

**AGENDA
CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 13, 2024**

The Agricultural Service Board meeting of Clear Hills County will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the County Administration Office, 313 Alberta Avenue, Worsley, Alberta.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA**
- 3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
February 9, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes2
- 4. BUSINESS ARISING**
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Activity Report.....6
 - b. Board Reports 10
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Heartland Training & Support Hub Donation Request.....27
 - b. The Use of Drones for Agricultural Purposes.....31
 - c. Local Business Tour33
 - d. PCBFA Resource Stream Funding.....34
 - e. Events.....43
- 7. REPORTS**
 - a. Agricultural Fieldman Report.....45
- 8. INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE.....48**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WORSLEY, AB
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

PRESENT

David Janzen	Chairman
Jason Ruecker	Deputy Chair
Julie Watchorn	Member
Baldur Ruecker	Member
Ron Jensen	Member
Julie Lemoine	Member
Garry Candy	Member

ABSENT

ATTENDING

Greg Coon	Agricultural Fieldman
Natasha Gillett	Community Services Clerk
Allan Rowe	Chief Administrative Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Janzen called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

AGENDA

AG01-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the February 6, 2024, Agricultural Service Board meeting, as presented. CARRIED.

MINUTES

Previous Meeting
Minutes

Agricultural Service Board is presented with previous meeting minutes.

Deputy Chair Ruecker entered the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

AG02-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the December 19, 2023, Agricultural Service Board Meeting. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Activity Report

The Board is presented with the Agricultural Service Board Activity Report.

AG03-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 6, 2024, Agricultural Service Board Activity Report, as presented. CARRIED.

Board Reports

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to present their reports on meetings attended and other agricultural related topics.

AG04-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Chair Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' verbal and written reports of February 6, 2024, for information. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

PCBFA Resource

**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

Stream Funding

The Board is presented with additional information regarding Peace County Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) resource stream funding, as requested.

AG05-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Candy that this Agricultural Service Board request a meeting with Peace County Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) to discuss events within the County at a future Agricultural Service Board Meeting. CARRIED.

AG06-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Lemoine that this Agricultural Service Board provide a summary of Agricultural Service Board events and reports to be showcased in the Clear Hills County monthly newsletter. CARRIED.

Clear Hills County 27th
Annual Trade Show

The Board is presented with a schedule to be completed for the Agricultural Service Board booth at the Clear Hills County 27th Annual Trade Show, as well as a discussion regarding what do have at the booth.

AG07-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the discussion regarding the Agricultural Service Board booth at the Clear Hills County 27th Annual Trade Show being held on April 13, 2024 at the Dave Shaw Memorial Complex in Hines Creek, Alberta. CARRIED.

Local Business Tour

The Board has requested further information regarding a local business tour.

AG08-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board set the Agricultural Service Board tour of the Hines Creek Colony chicken barn, Brent Kobbert seed cleaning plant, and Peifer feeds for 9:00 a.m. on March 6, 2024 or March 7, 2024 depending on availability. CARRIED.

AG09-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Chair Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board request further information regarding the Agricultural Service Board tour of the West end to the March Agricultural Service Board Meeting, CARRIED.

Policy 6317 VSI

The Board has requested further information on the operation of the Veterinary Service Incorporated 1980 Ltd. (VSI) Program.

Chairman Janzen recessed the meeting at 11:30 a.m.
Chairman Janzen reconvened the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

AG10-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Chair Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accept the discussion regarding the Veterinary Service Incorporated 1980 Ltd. (VSI) Program and request additional information regarding other programs ideas. CARRIED.

Policy 6317 VSI-

**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
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Milage

The Board is requested to discuss a question posed by an individual regarding the addition of veterinary milage for emergency situations to Schedule "A" (services payable by VSI) of the VSI program.

AG11-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board request a letter be sent to the individual explaining the VSI Program and the difference between Schedule A and schedule B. CARRIED.

2023 ASB Annual Report to Council

The Board is provided with the 2023 Agricultural Service Board Annual Report to Council for review.

AG12-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board approve the 2023 Agricultural Service Board Annual Report to Council as presented, and request a delegation with Council to present the report on March 12, 2024. CARRIED.

Events

The Board is presented with a list of upcoming agricultural related events for their information.

AG13-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all Board members to the PCBFA Coffee with Kevin on February 23, 2024 at the Peace County Beef and Forage Association Research Lab in Fairview, AB. CARRIED.

REPORTS

Agricultural Fieldman Report

At this time the Agricultural Fieldman will have an opportunity to present his report.

AG14-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 6, 2024, Agricultural Fieldman's Report for information, as presented. CARRIED.

INFORMATION &
CORRESPONDENCE

The Board is presented with correspondence for review.

AG15-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Member Lemoine that this Agricultural Service Board reschedule the March 19, 2024 Agricultural Service Board meeting to March 13, 2024. CARRIED.

AG16-24(02/06/24)

RESOLUTION by Chair Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 6, 2024, information and correspondence for information, as presented. CARRIED.

ROUND TABLE:

Members had a chance to have a round table discussion regarding topics of interest.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Janzen adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

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DATE

CHAIR

DATE

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	ACTIVITY REPORT
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with the Agricultural Service Board Activity Report.

BACKGROUND:

The Activity report is helpful to administration and the board for tracking the status of resolutions and directions from the board. Items will stay on the report until they are completed. Items that are shaded indicate that they are completed and will be removed from the list once presented at the current Agricultural Service Board meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

Agricultural Service Board Activity Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by.. that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the March 13, 2024, Board Activity Report, as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:



AgFieldman:





Senior Management Team Agricultural Service Board

Activity Report for February 6, 2024 Page 2 of 2

Budget Items:

Completed Items:

CAO = Chief Administrative Officer

AF = Ag. Fieldman

CSC = Community Services Coordinator

MOTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DEPT	STATUS
AG05-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Member Candy that this Agricultural Service Board request a meeting with Peace County Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) to discuss events within the County at a future Agricultural Service Board Meeting. CARRIED.	AF	March 13, 2024
AG06-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Member Lemoine that this Agricultural Service Board provide a summary of Agricultural Service Board events and reports to be showcased in the Clear Hills County monthly newsletter. CARRIED.	CC	Continuous
AG08-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board set the Agricultural Service Board tour of the Hines Creek Colony chicken barn, Brent Kobbert seed cleaning plant, and Peifer feeds for 9:00 a.m. on March 6, 2024 or March 7, 2024 depending on availability. CARRIED.	AF	March 6, 2024
AG09-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Chair Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board request further information regarding the Agricultural Service Board tour of the West end to the March Agricultural Service Board Meeting, CARRIED.	AF	
AG10-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Chair Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accept the discussion regarding the Veterinary Service Incorporated 1980 Ltd. (VSI) Program and request additional information regarding other programs ideas. CARRIED.	AF	March 13, 2024
AG11-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board request a letter be sent to the individual explaining the VSI Program and the difference between Schedule A and schedule B. CARRIED.	AF	Letter Sent
AG12-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board approve the 2023 Agricultural Service Board Annual Report to Council as presented and request a delegation with Council to present the report on March 12, 2024. CARRIED.		March 12, 2024 Council Meeting
AG13-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all Board members to the PCBFA Coffee with Kevin on February 23, 2024 at the Peace County Beef and Forage Association Research Lab in Fairview, AB. CARRIED.		February 23, 2024
AG15-24	(02/06/24)	RESOLUTION by Member Lemoine that this Agricultural Service Board reschedule the		March 13, 2024



Senior Management Team Agricultural Service Board

Activity Report for February 6, 2024 Page 3 of 2

Budget Items:

Completed Items:

CAO = Chief Administrative Officer

AF = Ag. Fieldman

CSC = Community Services Coordinator

MOTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DEPT	STATUS
		March 19, 2024 Agricultural Service Board meeting to March 13, 2024. CARRIED.		

