

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Worsley, Alberta
March 18, 2016**

PRESENT

Brian Harcourt	Chair
Leslie Davis	Member
Stan Logan	Member
Charlie Johnson	Council Representative
MacKay Ross	Member
Baldur Ruecker	Deputy Chair

IN ATTENDANCE

Audrey Bjorklund	Community Development Manager
Sarah Hayward	Community Development Clerk
Aaron Zylstra	Agricultural Fieldman
Al Fletcher	Agricultural Fieldman

IN REGRET

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harcourt called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Member Ross entered the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Deputy Chair Ruecker entered the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

AGENDA

AG33(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Logan that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the March 18, 2016 Agricultural Service Board meeting with the following additions:

4 C. Delegations: Dave Bannow – Organic Alberta Conference 10:50 a.m.

7 H. Rental Equipment – Land Roller

7 I. Member Davis Resignation CARRIED.

AG34(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the February 8, 2016 Agricultural Service Board Meeting as amended. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Activity Report

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

AG35(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the March 18, 2016 ASB Activity Report as presented. CARRIED.

Pollinator Habitat
No-Mow Program

The Board is presented with revisions to Policy 6304 Roadside Vegetation Control for proposed Pollinator Habitat No-Mow Program.

AG36(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council adopt Policy 6304 Roadside Vegetation Control that has been revised to include the proposed Pollinator Habitat No-Mow Program as presented. CARRIED.

Clubroot of Canola
Policy 6306

The Board is provided with a revised draft Clubroot of Canola Policy 6306, so that they can review the amended wording as requested at the last meeting, before presenting it to Council for their consideration.

AG37(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council adopt revised Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola Policy as presented. CARRIED.

Agricultural Improvement
Policy

The Board is provided with Policy 6302 Agricultural Improvement Policy with the requested revisions around reimbursing some costs for producers that attended agricultural focused Conferences and Workshops.

AG38(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Rucker that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council adopt Policy 6302 Agricultural Improvement Policy with revisions to include reimbursing costs for producers that attended agricultural focused Conferences and Workshops as presented. CARRIED.

Farm Family Award

The Board is presented with Farm Family nominations from the Hines Creek area (Ward 2) for the County's annual Farm Family Award. Two Farm Family nominations were received.

AG39(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board table the Farm Family nominations to later in the meeting. CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS

Peace Country Beef
& Forage Association

Peace Country Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) Manager, Monika Benoit, will be presenting an update, by conference call at 10:20a.m., on the 2015 Environment Stream partnership program and present the plans for the 2016 program. Also presented will be updates on the PCBFA programs, funding and direction.

AG40(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the delegation from Monika Benoit, Manager, Peace Country Beef and Forage Association on the 2015 Environment Stream partnership program and 2016 programming. CARRIED.

ADD-IN
Dave Bannow

Following up on Resolution AG26(02/08/16) David Bannow was in attendance at 10:50 a.m. to present on the Organic Alberta Conference he attended on February 25 and 26, 2016 in Olds, Alberta.

AG41(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the delegation from David Bannow on the 2016 Organic Alberta Conference that was held on February 25 and 26, 2016 in Olds, Alberta. CARRIED.

Curt Hale

Curt Hale was scheduled to attend the meeting at 11:30 a.m. to present information on his Cocktail Cover Crops experience and the benefits to his cropping process. Mr. Hale had to cancel and his delegation will be included in the next available ASB meeting.

Chair Harcourt recessed for a break at 11:10 a.m.
Chair Harcourt reconvened at 11:16 a.m.

Farm Family Award

This item was tabled earlier in the meeting.

AG42(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board bring the Farm Family nominations off the table. CARRIED.

AG43(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board approve the 2016 Farm Family to Frykas Farms and purchase a gate sign to a maximum of \$300 to present at the County's Agricultural Trade Show banquet on April 9th, 2016. CARRIED.

Trade Show
April 9, 2016

Administration is requesting Board members to participate in the Agricultural Service Board booth at the Trade Show to promote agricultural services and get feedback from the visitors.

AG44(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the Agricultural Service Board booth schedule and discussion around the 22nd Annual Clear Hills County Agricultural Trade Show being held on April 9, 2016 at the Dave Shaw Memorial Complex in Hines Creek, Alberta. CARRIED.

Promoting Farm
Publications

Chair Harcourt is requesting a round table discussion on how to encourage local producers to read the Alberta Farmer, Northern Horizon and Peace Country Sun, due to valuable information that is included in these publications.

AG45(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the discussion around the valuable and useful agricultural information that is included in articles in Alberta Farmer, Northern Horizon and Peace Country Sun. CARRIED.

