

AGENDA
CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
June 23, 2022

The Agricultural Service Board meeting of Clear Hills County will be held on Thursday, June 23, 2022, 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**
 - a. May 3, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes2**
- 4. Delegation(s)**
- 5. BUSINESS ARISING**
- 6. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Activity Report.....5**
 - b. Board Reports7**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. 2022 ASB Resolution Grading8**
 - b. Rental Rates for new Grain Vac26**
 - c. Events.....28**
- 8. REPORTS**
 - a. Agricultural Fieldman Report.....32**
- 9. INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE.....35**
- 10. CLOSED MEETINGS ITEMS**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WORSLEY, AB
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022**

PRESENT

Brian Harcourt	Chair
Julie Watchorn	Deputy Chair
Baldur Ruecker	Member
Ron Jensen	Member
David Janzen	Council Representative
Jason Ruecker	Council Representative (alternate)

ABSENT

Garry Candy	Member
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ATTENDING

Greg Coon	Agricultural Fieldman
Audrey Bjorklund	Community Development Manager
Bonnie Morgan	Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harcourt called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

AG16-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the May 3, 2022, Agricultural Service Board meeting, as presented. CARRIED.

MINUTES

Previous Meeting
Minutes

Agricultural Service Board is presented with previous meeting minutes.

AG17-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the February 15, 2022, Agricultural Service Board Meeting, as presented. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Activity Report

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

AG18-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the May 3, 2022, 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.

AG19-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' verbal reports of May 3, 2022, for information. CARRIED.

Carbon Tax
Information

The Board is presented with information on the Federal Carbon Tax as requested.

AG20-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Watchorn to accept for information the discussion regarding the federal carbon tax. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Weed Inspector
Appointment

Weed Control inspectors are required to be appointed as per Section 7 of the Weed Control Act. The Board is requested to appoint Crystal Dei, Bailee Richardson, Kennedy Mason, Carter Clay, and Cindy Doll as inspectors to administer the Weed Control Act for Clear Hills County in 2022

AG21-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen to appoint Crystal Dei, Bailee Richardson, Kennedy Mason, Carter Clay, and Cindy Doll as weed inspectors for Clear Hills County for 2022 as per Section 7 of the Weed Control Act. CARRIED.

Pest Inspector
Appointment

Pest Control inspectors are required to be appointed as per Section 10 of the Agricultural Pests Act; and the Board is requested to appoint Crystal Dei, Bailee Richardson, Kennedy Mason, Carter Clay, and Cindy Doll as inspectors to administer the Agricultural Pests Act for Clear Hills County in 2022.

AG22-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to appoint Crystal Dei, Bailee Richardson, Kennedy Mason, Carter Clay, and Cindy Doll as pest inspectors for Clear Hills County for 2022 as per Section 10 of the Agricultural Pests Act. CARRIED.

ASB Chairs &
Fieldmen meeting
Update

The Board is presented with the minutes of the April 4, 2022, Peace Region ASB Chairs and Fieldmen meeting for information.

AG23-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen to accept for information the update on topics discussed and outcomes from the April 4, 2022, Peace Region ASB Chairs and Fieldmen meeting. CARRIED.

Grain Vac Repair
and Replace

The Board is presented with information regarding pending repair costs for the rental equipment grain vac (Unit 31-64-35).

AG24-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen to recommend that Council replace the main bearing and vacuum rotor on the grain vac (Unit 31-64-35). CARRIED.

AG25-22(05/03/22)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to recommend Council replace the Grain Vac with a similar size unit, with funds being allocated from the Agricultural Reserve. CARRIED.

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Travel & Expense
Policy 1127

The Board is presented with the current Travel and Expense Policy 1127 that has been amended since it was last presented to the Board.

AG26-22(05/03/22)

**RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Watchorn to accept for information the current Travel and Expense Policy 1127.
CARRIED.**

Events

The Board is presented with events for their consideration.

AG27-22(05/03/22)

**RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board receives the Events provided for information.
CARRIED.**

REPORTS
Agricultural Fieldman
Report

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

AG28-22(05/03/22)

**RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the May 3, 2022, Agricultural Fieldman's Report for information, as presented.
CARRIED.**

Information &
Correspondence

The Board is presented with correspondence for review.

AG29-22(05/03/22)

**RESOLUTION by Chairman Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board receives the Information and Correspondence of May 3, 2022, as presented.
CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Harcourt adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

DATE

CHAIR

DATE

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	June 23, 2022
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 (ASB) accepts the June 23, 2022, ASB Activity Report as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:	AgFieldman:
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Senior Management Team Agricultural Service Board

Activity Report for June 23, 2022 Page 1 of 1

Budget Items:

CAO = Chief Administrative Officer

DO= Development Officer

EA = Executive Assistant

Completed Items:

CSM = Corporate Services Manager

AF = Ag. Fieldman

CDM = Community Development Manager

MOTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DEPT	STATUS
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REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETINGS				
		February 15, 2022		
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.	CDM & AF	In budget, Centre has confirmed planning to present in all local schools in 2022
		May 3, 2022		
AG22-22	(05/03/22)	RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to appoint Crystal Dei, Bailee Richardson, Kennedy Mason, Carter Clay, and Cindy Doll as pest inspectors for Clear Hills County for 2022 as per Section 10 of the Agricultural Pests Act. CARRIED		Completed
AG24-22	(05/03/22)	RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen to recommend that Council replace the main bearing and vacuum rotor on the grain vac (Unit 31-64-35). CARRIED.		Completed
AG25-22	(05/03/22)	RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to recommend Council replace the Grain Vac with a similar size unit, with funds being allocated from the Agricultural Reserve. CARRIED.		Tender awarded June 12, 2022

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	June 23, 2022
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 / PROPOSAL:

ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' verbal reports of June 23, 2022, for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: _____ AgFieldman: _____
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Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	June 23, 2022
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	2022 ASB Resolution Grading
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is requested to grade the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee's (ASBPC) 2022 Resolutions. The ASBPC's has provided their responses, initial grades given and a brief update on activities to advance the resolutions.