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	BOARD REPORTS
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to present their reports on meetings attended and other agricultural related topics.

BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Member Candy's Board Report
Member Watchorn's Board Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by.. that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' verbal and written reports of March 13, 2024, for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**  **AgFieldman:** 

Peace Country Beef and Forage Association
Livestock and Cropping

February 9, 2024
Grimshaw, Alberta

Garry Candy

Braden Baxter – additional guest from AFSC

- Recent graduate from University of Saskatchewan
- Spoke about the lending and insurance products including forage/pasture insurance
- Explained triggers for payouts to be made
- Spoke about location of weather stations and that moisture levels are compensated as to temperature
- Under government subsidy programs, the hope is a return of \$3 for each \$1 invested – last year it was higher
- Insurance will also cover fire on a minimum of 100 acres paid for 2 years
- Price insurance for cattle to insure .385/lb at 550 – 650 lb. calves is \$10/head
- Helpful young fellow – producers would be well advised to talk to him to find out all the programs available

Dr. Evan Lowe – Veterinary runs large animal vet clinic on Emerson Trail

- Will travel to locations within 50 km to treat – beyond 50 km. – producer must haul to him
- Has worked with Tamara Kurigan (Whitelaw area) – she will provide pregnancy testing in the region
- Main topic was regarding vaccinations – injections and pour-on and when to administer them
- Vaccines are meant to stimulate the immune system in the animal
- There are two types of disease – viral and bacterial
- Black leg comes from spores in the earth than can live for years – seems to be more problems in dry years when the animal is actually licking the ground to get feed
- For bacterial infections, live or kill vaccines. Live vaccines give the animal a mild dose of the disease to stimulate the immune system. Kill vaccines take the virus out

- Modified vaccines are given to calves at about 60 days old. Vaccinating newborns is probably wasted as the colostrum from the mother provides protection. If you vaccinate at birth, should give a booster at about 30 days later
- Supplemental vaccines given for footrot and pinkeye usually nasal which is not fantastic but much faster in large outbreaks
- Black leg is anaerobic and blood clots form due to no oxygen generally in the legs but can happen in the heart – time from infection entrance to death is about 12 hours. Difficult to identify black leg, hence the need for vaccinations
- Vibrio-lepto is bacterial and causes early abortions. Carried by wild life such as elk and coyotes. Lepto thrives in stagnant water or damp areas and can be present in amniotic fluid from birthing. If you are north of the Peace River should vaccinate as it is becoming more prevalent. Testing can only be done on the aborted fetus
- Prior to putting bulls out, for example on July 1, vaccinate on June 1st. Do not use unvaccinated bulls as they touch everything in the herd. Do not use modified live vaccines in bred animals as it will cause them to abort.
- Excellent and very knowledgeable speaker

Dr. Blasius – PRCBA

- Spoke about grazing lands with cover crops – excellent feed quality although not much quantity
- Other benefits of cover crops
 - Nitrogen fixation
 - Reduces compaction
 - Suppresses weeds
 - Raises heat units
- When grazing or baling cover crops, there is a danger of high nitrates from grain and prussic acid from brassicas that have been put under stress which could be from frost or drought

Yasir Syed – with ViVi Gro out of Saskatchewan

- Grew up on a livestock farm in Pakistan and got his grade 12 in a military school
- Worked with Exxon chemical fertilizers in BC for blueberries and the like
- Moved to Saskatchewan and set up a fertilizer and mineral business beside Springwater Colony

- Extremely knowledgeable but due to the disturbance of people talking behind me, phones ringing I picked up some but not all of his speech
- Understanding soil composition
- Learning how to decompose roots so soil can take up nutrients
- Testing for phosphate may show an abundance but very little may be available to the plant because the soil can't release it – must treat the soil to help it release the nutrients
- Organic matter may be present but may not be usable. Possibly too high calcium or nitrates
- Soil PH at 6.5% is optimum for release of nutrients so choose fertilizers and soil treatments to get the PH level first – just putting fertilizer on doesn't mean you are doing any good, wrong fertilizer can cause soil harm and lower yields, i.e. increase in salts
- A lot of irresponsible practices are nothing but a band aid – sulfur can be deoxidizing and anaerobic soil can cause plant diseases
- Increasing the organic material will help the plant from the found and the weather. When soil collapses there is no air and the best fertilizer and inoculants won't work
- When doing soil testing, 0-6" deep and 6"-12" deep to get PH differences from top to bottom
- There are about 2 million pounds of soil in 6" of top soil in 1 acre – 1000 tons
- 2 lbs boron gives 1 ppm.
- Soil testing properly and asking for the right tests means everything. Ratios are important: i.e. calcium to magnesium 5:1
- Hydrogen at 0 means a high PH – ideal hydrogen is 2 – 6%, under 2 and minerals won't solubilize. Sodium needs to be 20 – 30 ppm; above this the soil goes alkaline
- Thunder and lightning storms help crops (something my father also told me many years ago), not only from water but also nutrients. The reason is that nitrogen in the air is released by the lightning and the water brings it down to the soil
- Offered tours of his business in Saskatchewan – offers comprehensive soil testing – have 30 bins with 50 ingredients to blend for soil treatment. Has much information to share and has land examples to back up his claims

Coffee with Kevin

February 23, 2024

Fairview Research Farm

Fairview, Alberta

Garry Candy

This was a very relaxed informal get together around a table. About 13 people participated.

