

# AGENDA Agricultural Service Board Meeting

9:30 AM - Thursday, September 8, 2022 Council Chambers

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|---------|----|--|
|         | A. | CALL TO ORDER - OPENING REMARKS  |
|         |    |  |
|         | B. | CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA   |
|         | C. | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES  |
| 3 - 4   | 1. | Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes  Agricultural Service Board - 14 Apr 2022 - Minutes   |
|         | D. | BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES  |
|         |    |  |
|         | E. | REPORTS  |
| 5 - 9   | 1. | Supervisor of Agriculture Services Report Supervisor of Agriculture Service Report   |
|         | F. | NEW BUSINESS   |
| 10 - 17 | 1. | Agricultural Service Board Bylaw and Terms of Reference Agricultural Service Board Terms of Reference  |
| 18 - 19 | 2. | South Region Agricultural Service Board Conference/Crowsnest  Pass South Region Agricultural Service Board Conference/Crowsnest Pass                         |
|         | G. | APPOINTMENTS - 11:00 A.M.  |
| 20 - 21 | 1. | Alberta Invasive Species Council Presentation/Megan Evans  Executive Director  Alberta Invasive Species Council Presentation/Megan Evans Executive  Director |
|         | H. | INVITATIONS  |
|         |    |  |
|         | I. | CLOSED SESSION   |

# J. ADJOURN



# MINUTES Agricultural Service Board Meeting

9:30 AM - Thursday, April 14, 2022 Council Chambers

The Agricultural Service Board of Lethbridge County was called to order on Thursday, April 14, 2022, at 9:30 AM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Chairman Klaas VanderVeen

Reeve Tory Campbell Councillor Lorne Hickey Councillor Mark Sayers Councillor John Kuerbis Councillor Eric Van Essen Councillor Morris Zeinstra

Chief Administrative Officer, Ann Mitchell Director of Public Operations, Jeremy Wickson Agricultural Services Supervisor, Gary Secrist

Executive Assistant, Candice Robison

Alan Efetha, Alberta Agriculture Regional Liaison

# A. CALL TO ORDER - OPENING REMARKS

Chairman VanderVeen called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

# B. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item C – Governance was added to the agenda.

1-2022 Councillor MOVED that the April 14, 2022 Agricultural Service Board Meeting

Zeinstra Agenda be approved, as amended.

**CARRIED** 

# C. GOVERNANCE

The ASB Terms of Reference and ASB Delegates with voting privileges was discussed. An amended ASB Terms of Reference will be brought forward at the fall Agricultural Service Board Meeting.

# D. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

# D.1. Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes

2-2022 Councillor MOVED that the September 9, 2021 Agricultural Service Board

Kuerbis Meeting Minutes be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

# E. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

# F. REPORTS

# F.1. Supervisor of Agriculture Services Report

3-2022 Councillor MOVED that the Supervisor of Agriculture Services report be received

Hickey for information.

**CARRIED** 

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Chairman VanderVeen recessed the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

Chairman VanderVeen reconvened the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

# G. APPOINTMENTS

# G.1. Alan Efetha/Agricultural Service Board Member Training

4-2022 Councillor MOVED that the Agricultural Service Board approve the ASB member Hickey training from Alan Efetha as information.

**CARRIED** 

# H. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

# H.1. Agricultural Service Board Level of Service

5-2022 Councillor MOVED that the Agricultural Service Board 2022 Level of Service be

Kuerbis recommended to County Council for approval.

**CARRIED** 

# I. <u>INVITATIONS</u>

# J. <u>CLOSED SESSION</u>

# K. ADJOURN

6-2022 Councillor MOVED that the Agricultural Service Board Meeting adjourn at 11:46

Zeinstra a.m.

**CARRIED** 

| ASB Chai | rman |  |  |
|----------|------|--|--|
|          |      |  |  |
|          |      |  |  |
| CAO      |      |  |  |



**Title:** Supervisor of Agriculture Services Report **Meeting:** Agricultural Service Board - 08 Sep 2022

**Department:** Agriculture Service Board

**Report Author:** Gary Secrist

# APPROVAL(S):

Jeremy Wickson, Director of Public Operations, Approved - 08 Aug 2022
Ann Mitchell, Chief Administrative Officer, Approved - 09 Aug 2022

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Governance Relationships Region Prosperity

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This is the Supervisor of Agriculture Services Report for the September 8, 2022 Agriculture Service Board meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Agriculture Service Board receives the report from the Supervisor of Agriculture Services for information.