BACKGROUND:

Resolution process: June 30 Grading sheets and comments back to the ASBPC

- July/Aug ASBPC meets with Ministers regarding resolutions
- Sept 1, Final 2022 Resolution Report Card distributed to ASBs
- Nov ASBPC Reviews 2023 Resolutions/Organizational meeting
- Dec 1 - 2023 Proposed Provincial resolutions distributed to ASBs

ATTACHMENTS:

- Summary ASBPC 2022 Resolution Grading
- Resolutions

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agricultural Service Board submit the 2022 ASB Resolution Grading with the following Grades and comments:

Number	Resolution name	Grade	Comments
1-22	Vegetation Management on Alberta Highways		
2-22	Restoration of Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development Regional Network of Experts		
3-22	Celebrate Canada Agriculture Day in Alberta Schools (Feb 22, 2022)		
4-22	Properly Managing Ungulate Populations		
5-22	Exemption of Natural Gas and Propane for Agriculture Under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act		
6-22	Amendments to the ASB Conference Resolution Rules of Procedure.		

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: AgFieldman:
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Accept the Response

A response that has been graded as **Accept the Response** addresses the resolution as presented or meets the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee.

Accept in Principle

A response that is graded **Accept in Principle** addresses the resolution in part or contains information that indicates that further action is being considered.

Incomplete

A response that is graded as **Incomplete** does not provide enough information or does not completely address the resolution. Follow up is required to solicit information for the Provincial ASB Committee to make an informed decision on how to proceed.

Unsatisfactory

A response that is graded as **Unsatisfactory** does not address the resolution as presented or does not meet the expectations of the Provincial ASB Committee

Municipality Name	Resolution Number	Resolution Name	Grade	Comments
Big Lakes	1-22	Vegetation management on Alberta Highways		
	2-22	Restoration of Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development Regional Networks of Experts		
	3-22	Celebrate Canada Agriculture Day in Alberta Schools (Feb 22, 2022)		
	4-22	Properly Managing Ungulate Populations		
	5-22	Exemption of Natural Gas and Propane for Agriculture Under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act		
	6-22	Amendments to the ASB Conference Resolution Rules of Procedure		

RESOLUTION 1-22: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ON ALBERTA PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS

- WHEREAS:** Invasive plants cause significant changes to ecosystems which may result in economic harm to agricultural and recreation industries;
- WHEREAS:** Highway corridors facilitate the spread of invasive plants both locally and internationally;
- WHEREAS:** The Alberta Transportation is responsible for weed control within the rights of way of the 31,000 kilometers of provincial highways in the province, as per the Weed Control Act;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Transportation has not adequately maintained control of noxious and prohibited noxious weeds within provincial highway rights of way in recent years;
- WHEREAS:** This lack of control is affecting neighboring landowners, as these invasive weeds are spreading into their fields;
- WHEREAS:** Due to this lack of control, landowners adjacent to provincial highways are faced with increased costs to their vegetation control programs;
- WHEREAS:** Allowing noxious and invasive plant growth including brush along highways increases the risk to public safety by reducing visibility along road shoulders where wildlife is crossing or grazing;
- WHEREAS:** The most cost-effective strategy against invasive species is preventing them from establishing rather than relying on eliminating them after an infestation has begun;
- WHEREAS:** In 2017, Alberta Transportation developed a three-year provincial vegetation management plan, which included a plan to manage noxious weeds in highway rights of way;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta Transportation must allocate sufficient funds and capacity to meet its weed control requirements along provincial highways;
- WHEREAS:** Continued advocacy efforts have been ongoing with the ASB Provincial Committee and the Ministry has agreed to focus on improving communication and relationships to put the limited dollars available to their best use.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST that Alberta Transportation increase funding for summer maintenance programs for its vegetation management (weed control and mowing) along provincial highways;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST that Alberta Transportation enhances their current vegetation management strategy at a minimum to the level of the 2017 Provincial Integrated Vegetation Management Plan to manage noxious weeds, prohibited

noxious weeds, and any unsafe vegetation on the full rights of way of all primary and secondary provincial highways;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST that Alberta Transportation continue to allow the option to enter into service agreements with municipalities for the purposes of vegetation management and/or weed control within their respective municipalities.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

"Dear Mr. Dutrisac:

Thank you for your February 1, 2022 email including the 2022 Agricultural Service Board Resolution 1-22: Vegetation Management on Alberta Provincial Highways. I appreciate the working relationship my department has established with the Agricultural Service Board and look forward to continuing to work together to address vegetation management in the provincial highway rights-of-way.

The Government of Alberta understands the importance of vegetation management. We have needed to closely manage our highway maintenance funding over the past few years, which has impacted some summer maintenance activities, such as full right-of-way mowing. Alberta Transportation's goal is to balance funding challenges with the need for maintenance activities that relate to public safety, while still providing an acceptable overall level of service. As such, funding for vegetation management, including mowing, has focused mainly on safety-related concerns such as sight lines at intersections. However, we recognize the other benefits of mowing, such as improved drainage, improved visibility of wildlife, reduced risk of wildfire spread and controlling brush growth.

In order to ensure mowing and chemical weed control budgets are used in the best possible manner, Alberta Transportation is planning to conduct a program-level review of our vegetation management program to ensure its ongoing effectiveness. This effort will include development of a vegetation management plan framework; this framework will provide a consistent platform for an annual update regarding expected budgets, mowing frequency, herbicide application, innovations/trials, and stakeholder consultation/collaboration. The review is planned to begin in fall 2022, and until the review is completed we will strive to balance funding challenges with respect to vegetation management. Alberta transportation appreciates the input you have provided on this issue.

Alberta Transportation is also grateful for the assistance that the Agricultural Fieldmen of the various Agricultural Service Boards throughout the province have provided to date, with weed notices issued to Alberta Transportation's district offices being an effective driver for weed control action. This process allows for targeted mitigation at locations of the highest priority to the Agricultural Fieldmen and Albertans.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Darren Davidson, Regional Director and Operations Process Management Committee (OPMC) Executive Sponsor. Mr. Davidson can be reached toll free at 310 0000, then 403-381-5533, or at darren.davidson@gov.ab.ca.

Thank you for sharing the Agricultural Service Board resolution with me.

Sincerely,

Rajan Sawhney

Minister of Transportation

cc: Honourable Nate Horner, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development
Darren Davidson, Regional Director and OPMC Executive Sponsor

INITIAL ASBPC GRADE: ACCPET IN PRINCIPLE

COMMENTS: All of the concerns from the resolution were addressed in the response. The Committee will follow up with the Ministry/Department of Transportation for updates to the program-level review taking place this fall. The grade of accept in principle ensures the Committee has the mandate to follow up with the Ministry of transport on this review.

