricultural Service Board rescind Resolution #AG20191030.016 in its entirety and continue to provide services as per the Weed Inspection Services Agreement with the City of Wetaskiwin.
5.2 2020 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Planning Outcomes – Report
Resolution AG20200311.004
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the Outcomes of the January 6, 2020 Strategic Planning Session as presented and forward to County of Wetaskiwin Council for final approval.

Carried Unanimously

5.3 Weed Enforcement Process for 2020 Season – Report
A delegation consisting of Joan Miller, Director of JEDI entered the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Resolution AG20200311.005
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair
that Administration create a detailed Weed Enforcement written plan, including a template for producers to create a weed mitigation plan, and disseminate the documents to the Agricultural Service Board Members via email, for comment, no later than April 15, 2020.

Carried Unanimously

4. 9:30 A.M. DELEGATION – Joan Miller, Director of JEDI
4.1 Hosting an Agricultural Conference in Wetaskiwin – March 2020 Update – Report
Resolution AG20200311.006
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the update regarding the Agricultural Forum as information and that Administration continue to work with JEDI to collaborate ideas for the Forum.

Carried Unanimously

6. RECESS
The meeting recessed at 10:35 a.m. and Ms. Miller left the meeting.

7. RECONVENED
The meeting reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

8. NEW BUSINESS
8.1 Farm Safety Centre – Funding for 2020 – Report
Resolution AG20200311.007
MOVED: by Board Member M. Schmidt
that as the Farm Safety Centre is included in the Grants to Organizations Policy #12.3.2, the Agricultural Service Board accept the request for funding from the Farm Safety Centre as information.

Carried Unanimously

9. INFORMATION ITEMS
9.1 New Grain Dryer Program for Farmers Hit with Tough Harvest – Report
Resolution AG20200311.008
MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence regarding the new 
Efficient Grain Dryer Program for farmers hit with tough harvest as information.

Carried Unanimously

10. CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Council will be discussing the Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator Position, therefore the 
meeting should be closed to the public, pursuant to Section 197 of the Municipal 
Government Act, 2000, Chapter M-26 and amendments thereto, and the Freedom of 
Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, 
Section 17, Disclosure harmful to personal privacy (including personnel issues).

Resolution AG20200311.009
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair

that the meeting be closed to the public, at 10:46 a.m., pursuant to Section 197 of the Municipal Government Act, 2000, Chapter M-26 and amendments thereto, and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, Section 17, Disclosure harmful to personal privacy (including personnel issues).

Carried Unanimously

Resolution AG20200311.010
MOVED: by Board Member M. Schmidt

that the meeting be opened to the public at 10:51 a.m.

Carried Unanimously

Resolution AG20200311.011
MOVED: by Board Member M. Schmidt

that the Agricultural Service Board recommend to the County of Wetaskiwin Council to approve interim funding allocated from the Agricultural Services Budget to maintain continuity of the position and programs of Sustainable Agricultural Coordinator effective January 1, 2020 until funding confirmation is received.

Carried Unanimously

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

Resolution AG20200311.012
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair

that the date of the next Agricultural Service Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, 
May 19, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Carried Unanimously

12. ADJOURN

Resolution AG20200311.013
MOVED: by Board Member B. Krahn

that the meeting adjourn at 10:58 a.m.

Carried Unanimously

_________________________
CHAIRMAN
Overall the budget for Agricultural Services is well under budget with approximately $215,000 in expenditures of the $923,000 budget. Due to the delay in the ASB Grant Process, seasonal staff commencing work on May 1 and expenditures only until April 30, a full detailed project costing report will be presented at the next ASB Meeting.

Seasonal Staff for 2020 started on May 1 with the exception of the Roadside Mowers and the Beaver Trapper. The Beaver Trapper started on May 4 and the Mower Operators will start June 1.

Strychnine sales have been relatively slow despite the announcement by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) to discontinue the registration of strychnine. The County will be able to sell product until March 4, 2022 and producers will have until March 4, 2023 to use the product that they have purchased.

Rental equipment has been rented a few times so far this year with the weather getting warmer and vegetation starting to grow we expect that they will be rented more often now.

Administration completed the changes and updates to the Agricultural Service Board Strategic Business Plan which were in turn taken to Council and accepted.

Administration has completed some minor Building Maintenance projects including bathroom renovations to the Battle Lake House. Flooring replacement in the East Wing should happen in mid-May.

The Horticulturist started on April 1, 2020 working two days one week and three the next week from April until the end of October. She has been busy with Mountain Pine Beetle and ensuring producers have access to the Verbenone Pouches. In 2019 the County purchased and resold 500 pouches in 2020 the County has purchased and presold 1,250 pouches.