Kevin: very knowledgeable farmer from Saskatchewan

- Has experimented with many crops including grains, pulse, corn, soybeans and bromefescue
 - Commented soybeans are of two types; light and non-light sensitive
 - Soybeans should not be fed raw – they need to be roasted
 - Soybeans are great for nitrogen fixation
- Move to fescue from bromes to get possible 10 year stands
- Claims no starch for ruminants – more for gizzards
- Soluble carbohydrates are good for cows
- Studies show feed costs on dairy cows went from \$15/day to \$5/ day by not feeding grain except for a treat at milking times.
- Was asked about over-quota milk – can spray on feeds but not more than 2 gallons/acre. Calcium attacks almost everything in the soil.
- Believes that plants fix dirt – selective growth

Test patch at Meadow Lake – 6 plot

- Sunflower, vetch, corn
- \$65 / acre for seed but by the end of July it was too thick to walk through
- 5 years later showed green plant growth
- Another test showed that animals grazing cover crops drink 40% less water
- Commented on how lucky we are to have the research group like PCAFA close and over Alberta as not so lucky in other provinces

Rye Grass

- Good to hay
- Too ripe and it's like wire

Plantain and Chickory – now used in some mixes

Let Crimson Clover grow to knee height, cut, bale and graze

Chickory in a mix sends deep roots – roots bring moisture up with nutrients for the other plants to use. Looks like sow thistle with blue flowers up to 3 feet high

Humic Acid

- Some people using and very pleased
- One guy said he puts 250 lbs. on and he is pleased and will continue using it
- Humic goes in the ground – Fulvic you spray on the leaves
- Eco Tea brings fungi up that stimulates the ability to use food

Root growth is where the root builds up volume of gas and then with small explosions moves the root along

Used to sterilize soil and test, now living labs test live soil

Quoted Christine Jones saying seed 3 varieties of wheat together and the yield will increase on each type over seeded individually because root intermingling shares water and nutrients

Plants with a tap root will help with compacted soils and fixation

Other topics touched on

- Evening Primrose – excellent food
- Storksbill smells like carrots and cows like it. One fellow said it will grow through cow manure and really spreads
- With dandelion or thistle problems – plant Chickory
- Shorty Fensky from Thorsby has been using 80 acre pieces with perimeter plantings for pollinators

Kevin finished the session saying that most antibiotics come from the soil either directly or indirectly.

2024 Provincial ASB Conference
Using the Past to Build for Tomorrow

Lethbridge, Ab
Jan 22-24

Master of Ceremonies- Dickson Delorme
National Anthem- Dawn Fortin
Welcome Speech –Aaron Van Beers
AAAF President

History and Impact of ASB's in Alberta
Maureen Vadnais-Sloan

52 million acres
62000 farmers
ASB's -78 yrs. in 2023
1930's-Drought
1940's- started to see more machinery
Nov 1944- ASB act

The resolution read:

"Be it resolved that this conference endorse and recommend the establishment of ASBs in all municipal districts, such boards to be similar to personnel and objectives as the one established in the M.D. No. 220 and now in operation and that legislation as may be considered necessary be enacted by the Legislature to authorize the formation of such boards and to designate their powers."

This was a pilot project where M.D. of Conrich (now Rocky View County) and the County of Red Deer formed a special committee, which consisted of 2 councillors, 2 farmers and the District Agriculturist

1945-1950-Weeds and soil erosion
1950-1960- More trees (shelterbelts)
More roadside seeding
Rid of warbles and rats
Pest focus- coyotes and rabies
1960-1975-Plant Disease
1975-1990- Chemical jug recycle
Black flies in Cattle
1990-2015- Ag pest act additions
Clubroot
Grasshoppers
2015-present- Livestock traceability

BSE
Wild Boar
Ab EFP

Maureen currently works for Ag Financial Services as a Relationship manager-insurance
And for the ASB in various roles

History of the Soil Conservation Act

Trevor Wallace- nutrient management specialist, Ab Agriculture and Irrigation

Soil erosion-caused by wind, water and tillage

7000 people died from soil pneumonia in the 30's and many, many animals

Soil Act- 1930's

75% of topsoil lost

5 tons/ac per year

Soil: Degraded ability to function

- Poor structure, poorer water holding capacity

- Lower soil OM

- Soil acidification

- Reduced yields

- Increased risk of erosion

Other: Damage to adjacent crops

- Infrastructure in filling

- Water quality problems

- Health problems-livestock and human

Soil Drifting Control Act-SK

Passed in the 1930's

Council or municipality has the power to bylaws to regulate tillage practices.

Trevor graduated from UofSask with Bachelor of Science in Bio, a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and later completed his Master of Science in Agriculture

Trevor Wallace

Alberta Ag. and Irrigation

(780) 980-7587

EMAIL: trevor.wallace@gov.ab.ca

Reality is in the Pictures

Todd Green-Director of Ag. Services, County of Newell

Gary Secrist-Supervisor of Ag. Services, Lethbridge County

Southern Alberta has a policy to clean up erosion

- Start ripping to slow it up

- Snow fence in small areas

- Started to seed cover crops right after harvest

Showed one pic where they hauled 138 loads of dirt out of ¼ mile of ditch :0

Why is soil erosion a problem in Southern Alberta?

- Dry and windy
- Sandy soils
- New producers to the area
- Less snow cover
- Tight specialty crop rotations
- Fire

Check out County of Newell Soil Conservation page

www.countyofnewell.ab.ca/p/soilconservation.program

-Farming Smarter articles and Webinars

OR

For more info

Lethbridge County

Matthew Wells

Rural Extension Specialist

(403) 732-5333

mwells@lethbridgecounty.ca

Todd Green-Has been Director of Ag. Services for almost 2 decades and proud to work in the #1 county

Garry Secrist- Supervisor in Ag. Services for Lethbridge County for 30 years

History of the Agricultural Pest Act

Dr. Michael Harding

AB Ag. & Irrigation

Intent of the Alberta Pest Act (1942)

- To prevent the introduction and spread of harmful pests
- Primarily focused on pests that=
 - Cause severe hardship to producers
 - Restrict international trade
 - Limited management options, if established
 - Extremely difficult to eradicate, if established

Prevents harmful pests

Defines pests as any animal, insect or disease that may be likely be destructive or dangerous to crops or livestock

- Insects- grasshoppers
- Diseases- Dutch elm disease
- Animals-rats, ground squirrels, etc.
- No Flag smut, dwarf bunt to effect exports

michael.harding@gov.ab.ca

Clubroot Protocols In Practice

Aaron Van Beers

Manager- Ag. Services, Leduc County

Each County develops their own policy's that works for them
Can include inspections, education, awareness and/or enforcement
2007- Leduc County
Every canola field gets checked
Identify, Inform and Mitigate
12,039 have been tested
2154 tested positive

CleanFarms 2024 Program Update

*Davin Johnson
Alberta Program Advisor,
CleanFarms Inc.*

CleanFarms is a non-profit industry stewardship organization committed to environmental responsibility by managing Ag plastics and non-organic product waste

It operates six permanent across 10 provinces spanning over 10 million square kilometers and 190,000 farms.