RESOLUTION 2-22: RESTORATION OF ALBERTA AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL NETWORK OF EXPERTS

- WHEREAS:** Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development's provided regionally specialized agricultural professionals employed by the province the opportunity to meet and communicate with ASBs (and ASBs with them) on locally important agricultural issues;
- WHEREAS:** This steady discontinuation of Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development's staff presence in Alberta's rural communities has resulted in a gradual but steady decline in the Ministry's service to those communities since the early 1990s;
- WHEREAS:** Cuts to Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development staff & services since the 1990s have drastically reduced effective, consistent dialogue on provincial agricultural policy decisions, leaving local agricultural communities and their Agricultural Service Boards with little input on these decisions due to the lack of consistent, direct contact with specialized Ministry staff;
- WHEREAS:** These cuts have left Alberta's local communities and smaller agricultural sectors largely unsupported with locally based qualified agronomic advice and severed a local communications link with Ministry decision makers in Edmonton;
- WHEREAS:** The more recent elimination of many Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development's regional network of experts that were available to Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards has reduced both the quality and quantity of agricultural / environmental technical and policy information exchange between Alberta's rural communities and the Ministry;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta's larger agricultural operators and sector associations utilize their economies of scale to justify the costs of contracting private consulting services to obtain agro-economic advice, as well as enabling them to lobby policy makers;
- WHEREAS:** Alberta's smaller farmers, ranchers and industry associations lack these economies of scale to hire private consultants which leaves them dependent on all levels of government to provide this necessary information;
- WHEREAS:** Whereas the Alberta government provided a transition grant to the applied research and forage associations to contract specialists let go by the ministry to support producers, these measures are not long term and do not allow for direct feedback by ASBs to policy makers in the Ministry.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta's Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development support and encourage regionally based, Provincial Government staff or contractors, with extensive experience in their chosen agricultural field, to be consistently available to meet with ASBs as an expert source of the timely, detailed and unbiased information that ASBs are now expected to deliver.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development ASB Resolution Response

Resolution 2-22: Restoration of Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development Regional Network of Experts

Response:

Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development (AFRED) no longer provides one-on-one technical agronomic information to producers. The Ministry now focuses on providing services to producers that is related to programs, policy and legislation.

The Ag-Info Centre (AIC) formerly had technical agronomic specialist support in beef and forage, crops, horticulture, and farm management. These inquiries are now referred to the many resources available from industry organizations and private services. The AIC has transitioned from being the first point of contact for agricultural information and resources to being the first point of contact for department programs.

Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) is exploring this extension gap and serving as a catalyst to bring together a committee, comprised of a cross section of industry members to develop a cooperative extension model for Alberta. Meyers Norris Penny (MNP) was contracted through a competitive process to work in collaboration with the committee to facilitate a guided approach to evaluate the current state of extension in Alberta. It is looking to identify gaps, examine other jurisdictional systems and make recommendations on an improved cooperative extension model for the future. The project will provide recommendations by June 2022. Industry engagement will play a pivotal role in the formulation of committee recommendations.

The department has launched new programming in 2021 to support ASBs. We now have an ASB Regional Liaison program which links fieldmen and ASB members with an assigned staff who are available to each region to provide program and policy information. In addition, an ASB directed newsletter is shared with ASBs on a quarterly basis, along with a town hall meeting held bi-annually between ASB Chairmen and Assistant Deputy Minister John Conrad.

INITIAL ASBPC GRADE: ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE

COMMENTS: The response from the government addresses the resolution and indicates that work is in progress to design a cooperative extension model. The ASBPC has discussed this process with RDAR executives and has asked for an update on this progress at the June 8, 2022 townhall. The grade of Accept in Principle ensures that the Committee has the mandate to continue to inquire about this

progress and advocate for government support regionally based agriculture experts that are able to advise and collaborate with ASBs in their extension efforts.

RESOLUTION3-22: CELEBRATE CANADA AGRICULTURE DAY IN ALBERTA SCHOOLS (FEB 22, 2022)

- WHEREAS:** Education about agriculture is limited within the current school curriculum;
- WHEREAS:** The Classroom Agricultural Program is only able to spend one hour with grade 4 students but was cancelled due to Covid-19;
- WHEREAS:** Consumer interest of how agriculture production is achieved, and food is produced is increasing;
- WHEREAS:** Less than 2% of the population have a direct role in primary agriculture production, people have a less direct experience with growing their own food or participating in the agriculture industry;
- WHEREAS:** There is an increasing amount of incorrect or incomplete information about agriculture and the agri-food industry;
- WHEREAS:** Consumer purchases can be influenced by the amount and quality of agriculture and agri-food awareness and education they have received;
- WHEREAS:** The Ag More Than Ever website has information and resources to make this easy for schools to access;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Minister of Education, direct all schools to celebrate Canada Agriculture Day at the elementary, junior high and high school levels.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

Dear Mr. Dutrisac:

Thank you for your February 1, 2022 letter regarding a January 2022 resolution passed by the Agricultural Service Boards that all schools in Alberta celebrate Canada Agriculture Day.

I recognize the importance of educating Alberta's students about agriculture and the origins of food. From Kindergarten to Grade 9, Science and Social Studies courses are mandatory core subjects for most students in Alberta, and they provide students with opportunities to learn about concepts related to agriculture in Alberta. These opportunities continue into high school when choice in programming accommodates a wider range of needs and interests for students as they plan their futures.

The curriculum also provides opportunities for studying issues, including those related to using, distributing and managing resources and the environment, through various lenses in a well-balanced manner.

In addition, the optional Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) program supports flexible learning through which students in Grade 5 to 9 explore interests and aspirations while making personal connections to career possibilities. A teacher or a school authority may decide to create a CTF challenge that could include agricultural education, particularly if there is student interest in a course.

High school electives include the Agriculture area of the Career and Technology Studies (CTS) curriculum, which offers more than 40 one-credit courses in which students learn about agricultural/horticultural production, the provision of related services and support for sustainable development and efficient use of natural resources. The CTS Apprenticeship curriculum includes 15 courses developed to align with the current Agricultural Equipment Technician Apprenticeship. As a whole, the set of courses covers the content of the first period of technical training for an agricultural equipment technician.

The Alberta Dual Credit Framework, which provides students with opportunities to personalize their high school experience and discover or build on their career interests, includes opportunities in the area of agriculture. Examples include Producing Horticulture Crops and Small Animal Restraint and Handling, both opportunities offered in partnership with Olds College.