#### **REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):**

To update the Agricultural Service Board and citizens on work done by ASB department.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY:

The Agriculture Service Board is given the report verbally by the Supervisor of Agriculture Services and given the opportunity to receive clarification if required. The report is accepted for information.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Supervisor of Agriculture Services Report

This is the Supervisor of Agriculture Services Report for the September 8, 2022 Agriculture Service Board meeting.

# Agriculture Service Board Grant(ASB)

The ASB Provincial Grant allocation for 2022 has not been received as of the end of July. Our current grant amount per year is \$123,000 for the Legislative Stream and \$91,000 for the Resource Management component.

Mowing

- The first cut of all gravel roads is complete at this time; the second cut is well underway. The second cut will focus on alleviating snow trap areas.
- Hamlets and subdivisions have received a second cut. A second cut on our paved roads has
  also been completed. Some of our paved roads will see the third cut this year as the gravel
  mowers pass by.
- Mowing was also done for weed control in areas where spraying was not possible. This mostly occurred on roads with very narrow right of way in the dryland areas and where grass has been planted and is unable to accept a chemical application.

<u>Level of Service Measures:</u> Staff anticipates we will meet all Level of Service goals for 2022 and come in under or close to set budget amounts. Some dryland areas may not need a second cut and paved roads have needed numerous cuts as early passes of been quick to grow back.

#### Weed Control

- Most of the roadside spraying took place in Divisions 5, 6 and 7 this year with spot spraying being done throughout the County. Increased spot spraying was performed in areas where the mowers are last to arrive. Staff will continue spot spraying of thistle areas in all divisions into the fall as weather permits.
- Custom spray work was performed for Volker Stevin on Provincial Highways. Revenue from this work was just over \$28,000.
- The road top vegetation control truck was busy assisting the division grader operator to deal with excess vegetation on the shoulders. A combination of pre-emergent and contact herbicides has proven to work very well.
- Weed inspections are ongoing and notices have been issued where warranted.
- Bio-Control agents for Leafy Spurge were released in six spots in the County. Results from
  past drops were being monitored and it appears the flea-beetle for Leafy Spurge is taking a
  foothold. Past Knapweed agents are also proving to be successful.
- Staff have been coordinating with several municipalities and the Invasive species council to produce a video on Bio-Control on Leafy Spurge.

<u>Level of Service Measures:</u> All targets have been met and Roadside Spraying has exceeded the 33% target of roads to be blanket sprayed. More economical chemicals have been used on gravel roads which will likely lead to a surplus on budget amounts.

#### Pest Control

- The annual grasshopper survey showed numbers increasing this year due to the dry weather conditions. Look for this trend to continue if things stay dry.
- Seven fields were inspected for bacterial ring rot with no suspect plants found.
- Canola surveys for Blackleg and Clubroot have been completed.
- The bertha army worm survey was carried out by ASB staff once again this year with numbers rising slightly.
- Numerous calls came in from producers wanting information on alternatives to Strychnine which is no longer available.
- A private trapper was hired for two weeks to trap skunks for rabies detection.
- Two staff members attended Dutch Elm training in a course provided by the City of Lethbridge and private contractor.
- A private contractor was hired to do a survey for Dutch Elm in the Monarch area. No suspect trees were found.
- We have been in consultation with Dan Johnson from the University of Lethbridge and City representatives on projections for grasshoppers.

<u>Level of Service Measures:</u> All targets have been met. Survey work is usually completed in Late July and early August. Pest related work will likely come in close to budget amounts. Soil Erosion

 The winter and spring of 2022 saw drought conditions combined with wind events that created severe instances of soil erosion. Producers were reminded of their obligations under the Soil Conservation Act through social media posts. It was requested that 2 individuals clean the ditch adjacent to their property in which they did.

<u>Level of Service Measures:</u> Soil erosion targets depend on many factors that are out of our control. All known instances have been inspected and one producer was provided assistance at their expense. Depending on fall conditions the budget amount could be exceeded. The past two years have seen an increase in staff time committed to soil erosion activity and enforcement.

#### Roadside Seeding

 ASB crews undertook the seeding of drains and road construction. This includes rock removal, disking, mowing and seeding. Reclamation seeding took place at the Rakus Pit with very good results.