Administration has been working with Public Works on Agricultural Plastics Recycling. One of the biggest issues for Plastic Recycling is accommodating the additional space required at each Transfer Station for the additional bins for the plastics. Each collection site is required to have enough room for a semi-truck to maneuver around and not all of the transfer sites in the County have that much space. Administration will continue to work with Public Works (Solid Waste) to find a solution.

Administration has been working with Inside Agriculture to develop a Professional Development Day for School Teachers in the Wetaskiwin Regional Public School (WRPS) Division. Administration and Inside Agriculture were going
to meet with WRPS at the end of April to discuss the opportunities, however COVID 19 has prevented both WRPS and the County from hosting non-essential meetings.

The County issued 82 Weed Notices in 2019 for the 2020 growing season, the Weed Inspectors have been in contact with 77 of the 82 Weed Notice recipients to discuss their plans for 2020. Most have said that they were planning on spraying prior to their Notice becoming due with only a couple producers expressing interest in developing a written plan. The Weed Inspectors have noted their discussions in each case file respectively.

Administration has been working with JEDI to bring forward an Agricultural Forum in the fall. November 26 has been selected as the date for the Forum with Lakedell as the host facility. The committee will continue to provide updates to the Service Board and Council throughout the summer.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Majek
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM: March-April 2020

Began working from home March 26

Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP)

- All programs related to primary producers are accepting applications except Products to Markets (Small Projects)
- Product to Markets (Small Projects) was open and accepting applications for less than three weeks (April 15 – May 4) before it was fully subscribed for the year. Highlights the benefit of subscribing to the CAP website.
- A new primary producer program is under development; however, no details have been released yet.

Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and EFP Operations Committee

- Eight new EFP accounts started
- Seven EFPs completed and reviewed
- March 12 – EFP Study Hall, Leduc County office – 1 producer
- March 17 – EFP Study Hall, County of Wetaskiwin office – CANCELLED
- March 25 – EFP Technician Species at Risk training – Virtual, all day
- EFP Operations Committee – review of Chapter Two

Sustainable Agriculture Activities

- Seasonal workshop planning and subsequent postponement
- Environmental Farm Plan support
- Agricultural Service Board Grant 2020-2024 – provided details for the Resource Management Funding Stream component
- Agricultural Service Board 2019 Grant Report – gathered information
- ASB News and Views Newsletter – articles prepared and submitted to publisher
- March 3 – Working Well Workshop – Rolly View Hall - (37 people)
- April 14 – Reaching out While Staying In – A webinar on remote extension. Collaboration by ALUS Canada and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry staff
- April 23 – Maskwa, Bigstone and Pipestone Creek water sample collection, various locations

Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) – Coordinator Activity Report

- New project proposal and participant contract preparation. Producer inquiries
- 2020-2021 Alberta Conservation Association (ACA), Community and Education Grant application was successful.
- Edited ALUS database spreadsheets to prepare for database migration to web based application.
- Prepared Dave Reid Award Nomination – Tin Forest Farm
- April 22 – Partnership Advisory Committee Meeting – Used Microsoft Teams video conference
- ALUS 2019 Financial Confirmation Package preparation
- ALUS Western Hub, monthly virtual check-in meetings

**Postponed/Cancelled workshops:**

- March 18 – Weed Workshop – Glen Park Hall, ALUS info table
- March 24 – Open Farm Days Info Session – Rolly View Hall, Assist Local Food Coordinator
- April 17 – Willow Cutting Workshop – Bigstone Creek. Partnership event with the Agro-forestry and Woodlot Extension Society
MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE

When I returned on April 1st Steve Majek had already ordered 750 Verbenone pheromone pouches from West Green Global Technologies. These were all spoken for so we ordered another 500 and only have 20 remaining to sell. Our distribution dates will be May 13 and June 3 from the Agriculture Services Shop. The pouches are being sold for $10.00 each (GST included). I have confirmed one more farm site with a mountain pine beetle attack.

FARM CALLS

Some of the problems I’ve seen on farm calls or discussed are; pine webworm, sun scalding, white pine weevil, porcupine damage, black knot of cherry, spider mites, cooley spruce gall adelgid, elm pruning ban, northern pocket gophers, pollinators, landscape plan, tree and shrub selection, tree nurseries, mouse and rabbit damage, and raised gardens.

MAINTENANCE

Flower beds and rain garden have been cleaned up, grasses cut down, apple tree and shrubs pruned, and some perennials split.
The Post, March 2020:
A special update from ALUS Canada

The Post: A special update from ALUS Canada (March 2020)

*Veuillez noter que la version française (Le Portail) suivra sous peu à tous ceux qui ont sélectionné le français dans leurs paramètres d'abonnement. Merci!
In this issue

- A message from ALUS Canada’s CEO Bryan Gilvesy
- Thank you for making a difference
- Nearly $1M in DFO funding for aquatic species at risk in the Prairies
- Canadian Agricultural Partnership in Alberta provides nearly $450,000
- Call for nominations: Innovation Awards 2020
- ALUS across Canada —
  - EASTERN HUB: Meet Marc Vanden Bussche
  - PRAIRIE HUB: ALUS making waves in the Lake Winnipeg Basin
  - WESTERN HUB: ALUS Mountain View’s 5th anniversary
- ALUS in the news
- Social media: Our top post this season

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 an Alberta Emerald Award-winner 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.
A Message from our CEO

These are unprecedented times that will challenge us all. I have always found it prudent to prepare for the worst while hoping for the best. At ALUS Canada we are committed to continuing to support our communities and programming through this difficult time.

ALUS Canada is already a work-from-home, geographically dispersed organization that is ready and able to continue to support our community partners as before. We’ve had all the needed systems and training in place for years. We are also adding new work-from-home staff and some powerful technological tools to our arsenal, starting next week.

We are proud to be connected to so many dedicated people in every ALUS community across this country, in particular Canadian farmers and ranchers for all the things that they do. In addition to caring for their families and their neighbours, they also keep caring for their animals, their land, and their ALUS projects, day in, day out. It is hard to over-estimate the importance of those who keep feeding Canadians during uncertain times. Now, more than ever, farmers deserve everyone’s gratitude and support.

We hope this newsletter offers a bit of distraction to those who need some, and reminds us all that we are all part of the great ALUS family, all working together toward a better future.

Let’s look out for one another.

Bryan Gilvesy
CEO, ALUS Canada

Thank you for making a difference
We crunch the numbers at this time every year, and today, we want to thank everyone for helping ALUS make a positive impact, year after year. In total, ALUS Canada has disbursed more than $10M in funding to 27 ALUS communities in six provinces (PEI, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta), where more than 900 participants have enrolled more than 27,000 acres in the ALUS program. That’s more than 109 square kilometres! And over the past year, we provided more funding to more Canadian communities, participating farmers and ranchers, and ALUS projects than ever before. Thank you to everyone for coming together to make a difference with us. Read more about ALUS’ impact here.

ALUS announces nearly $1M in new federal funding for aquatic species at risk in the Prairies

ALUS Canada has received $983,000 in funding from the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species At Risk (CNFASAR), a Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) program. This
important new contribution will allow ALUS to launch a project entitled “Engaging Farmers and Ranchers to Improve Ecosystems for Aquatic Species at Risk,” to improve aquatic habitat in the Prairies over the next four years. This new funding will flow to eight ALUS communities in the South Saskatchewan River and the Assiniboine River watershed basins, all lying within the CNFASAR Southern Prairies Priority Area, to improve riparian wildlife habitat on 1,325 acres (five square kilometers) of wetlands and riparian areas.

Read more here.

The Canadian Agricultural Partnership in Alberta provides nearly $450,000 to ALUS Canada

ALUS Canada has received nearly $450,000 in new funding by the Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change program of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership in Alberta, a partnership between Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Alberta’s Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The new project, entitled “ALUS Program Innovation and
Collaborative Learning in Alberta,” will benefit all ALUS communities in Alberta over two years. Read more here.

Call for nominations: Innovation Awards 2020

ALUS Canada is currently accepting nominations for two important Awards: the Dave Reid Award, recognizing innovation in the production of ecosystem services on Canadian farms and ranches; and for the Weston Family Ecosystem Innovation Award, recognizing excellence and innovation in scientific research, monitoring or verification of ecosystem services on working farmlands. If you know someone who would be an outstanding candidate for either of this year’s Awards—or if you wish to self-nominate—please fill out the nomination forms and send them in by April 17, 2020.

Learn more about the Dave Reid Award (formerly known as the ALUS Canada Producer Innovation Award) HERE.

& Learn more about the Weston Family Ecosystem Innovation Award HERE.
A longstanding ALUS champion, Marc Vanden Bussche recently extended his support with a $10,000 New Acre™ Project sponsorship through his company, Vanden Bussche Irrigation & Equipment, a fourth-generation, family-run, international full service irrigation business. This sponsorship is contributing to the production of ecosystem services on more than 20 acres of ALUS projects in ALUS Montérégie, ALUS Vermilion River, ALUS WUQWATR and ALUS Norfolk. Read more here.