Alberta Education's Green Certificate Program (GCP) is an apprenticeship-style training program that enables students to gain valuable experience, training and certification in the agriculture industry in Alberta. This program is offered jointly by the ministry of Education and the ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, and provides students with opportunities to enter a variety of structured learning pathways related to agriculture as part of their senior high school program and to earn a credential leading to a career in agribusiness. Although the focus of the program is skills development, students may increase their awareness of food origins and sustainability.

Alberta's government is currently renewing the K-12 provincial curriculum. Alberta's updated draft K-6 curriculum explicitly addresses the early origins of agriculture that includes the study of fertile prairie lands, grain growing and the roots of prairie grain elevators. Students will also learn how plants and animals commonly used in Alberta agriculture production relate to climate, research how agricultural production contributes to daily life in Alberta and investigate how conservation in agricultural practice protects and maintains the land.

While Alberta Education outlines what students are expected to know, understand and be able to do in each subject and grade through Kindergarten to Grade 12 curriculum, teachers use their professional judgement to determine how students achieve the learning outcomes in the provincial programs of study. Schools and school authorities have the autonomy to select resources that align with the curriculum, including the designation of a day honouring a particular sector or profession.

I would encourage you to visit the Alberta Schools and Authorities website directory at <https://www.education.alberta.ca/alberta-education/school-authority-index/everyone/school-authority-information-reports/> so that you may reach out to the schools and authorities directly with your request to celebrate Canada Agriculture Day.

I appreciate your ongoing interest in educating Alberta students about agriculture.

Sincerely,

Minister Adriana LaGrange

INITIAL ASBPC GRADE: ACCEPT THE RESPONSE

COMMENTS: The response from the minister addressed the ask in the resolution and redirected the ASBs to reach out to the individual schools and school authorities in their local areas, as they have the jurisdiction to decide which days the students celebrate in the school year.

RESOLUTION 4-22: PROPERLY MANAGING UNGULATE POPULATIONS

- WHEREAS:** Wildlife ungulate populations, specifically elk, are extremely high in many areas in Northern Alberta, particularly on lands used for agricultural production;
- WHEREAS:** Increased ungulate populations result in significant damage to agricultural commodities;
- WHEREAS:** Accurate ungulate population surveys are not conducted regularly;
- WHEREAS:** The ungulate issue has been an agricultural problem for many years as can be seen from the past resolutions which were carried at the ASB Provincial Conference as well as at RMA (formerly AAMD&C);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Environment and Parks address the issue of outdated population data in areas which have high rates of wildlife damage insurance claims and restructure ungulate population survey frequency to accurately understand population densities in relevant Wildlife Management Units (WMUs).

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that Alberta Environment and Parks use the precise population data to manage ungulate populations through increased numbers of hunting tags.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

"Dear Sebastien Dutrisac;

Thank you for your letter regarding resolutions passed at the recent Agricultural Service Board (ASB) provincial conference. I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information.

The Government of Alberta acknowledges the current challenges the agriculture industry is facing regarding the supply and cost of feed stocks. Environment and Parks staff are prioritizing direct engagement with agricultural producers and municipal governments to seek solutions to wildlife-related conflict. The department agrees frequent and accurate population estimates are integral to properly allocating and managing ungulate populations. Safe and adequate winter survey conditions have become less predictable, challenging the ability of department staff to deliver the number of surveys typically completed during the winter season within a shorter window of opportunity. For example, within the Peace region, wildlife management units (WMUs) 359 and 526 were scheduled to be surveyed this winter, and I understand only WMU 359 was completed due to inadequate and unsafe survey conditions in WMU 526.

Ungulate population and depredation management is a complicated process requiring support from multiple areas of interest. For example, providing increasingly more elk licences is not always the best solution as it can often result in landowners becoming fatigued with hunters requesting access to their property. Hunters need to remain respectful and put in the effort, landowners need to provide reasonable access to land where elk reside (while acknowledging the consequences of not doing so), and producers need to be open to existing mitigation tactics to help prevent damages.

Since crop depredation is closely linked to winter conditions generally coinciding with deep snow or extreme cold temperatures, elimination of all landowner conflict can only be achieved through elimination of all elk. Although more elk can do more damage at a particular site, elk depredation can occur even at relatively low population numbers.

Since 2010, the department has implemented a number of broad-scale management actions to reduce and mitigate ungulate-related crop damage, including the implementation of elk harvest strategies including;

- greatly increased harvesting opportunities for antlerless elk using the limited entry licence allocation approach.
- increased number of antlerless elk seasons, from one to three, to further facilitate hunter opportunity and harvest, while managing hunter crowding and mitigating landowner fatigue,
- extending the antlerless elk season to January 20 to increase harvest when depredation issues can become more prevalent, and
- implementing hunting on Sunday to further increase opportunity for harvesting.

Where local issues persist. Alberta government staff supply eight-foot-tall game fence to producers (at no cost) to protect stored livestock feed, they provide intercept feeding programs to mitigate potential damages, and they have a partnership program for producers to encourage the use of portable welded panels for protecting livestock feed.

Insurance for damages to eligible standing crops and eligible stored livestock feed is available (at no premium) to producers through the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC). I encourage those affected to visit <https://afsc.ca...>

... Thank you for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Jason Nixon
Minister

INITIAL ASBPC GRADE: INCOMPLETE

COMMENTS: The ASBPC graded this response as incomplete as it did not provide enough detail to determine if the measures referred to in the response address the concern of the ASBs. The ASBPC sent a second letter requesting more detailed information to the ministry of AEP on April 25 with a response deadline of May 15, no further response was received.

RESOLUTION 5-22: EXEMPTION OF NATURAL GAS AND PROPANE FOR AGRICULTURE UNDER THE *GREENHOUSE GAS POLLUTION PRICING ACT*

- WHEREAS:** The *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* (GGPPA) applies fuel charges to natural gas and propane used in agriculture operations, with the exception of greenhouses;
- WHEREAS:** The cost to Canadian farmers of the fuel charges for natural gas and propane are estimated to be \$235 million dollars by 2024;
- WHEREAS:** The Private Members Bill C-206 *An Act to Amend the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* to provide relief for the fuel charge passed the House of Commons and did not receive third reading in the Senate to pass into law prior to the 2021 Federal Election;
- WHEREAS:** Federal programs such as the Agricultural Clean Technology Program were to provide relief to farmers from the fuel surcharges for natural gas and propane, however, these programs are currently closed to new applications until Spring 2022;
- WHEREAS:** The fuel charges to natural gas and propane put Canadian farmers at a competitive disadvantage to international competitors that are not subject to fuel charges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Government of Canada Minister of Finance, with support from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, amend the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* to include natural gas and propane as exempted fuels for agriculture production.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA MINISTER OF FINANCE: none

RESPONSE AAFC:

Dear Mr. Dutrisac:

Thank you for your letter regarding the carbon pollution pricing system and its impact on Canadian producers. I appreciate being made aware of the views of the agriculture sector on this matter.