<u>Level of Service Measures</u>: This service is provided to the Public Works Department by the Agriculture Service board and seeding requirements depend on the amount of projects completed. We balance seeding between spring and fall depending of completion times.

#### **Equipment Rental**

- Brillion drill rental has been slower than usual with producers reluctant to seed with drought conditions that were prevalent in the spring. Revenue so far this year sits at \$2,700.
- Plastic Baler use saw minimal use with due to drought conditions in 2021. Staff are working
  with Clean Farms and DBS Environmental to increase the use of silage plastic compactors in
  the County. A trailer was purchased by Clean Farms to make the units more mobile.
- Skunk, raccoon and magpie trap usage has been very busy throughout the year. The department did halt lending out traps when the Avian Flu was at is peak

<u>Level of Service Measures:</u> Drought conditions have negatively impacted Brillion Drill rentals and Plastic Baler use.

#### Parks

- Park, playground and shop yard maintenance is ongoing including monthly equipment inspections.
- Cemeteries were mowed and weed whipped twice.
- In 2022 budget was allocated to do improvements at the Monarch Playground with the project completed in early June. Feedback from residents has been very positive. ASB Staff are working with the Shaughnessy Community to do playground improvements in the County owned playground for 2023.

<u>Level of Service Measures</u>: All targets have been met. The Monarch playground project will come in very close to the budgeted amount. Playground allocation amounts will also be close to budget with considerable time spent watering trees that have been planted over the past few years.

#### Other

- A 5,000 donation was made to the Farm Safety Centre through the ASB budget.
- The Farm Family Award was presented in 2022 with The Vanden Elzen family receiving the award at the Calgary Stampede.

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- A Farmer Pesticide Course was held in February with over 25 participants taking part.
- The South Region Conference will be held in the Crowsnest Pass in October.
- The Agriculture Service Board Conference will be held in January in Grande Prairie.

#### Resource Management Stream

#### • County Newsletter

- Have published the Rural Living and Ag Extension newsletter for over a year.
- o Have received positive feedback from producers and contributing organizations.
- Will look to continue and make new contacts with people/organizations and landowners, expanding our network.

# Fall Ag Tour – College/University

 Scheduled a tour for both College and University students at the McCain facility this September (2 separate days). Dates are yet to be determined.

# Floating Islands

- o Informative sign regarding the floating islands have been placed at the trail entrance.
- o Continue to take water sample each year (June).

#### Presentations

Presented to Grade 3&4 students on invasive species.

# Raptor Posts

 Will discuss with Fortis on partnering in the Fall/Winter. If Fortis is unable to install/provide post, will look to install raptor post ourselves in the Fall/Winter.

#### Mountain Bluebird Trail

 Established boxes along Little Bow and Oldman River (County Property) with the help of the Mountain Bluebird Society.

# Cleanfarms Pilot Project

 Held a demo showcasing Cleanfarms portable compactor for bale wrap and silage plastic.

#### Informing the Public

 Will look to continue once a week with 'what's that weed' and 'what's that bug' on social media starting in June till August. Will be informing the public of other events or news via social media posts to increase public collaboration and positive interactions.

#### EFP Program

- Attending in-person training this Fall (date and place TBD)
- o Continue to review/approve EFP's each month.
- o Continue to promote the program on social media.

# CAP funding

Continue to work on CAP Funding with farmers and promote on social media.

#### Beetle Drops

 Dropped Beetles in 6 locations along the Oldman River with AISC (Alberta Invasive Species Council).

#### Leafy Spurge Video

 Partnered with AISC, County of Newell, City of Lethbridge, Lethbridge Ag Research Station, and the Blood Tribe in creating various informational videos regarding Leafy Spurge. Videos will be finished and shown to the public this Fall/Winter.

#### Tree Information

 Partnering with Grant Collings will post videos on tree health 2x a year (one being already posted), and will post articles on the website and in upcoming newsletters.

# • Oldman River Mainstem Watershed Group

o A workshop is planned for Mid to Late September.

# Alberta Agroforestry Crop Reporting

Complete once a month.

- Agroclimate Impact Report
  - o Complete once a month.
- Water sites
  - o Set up watering sites within the County's Riparian Area for Spring/Summer use.