PRAIRIE HUB: ALUS making waves in the Lake Winnipeg Basin
In 2019, the Government of Canada’s Lake Winnipeg Basin Program announced nearly $140,000 in funding to ALUS Canada for important natural infrastructure work in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Not long after that, the ALUS Little Saskatchewan River (ALUS LSR) program organized a tour of newly funded projects that will have a positive impact on the environment. For one, ALUS participant Dennis Pedersen is creating new riparian buffer projects in a frequently flooded area. This will help him retain nutrients on his fields and improve water quality in the wetlands and creeks on his land, which will also benefit downstream communities and lakes. Read more here.

**WESTERN HUB: ALUS Mountain View celebrates its 5th anniversary**
In what will likely go down as the last ALUS event of the season, the ALUS Mountain View program marked its five-year milestone with a very successful community-wide celebration at Mayfair Cinema on February 29, 2020. Since 2015, ALUS Mountain View County has enrolled 1,388 acres into ALUS, for projects now stewarded by 31 participants. Congratulations to Program Coordinator Lorelee Grattidge, PAC Chair Brian Rodger, and everyone involved the ALUS program in Mountain View County for a job well done. Read more here.

ALUS in the News

Top 10 media articles about ALUS this season:


_________________________________

**Social media:**
**Our top post this season**

Join our online community! There’s a lot happening each week on ALUS Canada [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#). As a teaser, this was our most popular Instagram post of the winter so far. Follow [this link](#) to check out the post on Instagram!
Don’t miss out! SUBSCRIBE to The Post by clicking this blue box. In each issue, you’ll learn how ALUS projects produce ecosystem services across Canada, meet the farmers, ranchers and partners who make ALUS possible, and see the difference your support makes on the ground.

Forward to a friend

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Foundational Partner
ALUS Canada

New Acre™ Project.

Make a difference. Make an acre.

A Weston Family Initiative
Background

At the March 11, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting, the Board was presented with the Weed Enforcement Process for the 2020 Season. At that time, it was resolved that Administration create a detailed Weed Enforcement written plan, including a template for producers to create a weed mitigation plan, and disseminate the documents to the Agricultural Service Board Members via email, for comment, no later than April 15, 2020. (Ref. Resolution #AG20200311.005)

An email was sent out by Jeff Chipley, Assistant CAO, to all Board Members on April 15, 2020 with a Draft Written Plan. Board Members were to provide comments and feedback by April 30, 2020 in order for Administration to adjust the documents accordingly, if needed.

Administration received only one (1) comment that had no concerns with the document from Board Member G. Parker. Board Member K. Rooyakkers did also confirm that she received the document.

The detailed Weed Enforcement Written Plan and Form are provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the detailed Weed Enforcement Written Plan and Form as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the detailed Weed Enforcement Written Plan and Form as information.
Weed Control Plan
Weed Inspector – Step by Step Process

1. Drive to property.
2. Park on approach, do not drive onto or throughout the property unless you have permission from landowner.
3. Enter property (if you open a gate close it right behind you)
4. Inspect property for weeds going to known locations first (if any), then the rest of the property.
5. If you find Prohibited Noxious or Noxious Weeds and there is a house on the property, knock on the door to see if it is the landowner. If so, discuss the weed concerns with the landowner. If the house does not belong to the owner try to find out where the landowner lives.
6. If face to face contact cannot be made with the landowner, the Weed Inspector will attempt to contact the landowner by phone. After a minimum of two unsuccessful attempts the Weed Inspector will:
   1) Forward the Weed Report including areas where the weeds were found.
   2) Weed Fact Sheet
   3) Herbicide controls for weeds
   4) Equipment Rentals List
   5) Herbicide Application Directory
   6) Safety Data Sheet for three main herbicides
   7) Label of three main herbicides
each attempt to contact the landowner shall be made on separate days.
7. If face to face contact is made with the landowner discuss the weed concerns with them giving them items 2-7 from above and let them know that you will send number one when you have an opportunity to print and send it.
8. When discussing Weed concerns with landowners let them know that they and the County could develop a plan to achieve weed control of the Prohibited Noxious and Noxious Weeds. If landowners want to develop a plan, ensure the County has their contact information and let them know that they County will contact them regarding the development and implementation of the plan.
9. Once or if a plan is developed for the property, all parties agree to carry out their respective part(s) of the plan.
10. This plan will be saved electronically and attached to the respective property or case #.
11. Should the plan not be carried out by the landowner, the County will issue a Weed Notice and proceed with enforcement.
12. Each contact or attempted contact, inspection or communication with the landowner will be recorded as an inspection in the case file.
# Weed Control Plan

For

County of Wetaskiwin property described as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Meridian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Roll #: ____________________  
Date: MM/DD/YYYY  
Owner: ☐  Renter: ☐

Landowner Name:  
Address  
City  
Province  
Postal Code  
Phone Number:  
Mailing Address:  
Inspectors Name:  

Weed Type: Prohibited Noxious: ☐ Noxious: ☐  Acres Infested: ________  Total Acres Farmed: ________

Please list weed types: ______________________________________________________________

Has there been a weed issue on this property in previous years, if so, what was done to control the weeds?