The competitiveness of the sector and the protection of the environment are key priorities for the Government. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, and taking action to address it requires engagement from all parts of society. Putting a price on carbon pollution is a

critical part of Canada's action.

The Government is aware that producers and farm families are important drivers of the economy. This is why the carbon pollution pricing system has been designed to provide targeted relief to limit its impact on the agriculture sector and reflects the realities of Canada's agriculture industry. Emissions from biological processes associated with agriculture production are not priced, and the carbon pollution pricing system includes exemptions for gasoline and diesel fuel used by producers for agricultural activities.

Moreover, the Government intends to return a portion of the proceeds from the price on pollution directly to producers in provinces that do not have a carbon pricing system that aligns with the federal benchmark and are therefore subject to the Government of Canada's carbon pricing backstop. These proceeds are intended to support particularly affected players, such as small and medium enterprises, including producers, to implement projects that cut emissions and use new, cleaner technologies and processes. The 2021 Economic and Fiscal Update contains a commitment to return these funds to producers through a tax rebate. The proceeds to be returned to producers will increase from \$100 million in 2021-22 to \$122 million in 2022-23 and will continue to increase in future years, consistent with the rise in overall fuel charge proceeds. Future payment rates to producers will be presented as more data becomes available.

The Government is also working with its provincial and territorial partners as well as with industry to improve its business risk management programs. Grain and oilseed producers—and all other agricultural producers in Canada—have access to these programs. They can use them to protect against severe risks that threaten the viability of their farms.

Additionally, the \$165.7-million Agricultural Clean Technology Program provides funding to producers and agri-businesses to help them develop and adopt the latest clean technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance their competitiveness. The Government has made grain drying and barn heating a priority focus under this Program. Investments in high efficiency grain dryers provide not only environmental but also economic gains by producing high-quality grain and reducing the risk of weather damaged crops at harvest time, while at the same time drying grain with fewer carbon emissions.

Moreover, the commitments outlined in my mandate letter highlight measures to support efficiency and climate resiliency by working closely with provinces and territories as well as producers to support the sustainable growth of the agricultural and agri-food sector, with an aim to establish Canada as a global leader in the sector. This will be accomplished in part through a green agricultural plan for Canada, which seeks to increase support to producers to develop and adopt agricultural management practices to reduce emissions, store carbon in healthy soil and enhance resiliency and to triple funding for clean technologies on farms, including for renewable energy, precision agriculture and energy efficiency.

I trust that this information will be of assistance to you. Again, thank you for writing to me on this matter.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, PC, MP

RESPONSE AEP:

Dear Sebastien Dutrisac;

Thank you for your letter regarding resolutions passed at the recent Agricultural Service Board (ASB) provincial conference. I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information....

...As shareholders and investors increasingly factor environmental, social and governance performance into investment decisions, Alberta will work to ensure the province receives recognition for our actions on climate change and leading regulatory systems. In May 2019, the Government of Alberta repealed the Climate Leadership Implementation Act, ending the collection of the provincial carbon levy in Alberta. Alberta no longer collects such taxes. The Government of Canada's Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act is not a provincial policy and the Government of Alberta does not support the federal government's application of their policy on Albertans. I encourage you to contact The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, MP, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, and The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, to re-emphasize your concerns. Contact information for each Minister can be found at www.canada.ca by scrolling down to "Contact us."

Given Bill 206 is currently with the Senate, there might also be value in reaching out to senators who have been appointed to represent Alberta. Senators appointed to represent Alberta include: Patti LaBoucane-Benson, Paula Simons, Karen Sorensen and Scott Tannas. Contact information for each senator can be found at <https://sencanada.ca>.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Jason Nixon
Minister

INITIAL ASBPC GRADE: INCOMPLETE

COMMENTS: The ASBPC graded this response as incomplete as it did not provide enough detail to determine if the measures referred to in the response address the concern of the ASBs. The Committee sent the minister of AAFC a letter requesting further details by May 15; no response was received.

RESOLUTION 6-22: AMENDMENTS TO THE ASB CONFERENCE RESOLUTION RULES OF PROCEDURE

- WHEREAS:** Resolutions are crucial to Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards' advocacy efforts;
- WHEREAS:** Effective resolution advocacy relies on strongly-worded resolutions providing clear and concise direction as to the issue and preferred solution;
- WHEREAS:** Resolutions allow Agricultural Service Boards to bring forward issues that require action by other levels of government and direct the advocacy process;
- WHEREAS:** Resolutions are reviewed by the Regional Resolution Committee prior to the Regional Conference and reviewed by the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee prior to the Provincial Conference;
- WHEREAS:** The Regional Resolution Committee membership consists of a different member structure than the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee;
- WHEREAS:** The Agricultural Service Board Regional and Provincial Committee do not have the authority to require changes, aside from grammar, without the approval of the sponsoring municipality;
- WHEREAS:** The Agricultural Service Board Regional and Provincial Committee do not have the authority to identify when a resolution duplicates an issue already addressed through a previous resolution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee bring forward amendments to the Regional and Provincial ASB Conference Rules of Procedure for consistent ASB member representation, and to facilitate greater oversight of the review of resolutions, with the objectives to clarify the content within resolutions and reduce resolution duplication in consultation with the sponsoring municipality.

STATUS: Provincial

RESPONSE:

RE: Response to Resolution 6-22: Amendments to the ASB Conference Resolution Rules of Procedure

The Agriculture Service Board Provincial Committee (Committee) has the privilege of serving the 69 ASBs across the province by working to achieve a collective voice that would facilitate and represent both the diversity and commonalities of ASBs. The Committee strives to provide better information and communication to ASBs about current issues and government policy, act as a resource for government ministries for policy and program review and development and elevate the significance of ASBs. The resolution process is a well-established process that plays a significant roll in achieving these objectives.