They do this by offering collection services in partnership with over 1,500 retail and municipal collection sites

So far they've collected
2,906,773 kgs grain bags (1200 hectare)
437,513kgs plastic twine (1.2 million square bales)
cleanfarms.ca
(403) 942-6012
johnsond@cleanfarms.ca

Alberta Rat Control Program-Past and Future

Boots on the Ground Rat Control

*Karen Wickerson-Rat and Pest Specialist
Ab Ag. and Irrigation
Caitlin Heck
Ag. Fieldman, M.D. of Provost*

Alberta rat control program was started over 70 years ago and been successful on keeping Alberta rat free

- Rats caused black plague
- Rats reached AB/SK boarder in 1950- declared a pest
- Every Albertan is responsible for controlling rats
- Each municipality is responsible for ensuing rat infestations eradicated
- Norway rats-10/ litter

Doing inspections Spring thru Fall
791 inspections in 2023

Control-traps, poison, lures and rat clean-ups
Love silage pits- food and shelter
Look for signs- holes in bin walls and floors
Check for runways (paths) feces, odours, gnawing
Check feed and loads of hay coming in to Alberta
Karen.Wickerson@gov.ab.ca
(403) 948-3999
Caitlin Heck
check@mdprovost.ca
(780) 753-2168
REPORT A RAT!!!
310rats@govt.ab.ca
310-FARM (3276)

Value of the Weed Control Act

*Gayah Sieusahai
Pest Regulatory Officer,
AB Agriculture & Irrigation*

1905 Alberta became a Province
People introduced new plants thinking they are “pretty” or “helpful”
First weed control act consisted of 17 plants:
-Tumbling mustard
-Hares ear
-Common wild ball mustard
-Tansy mustard
-Wormweed mustard
-Flae flax
-Shepard’s purse
-Redroot pigweed
-Canada thistle
-Stinkweed
-Ragweed
-Wild oats
-Russian pigweed
-Bluebur
-Tumbleweed

1907 \$50 fines for noxious weeds (with inflation is \$3500 now)
Weed act helped control the introduction of noxious plants
Weeds compete; some are toxic to animals and humans
Noxious weed- control it
Prohibited weed- destroy it
Weed seeds can become barriers to trade
Knapweeds, Canada thistle

Alberta is doing a weed review right now
2010 was the last review

gayah.sieusahai@gov.ab.ca
780-903-1753

Weed Inspection In Strathmore County

Diana Wahlstrom

Senior advisor Agriculture Initiatives, Strathcona County

Elise Graham

Agricultural Technician, Strathcona County

Challenges- contaminated hayland

- pastures unmaintained
- inappropriate control
- soil with weed seeds
- obstruction of weed inspectors
- contaminated bale movement

The Power of Partnerships

Megan Evans

Executive Director, Alberta Invasive Species Council

Municipal ASB's

- Weed control programs
- Weed inspections
- Weed enforcements
- Record keeping
- Staying current with weed programs
- Bringing public awareness; education
- Bio-control programs; bugs to control weeds

Abinvasives.ca

(587) 999-0954

On The Lighter Side Of the Dark Cloth

Sharon Widdup

Comedian

Got everyone laughing on her show about life on a Hutterite Colony. She had home made knit socks she sold to the crowd with lots of laughs make money for the girls that made them.

1-800-693-6665 for bookings

We then did our Resolution Session

With 9 Resolutions brought forward finishing them all today!

Provincial ASB Update

Kerrianne Koehler-Monro
ASB Manager

Currant ASB grant ends end of 2024

Weed review -recommendations for review to ministers

New licensing for seed cleaning plants

\$8.4 million go to 69 ASBs

ASP protect 49,000,000 acres with weed and erosion acts

116,347 km of municipal roadways are sprayed and inspected last year

10,265 club root inspections

2891 pest surveys

Kerrianne Koehler-Monro

ASB Manager

780-938-4149

Hydrogen & Energy Transition for Rural Alberta

Randy Litun

President, Sky Point Resources Ltd

Hydrogen- there is no correct answer as to what is the best technology

Each one has its role and place of use

1 ton per day of hydrogen needed for large mining trucks being used

Fun fact it takes steam and natural gas to produce hydrogen for fuel...

Randy Litin

rlitin@skypointres.com

403-540-1806

Drones in Agriculture

Jeremy Patton

RPAS Project Officer, Medicine Hat College

(Remote Piloted Aircraft System)

Uses:

-mapping

-harvest (checking)

-spraying

-seeding

Industry size in 2023 is \$4.90 billion

250 g- 25 Kg's requires a license

25 KG's and up requires a special flight operations certificate

some can be used to check nitrogen in soil can use drone imaging instead of satellite imaging

checking moisture and overall crop health and weed infestations
apexalberta.ca/rpas
jpatton@mhe.ab.ca

Sustainable Food Production

Glenn Wright

Farmer –Saskatchewan

The Farmers opinion

The more I learn the more I realize I don't know

1- reduce impact

2-replace fossil fuel energy with clean energy

Human impact on our environment

Human influence factors:

We have 8 billion people living on the planet We all want more services but poverty/ hungry people need more

Energy has be more efficient and we need to start replacing clean energy with fossil fuels

“We are in the highway to climate hell with their foot still on the accelerator”

“The 1.5° limit is only possible if we ultimately stop burning all fossil fuels. Not reduce Not abate”

UN Sec-Gen, Antonio Guterres

Climateatlas.ca

How do we get there?

-Reduce waste

-Replace fossil fuels

-Reconcile problems

Those are the privilege to know have a duty to act

No one can do it all but everyone must do something

Glenn Wright Vancoy,SK

gwrightsk@gmail.com

We've got to do something

Reg Shandro

Farmacist Advisory Services Inc.

Four stages of natural business cycle

Start up

Growth

Maturity

Decline

Succession plan has to happen around 65-75yrs old but definitely before 80 or 90

What's on the line... Everything!

-Family

-Ownership

-Legacy

Understanding the dynamics of the family farm

Wealth capital

-Fair

-Equitable

Emotional capital

-Empathy

-Support

Wealth engine

-Opportunity

-Competition

Only 4 options for a family transfer

-Family

-No family

-Voluntary

-Non-voluntary

Farmer has to be viable sustainable and able to support your family

1. Attempt to make an operational profit

2. Protect your assets

3. Stewardship

Crisis creates opportunity

Lifespan men- 78.1 years Women 82 years

What do you want your legacy look like?

'Our goal to protect our family because if we protect our farm when our families needs are not met, likely lose the farm anyways'

Farming A Prairie Playground

Nicole Neubauer

Irvine Agriculture Discovery Centre Coordinator, Rose Prairie Public Schools

Mind the Gap! Pitchfork to dinner fork from the farm gate to dinner plate; a lot gets lost in translation

2% Farmers

98% Customers

How are we going to feed 9 billion people by 2050??

91% of people admit that they know little to nothing about their food origin

Information pollution

-Misinformation

-Disinformation

The food literacy deficit in children of knowing where their food comes from is Skip the Dishes or Uber Eats!!

The future generation of farmers, consumers, advocates and policy-makers are the ones sitting in the classrooms today

Nicole started an Ag. program which brought the farm to the classroom

22,000 kids have visited her farm since 2005!

Touring her animals and farm equipment to see first hand on what is actually on a farm

At the Irvine School they have a farm and garden in where the school children are running it with a board, teaching team, program coordinators and have workers At the end of the season they have a Harvest Gala where they host a Supper, Silent Auction and sell the live animals which all the proceeds go back to the program

“In the end we conserve only what we love; we love only what we understand; and only understand what we are taught”

Baba Dioum, 1968

TEAM- Together Everyone Achieves More!!