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

What is your plan to eradicate the weeds on this property?

This plan will entail 1 2 3 4 (Please circle one)  Yearly deadline dates to be included for the plan, if applicable.

Deadline Date:  
Deadline Date:  
Deadline Date:  
Deadline Date:  

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

Reinspection Date:  
Reinspection Date:  
Reinspection Date:  
Reinspection Date:  

Met Deadline Yes ☐ No ☐  Met Deadline Yes ☐ No ☐  Met Deadline Yes ☐ No ☐  Met Deadline Yes ☐ No ☐
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who will take care of the weeds the landowner or a contractor? (Please circle one)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was a contractor contacted to do the weed control by the Landowner?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>If yes, what date were they contacted:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was a contractor contacted to do the weed control by the County?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>If yes, what date were they contacted:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If a contractor used was used, who was it and what is their contact information?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If a contractor was hired what will they be doing with the infested acres?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated cost per acre:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I (the landowner) hereby agree that the above information is true and agree to set out plan and agree to carry out the plan prior to the respective due date(s).

Print Name: ___________________________  Date signed: ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________  
Landowner

Director of Agricultural Services or designate approval of plan.

Signature: ___________________________  Date signed: ___________________________

County of Wetaskiwin
Soil Conservation Act – Appointment of Appeal Committee – Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2020/05/19

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

At the May 12, 2020 Council General Meeting, Council appointed the Agricultural Service Board Members to the Soil Conservation Act Appeal Committee. (Ref. Resolution #CG20200512.032)


This Committee will be added to the list for Organizational Meeting appointments.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the appointment to the Appeal Committee as per the Soil Conservation Act as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the appointment to the Appeal Committee as per the Soil Conservation Act as information.
Section 14  

(b) direct that the local authority restore the land to a state that the appeal committee considers appropriate in the circumstances;

(c) direct that the local authority and not the appellant nor the owner, if the owner is not the appellant, be liable for the expenses or a portion of them, as determined by the appeal committee, that will be incurred in restoring the land under clause (b).

(4) The appeal committee may, with respect to a deposit paid under section 8, return the deposit or any portion of it to the appellant at the conclusion of the appeal.

Composition of appeal committee

14 An appeal committee shall consist of

(a) in the case of a municipal district, the Board, or, if there is no Board, at the discretion of the council,

(i) the council, or

(ii) at least 3 members of the council appointed by a resolution of the council;

(b) in the case of an improvement district, the Board, or, if there is no Board, at least 3 persons appointed by the Minister responsible for the Municipal Government Act;

(c) in the case of a special area, the Board, or, if there is no Board, at least 3 persons appointed by the Minister responsible for the Special Areas Act;

(d) in the case of a municipality other than one referred to in clause (a), (b) or (c), at the discretion of the council,

(i) the council, or

(ii) at least 3 members of the council appointed by a resolution of the council.

1988 cS-19.1 s14; 1995 c24 s99(32)

Soil Conservation Officers and Entry onto Land

Municipal officers

15(1) The local authority of a rural municipality

(a) shall appoint at least one soil conservation officer for that municipality, and
Background

At March 11, 2020 Agricultural Service Board meeting, the Board was presented with the funding request from the Farm Safety Centre. At that time, the Board resolved that as the Farm Safety Centre is included in the Grants to Organizations Policy #12.3.2, that the Agricultural Service Board accept the request for funding from the Farm Safety Centre as information. (Ref Resolution #AG2020311.007)

On March 31, 2020, correspondence was received from the Farm Safety Centre advising that the $2,600.00 was very much appreciated by the Farm Safety Centre. A copy of the correspondence has been provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence from the Farm Safety Centre regarding 2020 funding as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence from the Farm Safety Centre regarding 2020 funding as information.
April 1, 2020

Stephen Majek – Agricultural Fieldman
County of Wetaskiwin
Box 6960
Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2G5

Stephen:

The $2,600.00 received from the County of Wetaskiwin on March 3, 2020 was very much appreciated by the Farm Safety Centre. Find charitable receipt #1387 enclosed.