The Committee values the feedback from its members and is committed to continuous improvement. Since 2020, the Committee has increased communications through regular blog posts, submissions to the ASB newsletter, and direct email. Resolution responses are now posted on the blog and sent directly to the sponsoring municipality for their comments. Grading sheets are available online giving ASBs the ability to grade resolution responses as they are received. Changes have been made to the resolution report card to better capture the activities of the Committee and advancement of the resolutions. In addition, the executive assistant for the Committee has been available to engage with ASBs during resolution development to review and offer suggestions based on the current advocacy efforts.

The Committee is reviewing Resolution 6-22 and discussing changes to the Rules of Procedures. We have obtained a copy of the Rural Municipalities Association (RMA) Resolution Process Policy and have been in contact with their staff on the same topic. In addition, the parliamentarian hired for the 2022 Resolution Session has provided the Committee with a report detailing suggestions for improvement. The Committee has committed to presenting changes to the Provincial and Regional Rules of Procedure at the 2023 Provincial ASB Conference for vote by the assembly.

In service,
Sebastien Dutrisac
ASB Provincial Committee Chair

GRADE:

COMMENTS: As this resolution is directed to the ASBPC, the grade will be determined by the submissions from the membership.

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	June 23, 2022
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	RENTAL RATES FOR NEW GRAIN VAC
File:	31-64-02

DESCRIPTION:

The tender for the replacement grain vac has been awarded. The Agricultural Service Board has requested an analysis and recommendation for the rental rate based on the purchase price of the new unit.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Rental rate analysis

OPTIONS:

1. Recommend Council amend Bylaw 260-20 Schedule of Fees to include the grain vac as a rental item with a \$400 damage/cleaning deposit, and a rental rate of \$300/day.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That this Agricultural Service Board ...

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:
--

AgFieldman:

Grain Vac for Rent – based on Purchase Price

Clear Hills County

Item Description:

2022 AGI REM VRX Grain Vac

Options:

Costs:

Capital -	\$45,500.00		
Annual use –	33 days	based on 228 day 7 yr life cycle of 31-64-35 traded in on this unit	
Maintenance -	\$3,908.19 per year	based on life cycle repairs of 31-64-35 traded in on this unit \$23,789+15%COLA.	
Useful life –	7 years		
Salvage value -	\$14,000.00 after 7 years		
45500 - 14000 / 7 =	\$4,500.00	\$3,908.19	\$8,408.19 in annual costs (including capital recovery)
8408.19285714286 / 28	\$300.29	per day	
8408.19285714286 / 33	\$254.79		
8408.19285714286 / 38	\$221.27		

Safety Concerns:

Concern

- PTO shafts

Mitigating Factors

- guards in place

Partnerships:

none

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	June 23, 2022
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:

PCBFA - Upcoming Events:

- Stockmanship Clinics – June 24th Sunset House Community Center
- Pasture Rejuvenation Field Day – June 28th Teepee Creek

FUTURE:

- Field Day at the Fairview Research Farm - August 4th 2022
- Western Canada Conference on Soil Health & Grazing - December 13-15, 2022

ATTACHMENTS:

- Stockmanship Clinic poster
- Pasture Rejuvenation Field Day poster
- Calendars, June, July, and August 2022

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... to

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:
--

AgFieldman:



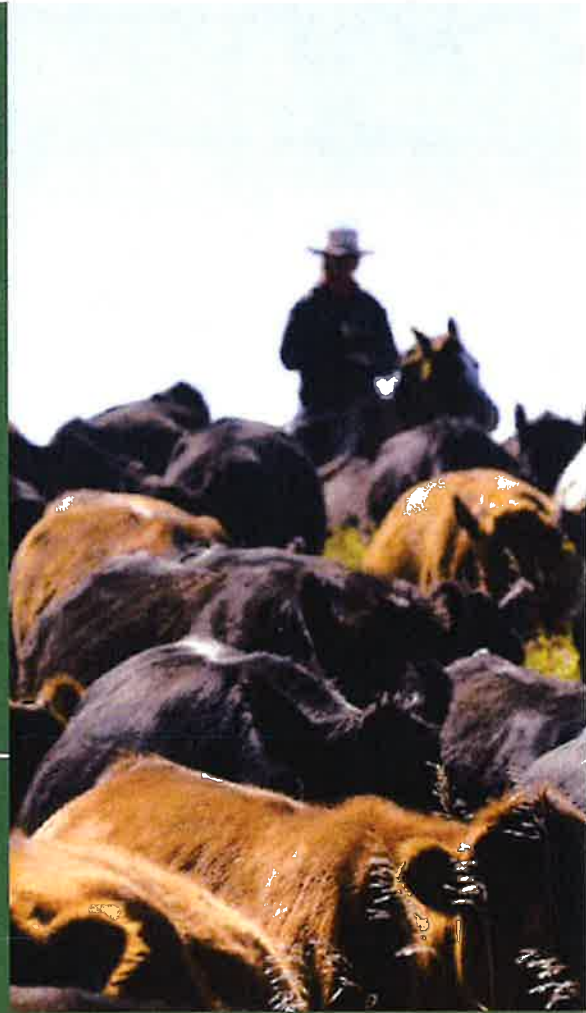
Presents:

Stockmanship Clinics with Dylan Biggs

Learn Practical, Low-Stress
Cattle Handling Techniques
from One of the Best!

Thursday, June 23rd
9am at the Fourth Creek
Hall

Friday, June 24th
9 am at the Sunset House
Community Center



\$80 / Single Registrant
\$150 / Farm Pair

For More Information & to Register:
peacecountrybeef.ca | 780-523-4033

This Event Supported by:



Pasture Rejuvenation Field Day

Join us along with Dr. Bart Lardner & Akim Omokanye as we Talk Introducing Legumes to Worn Out Pastures with Classroom Presentation & Pasture Walk



Tuesday,
June 28th

9:30 - 2:30

Teepee Creek
Lyons Events
Center

\$40/PCBFA Member

\$45/Non-PCBFA Member

\$75/PCBFA Member Pair

\$85/Non-PCBFA Member Pair

For More Information or to Register:
peacecountrybeef.ca | 780-523-4033

This Event Supported by:



June 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	June 23, 2022
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 / PROPOSAL:

ATTACHMENTS:

Agricultural Fieldman Report – June 23, 2022
Rental Equipment Summary

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that the Agricultural Service Board accepts the June 23, 2022, Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

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

JUNE 23, 2022

PEST CONTROL

• **Wolves Claimed 2022 YTD:**

Total #	Total \$
14	\$2800.00

OTHER TOPICS

1. New hose trailer is complete and in service.
2. The new sidearm hitch has a potential delivery date of mid July.
3. We started this year's mowing program June 6th. We have started with a shoulder cut only as most ditches are fairly wet. We are finished Royce are and are working our way east.
4. Weed inspectors have been working since May 9.
5. Had 2 new front tractor tires installed on Unit 67.
6. RME came and replaced seals in the tractor quick couplings and replaced a couple of broken couplers.
7. The tender for the replacement grain vac was awarded to Rocky Mountain Equipment out of Grimshaw for a cash price of \$31,500.00 including trade in allowance of \$14,000.00.