	<p>Chair Harcourt recessed for lunch at 11:57 a.m. Chair Harcourt Harcourt reconvened from lunch at 12:32 p.m.</p>
Quackgrass	<p>Councillor Johnson requested to have a discussion around elevating Quackgrass to a prohibited noxious or noxious weed in the County. Currently Quackgrass is not listed as a prohibited or noxious weed in the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, and Couch Grass (Aka Quackgrass) is considered a prohibited noxious weed seed in the <i>Weed Seeds Order</i>.</p>
AG46(03/18/16)	<p>RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council elevate Quackgrass (Couchgrass) as a Noxious weed within Clear Hills County and that the County lobby to have it elevated to a noxious weed in the entire province. DEFEATED.</p>
<u>NEW BUSINESS</u> Alberta Farm Animal Care Funding	<p>The Board purchased a membership to Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) in 2015, and did not include funds in the 2016 budget. AFAC has invoiced for 2016 and provided information for the Board's consideration. The Board is requested to decide if a membership would be valuable to the County or not and if so request funds be included in the 2016 budget.</p>
AG47(03/18/16)	<p>RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council include \$500 in the 2016 Operating Budget for an Alberta Farm Animal Care membership. CARRIED.</p>
Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS)	<p>The Board is presented with an update to Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS).</p>
AG48(03/18/16)	<p>RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board direct administration to arrange an Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) joint meeting with M.D. of Fairview No. 136 and M.D. of Peace No. 135 in October 2016. CARRIED.</p>
Events	<p>The Board is presented with events for their consideration.</p>
AG49(03/18/16)	<p>RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair Harcourt and Deputy Chair Ruecker to attend the Fusarium Graminearum Workshop on April 7, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Girouxville Community Hall.• Chair Harcourt and Deputy Chair Ruecker to attend succession planning Workshop on March 30th, 2016 at the Community Hall in Debolt, Alberta. CARRIED.
Rental Equipment	<p>Chair Harcourt requested rental equipment be added to the March 18, 2016 agenda. Board members have been approached by</p>

ratepayers requesting a land roller and a breaking disc be considered as additional rental equipment items.

AG50(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agriculture Service Board direct administration bring back information on 30 to 40 foot land roller to a future Agricultural Service Board meeting. CARRIED.

AG51(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Ruecker that this Agriculture Service Board direct administration bring back information on a 14-16 foot breaking disc to a future Agricultural Service Board meeting. CARRIED.

Board Member
Resignation

Member Davis informed the Board that he is resigning from the Agricultural Service Board effective April 25, 2016.

AG52(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Logan that this Agriculture Service Board accepting Member Davis's resignation from the Agricultural Service Board effective April 25, 2016 and recommend Council advertise the Member at Large vacancy. CARRIED.

REPORTS

Agricultural Fieldman
Report

At this time the Agricultural Fieldmen will have an opportunity to present their reports.

AG53(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the March 18, 2016 Agricultural Fieldmen reports for information. CARRIED.

Board Reports

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to present their reports.

Councillor Johnson: Peace Country Beef and Forage Annual General Meeting at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview, Alberta on February 26, 2016.

Member Logan: Cover Crops in Rycroft, Alberta, Peace Country Beef and Forage Annual General Meeting at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview, Alberta on February 26, 2016.

Member Davis: Tactical Farming Conference on February 10-11, 2016 at the Deerfoot Inn & Casino in Calgary, Alberta and Alberta Beef Industry Conference on February 17-19, 2016 in Red Deer, Alberta.

Deputy Chair Ruecker: Peace Country Beef and Forage Annual General Meeting at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview, Alberta on February 26, 2016. Peace Country Classic on March 10-11, 2016 in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Member Ross: Organic Conference in Olds Alberta on February 25-26, 2016. Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance Wetland Workshop on February 19, 2016 in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Chair Harcourt: Peace Country Beef and Forage Annual General Meeting at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview, Alberta on February

26, 2016, Peace Country Classic on March 10-11, 2016 in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

AG54(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Logan that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' written or verbal reports of March 18, 2016 for information. CARRIED.

INFORMATION &
CORRESPONDENCE

The Board is presented with correspondence to review.

1. Alberta Farm Animal Care – E-Newsletter – (63-02-02)
2. Back Forty Newsletter - (63-02-02)
3. The Pest Insider – (63-02-02)
4. Alberta Bear Smart Conference – (63-02-02)
5. Peace Country Beef & Forage Association – Winter 2016 – (63-02-02)
6. Permaculture in the Peace Country – (63-02-02)
7. News Release – Warkentin Calls on Liberal Government to take action on Grain Transportation – (63-02-02)

AG55(03/18/16)

RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board receives the Information & Correspondence of March 18, 2016 as presented. CARRIED.

ADJORNMENT

Chair Harcourt adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

CHAIR

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN