

AGENDA
CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
February 16, 2023

The Agricultural Service Board meeting of Clear Hills County will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, 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. January 31, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes2
- 4. Delegation(s)**
- 5. BUSINESS ARISING**
- 6. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Activity Report.....5
 - b. Board Reports7
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. VSI Farm Unit.....19
 - b. Letter to ASB Provincial Committee22
 - c. Events.....24
- 8. REPORTS**
 - a. Agricultural Fieldman Report32
- 9. INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE.....35**
- 10. CLOSED MEETINGS ITEMS**
 - a. Closed Session- Legal
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WORSLEY, AB
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2023**

PRESENT

Brian Harcourt	Chair
Julie Watchorn	Deputy Chair
Baldur Ruecker	Member
Ron Jensen	Member
Garry Candy	Member
David Janzen	Council Representative

ABSENT

Jason Ruecker	Council Representative
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ATTENDING

Greg Coon	Agricultural Fieldman
Bonnie Morgan	Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harcourt called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

AGENDA

AG1-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Candy that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the January 31, 2023, Agricultural Service Board meeting, with the addition of 7.d. Alberta Invasive Species Council Conference. CARRIED.

MINUTES

Previous Meeting
Minutes

Agricultural Service Board is presented with previous meeting minutes.

AG2-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the December 20, 2022, Agricultural Service Board Meeting, as presented. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Activity Report

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

Member Ruecker entered the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

AG3-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the January 31, 2023, 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.

AG4-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' verbal and written reports of January 31, 2023, for information. CARRIED.

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AG5-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to draft a letter to the ASB Provincial Committee with regards to the number of votes per board, during ASB Provincial Conference resolution sessions. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Trade Show

The 26th Annual Tradeshow is being held on April 15, 2023. Administration is requesting Board members to sign up for their shifts in the Agricultural Service Board booth at the Trade Show

Chair Harcourt recessed the meeting at 11:04 a.m.
Chair Harcourt reconvened the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

AG6-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the Agricultural Service Board booth schedule and discussion around the 26th Annual Clear Hills County Agricultural Trade Show, being held on April 15, 2023 at the Dave Shaw Memorial Complex in Hines Creek, Alberta. CARRIED.

**Farm Safety
Fundraising Request**

The Board is presented with a funding request from The Farm Safety Centre for the Farm Safety Smarts Program.

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.

VSI Farm Unit

The Board is requested to discuss a question posed by a producer regarding a definition in our VSI policy 6311.

AG8-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Candy to bring back a working draft VSI policy 6311 and historic VSI budget figures to the next regular ASB meeting for further discussion and review on the definition of a Farm Unit. CARRIED.

Chair Harcourt recessed the meeting at 11:50 a.m.
Chair Harcourt reconvened the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

EVENTS

The Board is presented with events for their consideration.

AG9-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all ASB Board members to attend the Cover Crop Design and Funding Workshops February 9, 2023, at the Sexsmith Community Centre or February 10, 2023, Falher Hotel Dining Room. CARRIED.

AG10-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all ASB Board members to attend the Peace Beef Cattle Day on February 15, 2023. CARRIED.

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AG11-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Watchorn that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all ASB Board members to attend the Peace Forest Grazing Day – March 15, 2023, at Eureka River Hall.
CARRIED.

AG12-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to approve the attendance of Member Candy and Deputy Reeve Janzen to attend the Alberta Invasive Species Conference (AISC), March 7 and 8th, 2023 in Olds, Alberta.
CARRIED.

REPORTS

Agricultural Fieldman
Report

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

AG13-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Candy that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the January 31, 2023, Agricultural Fieldman's Report for information, as presented.
CARRIED.

INFORMATION &
CORRESPONDENCE

The Board is presented with correspondence for review.

Nothing to report.

AG14-23(01/31/23)

RESOLUTION by Member Jensen to reschedule the February 21, 2023, ASB meeting to February 16, 2023, and the March 21, 2023, ASB Meeting to March 13, 2023.
CARRIED.

ROUND TABLE:

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

Chair Harcourt recessed the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Chair Harcourt reconvened the meeting at 1:14 p.m.