January 1 - May 31, 2022

Rental Equipment	Rental Deposit	Rental Rates	Total Users	Total Days	Total	Equipment Expense
Backpack Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Bale Scale	\$ 100.00	\$ 30.00	0	0	\$ -	
BBQ Trailer	\$ 150.00	\$ 75.00	0	0	\$ -	
Chairs	\$ 50.00	\$0.50/chair	0	0	\$ -	
Community Centre	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	1	1	\$ 50.00	
Corral Panels	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -	
Eco-Bran Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Exta Hoses	\$ 50.00	\$1.000/hose	0	0	\$ -	
Grain Bagger	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	0	0	\$ -	
Grain Bag Roller	\$ 50.00	\$ -	1	1	\$ -	\$ 119.55
Grain Bag Extractor	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	4	3	\$ 1,050.00	
Grain Vac	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	9	10	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 158.97
Grill	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	1	1	\$ -	
Land Leveller	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	0	0	\$ -	
Loading Chute	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	1	1	\$ 25.00	
Manure Spreader	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	0	0	\$ -	
Mulch Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -	
Post Pounder	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	0	0	\$ -	
Pull/Push Roller Applicator	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Quad Mount Rope Wick	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Quad Mounted Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Quad Pull Type Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	1	3	\$ -	
Roller Mill	\$ 50.00	\$ 20.00	2	2	\$ 20.00	
Rotowiper	\$ 150.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Skidmount Sprayer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Smoke Signs	\$ 60.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Scare Cannon	\$ 50.00	\$ -	2	24	\$ -	
Tables	\$ 50.00	\$1.00/table	0	0	\$ -	
Toilets	\$ 100.00	\$ 40.00	1	1	\$ 40.00	
Truck Mount Sprayer	\$ 200.00	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
Wash Station	\$ 50.00	\$ 10.00	0	0	\$ -	
	\$100 (summer)	\$75 (summer)				
Water Pumps	\$1000 (winter)	\$200 (winter)	3	4	\$ 300.00	\$ 163.66
Wire Roller	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	2	2	\$ 50.00	
			28	53	\$ 3,535.00	\$ 442.18

Revenue	\$ 3,535.00
Equipment Expense	\$ 442.18
Insurance	\$ -
Chargeback	\$ 4,347.39
Loss	\$ (1,254.57)

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	June 23, 2022
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The board is presented with correspondence for review.

BACKGROUND:

Attached are documents for the Board's information:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Clean Farms – Changes to Pesticide & Fertilizer Collection Program
2. VSI first quarter report
3. Saddle Hills County – re: shortage of rural vets
4. Cardston County – Ag disaster due to drought

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board receives the information & correspondence of June 23, 2022 as presented.

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



Date: January 27th, 2022

To: Alberta Municipal Container Collection Sites

Subject: Changes to Pesticide & Fertilizer Container Collection Program

Cleanfarms operates the collection program for <23L pesticide and fertilizer containers on behalf of Canada's leading developers, manufacturers, distributors and retailers of pest control products and fertilizers. Together, these companies support good stewardship in and away from the field.

Since the founding of the container management program (CMP) in 1989, Alberta municipalities have served as collection sites for pesticide & fertilizer containers. They have played an integral role in the success of this program. From our team to yours, thank you very much for your role in ensuring these containers were recycled responsibly.

Pesticide & fertilizer containers are collected at agricultural retail (ag-retail) locations in all Canadian provinces, except Alberta and Manitoba, where they are collected at municipal waste transfer stations and landfills. In August 2021, Alberta's Agricultural Service Board (ASB) passed a resolution (Resolution 2-21) to work with Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) and Cleanfarms to shift the responsibility of collecting <23L containers from Alberta municipalities to ag-retail locations in the province.

Following the ASB Resolution, Cleanfarms staff brought a recommendation to Cleanfarms' Board of Directors to standardize the <23L pesticide and fertilizer container collection program across Canada by transitioning the collection to ag-retailers in Alberta and Manitoba. This recommendation was based on careful consideration of the additional benefits of a return-to-retail model, such as higher collection rates of containers, higher rates of rinsing containers, lower incidences of old chemicals being dropped off along with the empty containers, and harmonized logistics and communications across the Prairie Provinces. In September 2021, Cleanfarms' Board of Directors approved the recommendation to fully transition small container collections from municipal locations to ag-retail locations by the end of 2024.

Cleanfarms will use a phased approach to ensure that municipalities, ag-retailers, and growers have adequate time to adjust to the transition and ensure that all participating locations receive good service from collections contractors. The key to success for the transition will be effective engagement with the impacted sites and strategically managing workflow through careful and deliberate site selection in each phase of the process.

What this means for municipal container collection site partners:

- Over the next three years (2022 through 2024), the collection of <23L containers will transition from a municipal collection model to an ag-retail collection model.
- In Spring 2022, ag-retail locations will have the opportunity to collect <23L containers (in addition to collections offered by municipal collection sites).



- There will be blended collection logistics for the duration of the transition period. Under this hybrid ag-retail and municipal model, Cleanfarms will pick up from both ag-retailers and municipalities.
- The closure dates of municipal collection sites between 2022 and 2024 are based on annual collection volumes:
 - Zero volume sites (0 lbs/ year) - Zero volume sites will close before Spring 2022.
 - Lowest volume sites (1 to 5,000 lbs/ year) – Lowest volume sites will close by December 31st, 2022.
 - Municipal sites in remote/low volume regions – All sites in the lowest volume regions will close by December 31st, 2022.
- Cleanfarms will be reaching out to all municipal sites for individual guidance through the transition.
- By December 31st, 2024, all <23L containers will be collected at ag-retail locations. Upon closure of the municipal site, Cleanfarms will work with municipal locations to ensure that all containers are removed within a reasonable timeframe.
- **Municipal collection sites that wish to cease collection of containers before the end of the transition period are encouraged to [contact Cleanfarms](#) directly to ensure that alternative recycling opportunities are available for their ratepayers.**
- Communications materials (such as outdoor signage, posters, and brochures) will be provided to sites as applicable.

