

The Lacombe County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) meeting was called to order by Chair Knight at 9:00 a.m. on March 1, 2022, in the Council Chamber of the Lacombe County Administration Office.

Chair B. Knight, Reeve B. Shepherd; Deputy Reeve, J. Ireland, Councillors, D. Kreil, K. Weenink, D. West and A. Wilson; County Manager, T. Timmons; Director of Community Services, D. Burlock; Manager of Agriculture and Environmental Services, M. Bates and Administrative Assistant, K. Parent.

Chair Knight asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There was one addition to the agenda.

#### 14. ASB Program Funding

The agenda was approved as amended.

A review and discussion took place regarding the current Lacombe County Agriculture Guide. Discussion took place, some suggestions from the ASB regarding the Lacombe County Agriculture Guide included:

- Make hard copies available at Children's Farm Safety Day, Division Meetings, and the Spring Tune Up Event
- Recommendation for business card-like handouts with URL for the Lacombe County Agriculture Guide be made available for Trade Shows
- 2021 Federal Census was just released, look at updating the statistics

Mr. Burlock provided a brief background on the creation and updates of the Lacombe County Agriculture Guide.

***Recommended that the information/suggestions regarding the Lacombe County Agriculture Guide be received for information.***

Mr. Bates gave an overview of the process and requirements of the Agricultural Service Board Field Visit and Audit. Discussion took place around the Agricultural Service Board Audit recommendations, included:

- Animal Health Act Regulations and how to report a concern
- Animal related response in the Lacombe County Emergency Response Plan (LREMP)
- Further information is being requested from the province regarding what further details are required within the Emergency Response Plan

***Recommended that the Lacombe County Field Visit Report be received for information.***

Mr. Bates gave an overview of the Soil Conservation Act and its Regulations. Discussion took place regarding the development of a Soil Conservation Policy within Lacombe County, included:

- Utilize the County News and social media to educate residents on the Soil Conservation Act and its Regulations, as well as remedy measures for soil erosion issues
- Hold an extension event highlighting soil erosion issues and remedies
- Enforcement possibilities to limit tree removal within the County
- Further discussion on Shelterbelt Programs at the next ASB meeting

***Recommended that the Agricultural Service Board focus on education programs and extension work highlighting soil erosion and the Soil Conservation Act.***

Mr. Bates presented the Board with Lacombe County Policy CC(3) for review of the current ASB Terms of Reference. Discussion included:

- Adding members at large to the Agriculture Service Board
- Review of frequency of meetings
- Current Terms of Reference, section (c) needs to be changed to section (b)
- Include procedure for electing a Chair and Vice-Chair

***Recommended that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report and recommendations for Council's consideration at a future Council meeting regarding the restructuring of the Lacombe County Agricultural Service Board and its Terms of Reference.***

10:26 a.m. Lindsay Seidel-Wassennar and Andrea Linkert entered the meeting virtually.

Ms. Seidel-Wassennar and Ms. Linkert gave a presentation on the Recycling Council of Alberta highlighting the following:

- Review of the Recycling Council of Alberta
- Benefits of Extended Producer Responsibility
- Alberta is the highest producer of waste with the lowest diverted per capita in Canada
- Highest source of waste in Alberta comes from industrial, commercial, and institutional sectors
- Review of the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group
- Review of On-Farm Composting Program

Ms. Seidel-Wassennar and Ms. Linkert addressed questions of the ASB.

***Recommended that the Recycling Council of Alberta presentation be received for information.***

Mr. Bates requested input from the ASB regarding the Central Region Agricultural Service Board Conference being hosted by Lacombe County on November 2, 2022. Suggestions from the ASB regarding the Central Region Agricultural Service Board Conference are:

- Utilize locally produced products for lunch
- Administration to select a location to host the Central Region Agricultural Service Board Conference.
- Potential Speakers
  - Doef's Greenhouses Ltd. on Carbon Capture
  - Stickland Farms Ltd. on On-Farm Composting
  - Alberta Environment (or another speaker) on soil erosion
- Proposed timeline:
  - Speakers- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
  - Lunch- 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  - Resolutions- 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

***Recommended that the information/suggestions regarding the Central Region Agricultural Service Board Conference be received for information.***

11:19 a.m. Davin Johnson entered the meeting virtually.

Mr. Johnson gave a presentation on CleanFarms Inc. and its agreement with Lacombe County highlighting the following:

- Review of the 2022 Ag-Waste Recycling/ Safe Disposal Programs in Alberta
- 3 Permanent Programs
  - Up to 23L Pesticide & Fertilizer Containers- 3-year transition plan to close municipal collection sites and moving to retailer collection
  - Above 23L Pesticide & Fertilizer Containers- 3-year transition plan to close municipal collection sites and moving to retailer collection
  - Unwanted Pesticides & Old Livestock/Equine Medication
- 3 Pilot Programs
  - Grain Bags & Twine (GoA-AAFRED)- Extended to August 31, 2023.
  - Seed, Pesticide, & Inoculant Bags (Industry-funded)- Available to all retailers/seed dealers, May to October collections
  - Bale and Silage Film (CASPP)- 2022 expansion to other areas of Alberta.
- Mirror/Alix municipal pesticide container collection site slated to close at the end of 2022 and move to retailer collection
- Prentiss and Eckville municipal pesticide container collection site slated to close at the end of 2024 and move to retailer collection

Mr. Johnson addressed questions of the ASB.

***Recommended that the CleanFarms Inc. presentation be received for information.***

12:10 a.m. Mr. Johnson withdrew from the meeting.

Mr. Bates gave an overview on the operations of the Farm Safety Centre and their request for funding from Lacombe County.

***Recommended that the Farm Safety Centre report be received for information.***

Mr. Bates gave an overview on the ALUS re-introduction proposal made to Lacombe County.

Mr. Burlock provided a brief background on the history of the ALUS Program and its agreement with Lacombe County.

Discussion took place regarding the re-introduction of the ALUS Program at Lacombe County as follows:

- More ALUS funding has come forward
- The position of a part-time ALUS Coordinator is a perk that was not seen before
- Review of current ALUS programming and projects and how they would change if Lacombe County rejoined
- Feedback from County residents regarding Lacombe County leaving ALUS in 2020
- Review of current Lacombe County conservation efforts and programs
- Promotion of ALUS through the County News and social media

***Recommended that the ALUS Proposal for re-introduction of the ALUS program into Lacombe County be received for information.***

***Recommend that a motion that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report regarding possible deliverable alternatives to the ALUS Program be defeated.***

Mr. Bates gave an overview of the Weed Free Forage Program and the requirements determined by the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA).

***Recommended that the Weed Free Forage Program Report be received for information.***

Mr. Bates gave an overview on Clubroot within Lacombe County, Clubroot variants, and variant testing. Discussion took place regarding Clubroot variant testing, included:

- Limit resources for Clubroot variant testing
- Process of submitting Clubroot samples for variant testing
- Process of testing for Clubroot variant
- Amount of Clubroot variants and only two modes of resistant
- Clubroot cases within Lacombe County

***Recommended that the Clubroot Variant Testing Report be received for information.***

Mr. Bates gave an overview on the upcoming Agricultural Extension Programming. Discussion took place, some suggestions from the ASB regarding Agricultural extension programming included:

- Maintain a virtual option for attendees
- Soil erosion and conservation
- Clubroot of Canola Council presentation on modes and different types or variants
- Tree planting
- Tree pruning course

***Recommended that the information/suggestions regarding the Agricultural extension programming be received for information.***

Mr. Burlock updated the ASB on the 2022-2023 projected ASB Program funding levels.

The ASB Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.