<u>Level of Service Measures Resource Management:</u> Most targets set out in our grant for this stream of Funding are being met. Covid 19 has effected some extension activities including an annual tour. Resource Management activities will likely be under budget due to limited in-person activities.

Respectfully Submitted by Gary Secrist Supervisor of Agriculture Services

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|---|----------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|--|--|
| ALTERNATIVES / P  | ROS / CONS:    |           |             |                |  |  |
| That the report is not received for information.  |                |           |             |                |  |  |
| FINANCIAL IMPACT  | Γ:             |           |             |                |  |  |
| All activities being reported were included in the 2022 ASB budget and the updated Level of Service document. |                |           |             |                |  |  |
| LEVEL OF PUBLIC   | PARTICIPATION: |           |             |                |  |  |
| <b>⊠</b> Inform   | Consult        | ☐ Involve | Collaborate | <b>Empower</b> |  |  |



Title: Agricultural Service Board Bylaw and Terms of Reference

Agricultural Service Board - 08 Sep 2022 Meeting:

**Department:** Agriculture Service Board

**Report Author:** Jeremy Wickson

# APPROVAL(S):

Ann Mitchell, Chief Administrative Officer,

Approved - 31 Aug 2022

#### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:











Governance

Relationships

Region

#### **Prosperity**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

After an administrative review, it was discovered that the ASB committee was not operating under an approved bylaw.

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) has created a Bylaw and a revised Terms of Reference for the ASB Committee. Per the MGA Section 146 Composition of Council Boards, and in conjunction with the ASB Act Sections 2 and 3 for roles and establishment, which specifies the formation of the ASB committee. The Bylaw and Terms of Reference will clearly identify the ASB Committee's role and how it is to be structured and function.

Policy recommendations from internal committees, in this case the ASB, are forwarded to regular meetings of Council for approval.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Moved to Council for approval of the ASB Bylaw and Terms of Reference.

#### **REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):**

Bylaw is in conjunction with the Municipal Government Act for committees approved and established by Council. The Bylaw and Terms of Reference provide Council with a template that clearly defines the structure and roles of the Agricultural Service Board.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY:

Previous Council direction asked to change the committee structure to have public representation within the committee. The formation was to include 4 members of council designated from the annual organizational meeting and 3 at-large public members.

In addition, the ASB previously approved in the fall of 2021 the Terms of Reference that have now been revised to conform to the bylaw.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Previously the ASB Committee was operating without a bylaw. As part of the internal policy review with administration, the need for a Bylaw and Terms of Reference for all council committees was evaluated, and the ASB was identified as not having one in place.

Bylaws and Terms of Reference clearly define the legislated structure of the committee and the members it is composed of.

#### **ALTERNATIVES / PROS / CONS:**

Council approves the structure and roles of the ASB. The ratio of council members to the public can be as an approved bylaw, which in turn can be amended in the future if Council deems it otherwise.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial implication.

| LEVEL OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: |                |               |                    |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>⊠</b> Inform                | <b>Consult</b> | Nolve Involve | <b>Collaborate</b> | <b>Empower</b> |

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

DRAFT ASB Bylaw September 8, 2022 2022 ASB Terms of Reference

# **LETHBRIDGE COUNTY** IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

# **BYLAW NO. 22-XXX** AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD BYLAW

Whereas, Section 145 of the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26 allows a council to pass bylaws in relation to the establishment and function of council committees and other bodies;

Whereas, Section 203 of the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26 allows council to delegate, by bylaw, any powers, duties, or functions under any enactment to a council committee; and

Whereas, Section 2 of the Agricultural Service Board Act, RSA 2000, c A-10, sets out the duties of an agricultural service board;

Now Therefore, Council enacts:

# PART I - PURPOSE, DEFINITIONS, AND INTERPRETATION

#### Purpose

The purpose of this bylaw is to establish a council committee named the Agricultural Service Board, and to prescribe a mandate, terms of reference, composition and procedural rules for the Board.

#### **Definitions** In this bylaw:

- (a) "Administrative Representative" means the member of administration appointed by the Chief Administrative Officer to provide administrative support to the Board;
- (b) "Board" means the Agricultural Service Board;(c) "Chief Administrative Officer" means the chief administrative officer of the County or delegate;
- (d) "Council" means the Council of Lethbridge County
- (e) "Councillor" means a Councillor of Lethbridge County;(f) "County" means the municipal corporation of
- Lethbridge County as established under the authority of the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26;
- (g) "Public Member" means an individual who is not a member of Council and is appointed by Council to the Board; and
- (h) "Vice Chair" means the individual elected annually to fulfill the Chair's duties in the absence of the Chair.