Chairman Harcourt adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

DATE

CHAIR

DATE

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 16, 2023
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 February 16, 2023, ASB Activity Report as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:

AgFieldman:



Senior Management Team Agricultural Service Board

Activity Report for February 16, 2023 Page 1 of 1

Budget Items:

Completed Items:

CAO = Chief Administrative Officer

AF = Ag. Fieldman

CSC = Community Services Coordinator

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
		December 20, 2022		
AG47-22	(10/20/22)	RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Watchorn to table the discussion of the definition of a farm unit in the VSI policy 6311 until a future Agricultural Service Board meeting. CARRIED.	AF	January 31, 2023 meeting
AG47-22	(10/20/22)	RESOLUTION by Deputy Chair Watchorn to table the discussion of the definition of a farm unit in the VSI policy 6311 until a future Agricultural Service Board meeting. CARRIED.	AF	January 31, 2023 meeting
AG68-22	(12/20/22)	RESOLUTION by Member Candy that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information and recommend Council change the date to March 4 th for the Farmers Appreciation Event. CARRIED.	CSC	Complete
AG71-22	(12/20/22)	RESOLUTION by Member Jensen to recommend to Council to dispose of the rental equipment grain bagger (Unit 31-64-29). CARRIED.	AF	Defeated
		January 31, 2023		
AG5-23	(01/31/23)	RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to draft a letter to the ASB Provincial Committee with regards to the number of votes per board, during ASB Provincial Conference resolution sessions. CARRIED.	AF	February 16, 2023 meeting
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.	AF	In waiting
AG8-23	(01/31/23)	RESOLUTION by Member Candy to bring back a working draft VSI policy 6311 and historic VSI budget figures to the next regular ASB meeting for further discussion and review on the definition of a Farm Unit. CARRIED.	AF	February 16, 2023 meeting

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	February 16, 2023
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:

Member Candy's Board Report
Vise Chair Watchhorn's Board Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' verbal and written reports of February 16, 2023, for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:

AgFieldman:  

Peace Agronomy Update

NPARA

January 30, 2023

Fairview, Alberta

Dunvegan Motor Inn

Garry Candy

Sampath Waigana – Researcher with the farm where they have 400 acres at Fort Vermillion and 10 acres at North Star

- They have been conducting conventional and organic research trials on small plots and some field scale
- Field scale trials produced better and more reliable results and they are wanting more producers to work with them
- Regional variety trials were conducted on oats, wheat and barley for:
 - Breeding and split nitrogen trials
 - soil health and carbon sequestration
 - pests such as lygus, flea beetles, diamond back moths and bertha army worms
 - perennial crops, annuals, silage and cover crops
- Presented some results and more will be available from their office in Manning
- Did 2500 plots in 2022
- Cemelina is one crop they are focusing on
- AAFC is funding 9 living labs in Alberta to work with producers
- Interested producers can phone 780-927-3776

SARDA – Extensive field trials with Canola involving seed size and seeding depth hoping to correlate the two to accommodate sending deeper to bet better use of soil moisture

- Seeds depths were 1 cm, 2.5 cm, and 4 cm.
- They found no appreciable difference in yield in the different seed sizes or depths
- All trials were conducted beside Falher – more locations are needed
- Focus in the future will be on forage and turf, hemp and lupin

- A hemp decortication plant under construction at Donnelly expected to be in operation in 2023

Jode Flaig – lives at Vegreville, travels the province with living labs

- Three living labs are supported by beef producers
- Producers will dictate what happens with an investment of 9.4 million in a 5 year project
- Suggested areas are Lethbridge, Drayton Valley and the Peace Region
- Interested persons can access information at LLpeace@albertabeef.org

PCBFA

- Presented yield results on a lot of travel
- All available from them at any time
 - A result of note: copper levels in cereals were very low or none
 - Feeds of this nature would require copper supplements
- Tests are being conducted on forage peas. 10 varieties were tested
- DL Delicious was top yielder and Lissard was next
- Lots of corn research is being done with new hybrids being developed by seed companies
- Concluded by saying they are also testing crops for WUE – water use efficiency – production as per unit of water

-30-

Peace Region Below Ground

NPARA

February 8, 2023

Rycroft, Alberta

Ag Centre

Garry Candy

M.C. Peace Region Living Labs – Nadia Mori, Manager. Kept the proceedings moving and on time.