Taber Sugar Beet Factory

Bryan Avison

Agricultural Superintendent, Lantic Inc.

Knight Sugar Company 1903-1914

-Opened by Jesse Knight from Provo, Utah

-In Raymond, Ab (named after his eldest son) for crop of 1903

-Success until 1907 when BC Sugar tried to drive them out of business

-Farmers wouldn't grow sugar beets so they started importing raw sugar from Europe

-WW1 ended importing sugar, which caused the factory to close

-Factory moved to Cornish, Utah

Raymond Factory 1925-1963

-Had farmers prove interest in 1923-24 before moving factory

-7232 acres were grown, 5394 acres harvested with 37,617 tonnes at 6.9

tonne/acre yield with 14.4% sugar Total sugar production 3422 tonnes

-Canadian Sugar Factory was bought out by BC Sugar in 1931 after a disastrous harvest

-Factory closed in 1963

Picture Butte Factory 1936-1977

-Sugar beet growers and the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District wanted a factory close by

-Built to process crop in 1936

-Process 1000 tonnes/day

-Closed in 1977

Taber Factory 1950-Present

-Supposed to begin in 1942 but delayed by war

- Started in 1946 completed in 1950
- Initial capacity of 1800tonnes/day
- Continually expanded. More efficient to run 1 large factory than 3 smaller ones

Currently

- Only Sugar beet processing facility in Canada
- Current capacity 6000 tonnes/day
- Approx. 850,000 tonnes of sugar beets produced on 28,000 acres
- 120,000 tonnes of sugar is produced
- Avg. yield in 2023 was 36tonne/acre at 19% sugar

Sugar beets are harvested end of August beginning of September

Growers are paid by higher sugar content and yield. Harvest is done in 5 days

Trucks pile beets up 18-20 feet high, 200 feet wide. Use ventilation pipes under beets blowing warm air to protect from rot

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	HEARTLAND TRAINING & SUPPORT HUB DONATION REQUEST
File:	63-10-20

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with a donation request from Heartland Training & Support Hub, formally the Farm Safety Centre, for the 2024 farm safety presentations to the students within Clear Hills County boundaries.

BACKGROUND:

AG7-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION Member Candy to table the request for additional funding for the Farm Safety Centre Program until the updated request letter is received. CARRIED.

AG11-22(02/15/22)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board recommends Council approves a conditional grant of up to \$500.00 at \$3.50 per student to the Farm Safety Centre for providing the Farm Safety Smarts Program to students within Clear Hills County boundaries. CARRIED.

The Farm Safety Centre has delivered the Farm Safety Smarts Program to students in Clear Hills County for several years. Due to a reduction in funding the Farm Safety Smarts Program has been suspended and has since rebranded the organization to Heartland Training & Support Hub.

Heartland Training & Support Hub is asking for a donation of \$175.50, this amount is calculated based on 39 students at \$4.50/student.

ATTACHMENTS:

Funding request letter

Attendance Report on the previous year's program

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council approve Heartland Training & Support Hub's donation request of \$170.50 to for the 2024 farm safety presentations for the students within Clear Hills County boundaries.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**



AgFieldman:



Greg Coon

From: Jordan Jensen <j.jensen@abfarmsafety.com>
Sent: January 23, 2024 10:04 PM
To: Greg Coon
Subject: Farm Safety Centre Update & Donation Request
Attachments: 2023 Safety Smarts Delivery By County.pdf



265 East 400 South | Box 291 | Raymond | Alberta | T0K 2S0 | 403 752-4585 | www.abfarmsafety.com

2024-01-23

Greg Coon- Agricultural Fieldman

Clear Hills County

Box 240 Worsley, AB T0H 3W

Dear Greg,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. As we navigate through challenging times, I am writing to you on behalf of the Farm Safety Centre, with some important updates and a heartfelt request.

Firstly, I wish to express our profound gratitude for your past support, which has been instrumental in driving our mission forward. However, it is with a heavy heart that I must inform you of the recent suspension of our Safety Smarts and Sustainable Farm Families programs. In June 2023, due to a significant reduction in government funding directed towards farm safety and a decrease in donations, we were compelled to pause these vital initiatives. We had remained hopeful for additional funding during the summer months to resume our usual operations in September, but unfortunately, this did not materialize. Consequently, these programs are currently on hold until we secure further funding.

In light of these challenges and the evolving needs of our community, our board of directors has made a strategic decision to rebrand our organization to Heartland Training & Support Hub in the spring of 2024. This change reflects our commitment to not only continue our work in farm safety but to expand our services to encompass a broader mission. Our new direction includes addressing rural health, well-being, and support for newcomers, responding to the changing landscape of rural communities' needs.

The transition to Heartland Training & Support Hub is more than a name change; it symbolizes our dedication to building on our legacy while adapting to new challenges and opportunities. We aim to guide the organization through this transition, aligning our efforts towards a vision of a thriving, inclusive rural Canada.

As we embark on this new chapter, the need for support is more pressing than ever. We humbly request a donation of \$ 175.50 for the 2024 calendar year. This amount, calculated at a rate of \$4.50 per student, will help cover a portion of the delivery costs for the 39 children we reached in your county in 2023. This contribution will directly support our efforts to revive and sustain our programs. If this does not work within your budget, then a donation of any amount will be greatly appreciated. For those who have the capacity to contribute more, we warmly welcome any additional support. Every dollar helps us qualify for matching funds from the government and other grants, amplifying the impact of your generosity.

We understand the financial challenges that everyone faces, especially in these uncertain times. However, we believe in the power of collective effort and the impact it can have. Any support you can provide will be a significant step towards resuming our vital programs and launching new initiatives under our rebranded mission.

As a registered charity, all donations to Farm Safety Centre (*Prior to April 1, 2024*) or Heartland Training & Support Hub (*After April 1, 2024*) are eligible for a tax receipt. We will proudly acknowledge your support on our website and in our communications, highlighting the crucial role you play in our mission.

Additionally, we offer multiple channels for donations. If you choose to donate online via our **Alberta Crowdfunding Campaign**, **your donation will be matched by 30%**, amplifying its impact if made before March 20, 2024. At the bottom of this letter, you'll find a QR Code. By scanning this with your phone's camera you'll be directed to our online donation portal. Likewise, you could click on the link in the in the email to be directed to our crowdfunding page.

Alberta Crowdfunding Portal: https://fnd.us/c2LE7d?ref=sh_6ChjUa

Please accept our deepest appreciation for your past contributions and for considering our current request. Your partnership is invaluable to us, and we hope to continue this journey together, adapting and growing to meet the needs of our rural communities.

Thank you once again for your valued support and commitment to our cause.

