

MINUTES OF THE COUNTY OF STETTLER NO. 6 AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021 COMMENCING AT 10:03 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE COUNTY OF STETTLER NO. 6 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, STETTLER, ALBERTA AND VIA TELECONFERENCE

PRESENT:

Board Members Larry Clarke
 Ernie Gendre
 Dave Grover (Chairperson)
 Cheri Neitz
 James Nibourg
 Wayne Nixon
 Les Stulberg (Vice Chairperson)

Other Ryan Hallett, Manager of Agricultural Operations
 Quinton Beaumont, Assistant Director of Operations
 Niki Thorsteinsson, Director of Communications (Joined at 10:25 a.m.)
 Andrew Brysiuk, Director of Municipal Services
 Marlene Hanson, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: Yvette Cassidy, Chief Administrative Officer

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 by Chairperson Dave Grover.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

01.01.27.21 Moved by James Nibourg
"that the January 27, 2021 agenda for the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting be approved with the following additions:
1. County Resolutions Submitted to the Agricultural Service Board Convention
2. Brushing Request." Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

02.01.27.21 Moved by Larry Clarke
"that the November 25, 2020 County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting minutes be approved as presented." Carried Unanimously

DELEGATIONS

None

Barry Yaremco was unavailable to attend this meeting.

REPORTS

Agricultural Services Board Administration Report:

Ryan Hallett presented the ASB Administration Report and the following was identified/reported:

- Under Grazing Lease Agreement:
This item was taken to a County of Stettler No. 6 Council Meeting with the following resolution being made and passed:

10.01.13.21 Moved by Councillor Nibourg

"that the County of Stettler No. 6 Council approve entering into a Grazing Lease Land Agreement for land in NE 35-38-20 W4M being approximately 10.46 acres (0728729 1 14MR - ±4.13 acres; 0525691 1 7MR - ±2.45 acres; and 0324233 1 1MR - ±3.88 acres) in the amount of \$500.00 and to expire

October 1, 2021, at which time it will fall into the County of Stettler Grazing Lease cycle."

- Andrew Brysiuk:
 - reported that the Grazing Lease Agreement has been reviewed and updated.
 - identified that Carlisle Estates is designated as Municipal Reserve (MR) land (being zoned for public service); and in the County of Stettler No.'s Land Use Bylaw, MR land does not allow agricultural (buildings and horses) usage, therefore, unable to enter into a grazing lease.
 - Rezoning is not recommended, however, Bylaw could be amended – MR belongs there as it separates land usage.
 - noted that an update on the Carlisle Estates Grazing Lease Agreement can be presented at the next County of Stettler No. 6 Council Meeting.
- Quinton Beaumont noted that in regard to Fire Hazard, with fire smart today, the hazard to yards on the south side is reduced as those residents are mowing grass.
- Noted that there is limited access to the MR which needs to be developed prior to consideration to hay the land, reducing the fire hazard.

03.01.27.21 Moved by James Nibourg

"that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board receive the update on Carlisle Estates' Grazing Lease Land Agreement for land in NE 35-38-20 W4M being approximately 10.46 acres (0728729 1 14MR - ±4.13 acres; 0525691 1 7MR - ±2.45 acres; and 0324233 1 1MR - ±3.88 acres) for information;

and

that the item be presented at the February 10, 2021 County of Stettler No. 6 Council Meeting."

Carried Unanimously

Niki Thorsteinsson joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

- Under Strychnine
 - Cancellation of strychnine used to control Richardson's ground squirrels
 - County cannot purchase more strychnine after this year.
 - Strychnine sales by registrant are prohibited after March 4, 2021.
 - Strychnine sales by retailer are prohibited after March 4, 2022.
 - Strychnine possession and use by end-user is prohibited after March 4, 2023
 - Left over strychnine can be used on county land if need be and/or can be sold to neighboring Counties. It was asked if strychnine could be raffled/given away – Quinton will inquire on this.

Under Workshops:

- Looking at partnership for workshops.

04.01.27.21 Moved by Les Stuberg

"that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Administration Report for January, 2021 be received for information."