Kristin Hannam - Research scientist out of the Okanagan Region

- Living labs involve management practices, carbon measuring and control, greenhouse gases and their relationships

Monica Benoit

- 5 million dollars is being provided by AgCanada for the project in the AB and BC Peace Region
- Funding working with farmers with practices and improvement of soil while monitoring the others
- Kim Cornish - Living Lab consultant for our region

Darcy _____ - Grain grower from Girouxville, has experimented with Industrial Hemp

- Working with Living Labs as well as SARDA in the past
- Hemp is hard on the soil but captures carbon and pulls heavy metals from the ground
- Has been and is being grown at Chernobyl to help clean up the radioactive particles
- Pros and cons of hemp on soil health
 - Captures carbon and may be eligible for carbon credit funds
 - Depending on markets could be a good paying crop – decortication plant being built in Donnelly
 - In answer to a question he said you cut it using a sickle bar and lay it flat, leaving it for up to a month
 - Cannot be planted on poor spots of cropland as it will not survive
 - Depletes the potassium so have to replenish it
 - Small plants drown easily

- In answer to question on growing for seeds – he said he would not put it through his combine but it bales reasonably well

Garth Shaw – Rancher from west of Fairview, Dell region

- Showed slides of ranchland that he has seeded cover crops on
- Seeds into grass and welcomes even thistle and dandelions
- Grazing is intensive and cattle are moved every 2-4 days in the spring and 7-8 days or none in the fall
- Allowing the animals to graze standing crop is more beneficial than swathed as it spreads the nutrients
- Some slides showed (as he put it), hundreds of crop circles in which the crop was thicker and taller by a lot. He and his young son found a large puffball in each circle – his son suggested they should get a bunch of puff balls and use them as an inoculant
- Suggested could also put chickens in the cover crops

Dr. Kris Nichols, Grand Forks, North Dakota area and Kim Cornish did a tag team presentation.

Dr. Kris Nichols – years of working with dryland, irrigated pasture and wasteland

- All life is carbon based and comes from photosynthesis
- Carbon catching by photosynthesis in the Peace can be up to 230 days in the Peace
- When you move a little snow you often find little green sprigs
- Regenerative agriculture rebuilds soil from the top down instead of bottom up
- Soil organic matter composition
 - Mineral
 - Organic matter
 - Stabilizers
- SOM (soil organic matter) – use agriculture to control CO₂
- Regenerative Microbial (NMR)
 - Sand has high permeability and clay has low permeability
 - Size of aggregates dictates the density
 - Need to grow our way out of CO₂ problems

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr – “A nation that destroys its soil destroys itself.”

Lindsey Van Koppes

- Spoke of GHG emissions - CO benefits from crop productions
- Biology's role in soil health starts with the microorganisms that are beneath your feet
- A handful of soil can have up to a billion microorganisms including bacteria, archaea and fungi
- Plants put microbes in the soil from their roots
- When they die, the residue is left in the soil which is organic carbon
- Microbial fungi takes carbon from the soil and provides it to the plant
- Soil and climate environment shape the microbiome which is affected by:
 - Crop diversification causing microbe interaction
 - Perennial cropping increases biodiversity
 - Grazing – root extrudation
 - Soil moisture
 - Manure and plant litter
- All results are variable
- Enzyme activity and biomes are tested by extracting DNA and RNA to see what is active

Michelle Redekopp – BC farm planner with IAE (Investment Agriculture Foundation)

- Environmental Farm Planning – free workbooks are available as well as farm visits and even financial aid for farms on ranches down to hobby farms if you produce something and sell it

Kris Nichols

- Carbon movement or flows – nitrogen fixation where N comes from the atmosphere and fixes to the soil from the root nodules
- Cation retention in organic matter (ability to hold on to nutrients)
- Cation exchange capacity – compounding principle of consortia
- Mites don't process their food directly, similar to using a stomach

- Termites don't eat wood – they chew it and the nutrients all come from the waste – they survive in poop and vomit as do humans as we digest food

Norm Dueck – BC crop advisor and small farmer

- Spoke about the balance in crop feed and consults in the Central Peace Regions – AB and BC with focus on balanced nutrition
- Key elements – nutrient uptake
 - Overuse or misuse of fertilizers
 - Growers can be above environmental pressures
 - Can we grow more with less
 - N misuse is most common
 - Soil test and area specific testing each field then adjust to each location in the field
 - Spoke of our land in Canada as young soils – PH levels sweet spot is 6.8
 - Boron levels should be checked – often overlooked – should be 2-3 ppm. Boron
 - Helps the plant expel sugars to the soil in the evening; if it doesn't do this well because of a shortage of boron, the plant leaves stay sweet which attracts the mites and they damage the plant thus setting it back.