# Interpretation: 3

- The following rules apply to interpretation of this bylaw:
  - (a) headings and margin notes in this bylaw are for ease of reference only;
  - (b) every provision of this bylaw is independent of all other provisions and if any provision of this bylaw is declared invalid by a Court, all other provisions of this bylaw remain valid and enforceable; and
  - (c) references to bylaws and enactments in this bylaw include amendments and replacement bylaws and enactments, and regulations and orders thereunder.

#### PART II - BOARD ESTABLISHMENT AND MANDATE

Establishment 4 The Agricultural Service Board is established as a council committee.

Mandate 5 The mandate of the Board is to:

- (a) provide advice to Council on agricultural matters generally;
- (b) comply with the duties as set out in the *Agricultural Service Board Act*, RSA 2000, c A-10 or any replacement thereof;
- (c) serve as an appeal body for appeals made pursuant to the *Soil Conservation Act* RSA 2000, c S-15 or any replacement thereof;
- (d) make decisions and provide written consent on behalf of the County on the destruction of growing crops greater than 20 acres as set out in the *Weed Control Act* SA 2008, c W-5.1 or any replacement thereof;
- (e) prevent the establishment of, or control or destroy pests in the municipality pursuant to the *Agricultural Pests Act* RSA 2000, c A-8; and
- (f) assist in the control of animal disease under the *Animal Health Act* RSA 2000, c A-40.2.
- 6 In order to fulfill its mandate, the Board may:
  - (a) identify and engage stakeholder groups and seek their input on the work of the Board;
  - (b) conduct research and prepare reports on issues or opportunities related to agriculture in Lethbridge County; and
  - (c) provide advice to Council on County policies, programs, or services that impact economic development and agriculture.

#### **PART III - MEMBERSHIP**

Members 7 The Board will be comprised of:

- (a) four members of Council;
- (b) one alternate member of Council; and
- (c) three public members

Public members

- Public Members must be residents of Lethbridge County.
- Public Members shall be appointed by Council for a two-year term or until their successor is appointed.
- 10 Council shall advertise for Public Members to apply for appointment on an as-needed basis and appoint to the Board whomever they deem most appropriate.
- 11 Public Members must not have been employed by Lethbridge County for a minimum of 12 months prior to applying for a Public Member position.
- 12 Public Members are voting members.

Councillors

- 13 Councillors appointed to the Board are voting Members.
- 14 When making appointments to the Board, Council will consider knowledge and familiarity with agricultural issues relevant to the County.

X:\Executive Files\115 Bylaws\2022 Bylaws\Bylaw 22-XXX – Agricultural Service Board Bylaw

Vacancy 15 If a Public Member vacancy occurs at any time during

a two-year term, the Public Member appointed to fill the vacancy will hold office for a two-year term

commencing on the date of their appointment.

Reeve 16 The Reeve is an Ex-officio member of the Board and

is a non-voting member.

Termination 17 A Public Member's appointment is terminated if the

Public Member misses three meetings in a twelvemonth period without the consent of the Board by

way of resolution.

Vice-Chair 18 The Board will elect a Vice-chair from its voting

members annually (Council appoints the Chair in

accordance with the ASB Act).

#### **PART IV - PROCEDURES**

Regular annual 19 The Board will: Meetings

(a) hold regular meetings as needed, at least twice per year and publicize the date, time, and place of each regular Board meeting;

(b) provide notice of meetings to the Chief Administrative Officer; and

(c) post scheduled meetings on the County's website to provide notice to the public.

Special Meetings 20 The Chair may call a special meeting by giving at least 24 hours' notice to:

(a) the members of the Board by email; and

(b) the public by posting a notice on the County's webpage and the County's notice board at the administration office.

21 The Board may vote to change the date, time, or place of a scheduled meeting as long as the Board provides at least 24 hours' notice of the change to the Board members and the public.

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Quorum 22 Four voting members will constitute a quorum at a

Board meeting.

Procedures 23 The Board will follow the meeting procedures set out in the Lethbridge County Council Procedural Rylaw

in the Lethbridge County Council Procedural Bylaw.

Public meetings

24 Board meetings will be held in public unless the meeting is closed for reasons permitted by the Municipal Government Act.

# PART V – ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND REPORTING

Annual Work plan 25 The Board will develop an annual work plan that identifies key priorities and goals based on its mandate and Terms of Reference.

| Reports to<br>Council | 26     | recommenda<br>and Terms of<br>shall approve | itioi<br>f R<br>e a      | provide reports which<br>as on matters related<br>eference to Council<br>all directives, policies<br>and to the ASB. | d to the Bo<br>, as appro | priate. Counci | il |
|-----------------------|--------|---|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------|----|
| Annual<br>Report      | 27     | At least once following:                    | ре                       | r year, the Board wil  | I report to               | Council on the | •  |
|                       |        | (c) recomme within its (d) Council n        | n pr<br>nda<br>ma<br>nay | ogress and initiative ations and updates   | on issues                 |                |    |
| The Bylaw shal        | ll cor | ne into effect                              | upc                      | on third and final read  | ding hereo                | f.             |    |
| GIVEN first rea       | ding   | this  | da                       | y of   |                           | 20             |    |
|                       |        |   |                          | Reeve  |                           |                |    |
|                       |        |   |                          | Chief Administrative   | Officer                   |                |    |
| GIVEN second          | read   | ling this                                   |                          | day of   |                           | , 20           |    |
|                       |        |   |                          | Reeve  |                           |                |    |
|                       |        |   |                          | Chief Administrat  | ive Officer               |                |    |
| GIVEN third rea       | ading  | g this                                      | _ da                     | ay of  | ,                         | 20             |    |
|                       |        |   |                          |  |                           |                |    |

Chief Administrative Officer

Reeve



# Lethbridge County Agricultural Service Board Terms of Reference

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) is to advise and assist County Council on matters that relate to agriculture-related activities and regulatory service issues. The ASB was formed as a working group to facilitate decisions and policy making with respect to the administrative and governance opportunities and challenges of the Agriculture Services Department. The ASB has the responsibility of providing Administration with direction on development of administrative directives, policies and bylaws for the Board's consideration before being presented to Council for final consideration.

The ASB will provide recommendations to Council designed to support sustainable farming practices, improve the economic welfare and prosperity of local and regional farming activities, and to develop agricultural policies to meet the needs and level of service requirements of the municipality.

#### **Scope**

The Agricultural Service Board Act Section 2 provides the legislated authority and lays out the roles of ASBs in Alberta. The following duties and responsibilities described in the ASB Act will apply:

- To act as an advisory body, and to assist the council and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry in matters of mutual concern.
- To advise on and to help organize and direct weed and pest control and soil and water conservation programs under Provincial legislation.
- To assist in the control of livestock disease under the Animal Health Act.
- To promote, enhance and protect viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving the economic viability of the agricultural producer.
- To promote and develop agricultural policies to meet the needs of the municipality.

#### **Official Formation & Participants**

The Board is established as per the ASB Act Section 3, in conjunction with the Municipal Government Act stipulation in Section 146 Composition of council Boards whereby a council Board may consist of a combination of councilors and other persons.

The Board is comprised of four members of Council to be appointed at the Annual Organizational Meeting and three Public Members appointed by Council. A Board Chair shall be appointed by Council in accordance with the ASB Act. The Board will appoint a Vice-Chair. The Chair and one other Council-appointed Board member will act as the provincial ASB County delegates for voting purposes, with a designated alternate.



The Board will also include the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Director of Public Operations, Environmental Services Manager and the Supervisor of Agricultural Services (appointed as per Section 8 of the ASB Act), who will be responsible as the Board's administrators. The administrative positions are non-voting and will only provide the Board with the administrative and technical support necessary to meet the Board's needs.

The Director of Public Operations, or their designate, in conjunction with the Executive Assistant to the CAO or delegate will be responsible for scheduling meetings, preparing agendas and keeping meeting minutes.

#### **Goals and Objectives**

The ASB will evaluate current levels of service and recommend applicable service changes to be presented to County council. The objective is to address local and regional challenges, research new opportunities and make recommendations that support the County's Strategic Plan.