Warm regards,

Jordan Jensen | Executive Director
Farm Safety Centre / Heartland Training & Support Hub
Office: 403.752.4585
Cell: 403.593.8960
Email: j.jensen@abfarmsafety.com

See attached delivery report for more details



County	# Students	# Presentations	Schools	School Name	Date
Camrose County		22	1	1 Rosalind Colony School	2023-04-14
		91	6	1 New Norway School	2023-06-07
		50	3	1 Cornerstone Christian Academy	2023-02-09
		144	8	1 Bawlf School	2023-01-31
		113	7	1 Bashaw School & ECS	2023-03-09
		122	7	1 Hay Lakes School	2023-05-17
Subtotal	Sum	542	32	6	
County	# Students	# Presentations	Schools	School Name	Date
Cardston County		17	1	1 Riverside Colony School	2023-02-03
		23	1	1 Mountain View School	2023-05-26
		64	3	1 Cardston Elementary School	2023-01-27
		158	6	1 Cardston Elementary School	2023-01-25
		160	7	1 Cardston Elementary School	2023-01-24
		132	7	1 Cardston Elementary School	2023-01-23
		17	1	1 Blue Ridge Colony School	2023-05-12
		19	1	1 Big Bend Colony School	2023-01-23
		9	1	1 West Raley Colony School	2023-01-23
Subtotal	Sum	599	28	6	
County	# Students	# Presentations	Schools	School Name	Date
Clear Hills County		27	2	1 Menno-Simmons Community School	2023-02-15
		12	1	1 Bear Canyon Colony School	2023-03-01
	Subtotal	Sum	39	3	2
County	# Students	# Presentations	Schools	School Name	Date
Clearwater County		155	7	1 Caroline School	2023-06-08
		278	8	1 Lochearn School	2023-06-05
		207	7	1 Ecole Rocky Elementary School	2023-05-01
	Subtotal	Sum	640	22	3
County	# Students	# Presentations	Schools	School Name	Date

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	THE USE OF DRONES FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with information regarding the use of drones for agricultural purposes.

BACKGROUND:

AG113-23(12/19/23) RESOLUTION by Chairman Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board request further information regarding drone spraying and the regulations in place. CARRIED.

ATTACHMENTS:

Drone usage information

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board accept the information regarding the use of drones for agricultural purposes, as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**



AgFieldman:



The Use of Drones for Agricultural Purposes

- Drones that have a take off weight of less than 250g (.55 lb) including batteries or anything attached to it, are known as microdrones. These do not need to be registered and a drone pilot certificate is not required.
- Drones with a take off weight of 250g (.55 lbs) or more require a Pilot Certificate-Basic Operations. This is obtained by passing the Small Basic Exam. Pilots must fly more than 30m away from bystanders and never over bystanders. Drones must be registered with Transport Canada and the registration number marked on the drone. Pilots need to be able to show their Pilot Certificate and proof of registration.
- Drones with a take off weight of 25 kg (55 lbs) or more require a Pilot Certificate-Advanced Operations. This is obtained by passing the Small Advanced Exam as well as passing a flight review. Drones must be registered with Transport Canada and the registration number marked on the drone. The drone must have the appropriate safety declaration for the intended operation. Pilots must be able to show their Pilot Certificate-Advanced Operations and proof of registration. This category includes all drones equipped with tanks used for spraying.
 - Pilots that intend to spray pesticides with drones will also need a drone pesticide application certificate. Currently there are no Canadian provinces or territories that offer a drone pesticide application certificate. However, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas is leading the development of the national drone manual, and it is projected that it will be available at Lakeland College by May of 2024. A valid Pilot Certificate-Advanced Operations through Transport Canada will be a requirement to enrol for the drone pesticide application certificate.
 - Currently, there are only three registered pesticides for drone application in Canada, and all three are for mosquito control. Products registered for application by drone will have “Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems” and/or “RPAS” on the label. If these terms do not appear on pesticide labels, the use of drones to apply pesticides is not permitted under the Pest Control Products Act.
 - As of June 2023, The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) had not received any data to support the use of drones for pesticide application with active ingredients that require a drone-specific risk assessment. The PMRA has thus not yet characterized the hazards and/or risks posed to human health and the environment, or the value of the product associated with the use of drone application.

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	LOCAL BUSINESS TOUR
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with a discussion regarding the west end local business tour.

BACKGROUND:

AG09-24(02/06/24) RESOLUTION by Chair Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board request further information regarding the Agricultural Service Board tour of the West end to the March Agricultural Service Board Meeting, CARRIED.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board accept the discussion regarding the west end local business tour for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**



AgFieldman:



Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	PCBFA RESOURCE STREAM FUNDING
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with additional information regarding Peace County Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) resource stream funding, as requested.

BACKGROUND:

AG05-24(02/06/24) RESOLUTION by Member Candy that this Agricultural Service Board request a meeting with Peace County Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) to discuss events within the County at a future Agricultural Service Board Meeting. CARRIED.

AG116-23(12/19/23) RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board accept the delegation from Peace County Beef and Forage (PCBFA) on the 2023 program, for information. CARRIED.

AG115-23(12/19/23) RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board request further information regarding the resource stream funding given to Peace County Beef and Forage (PCBFA). CARRIED.

PCBFA is under agreement for 2020-2024 to deliver Resource Management partnership programs and services that are funded by a Provincial ASB grant of \$110,000 and cost share funding from each partnering municipality (\$7,500 for Clear Hills County, MD Fairview, MD Peace, MD Spirit River, Saddle Hills County and \$3,000 for Birch Hills County).

Beyond the Resource Management partnership, Clear Hills County contributes \$17,500.00 of additional funding. In 2023, the County approved a one time additional funding increase of \$2,500.00 under the conditions that PCBFA must hold three extension events within the County.

PCBFA has submitted an additional funding request letter for 2024, which includes the budgeted \$17,500.00 as well as the further additional funding of \$2,500.00.

ATTACHMENTS:

PCBFA Resource Steam Funding Agreement terms and conditions
PCBFA reported yearly performance
PCBFA Additional Funding Request Letter

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by...

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**

R

AgFieldman:

GC

Activity	Contributors / Partners Involved	To be carried out in: (Please check all which apply)				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Describe your activities	Include Names, roles and responsibilities					
Provide one-on-one technical assistance in completing and/or updating Environmental Farm Plans (EFPs).	PCBFA (two staff EFP technicians) Assist producers on an as needed basis, targeting a minimum of 30 producers per year	X	X	X	X	X
Deliver open, free workshops on getting started on an EFP (in combination with CAP programs update).	PCBFA (two staff EFP technicians) Assist producers on an as needed basis, targeting a minimum of 2 workshops per year	X	X	X	X	X
Promote EFPs by publishing an 'EFP Facts at your Fingertips' in our web update. Publish EFP fact update in magazine.	PCBFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 fact published in monthly email update (two email updates annually) (250 farm units, 10 MDs and many corporate farming partners) 1 article in biannual magazine (4000 Peace Country addresses) 	X	X	X	X	X
Deliver additional demonstrations, workshops and field days related to EFPs as government changes priorities over time and new information arises.	PCBFA	X	X	X	X	X

Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Producer Programs

Resource Management Goal 2 (15%)

Increase producer awareness of the federal-provincial initiative CAP producer program to strengthen the agriculture, agri-food, and agri-based products sector and increase its competitiveness, prosperity and sustainability.