Chair Meeting- Wednesday Jan 18/23

Top 5 issues 2022:

- Water Drainage
- Weed Control
- Issues with Oil & Gas
- Loss of Ag. workers
- Lack of Environment Enforcement

Top Issues 2023:

- Weeds on railways
- Oil & Gas leases (taxes not getting paid, whether they are existing or put to bed)
- Elk (ungulates)
- Water Drainage
- Strychnine
- Alberta Agricultural not taking action with weed enforcement and making Counties the enforcer
- Not finding Class 1 Drivers now they added the \$10,000 price tag to the licence

Need to hold rail accountable on how they do business
Community Rail Advocacy Alliance- Terry Ungarian

Learning people are just burning chem jugs or throwing them in ditches now that the land fills are no longer taking them
People don't want to drive the hour or two to return empty jugs to dealer

Losing valuable farm land to solar farms; and who does the clean up after?

Why have these meetings?
To take to MLA's or resolutions

Below Ground

Soil Health and Wealth Feb 8 2023

Rycroft Ab

Peace Region Living Lab

Nadia Mori was our MC for the day. She is the extension program coordinator for Peace Region Living Labs

Dr. Kristan Hannam was our first speaker. She is a research scientist at the Summerland Research and Development Center. She talked a bit about the work she is doing with the Peace Region Living Lab (PRL) ...

Peace country Producer Panel:

Darcy ... From Girouxville, Ab

- Grows Industrial Hemp
 - Good at capturing Carbon
 - Good at bringing heavy metals out of soil
 - Uses a lot of potassium, depletes the soil fast
 - Takes work to find a market for the product, now its getting easier
-
- Lays in the field for a month after cutting; which they use a discbine to cut
Then bale it up and they sell the bales of hemp
 - He doesn't combine due to fires and other issues
 - Few herbicides that can be used on hemp crops
 - Not a vigorous plant when small, drowns easy

Garth Shaw- From Fairview, Ab

- Grazes bush, cactus on the hills, native grasses on leases and tame grasses
- When he started he was moving cows everyday
- Now its every 4-7 days and depends on weather
- Uses standing cover crops for winter grazing but will swath if it's thin
- Also does some bale grazing

His Living Lab project is to rejuvenate an old hay stand

From Kitchen Sink To Carbon Sink- Kim Cornish

Food Water Wellness Foundation

Advancing practices on regenerative soils

1% organic matter = 20,000lbs of organic matter per acre
= 58% of carbon in organic matter
= 11,600lbs Carbon per acre

= 19.27 Tonnes of CO₂ per acre

In Alberta there is 50.5 million acres of Agricultural land

2.5% increase in organic matter on 622,729 acres

At least 46,704,675 cubic meters increased water holding capacity

5.0% increased soil organic matter on 20 million acres

at least 1,500,000,000 increased water holding capacity

Lab Analysis/ Holistic Picture of Carbon Dynamics+ Soil Health

They measure:

Bulk density

Texture

Gravel Content

PH

Carbon +Organic Matter

Root Depth

Soil colour

Nitrogen (total)

EC

Compaction

Infiltration

Moisture and Temperature

And many more

Practices on the Ground- Dr Kris Nichols

Why Carbon?

-Almost all life forms is Carbon

- Comes from Photosynthesis

-Our growing season in the Peace country is 260 days

(Garth Shaw found a turnip greens in February)

-Just because it's cold here the sun still shines

-How does carbon get in the soil?

Photosynthesis ...uses sunlight to break up molecules and gets through the roots

-Water retention needs sand silt and clay. Of course it's easier to retain water in loose soil vs. compacted soil

-To break up compaction #1 biological

#2 animals

#3 mechanical

A Nation that Destroys its Soil, Destroys Itself

Franklin Roosevelt

Managing Your Microbes-Lindsey VanKoppen

Understanding Biology's role in soil health

What's living under your feet?

- Microorganisms
 - handful of soil holds billions
 - thousands of differ species
 - many different functions
- Bacteria
- Fungi

Management

- Crop Diversification
 - Agroforestry was the biggest soil diversity
 - Perennials increased also
- Biological amendments
 - Animal manure
- Rotational Grazing
 - Huge Variables
- Reduce Tillage
 - Changes soil structure and water holding ability
- Best soils are less than 60cms
 - any further the microbes start depleting
- 10-15 cms is your most abundant

Environmental Farm Plan- Michelle Redekopp

www.iafbc.ca

No cost, flexible, peace of mind and they will come to you to help with compliance

Dr. Kris Nichols-Soil Regeneration by Managing Carbon Flows

- Increased PH increases cation exchange
 - Capacity of organic matter
 - Acidic soil holds more hydrogen
- All Life Is Interrelated
 Whatever affects one Destiny; Affects Us All Indirectly
 Martin Luther King

Nutrient Management-How to increase N Efficiency Norm Dueck-Heartland Soil & Crop Solutions Vanderhoff BC

Balanced Nutrition
 Synthetic fertilizers aren't the problem it over-use or misuse
 If its not working they add more... that's the Moron Principal
 If it's anything we over use on farms its nitrogen
 All soil holds nutrients; just differently than our next-door neighbours even
 TAKE SOIL SAMPLES The PH of 6.8 is the sweet spot
 Adding Calcium Carbonate -would be a good source to bring up PH in acidic soils
 Every 7-10 years

Main make up of straw is potassium and zinc
Too much N leads to disease also
Boron is very important also 2-3 ppm is ideal (key role in nodulation)
Its expensive but a huge game changer \$150 ton- need 2 ton /ac

We had breakout sessions #1
-1 OFCAF Funding
-2 How to Increase N Efficiency

Breakout #2
-Practicality of Carbon Measurements
-Farm Financial Management
-Common Sense Cover cropping

Common Sense Cover Cropping – Daryl Chubb Calgary, Ab

Helps with erosion
What are your goals? Are they flexible and realistic?
Functions of a cover crop
-Improve carbon; can't put carbon in the soil without sun and green plants
-Cover Crop charts-USDA
Cover Crop-
Grasses 60-80%
Legume 10%
Broadleaf 10%
Anything can work in the right conditions; but can fail in the wrong conditions

Dr Emma Stephens- How Soil Health Pays

What kind of soil do we want?
-Health
-Productive
-Resilient
-Flexible
Healthy Soils:
-Reduce cost of fertilizer
-Reduce pest/disease outbreak
-Improved water quality
-Increased soil diversity
Healthy soils benefits everyone, greenhouse emissions, healthy foods, air and land

Census maps showing new trends in Peace Country
statcan.gc.ca (interesting to look at)

Julie Watchorn

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 16, 2023
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	VSI POLICY WORKING DRAFT
File:	63-02-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with a draft of the VSI policy 6311 to define a farm unit more clearly. The board is also presented with historic VSI budget figures to review.

BACKGROUND:

AG8-23(01/31/23) **RESOLUTION** by Member Candy to bring back a working draft VSI policy 6311 and historic VSI budget figures to the next regular ASB meeting for further discussion and review on the definition of a Farm Unit. **CARRIED.**

Historic VSI Numbers

Year	Budget	Cost	Members used vet	Members to go over \$1,500.00
2022	\$ 65,300.00	\$ 56,500.00	103	7
2021	\$ 65,300.00	\$ 53,000.00	99	7
2020	\$ 65,300.00	\$ 47,700.00	103	5
2019	\$ 65,300.00	\$ 56,700.00	130	5
2018	\$ 65,300.00	\$ 64,500.00	110	7

*Currently there are 188 active VSI members, memberships seem to be going down each year.

ATTACHMENTS:

- VSI policy 6311 working draft

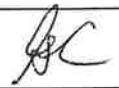
RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board...

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:



AgFieldman:





Clear Hills County

Effective Date: January 12, 2021	Policy Number 6311
Title: Veterinary Service Incorporated (1980) Ltd. Program (VSI)	

1. Policy Statement:

- 1.1. Clear Hills County recognizes the value of aiding in the development of livestock expansion with a long term goal of livestock producer and veterinarian service sustainability.

2. Purpose:

- 2.1. To provide assistance to County livestock producers with veterinarian costs.
- 2.2. To retain local large animal veterinarians through the Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) program.
- 2.3. To establish guidelines for Clear Hills County's involvement in the VSI program.

3. Responsibilities

- 3.1. Council will allocate an annual VSI budget in accordance with the VSI agreement.
- 3.2. The Agricultural Service Board will recommend to Council amendments to the VSI program and level of service as necessary.
- 3.3. The Agricultural Service Board will recommend to Council the membership fee for participation in the program and this fee may from time to time be reviewed and amended.
 - 3.3.1. The membership fee will be included in the County Schedule of Fees Bylaw.
 - 3.3.2. Memberships will be valid for five years from the time of membership renewal or entry into the program.
- 3.4. Eligible participants must be a resident **that owns livestock** in Clear Hills County for three consecutive months or a landowner in Clear Hills County with livestock.
- 3.5. Participants in the VSI program will:
 - 3.5.1. **be limited to one membership per farm unit; propose taking this section**

out of the policy

- 3.5.2. sign and complete an application form and enter into a Clear Hills County Veterinarian Services Incorporated (1980) Letter of Understanding and Agreement. Attached as Schedule A.

3.6. VSI Services will:

- 3.6.1. Provide a schedule of fees for eligible veterinarian services on an annual basis;
- 3.6.2. Provide quarterly summaries of program users and claims.

3.7. Service Limitations:

- 3.7.1. Effective January 12, 2021 there will be an annual cap on the county's 50% portion of service costs at \$1,500.00 (One thousand five hundred dollars) per membership.
- 3.7.2. Administration will invoice any users who exceed any service limitations in the amount of the County's contribution to the service that has been exceeded.

4. End of Policy

ADOPTED:

Resolution C438 (05/24/11)

Date: May 24, 2011

AMENDED:

Resolution C28-16 (10/12/16)

Date: January 12, 2016

Resolution C404-17 (08/22/17)

Date: August 22, 2017

Resolution C14-21 (01/12/27)

Date: January 12, 2021

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 16, 2023
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	LETTER TO ASB PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE
File:	63-02-02

DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with a draft letter to the ASB Provincial Committee regarding the number of votes per municipality at the ASB Provincial Conference

BACKGROUND:

AG5-23(01/31/23) **RESOLUTION by Member Ruecker to draft a letter to the ASB Provincial Committee with regards to the number of votes per board, during ASB Provincial Conference resolution sessions. CARRIED.**

ATTACHMENTS:

- ASB Provincial Committee draft letter

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board...

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

AgFieldman:



CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

File No. 63-02-02

February 16, 2023

Agriculture Service Board Provincial Committee

Subject: Number of votes per municipality at the ASB Provincial Conference

The Agricultural Service Board for Clear Hills County, located in Alberta's Peace Region, would like to make a suggestion to the ASB Provincial Committee regarding the number of votes per municipality on resolutions brought to the floor at the Provincial Conference. This past conference there was quite a bit of confusion around the voting system due to a lack of voting clickers.

As a Board, we review all of the resolutions before the conference and come to a consensus on how we want to vote as a board on each resolution. Due to this, we would like to suggest that the number of votes be changed to 1 per municipality.

We respectfully ask that the Provincial Committee consider this request.

Yours truly,

Brian Harcourt, Chair, Agricultural Service Board, Clear Hills County

Cc: Amber Bean, Reeve, Clear Hills County
Sebastien Dutrisac, Chair, Provincial Agricultural Service Board

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	February 16, 2023
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:

- PCBFA Annual General Meeting – February 25, 2023 Rycroft Ag Society Hall

Future:

- Forest Grazing Day – March 15, 2023 Eureka River Hall

ATTACHMENTS:

- PCBFA Annual General Meeting poster
- Forest Grazing Day poster
- Calendars: February 2023, March 2023, April 2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by... to .

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



AgFieldman:



"Strengthening Agriculture, One Farm At A Time"

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Upcoming Event Forest Grazing Day

More Upcoming Events



PEACE COUNTRY FOREST GRAZING SCHOOL

Make the Most of Your Bush Pasture!

March 15th
Eureka River Hall

Join PCBFA, AWES, and Cows and Fish for a day of discussion about utilizing your forested pastures

Coffee is on at 9:30, and presentations start at 10

Topics include:

Grazing Principles and Pasture Management
Native Plants of the Peace Region
Grazing and Forestry on Public and Private land,

Cost:

\$40- Person
\$70-Farm Unit (2 admissions)

Lunch will be included!

Register below or RSVP with Johanna at 780 523 4033 or
info@pcbfa.ca

Register here! >



CENTRE FOR
BOREAL RESEARCH

**Fairview GPRC Office**

11235 98 Ave
Rm. 229, T.I.B, GPRC Campus
Box 3000
Fairview, AB
T0H 1L0
780-835-6799
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Fairview Research Farm**Office**

RR 35
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Upcoming Events

2023 Annual General Meeting

[More Upcoming Events](#)



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Join us for our In-Person Annual General Meeting
Saturday, February 25th in Rycroft

Agenda:

3:30pm: Doors Open
4:30pm: Business Meeting
5:30pm: Steak Supper
6:30pm: Research Update

Location: Rycroft Ag Society Hall

Come out for our business meeting and stay for a research update, a social,
and a steak supper!

Cost:

Supper Only (Multi-Year Membership Holders) - \$35

Supper + 1 Year Membership - \$85

Supper + 3 Year Membership - \$175

Supper + Five Year Membership - \$265

Membership must be current to participate in the meeting or hold a director position. Click the button below to prepay, or if you would prefer to pay in-person on the day of, please contact Johanna to register for the meeting by calling 780-523-4033.