Carried Unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

NEW BUSINESS

Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Discussion:

and

County Resolutions Submitted to the Agricultural Service Board Convention:

These two items were discussed together.

Resolutions presented during the January 21, 2012 Agricultural Service Board Convention (All were approved except for Resolution 7):

Resolution 1 – Weed Issues on Oil and Gas Sites in Rural Alberta

Resolution 2 – Pesticide Container Collection Program

Resolution 3 – An Effective Solution for Control of Richardson Ground Squirrels in Alberta

Resolution 4 – Registration of 2% Liquid Strychnine

Resolution 5 – Fusarium Testing After Cleaning

Resolution 6 – Agricultural Research Association Check Off Option

Resolution 7 – Delegation of ASB's and AAAF to Agricultural Associations and Commodity Groups (Defeated)

Resolution 8 – Reinstating Provincial Agricultural Department Staff

Resolution 9 – Protect Farmer's Rights to Use Farm Saved Seed

Resolution 10 – Federal Fuel Charge

Resolution 3 – An Effective Solution for Control of Richardson Ground Squirrels in Alberta and Resolution 4 – Registration of 2% Liquid Strychnine:

- Discussion took place noting:
 - Resolution 3 was accepted and that the County's Resolution 4 received resistance. Dave Grover identified that the introduction for the resolution may have been weak. Les Stulberg felt the education piece was misunderstood.
 - Quinton Beaumont noted the importance of the Farmer Pesticide Program (anyone can spray for use on their own land). Strychnine is super dangerous when used incorrectly and very useful when used correctly. Noted that training is necessary.
 - It was suggested that maybe strychnine should be brought to the attention of federal representatives.
 - Suggested to do an educational piece for those making the rules and educate urban people. Noted that coyotes and gophers have become a problem in some cities.
 - Wayne Nixon note that the Provincial Committee reviewed and recommended that the two resolutions be combined, however, Flagstaff and Stettler Counties were unable to reach a mutual resolution.

Resolution 8 – Reinstating Provincial Agricultural Department Staff:

- ASB is getting downgraded on which the resolution was addressing.
- Noted that the title would need to be rewritten if redone and to argue it differently.
- Wayne Nixon noted that the program will move forward, however, it will be different.
- Downloading of responsibility and no additional funding to assist.

Wayne Nixon noted that the Provincial Committee will discuss strychnine and that Reinstating Provincial Agricultural Department Staff will be advocated for.

Resolution 7 – Delegation of ASB's and AAAF to Agricultural Associations and Commodity Groups:

- Was Defeated

Resolution 5 – Fusarium Testing After Cleaning:

- Has been removed from the Pest Act reducing ASB legislative powers.

Resolution 6 – Agricultural Research Association Check Off Option:

- Noted that the farmer can choose to not pay the check off, however, needs to state a reason.
- ASB was removed from the check off list.

Battle River Research Group is reaching out to producers seeking land to use for research plots. Niki Thorsteinsson will place a notification on the County Website. It was suggested that everyone sign-up to receive Battler River Research Group notifications as it is free.

Brushing Request:

It was identified that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Service Board constantly performs vegetation control on areas that have received brushing control.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

FINANCE

Year to Date Budget Reports:

05.01.27.21

Moved by Larry Clarke

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board's Year to Date Monthly Budget Report for the month ended December 31, 2020, attached and forming part of these minutes, be received for information.”

Carried Unanimously

INFORMATION ITEMS: (None)

COMMUNITY/MEETING/CONFERENCE REPORTS: (None)

NEXT MEETING

The next County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES/INVITATIONS (None)

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Class-action Lawsuit court date is in February, 2021 - seeking support for the BSE class action suit for loss of income from Ranchers/farmers in Canada. Need to get a message out to producers to supply support (verifying their loss and supplying examples), therefore, noted that this can go out in the County Connections, Facebook and Twitter.

IN CAMERA (None)

ADJOURNMENT

06.01.27.21

Moved by James Nibourg

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting adjourn at 11:07 a.m.”

Carried Unanimously

Chairperson

Manager of Agricultural Operations