Strategy 2

- Provide technical assistance for producers to access CAP programs and inform producers ways to increase energy efficiency, manage resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions due to agriculture
- Identify risk areas and assist producers to complete CAP applications to aid in improving on-farm energy efficiency

Performance Measures

1. Continuation of our tracking sheet to record attendance at events, distribution of written extension materials, one-on-one assistance/discussion with producers, and follow up with producers
2. Utilize evaluation forms at each extension event to determine effectiveness of program delivery
3. Follow up with producers after extension events to record uptake of CAP program and use of program funding
4. Monitor feedback from producers to PCBFA staff and participating municipality teams for future extension planning

Activity	Contributors / Partners Involved	To be carried out in: (Please check all which apply)				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Describe your activities	Include Names, roles and responsibilities					
Provide one-on-one technical assistance in completing Canadian Agriculture Program (CAP) applications.	PCBFA (two staff EFP/CAP technicians) Assist producers on an as needed basis, targeting a minimum of 30 producers per year	X	X	X	X	X
Deliver open, free workshops on how to complete a CAP application along with an update on the program. This is in combination with EFP assistance.	PCBFA (two staff EFP/CAP technicians) Assist producers on an as needed basis, targeting a minimum of 2 workshops per year	X	X	X	X	X
Promote access to CAP funding made available by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry through a review and update on program funding. The number of producers assisted and total funds allocated to producer will be published annually in magazine.	PCBFA 1 article in biannual magazine (4000 Peace Country addresses)	X	X	X	X	X
Deliver additional demonstrations, workshops and field days related to CAP programs as government changes priorities over time and new information arises.	PCBFA	X	X	X	X	X

Local Resource Management Initiatives – Soil Health and Pasture Management

Resource Management Goal 3 (40%)

Create awareness and encourage implementation of sustainable cropping systems and farming activities to improve soil health, increase soil carbon sequestration, promote pasture rejuvenation while reducing fertility inputs.

Strategy 3

- Deliver demonstrations, workshops and field days, and produce and distribute extension materials relating to soil health, pasture management and soil carbon sequestration.

Performance Measures						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of our tracking sheet to record attendance at events, distribution of written extension materials, and follow up with producers Utilize evaluation forms at each extension event to determine effectiveness of program delivery Follow up with producers after extension events to monitor uptake of best management practices Monitor feedback from producers to PCBFA staff and participating municipality teams for future extension planning 						
Activity	Contributors / Partners Involved	To be carried out in: (Please check all which apply)				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Describe your activities	Include Names, roles and responsibilities					
Deliver workshops on soil health, soil carbon sequestration and pasture rejuvenation	PCBFA, Regional/International Agricultural Expert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 workshops per year 	X	X	X	X	X
Provide technical expertise on cropping plans, forage analysis, ration balancing, soil analysis and meeting livestock energy needs by providing in-person and virtual classroom from local experts. Allows for producers to ask questions and review their farm plans.	PCBFA, Dr. Akim Omokanye and Monika Benoit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 work-sessions biannually Q3/Q4 and Q1/Q2 	X	X	X	X	X
Promote use of best management practices to improve soil health and extend grazing by distribution of written extension materials directly to producers.	PCBFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 articles in monthly newsletter (250 producers) 1 article in biannual magazine (4000 producers) 	X	X	X	X	X
Distribute to producers an extension guide on growing and utilizing cocktail cover crops in the Peace region.	PCBFA			X	X	X
Implement and maintain demonstration plots at multiple sites for producer education, showcasing sustainable cropping systems for improving soil health, including demonstrations of cocktail cover crop mixtures, crop rotations, green manure and short-term fallow.	PCBFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fairview Spirit River On-farm demonstrations 	X	X	X	X	X
Field Day at one of the project sites to showcase variety trials, forages, sustainable cropping systems (intercrops and cocktails)	PCBFA, Regional/International Agricultural Expert	X	X	X	X	X
Deliver additional demonstrations, workshops, tradeshows and field days related to soil health and pasture management, as producer needs evolve and new information arises	PCBFA	X	X	X	X	X

Supply feed testing and ration balancing programs, receive calls to answer production and industry questions on a regular basis. Deliver workshops/web-series on an as needed basis. Provide webinars and web-updates on an as	PCBFA, Dr. Akim Omokanye, Katelyn McLachlan	X	X	X	X	X
Provide extension and demonstration update to producers and agricultural partners.	PCBFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> extension update in annual report (300 printed copies) 	X	X	X	X	X

Local Resource Management Initiatives – Water Management

Resource Management Goal 4 (20%)						
Identify specific water quality risks pertaining to each of the main production systems in the region, and increase producers' awareness of the potential risks and best management practices to reduce impacts to water resources.						
Strategy 3						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver workshops related to water quality and assessment of water quality risks Identify risk areas and assist producers questions on EFP and CAP programming to aid in mitigation of risks to quality of water sources 						
Performance Measures						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of our tracking sheet to record attendance at events, distribution of written extension materials, and follow up with producers Utilize evaluation forms at each extension event to determine effectiveness of program delivery 						
Activity	Contributors / Partners Involved	To be carried out in: (Please check all which apply)				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Describe your activities	Include Names, roles and responsibilities					
Develop water quality risk management demonstration sites on producer land, and distribute/host related extension events and materials directly to producers	PCBFA and Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance (MPWA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify 2 sites in the region with significant water quality risks and assess the sites Develop plan for mitigating risks Implement strategies to improve water quality Host field tour of mitigations implemented at producer's site Create video for distribution between ASBs, producer members and workshops 	X	X	X	X	X
Host tour of local watering systems featuring sites that utilize alternative energy sources or energy efficient systems	PCBFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 tour annually Rotate location to a different MD every year 	X	X	X	X	X

Provide use of a solar-powered watering system (owned by PCBFA) to producers on short-term loan, for demonstration purposes and to encourage adoption of efficient farm systems.	PCBFA	X	X	X	X	X
Promote proper stewardship of our water resources and mitigation of water quality risks on farms by distribution of written extension materials directly to producers	PCBFA • 1 article in biannual magazine (4000 producers)	X	X	X	X	X
Deliver additional demonstrations, workshops and field days related to water quality, as producer needs evolve and new information arises	PCBFA and MPWA	X	X	X	X	X

Local Resource Management Initiatives – Farm Management Challenges

<p>Resource Management Goal 5 (10%) Identify producer’s ‘Biggest Farm Management Challenges’ in PCBFA’s annual needs assessment conducted with Peace Country agricultural producers annually. Management challenges can include land and livestock improvements, grain and livestock marketing, improving farm operation efficiencies, increasing financial stability, weed suppression, amongst others.</p>
<p>Strategy 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify challenges and assist producers to access CAP funding to aid in overcoming challenges and ultimately increase farm efficiencies, improve access to market and generate wealth in local economies. • Deliver workshops related to producer’s identified ‘Biggest Farm Management Challenges’
<p>Performance Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of our tracking sheet to record attendance at events, distribution of written extension materials, and follow up with producers • Utilize evaluation forms at each extension event to determine effectiveness of program delivery

Activity	Contributors / Partners Involved	To be carried out in: (Please check all which apply)				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Describe your activities	Include Names, roles and responsibilities					
Deliver informal workshops tailoring to producer's needs. Invite regional and provincial experts to offer guidance and support in overcoming farm management challenges.	PCBFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 workshop annually Rotate location to a different MD every year 	X	X	X	X	X
Summarize the challenges of Peace Country farmers and feature stories of early adoption by distribution of written extension materials directly to producers	PCBFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 article in biannual magazine (4000 producers) 	X	X	X	X	X
Deliver additional demonstrations, workshops, extension publications related to farming challenges, as producer needs evolve and new information arises	PCBFA	X	X	X	X	X

**Peace County Beef and Forage Association
Reported Yearly Performance**

Year	EFP Application Clients	CAP Application Clients	Extension Events Within County	Extension Events in Partnering Municipalities	Webinars	Printed Articles Distributed	Virtual Articles # of Views	Projects Within County	Projects in Partnering Municipalities
2015	9	3	2	4	Not Reported	160	4000	0	2
2016	5	13	1	5	1	8000	4000	Not Reported	2
2017	6	0	Not Reported	12	0	8875	12636	0	1
2018	27	6	Not Reported	7	0	8750	532	0	2
2019	7	8	0	9	1	9350	765	Not Reported	1
2020	2	10	Not Reported	9	3	125	93	Not Reported	1
2021	5	15	Not Reported	5	2	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported
2022	19	4	Not Reported	6	15	33950	750+	Not Reported	1



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association
Box 3000 / 820059 Range Road 35
Fairview, AB T0H 1L0
P: (780) 835-6799
F: (780) 835-6628

October 25, 2023

Council and Agriculture Service Board Members
Clear Hills County
Box 240
Worsley, AB T0H 3W0

Dear Council and Agriculture Service Board Members,

On behalf of the PCBFA staff, board of directors, and members, I want to express our deep gratitude for your ongoing support. Though we have greatly expanded our research and extension programs over the last five years, we have continued to struggle with a secure, adequate, and long-term base. This base is needed to cover expenses that are essential but are not billable to projects - such as insurance, utilities, office supplies, capital equipment purchases, equipment maintenance, staff training, and core staff salaries. A stable base is fundamental to the success of the programs we provide for Peace Country producers.

Our municipal support is a crucial piece of that stable base, as well as a source of matching funds to leverage for research and extension projects, and therefore is our most important funding source. For 2024-25, we would like to request continued funding at the same level of \$27,500 per year.

We would love the opportunity to attend one of your meetings over the fall and winter as a delegate, to deliver an update on our operations this past year and discuss plans for future years. Should you have any questions, concerns, or any other feedback – please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to meeting with you soon.

Sincerely,

Mimi Vanderheide
Interim Executive Director
Peace Country Beef & Forage Association
250-794-7414
mimi@pcbfa.ca

Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	EVENTS
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with a list of upcoming agricultural related events for their information.

BACKGROUND:

Upcoming Events:

NPARA Annual General Meeting
March 27, 2024 more information to come

ATTACHMENTS:

NPARA Annual General Meeting Save the Date
Calanders: March, April, May

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all Board members to the NPARA Annual General Meeting on March 27, 2024.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:



AgFieldman:



SAVE THE DATE



03 - 27 - 24

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10:00 AM



NORTH PEACE APPLIED RESEARCH ASSOCIATION



Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

At this time the Agricultural Fieldman will have an opportunity to present his report.



BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Agricultural Fieldman Report – March 13, 2024
Rental Equipment Summary

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by.. that the Agricultural Service Board accepts the March 13, 2024, Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**  **AgFieldman:** 

MARCH 13, 2024

PEST CONTROL

• **Wolves Claimed 2024 YTD:**

Total #	Total \$
11	\$2200.00

OTHER TOPICS

1. Tenders for the tractor, two sidearms, mower, and half a mile of 4" water hose were awarded at the March 12, 2024 Regula Council Meeting.
2. Currently advertising for weed inspectors and mower operators for the 2024 season.
3. Transportation Corridor workshop on Feb. 22nd in Peace River was a success, with 40 attendees, including two applicators from Clear Hills County.
4. Martin Schmidt has passed the Core section of the pesticide applicators license and is now studying for the Agricultural, Landscape, and Industrial sections so he can serve as a backup to myself.
5. Planning for Trade show is in full swing.

January 1 - February 29, 2024

Rental Equipment	Rental Deposit	Rental Rates	Total Users	Total Days	Total	Equipment Expense
<i>Backpack Sprayer</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Bale Scale</i>	\$ 100.00	\$ 30.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>BBQ Trailer</i>	\$ 150.00	\$ 75.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Chairs</i>	\$ 50.00	\$0.50/chair	2	2	\$ 82.00	
<i>Community Centre</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	1	1	\$ -	
<i>Corral Panels</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Eco-Bran Applicator</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Exta Hoses</i>	\$ 50.00	\$1.000/hose	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Grain Bagger</i>	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Grain Bag Roller</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	1	1	\$ -	
<i>Grain Bag Extractor</i>	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Grain Vac</i>	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	3	3	\$ 900.00	
<i>Grill</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	1	2	\$ -	
<i>Land Leveller</i>	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Loading Chute</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	1	1	\$ 25.00	
<i>Manure Spreader</i>	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Mulch Applicator</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Post Pounder</i>	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Pull/Push Roller Applicator</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Quad Mount Rope Wick</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Quad Mounted Sprayer</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Quad Pull Type Sprayer</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Roller Mill</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 20.00	1	1	\$ 20.00	
<i>Rotowiper</i>	\$ 150.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Skidmount Sprayer</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Smoke Signs</i>	\$ 60.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Scare Cannon</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Tables</i>	\$ 50.00	\$1.00/table	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Toilets</i>	\$ 100.00	\$ 40.00	1	1	\$ 40.00	
<i>Truck Mount Sprayer</i>	\$ 200.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Wash Station</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 10.00	0	0	\$ -	
	\$100 (summer)	\$75 (summer)				
<i>Water Pumps</i>	\$1000 (winter)	\$200 (winter)	1	1	\$ 200.00	
<i>Wire Roller</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -	
			12	13	\$ 1,267.00	\$ -

Revenue	\$ 1,267.00
Equipment Expense	\$ -
Insurance	\$ -
Chargeback	\$ 406.33
Profit/Loss	\$860.67

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

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Meeting Date:	March 13, 2024
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:


The Board is presented with correspondence for review.

BACKGROUND:

ATTACHEMENTS:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by.. that this Agricultural Service Board receives the information & correspondence of March 13, 2024, as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: **Manager:**  **AgFieldman:** 