If you have questions about the PCBFA Board Member Experience, or if you would like to let your name stand, but unable to be present at the meeting, please send a letter of intent with someone attending the meeting, or email executivedirector@pcbfa.ca



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Fairview Research Farm

Office

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FEBRUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3 Drought Recovery	4
5	6	7	8 Below Ground Soil Health & Wealth	9 Cover Crop Design and Funding	10 -Cover Crop Design and Funding -Drought Recovery	11
12	13 P&P-Council	14 Council Valentine's Day	15 Peace Beef Cattle Day	16 ASB	17 Drought Recovery	18
19	20 Family Day	21	22	23	24	25 PCBFA Annual General Meeting
26	27	28 Council				

Growing the North Conference

MARCH 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	1	2	3	4 Farmers Appreciation Event
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 ASB	14 Council	15 Forest Grazing Day	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	RMA Convention					
26	27	28 Council	29	30	31	1

APRIL 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Good Friday	8
9 Easter Sunday	10 Easter Monday	11 Council	12	13	14	15 Trade Show
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Council	26	27	28	29
30						6

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	February 16, 2023
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 – February 16, 2023
Rental Equipment Summary

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that the Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 16, 2023, Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:  AgFieldman: 

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

PEST CONTROL

• Wolves Claimed 2023 YTD:

Total #	Total \$
9	\$1800.00

OTHER TOPICS

1. The tenders for 1 new tractor, 1 new mower and 1 new waterpump trailer will close March13, 2023.
2. Have advertised for weed inspectors on the website, on facebook page and in newsletter. Have received some resume's.
3. All 3 mower operators will be returning for the upcoming season.
4. Planning for tradeshow is ongoing.
5. Planning for the Farmer Appreciation Banquet is complete. Hall is booked. Speakers are booked. Caterer is booked.
6. **P9-23(01-03-23) RESOLUTION by Deputy Reeve Janzen to invite Alberta Fish and Wildlife to attend a future Agricultural Service Board Meeting to discuss Wildlife Counts, compensation programs and Wolf Management information. CARRIED**
The Wildlife biologist out of Peace River and the Fish and Wildlife Officer out of Fairview are tentatively booked to attend the May 2nd ASB meeting.

January 1 - January 31, 2023

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	1	1	\$ 15.00	
<i>Community Centre</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	0	0	\$ -	
<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	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Grain Bag Extractor</i>	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Grain Vac</i>	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Grill</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Land Leveller</i>	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Loading Chute</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -	
<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	\$ -	\$ 367.24
<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	0	0	\$ -	
<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	0	0	\$ -	
<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)	0	0	\$ -	
<i>Wire Roller</i>	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	0	0	\$ -	
			1	1	\$ 15.00	\$ 367.24

Revenue	\$ 15.00
Equipment Expense	\$ 367.24
Insurance	
Chargeback	\$ 143.16
Loss	\$ (495.40)

Clear Hills County

Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	February 16, 2023
Originated By:	Greg Coon, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE
File No:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

The board is presented with correspondence for review.



BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Moisture Situation Update as of February 2, 2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by _____ that this Agricultural Service Board receives the information & correspondence of February 16, 2023, as presented.