These funds will be used to reach rural elementary school aged children with farm safety messages. The 2019-2020 school year is the 22nd consecutive year of "Safety Smarts" delivery in Alberta. From the beginning of the school year in September until school classes were suspended in mid-March more than 40,000 rural children had already received in-class farm safety presentations. An additional 185 schools were booked for delivery during March, April, May and June. We are hopeful that students at these schools will be returning to classes in the coming weeks.

In April we will begin adding content to our website which will allow students to access interactive farm safety learning tools during this disruption in school attendance. The mandate of our not-for-profit organization is to reduce injuries and fatalities in rural Alberta. Often youth, especially younger children, are not fully aware of the many potential hazards presented by rural living. Increasing their awareness and ability, either through face to face or web-based learning, to make informed personal safety decisions is extremely important.

The Farm Safety Centre believes that teaching children is a wise investment in our future. Influencing their personal attitudes and actions as they grow and mature will pay significant dividends as they move forward and become our decision makers of tomorrow.

We are pleased to recognize the County of Wetaskiwin on our website: abfarmsafety.com – in: Supporters 2020.

Thank you again for making the safety of our rural children a priority.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Laura Nelson
Executive Director
Farm Safety Centre
News Release – Championing Alberta’s Agriculture Sector – Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2020/05/19
Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

On May 5, 2020, a News Release was received from the Government of Alberta titled “Championing Alberta’s agriculture sector”.

The News Release states that amid a global health pandemic, international market, and trade challenges, the Government of Alberta has established an industry advisory committee to act as Champions of Agriculture.

This group will meet regularly and provide Agriculture and Forestry with strategic advice and recommendations on emerging issues and priorities related to consumer confidence, and work to debunk myths in the agriculture industry.

The Agriculture Industry Advisory Committee Membership consists of:

- Jill Harvie – committee co-chair and owner/operator of Harvie Ranching
- Nichole Neubauer, committee co-chair and owner/operator of Neubauer Farmers
- Allison Ammeter – chair, Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta, and farmer
- David Collwell – president and CEO, JBS Foods Canada
- Jeff Fitzpatrick-Stilwell – sustainability and agriculture lead, McDonald’s Canada
- Bob Lowe – president, Canadian Cattlemen’s Association
- Jean-Marc Ruest – senior vice-president, Corporate Affairs and General Counsel, Richardson International Limited
- John Simpson – chair, CANA group of companies and owner/operator of Simpson Ranching
- Baljit Singh – dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary
- Gary Stanford – grain farmer and past-chair, Alberta Wheat Commission

Championing the agriculture sector focuses on ensuring continued growth and long-term success for the sector by advocating for the world-class sustainable management practices of Alberta. News and success stories will be shared on the Champions of Agriculture and Forests website.
A copy of the News Release in full has been provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

**Recommendations**

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the News Release titled “Championing Alberta’s agriculture sector” as information.

**Recommended Resolution**

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the News Release titled “Championing Alberta’s agriculture sector” as information.
Championing Alberta’s agriculture sector

May 05, 2020 Media inquiries

The government has launched its strategy to stand up for Alberta’s second largest natural resource sector.

In the midst of a global health pandemic, international market and trade challenges, the Alberta government has established an industry advisory committee to act as Champions of Agriculture.

This group will meet regularly and provide Agriculture and Forestry with strategic advice and recommendations on emerging issues and priorities related to consumer confidence, and work to debunk myths in the agriculture industry.

“Alberta has a hard-earned reputation around the world for healthy, safe and reliable agriculture products. Our agriculture industry is well placed to meet the growing demand and compete with constant innovation. These Champions of Agriculture will help break down myths and misunderstandings of our sustainable agriculture practices and highlight how Alberta leads on a global stage to feed people around the world.”

Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry

Agriculture Industry Advisory Committee membership

- Jill Harvie – committee co-chair and owner/operator of Harvie Ranching
- Nichole Neubauer – committee co-chair and owner/operator of Neubauer Farms
- Allison Ammeter – chair, Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta, and farmer
- David Collwell – president and CEO, JBS Foods Canada
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• Gary Stanford – grain farmer and past-chair, Alberta Wheat Commission

“Alberta has a competitive agriculture sector that plays a key role in supporting rural communities and the economic success of the province. Being a champion for this sector means sharing the stories of what we do and do well. Alberta is a world leader in sustainable agriculture management practices and we can be proud of that.”

Jill Harvie, co-chair, Agriculture Industry Advisory Committee

Championing the agriculture sector focuses on ensuring continued growth and long-term success for the sector by advocating for Alberta’s world-class sustainable agriculture management practices. News and success stories will be shared on the Champions of Agriculture and Forests website.

Alberta has a comprehensive response to COVID-19 including measures to enhance physical distancing, screening and testing. Financial supports are helping Alberta families and businesses.