Site-specific collection volumes and estimated closure timelines are available through Cleanfarms.

Moving Forward

Cleanfarms will be reaching out to every municipal collection site individually over the next few months to discuss the transition and answer any questions/comments that you may have.

In closing, thank you very much for your commitment to helping us deliver valuable stewardship programs to Canadian farmers.

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact me for more information.

Sincerely,

Cori Crawford
Operations Analyst, Cleanfarms
crawfordc@cleanfarms.ca
1-877-622-4460

V.S.I. SERVICES (1980) LTD

A nonprofit organization providing veterinary care in Alberta

BOX 137

FAIRVIEW AB T0H 1L0

PH 780 835 5440

vsiservices16@gmail.com

April 29, 2022.

Mr. Allan Rowe, CAO
Clear Hills County
Box 240
Worsley, AB T0H 3W0

Dear Allan,

I am sending this mail as a follow up to the first quarter report of VSI expenditures for your jurisdiction, that was e-mailed to greg@clearhillscounty.ab.ca and audrey@clearhillscounty.ab.ca

Following is an estimate of your current VSI account status:

	Claims		Payments		Balance
Jan. 1, 2022				\$	6,735
Payments in 2022		\$	53,300	\$	60,035
First Quarter	\$ 11,365			\$	48,670

Administrative fees and investment income have not been calculated or included for the first three months of 2022.

Overall, there is a 19.5% increase in total claims for the first quarter of 2022 compared to 2021. Total costs have increased \$ 19,432 over the same time period. With some clinics still have to report, costs are expected to be over projections at this time, even when considering changes in support.

Nine (9) of the fifteen (15) participating VSI jurisdictions had an increase in their first quarter costs. Increases ranged from 14.9% to 308.9 % of 2021 first quarter costs. Decreases in the other six (6) jurisdictions ranged from 3.6 % to 46.4 % of 2021 first quarter costs. Some of these are likely the result of late clinic admission.

Your 2022 first quarter claims are \$ 5,228 (85.2%) higher than they were in 2021.

If you have any questions, or if you detect any errors in the report or in my calculations in this letter, please let me know.

Yours sincerely

Rik Vandekerkhove, Manager

cc Greg Coon
Audrey Bjorklund



May 4, 2022

Dear Agricultural Service Board Members of Alberta,

As many of you are most likely already aware, there is a desperate shortage of rural veterinarians in Alberta, particularly vets specializing in large animals. Higher numbers of veterinarians are leaving the profession – for a multitude of reasons – than there are numbers of veterinary school graduates. Many producers are travelling an hour or more to take livestock into a clinic. In emergencies, this is obviously a less than ideal situation. There are also other problematic implications to a shortage of vets. How can we assure the safety of animal products from Alberta marketed on the world stage when we do not have enough vets to manage outbreaks or other emerging issues?

There are five veterinary schools in Canada, but students may only attend school in the region where they live. The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary currently only accepts 50 students into the program each year, and with extremely steep entrance requirements. Individuals wishing to be admitted into the program currently must have completed a Medical College of Admission Test (MCAT) and scored a minimum of 495, taken 10 required post-secondary level courses, and have a minimum combined grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 before being eligible to be considered for the veterinary program.¹ If an individual happens to meet these standards, they will then be invited for an interview where they are questioned and asked to write an on-site essay. The process that determines how the ranking order of which applicants will be offered admission after their interview and essay is based 70% on their interview score and 30% on an essay they are also required to submit.²

Rural students across the province can be at a disadvantage academically if they aim to be admitted into vet college. Rural schools often have less students, and this can influence course offerings. For example, say a rural high school only has 3 graduating students in 2022. Which senior level courses are offered in-person to them is dependent on which classes 2 of the 3 students would like to take. If only 1 student of the 3 wanted to take, for example, grade 12 physics, the odd student out would have to take physics through distance learning. Although high school course availability is sometimes limited, rural students often have plenty of experience and relevant knowledge related to livestock. This experience should play a larger

¹ University of Calgary website, 2022. <https://vet.ucalgary.ca/future-students/dvm-students-undergraduate-program/admission-requirements>

² University of Calgary website, 2022. <https://vet.ucalgary.ca/future-students/dvm-students-undergraduate-program/admission-process>



role in the decisions that universities make when deciding whether or not to admit a student to their programs.

The Saddle Hills County Agricultural Service Board would like to open the discussion with other Agricultural Service Board across the province on how to solve this multi-faceted and difficult issue. We would like to work together with all the other Agricultural Service Boards in the province to put pressure on the applicable bodies to adjust the entrance requirements for prospective veterinary students of rural backgrounds. We, the Agricultural Service Board, feel that on such a pressing issue the collaboration of 69 municipalities would make a statement.

Sincerely,

Adam Fitzpatrick
Saddle Hills County, Agricultural Service Board Chair



Cardston County

Declaration of Agricultural Disaster Announced:

Many farmers and ranchers are being impacted by the drought with the loss of production crops or the need to sell cattle to maintain their operations.

To that end, Cardston County Passed a resolution during June 13, 2022, Council meeting declaring an Agricultural Disaster within Cardston County. As other Municipalities within Southern Alberta have also declared agricultural disasters, Cardston County wants to add its voice by expressing its concern for our local farm producers and their struggles.

Councillor Wayne Harris stated, “I have received a few calls from land and cattle operators who have said they have sold between 50-100 cow-calf pairs because of the lack of feed, and now they are concerned about the future” Councillor Harris continues, “Other operators are currently feeding cattle on their irrigated parcels and will have to purchase hay in the fall to survive.”

Reeve Randy Bullock Indicated, “Cardston County stands behind our local producers and would like the Provincial and Federal Government to acknowledge the serious situation our producers are in and take steps to help our agriculture producers through this drought.”

By Declaring this Agricultural Disaster, Cardston County Council would like to express its concern about the situation and show its support for agriculture producers. We will continue to work with our Governmental partners to help find a solution.

For information, please contact

Reeve Randy Bullock – 403-593-0332
CAO Murray Millward -403-653-4977