The Agriculture Service Department's Mission Statement and Department Core Activities are in support of the goals and objectives designed to meet the needs of its residents and local stakeholders effectively and efficiently. The role of the ASB is to encourage sustainable farming practices while performing all the duties and responsibilities of an accountable ASB.

#### Governance

Decisions of the Board will be reached by majority vote of the Board members present and at a properly called meeting.

The Board is responsible to Council and will report its deliberations to Council through its minutes and the Board Chair as needed. The Board will review its terms of reference at its final meeting of each fiscal year and submit any recommendations for change to the Council.

#### **Meetings**

Meetings will be held regularly as needed and a minimum of twice per year. Additional meetings will be as determined by the Chair.

Agendas for the meetings will be emailed to each Board member and Administration prior to the meeting date. On the day of a meeting, a hard copy will be provided if requested by a Board member in advance of meeting.

# **Authority and Responsibilities**

The Board is accountable to Council and is not authorized to delegate any of the powers and authority delegated to it. The Board may not implement or authorize any action that is the responsibility of Council.

#### Quorum

A quorum is four voting members of the Board.

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Title: South Region Agricultural Service Board Conference/Crowsnest Pass

**Meeting:** Agricultural Service Board - 08 Sep 2022

**Department:** Agriculture Service Board

**Report Author:** Gary Secrist

# APPROVAL(S):

Jeremy Wickson, Director of Public Operations, Ann Mitchell, Chief Administrative Officer, Approved - 28 Jul 2022 Approved - 02 Aug 2022

#### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:









Governance

Relationships

Region

#### **Prosperity**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The South Region Agricultural Service Board Conference will be hosted by the MD of the Crowsnest Pass in October. When more information becomes available it will be forwarded to Council.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Agriculture Service Board recommend to County Council that any member of the Agriculture Service Board wishing to attend the South Region conference in the MD of the Crowsnest Pass in October 2022 be permitted to do so.

#### **REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):**

To be a participating member of the South Region Agricultural Service Boards and foster good working relationships in the agriculture community. To take part in the Regional Resolution Process.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY:

In previous years the Agriculture Service Board has recommended to County Council that any member of the Agriculture Service Board wishing to attend the South Region conference be permitted to do so.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The South Region Agricultural Service Board Conference rotates around the South Region each year. This years' Conference will be held in the MD of the Crowsnest Pass.

#### **ALTERNATIVES / PROS / CONS:**

That members of the Agriculture Service Board not attend this event.

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The cost to attend the South Region Conference is usually under \$60 with lunch included for each member of the Agriculture Service Board or Staff to attend.

| LEVEL OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: |         |           |                    |           |
|--------------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| ☐ Inform                       | Consult | ☐ Involve | <b>Collaborate</b> | ☐ Empower |



Title: Alberta Invasive Species Council Presentation/Megan Evans Executive

Director

Meeting: Agricultural Service Board - 08 Sep 2022

**Department:** Agriculture Service Board

**Report Author:** Gary Secrist

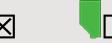
# APPROVAL(S):

Jeremy Wickson, Director of Public Operations, Ann Mitchell, Chief Administrative Officer, Approved - 28 Jul 2022 Approved - 03 Aug 2022

#### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:









Governance

Relationships

Region

**Prosperity** 

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Megan Evans the Executive Director from the Alberta Invasive Species Council is here today to give an update on invasive species that are a threat in the Province.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

MOVED that the presentation from Ms. Megan Evans from the Alberta Invasive Species Council, be received for information.

#### **REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):**

Lethbridge County Agricultural Service Board seeks to create and maintain positive relationships with organizations that benefit our producers and agriculture production in the municipality.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY:

To receive the presentation for information.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) is a not-for-profit society dedicated to informing and educating Albertans about the destructive impacts invasive species have on our environment, economy, and society.

They endeavor to foster partnerships with jurisdictions, agencies, and groups to develop integrated collaboration, long-term management programs, and to engage and empower people to take action against invasive species in Alberta.

#### **ALTERNATIVES / PROS / CONS:**

That we do not receive the presentation for information.

| FINANCIAL IMPAC | T:             |         |             |                |
|-----------------|----------------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| None            |                |         |             |                |
|                 |                |         |             |                |
| LEVEL OF PUBLIC | PARTICIPATION: |         |             |                |
| <b></b> Inform  | Consult        | Involve | Collaborate | <b>Empower</b> |