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

Cold Season Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Long Term Normal

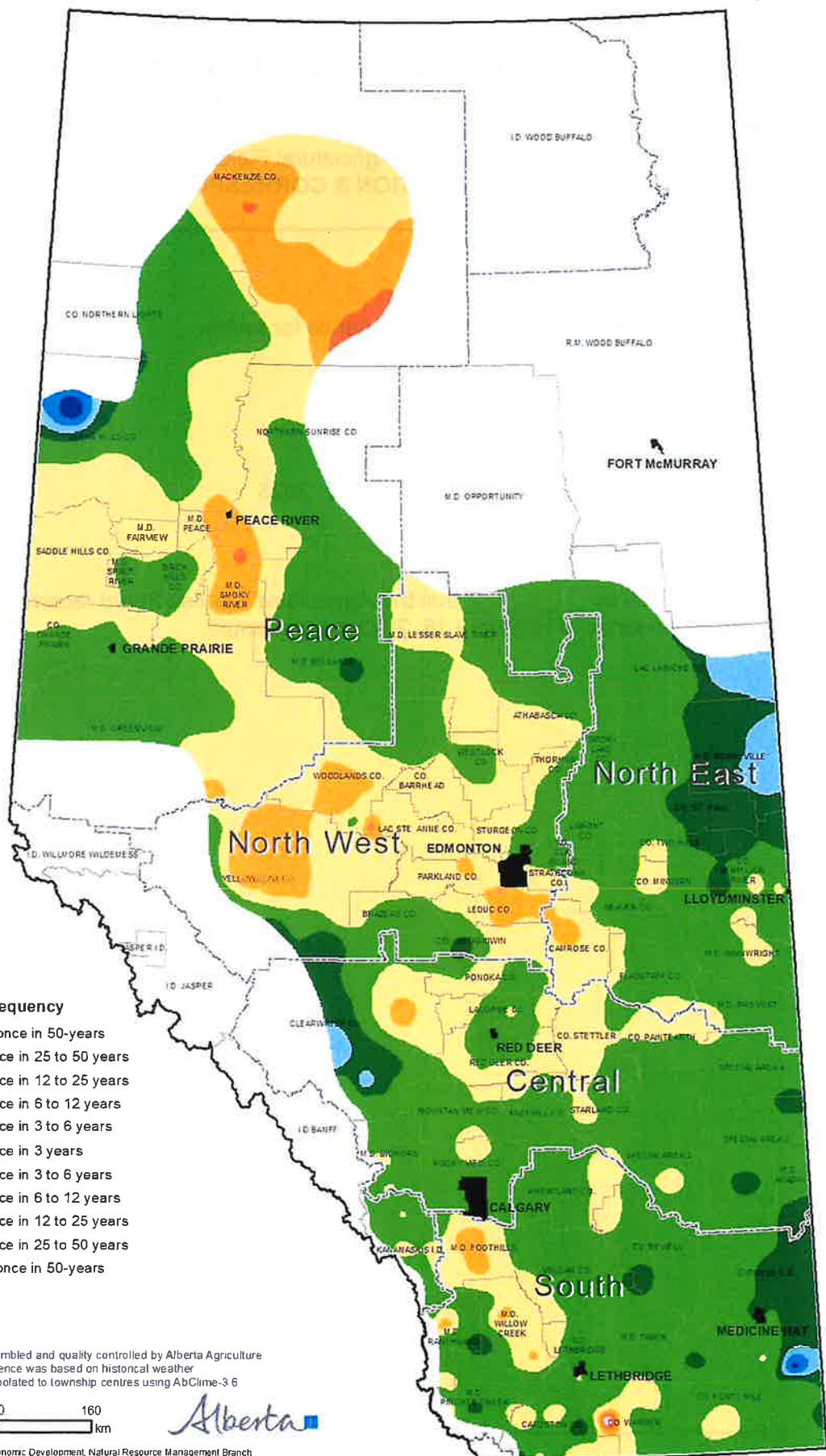
November 01, 2022 to
February 02, 2023

Condition	Frequency
driest	< once in 50-years
extremely low	once in 25 to 50 years
very low	once in 12 to 25 years
low	once in 6 to 12 years
moderately low	once in 3 to 6 years
near normal	once in 3 years
moderately high	once in 3 to 6 years
high	once in 6 to 12 years
very high	once in 12 to 25 years
extremely high	once in 25 to 50 years
wettest	< once in 50-years
no data	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClima-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch
Created on February 03, 2023



Snow Pack Accumulations on Stubble Fields Relative to Long Term Normal

Estimated as of February 02, 2023

Condition



Frequency

< once in 50-years
once in 25 to 50 years
once in 12 to 25 years
once in 6 to 12 years
once in 3 to 6 years
once in 3 years
once in 3 to 6 years
once in 6 to 12 years
once in 12 to 25 years
once in 25 to 50 years
< once in 50-years

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. The snow pack was modeled for stubble fields using the Modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. The frequency of occurrence was based on model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6.



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch
Created on February 03, 2023

Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

Spring Wheat Soil Moisture Reserves Relative to Long Term Normal to a Depth of 120 cm

Estimated as of October 26, 2022

Condition	Frequency
driest	< once in 50-years
extremely low	once in 25 to 50 years
very low	once in 12 to 25 years
low	once in 6 to 12 years
moderately low	once in 3 to 6 years
near normal	once in 3 years
moderately high	once in 3 to 6 years
high	once in 6 to 12 years
very high	once in 12 to 25 years
extremely high	once in 25 to 50 years
wettest	< once in 50-years
no data	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development. Soil moisture was modeled for spring wheat on medium textured soils using the modified Versatile Soil Moisture Budget V-4.0. The frequency of occurrence was based on model runs using historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClim-3.6

80 40 0 80 160
km

Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch
Created on October 27, 2022

Alberta

Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

