



AGENDA ITEM
Agricultural Fieldman Appointment
February 24, 2022

BACKGROUND

Lacombe County is recognized as a local authority and as such has been delegated by the Minister of Agriculture & Forestry to carry out the required duties of the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Act, within the geographical boundaries of Lacombe County.

ANALYSIS

The ASB Act requires that once a Council has established an Agricultural Service Board, that the Council, in consultation with the board, must appoint a qualified person as Agricultural Fieldman to implement agricultural policies and programs and to manage the agricultural resources of the municipality.

Lacombe County hired Mike Bates to hold the position of Manager of Agriculture and Environmental Services in February 2022. This position is responsible for the Agricultural Fieldman duties as described in the Agricultural Service Board Act.

Action required of Council at this time is the appointment of Mike Bates as Agricultural Fieldman for Lacombe County.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with the Lacombe County Agricultural Fieldman have been budgeted in the 2022 Agricultural Services Operating Budget.

LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Section eight of the Agricultural Service Board Act states;

- (1) If a Council has established a board, the Council, in consultation with the board, must appoint a qualified person as agricultural fieldman to implement agricultural policies and programs and to manage the agricultural resources of the municipality.
- (2) The agricultural fieldman shall act as a designated officer of the municipality
 - a) in carrying out the functions, duties and powers of the municipality under any Act relating to agriculture, and
 - b) in implementing projects respecting agriculture agreed on between the Council and the Minister.

- (3) An agricultural Fieldman is, in the municipality employing that fieldman,
- a) a municipal inspector under the Weed Control Act,
 - b) an inspector of the municipality under the Agricultural Pests Act, and
 - c) a soil conservation officer of the municipality under the Soil Conservation Act.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the following resolution:

That County Council appoints Mike Bates to the position of Agricultural Fieldman as per the Alberta Agricultural Service Board Act.

PREPARED BY: Mike Bates, Manager of Agriculture and Environmental Services
REVIEWED BY: Dion Burlock, Director of Community Services
REVIEWED BY: Tim Timmons, County Manager