Quick facts

• Agriculture is a huge economic driver in our province, employing more than 75,000 Albertans and generating more than $11.6 billion in annual export sales.

Related information

• Champions of Agriculture and Forests

Media inquiries

Justin Laurence

780-691-7317
Acting Press Secretary, Agriculture and Forestry

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Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2020/05/19
Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

On May 5, 2020, a News Release was received from the Government of Alberta titled “Employee training supports for agri-businesses”.

In response to COVID-19, the Government of Alberta has created a new Agriculture Training Support Program to help employers in the food supply chain provide necessary training to new Alberta employees.

The program is intended to offset costs for COVID-19 safety and training, including the costs for personal protective equipment and to remove any barriers to get Albertans safely working.

As part of Canadian Agricultural Partnership Risk Management programs, this program will improve the sectors of agriculture and agri-food ability to anticipate, mitigate, and prepare for risks that could have a major financial impact on the livestock and plant industries, or affect human health and safety.

The Government of Alberta is partnering with the Government of Canada to provide employment support programs and services through the Labour and Immigration Workforce Development Agreement and through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. This program is administered by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

A copy of the News Release in full has been provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the News Release titled “Employee training supports for agri-businesses” as information.

Recommended Resolution
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the News Release titled “Employee training supports for agri-businesses” as information.
Employee training supports for agri-businesses

May 08, 2020 Media inquiries

In response to COVID-19, the Government of Alberta has created a new Agriculture Training Support Program to help employers in the food supply chain provide necessary training to new Alberta employees.

The program is intended to offset costs for COVID-19 safety and training, including the costs for personal protective equipment and to remove any barriers to get Albertans safely working.

“To all Albertans interested in work, jobs in the agriculture sector are dynamic, employ a range of skillsets and help to support your communities. These investments, provided by both levels of Government, will give Albertans the opportunity to train and transition into these rewarding jobs.”

*The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food*

By providing up to $5 million in support to farmers, agri-businesses and food processors, the program helps offset the cost to train new employees safely in new agri-food roles. The program will support training for as many as 2,500 new jobs in Alberta.

“Alberta’s agriculture and food sector rely on thousands of people working every day to help keep food on our tables. As we see record high unemployment in Alberta due to a global economic slowdown and COVID-19, we need to ensure unemployed Albertans have the opportunity for domestic jobs instead of hiring workers from overseas.”

*Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry*
The maximum government contribution under the program is $2,000 per new employee, up to a maximum of $50,000 per employer. Grants will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis until available program funding is fully allocated.

In addition, about $1 million in funding will be targeted for meat processors to provide support for new hires to undertake meat-cutting training.

“Training will provide Albertans with the skills they need to find work and support the province’s agriculture employers. This new program will connect Albertans with new job opportunities so they can get back to work.”

Jason Copping, Minister of Labour and Immigration

As part of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Risk Management programs, this program will improve the agriculture and agri-food sector’s ability to anticipate, mitigate and prepare for risks that could have a major financial impact on the livestock and plant industries, or affect human health and safety.

Alberta is partnering with the Government of Canada to provide employment support programs and services through the Labour and Immigration’s Workforce Development Agreement and through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. This program is administered by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

This job training support complements the launch of Alberta’s Agriculture Job Connector, a web resource to help agriculture employers looking for workers connect with job seekers.

Alberta has a comprehensive response to COVID-19 including measures to enhance physical distancing, screening and testing. Financial supports are also in place to help Alberta families and businesses.

Quick facts

- Program support is targeted to agricultural, meat processing and horticultural businesses and services on the Government of Alberta’s essential service list (with the exception of aquaculture).
- Applications will be accepted via the existing Canadian Agricultural Partnership website.
• The Partnership is a five-year, $3-billion commitment by Canada’s federal, provincial and territorial governments to support Canada’s agriculture and agri-food sectors.

Related information

• Agriculture Training Support Program
• Alberta Jobs Connector
• Essential Services
• Canadian Agricultural Partnership (AAFC)

Media inquiries

Justin Laurence

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Press Secretary, Acting, Agriculture and Forestry

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News Release – Supporting Alberta’s Agriculture Industry – Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2020/05/19

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

On May 7, 2020, a News Release was received from the Government of Alberta titled “Supporting Alberta’s agriculture industry”.

In response to the mass disruptions in the agriculture industry caused by COVID-19, the Government of Alberta is introducing several new supports to help farmers and ranchers through AgriRecovery.

A new fed cattle set-aside program will allow beef producers to hold on to slaughter-ready cattle on maintenance feed ration for several weeks, allowing the supply of animals to more evenly match demand and reduced processing capacity.

