

MINUTES OF THE COUNTY OF STETTLER NO. 6 AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2021 COMMENCING AT 10:05 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 (Joined the meeting by Zoom)
 James Nibourg
 Wayne Nixon
 Les Stulberg (Vice Chairperson)

Other Quinton Beaumont, Manager of Agricultural Services
 Yvette Cassidy, Chief Administrative Officer
 Rick Green, Director of Operations
 Andrew Brysiuk, Director of Municipal Services
 Niki Thorsteinsson, Director of Communications
 Marlene Hanson, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 by Chairperson Dave Grover.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

31.04.28.21

Moved by Les Stulberg

“that the April 28, 2021 agenda for the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting be approved with the following additions:

1. Agricultural Services Board Bursary
2. In-Camera
 FOIPP Section 23: Local Body Confidences
 RE: Verbal Report from the ASB Chair.”

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

32.04.28.21

Moved by Larry Clarke

“that the March 24, 2021 County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting minutes be approved as presented.”

Carried Unanimously

REPORTS

Agricultural Services Board Administration Report:

James Nibourg and Les Stulberg left the meeting at 10:12 a.m. and rejoined the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

33.04.28.21

Moved by Wayne Nixon

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board direct Administration to forward a letter of concern to Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction Grant Hunter, Agricultural Minister Devin Dreeshan, Environmental Minister Jason Nixon, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation Doug Schweitzer, Minister of Energy Sonya Savage and MLA for Drumheller-Stettler Nate Horner regarding inspections on reclaimed gravel pits.”

Carried Unanimously

- Rick Green noted that the gravel site has been reclaimed and is ready for a final inspection/approval performed by the Government. Costs \$2,500 yearly. Agrees with pushing through the red tape to try and get things moving quicker.
- Noted that a piece on the history, of how long the County has been waiting for approval, could be included.
- The May 2, 2021 South Rural Caucus Meeting identified 3 questions that were asked that supports this move.

34.04.28.21

Moved by Les Stulberg

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Administration Report for the period up to April 28, 2021 be received for information.”

Carried Unanimously

DELEGATIONS

Shelley Barkley, Alberta Agriculture Pest Surveillance Branch:

Shelley Barkley joined the meeting at 10:06 a.m. via Zoom.

Introductions were completed.

Shelley Barkley made a presentation being *Insect Monitoring and Surveillance – Plant and Bee Health* identifying:

- They belong to a network with the three prairie provinces in order to be able to share results (survey) equally.
- 2021 survey/monitory Plans – will be performing many surveys.
- Berta Armyworm – 350 sites of pheromone-baited traps monitor the bertha armyworm across Alberta. These traps help to determine the density and distribution of moths. (Let Shelly know if you would like to assist.) In 2012 numbers started to increase and in later years became a problem.
- Wheat Midge (tiny fly that lays eggs on the kernel at flower time and suck the life out of the wheat kernel) can cause serious damage to wheat crops by reducing crop yields and lowering the grade of the harvested grain. Highest numbers in 2020 were in Viking and medium numbers in the County of Stettler – need to be on the lookout.
- Grasshopper – not many in the County, however, suggests to watch the southeast corner of the County in the Spring.
- ‘Buggy’ information – will find live feed maps for insect infestations
 - Explained that there are parasites and predators that help with insects and supplied information on the Wheat Midge (a very small, fragile orange fly about half the size of a mosquito creature with big eyes.), Cutworm/wasps/flies (depend on other insects to populate), and grasshoppers – predators, parasites and fungus (identified things that will feed on grasshopper eggs)

Dave Grover thanked Shelley Barkley for the excellent presentation.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

RFD – Fee Schedule for ASB (Including Herbicide application costs):

Yvette Cassidy handed out an updated Fee Schedule list.

35.04.28.21

Moved by Larry Clarke

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board recommend to a County of Stettler No. 6 Council Meeting Schedule D - Agricultural Services Board, being part of the Fee Bylaw, as presented.”

Carried Unanimously

NEW BUSINESS

Agricultural Services Board Bursary:

36.04.28.21

Moved by Les Stulberg

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board accepts the Bursary Committee's recommendation that the 2021 Agricultural Service Board Bursary in the amount of \$1,000.00 be awarded to Grace Hebbes of Stettler, Alberta.”

Carried Unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE

None

FINANCE

CAO Yvette Cassidy noted that she removed the financial report from the agenda, as they are working on a better way to present.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Wayne Nixon explained that being a member of the Provincial Agricultural Service Board is mandated to advocate by resolution for the Agricultural Services Boards within Alberta. They advocate for ASB’s that are not happy/satisfied with specific items (strychnine). Not sure if the County has to be part of the Provincial Board.

- Andrew Brysiuk noted that membership is not compulsory, it is voluntary.
- It was suggested that should a County not agree, they can voice their opinion/criticism, however, suggested that they do not speak as if being on behalf of all ASB Boards within Alberta.
- Cheri Neitz noted that if they pull out, they do not receive grants.

37.04.28.21

Moved by Ernie Gendre

“that the following information items presented for the April 28, 2021 Agricultural Services Board Meeting be received for information:

1. Letter from Red Deer County to Prov. ASB Committee
RE: Provincial ASB Conference
2. Letter from Saddle Hills to Prov. ASB Committee
RE: Provincial ASB Conference
3. Letter from Cypress County
RE: Loss of 2% Strychnine.”

Carried Unanimously

COMMUNITY/MEETING/CONFERENCE REPORTS:

None

NEXT MEETING

The next County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES/INVITATIONS

None

IN CAMERA

38.04.28.21

Moved by Larry Clarke

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board enter into an in-camera session at 11:30 a.m. to discuss items excepted from disclosure in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* as:

Section 23: Local Body Confidences

RE: Verbal Report from the ASB Chair.”

Carried Unanimously

Andrew Brysiuk, Niki Thorsteinsson, Quinton Beaumont and Marlene Hanson left the meeting.

39.04.28.21

Moved by James Nibourg

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board exit out of Camera at 12:10 p.m.”

Carried Unanimously

The meeting reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT

40.04.28.21

Moved by James Nibourg

“that the County of Stettler No. 6 Agricultural Services Board Meeting adjourn at 12:12 p.m.”

Carried Unanimously

Chairperson

Manager of Agricultural Operations