Cattle producers will be compensated for the extraordinary costs until the backed-up inventory is cleared. The Government of Alberta will immediately increase the interim payment under AgriStability from fifty (50) percent to seventy-five (75) percent for the hog sector. This will put up to $25 million in the hands of pork producers immediately. Increasing the advance payment under AgriStability will result in the equivalent of $20 per head for pork producers enrolled in AgriStability.

The closure of most food service outlets across North America has cut the volume for French fries being consumed. In response, the Alberta government will also immediately increase the advance payment under AgriStability from fifty (50) percent to seventy-five (75) percent for the potato industry, to get cash in hands of potato producers immediately.

AgriRecovery is a federal-provincial-territorial program intended to help agricultural producers recover from natural disasters. The Government of Alberta will work with federal and provincial governments to ensure money will get to producers as quickly as possible.

A copy of the News Release in full has been provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Recommendations
Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the News Release titled “Supporting Alberta’s agriculture industry” as information.

**Recommended Resolution**

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the News Release titled “Supporting Alberta’s agriculture industry” as information.
Supporting Alberta’s agriculture industry

May 07, 2020 Media inquiries

In response to the mass disruptions in the agriculture industry caused by COVID-19, the Government of Alberta is introducing several new supports to help farmers and ranchers through AgriRecovery.

A new fed cattle set-aside program will allow beef producers to hold on to slaughter-ready cattle on maintenance feed ration for several weeks, allowing the supply of animals to more evenly match demand and reduced processing capacity.

Cattle producers will be compensated for the extraordinary costs until the backed-up inventory is cleared. Currently, there are about 130,000 cattle backed up in feedlots as a result of reduced operating capacity at major beef processing plants in Alberta. This comes at a substantial cost to cattle producers.

The Government of Alberta will immediately increase the interim payment under AgriStability from 50 per cent to 75 per cent for the hog sector. This will put up to $25 million in the hands of pork producers immediately. Increasing the advance payment under AgriStability will result in the equivalent of $20 per head for pork producers enrolled in AgriStability.

The closure of most food service outlets across North America has cut the volume for french fries being consumed. In response, the Alberta government will also immediately increase the advance payment under AgriStability from 50 per cent to 75 per cent for the potato industry, to get cash in hands of potato producers immediately.

“Alberta’s ranchers and producers are known for their resiliency and these programs will ensure they’re able to weather the COVID-19 pandemic and keep providing the high-quality beef, pork and potatoes we’re famous for.”

Jason Kenney, Premier
“Our province provides most of the country’s beef, and the current disruption is resulting in substantial costs for our ranchers. We’re doing everything we can to ensure beef, pork and potato producers are able to stay afloat until things return to normal.”

**Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry**

“Thank you to Minister Bibeau, Minister Dreeshen, the Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta for working together to ensure beef producers across Canada and Alberta will receive the support necessary to continue providing top-quality beef to Canadians across the country. This is a first step and we look forward to continuing to work with the federal and provincial governments to ensure that all beef producers will receive the supports needed due to the extraordinary circumstances of the pandemic.”

**Bob Lowe, president, Canadian Cattlemen’s Association**

“Alberta beef producers appreciate the commitment and leadership shown by the Government of Alberta through the contribution of matching funds to AgriRecovery for a set-aside program to immediately support our industry. Thank you, Minister Dreeshen, for recognizing the devastating impacts COVID-19 is having on Alberta’s beef industry and working together with the federal government to support the needs of producers so we can maintain our food supply chain.”

**Kelly Smith-Fraser, chair, Alberta Beef Producers**

AgriRecovery is a federal-provincial-territorial program intended to help agricultural producers recover from natural disasters. Alberta will work with federal and provincial governments to ensure money will get to producers as quickly as possible.

More details will be announced as they are available.

**Quick facts**

- AgriRecovery initiatives are cost-shared 60-40 between federal and provincial governments.
- On May 5, the federal government launched a national AgriRecovery initiative of up to $125 million in funding to help cattle and hog producers faced with extraordinary costs incurred by COVID-19. This includes $50 million for set-asides for cattle.
• Alberta is Canada’s largest cattle-producing province, with 40.5 per cent of the national total cattle and calf inventory in 2018.
• Beef is Alberta’s second-largest agri-food export, at $2 billion in 2018.
• Alberta accounts for 10.4 per cent of Canada’s hog production, or about 2.8 million market hogs per year.
• In April, the Potato Growers of Alberta estimated Alberta has $70 to $80 million worth of potatoes in storage, which is higher than one-quarter of the national inventory.

Related information

• AgriRecovery

Media inquiries

Justin Laurence
780-691-7317
Press Secretary, Acting, Agriculture and Forestry

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