



**AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

9:02 AM

Held Electronically in accordance with the Meeting Procedures (COVID-19 Suppression) Regulation,  
Alberta Regulation 50/2020

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Present: Chair G. Boehlke  
Deputy Reeve K. McKylor (participated electronically)  
Councillor S. Wright (participated electronically)  
Travis Eklund (participated electronically)  
Tricia Fehr (participated electronically)

Absent: Leisa Gallelli  
Ludwig Reicheneder

Also Present: J. Fleischer, Manager Agriculture & Environment  
K. Smigelski, Lead Agricultural Services, Agricultural & Environmental Services  
L. Poile, Agricultural Services Officer, Agriculture and Environment  
M. Mitton, Legislative Officer, Legislative Services

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**A     Call Meeting to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. with all members present.

**B.     Updates/Approval of Agenda**

MOVED by Travis Eklund that the May 19, 2021 Agricultural Services Board meeting agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

**C-1    March 31, 2021 Agricultural Services Board Minutes**

MOVED by Tricia Fehr that the March 31, 2021 Agricultural Services Board meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Carried



**D-1 All Divisions – Agricultural Fieldman Report**  
**File: N/A**

Jeff Fleischer, Agriculture and Environment Manager, reported on the following:

1. The Agricultural Services seasonal Weed Inspectors, Crop Inspector and Equipment Operators have commenced employment and are currently being trained in all the necessary areas. The Roadside mowers have also been hired and will commence employment on May 31, 2021.
2. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has released the 2020 online reporting system for the ASB Grant. Administration is currently completing the grant reporting which is due to the Province by June 30, 2019.
3. The Calgary Stampede has made the decision to hold off on nominations for the 2021 BMO Farm Family Award at this time. They are currently focused on providing appropriate recognition to the 2020 BMO Farm Family recipients. With the cancellation of the 2020 Calgary Stampede as a result of the global pandemic, the celebration for the 2020 BMO Farm Families could not take place as planned. They are currently planning to recognize the 2020 families at the Calgary Stampede this July. They will resume nominations in the fall of 2021 for celebration in 2022.
4. The 9th annual Alberta Open Farm Days returns this August 14-15 and farms can go to <https://albertaopenfarmdays.ca/host-registration/> to register online. The deadline to register as a host farm is May 31. In 2020, 77 farms participated in Open Farm Days with over \$97,000 in on farms sales happening over the weekend, despite being the first event to beheld in the province since the pandemic started. Since Open Farm Days started in 2012, more than \$995,000 has been generated in on-farm sales across the province, with almost 135,000 visits to a farm. Open Farm Days contribute to building public trust in agriculture, growing the local food sector, and increasing ag-tourism by directly connecting consumers with producers right on the farm. Farms can choose which day (or both days) they wish to open their gates, and are provided with insurance specific for the event at no cost to them in addition to coaching for culinary/food events as well as help with marketing their event. Additional information is available by contacting [info@albertaopenfarmdays.ca](mailto:info@albertaopenfarmdays.ca) or calling Tracey Foster at (780) 427-2174.
5. In conjunction with the Alberta Plant Health Lab, Rocky View County will be assisting with two Canola research projects in 2021.
  - The first project will be a clubroot survey. The intention of this research is to compare soil sampling and plant sampling as a means to locate and confirm the presence and disease severity of clubroot in Alberta fields. This research is taking place in 15 municipalities representative of the entire province.
  - The second project will be an intensive blackleg survey. The goal of the study is to more accurately measure the effects of multiple factors on blackleg severity.

MOVED by Councillor Wright that the Agricultural Fieldman Report be received as information.

Carried



**G-1 Farm Member Reports**

**File: N/A**

Tricia Fehr

- Grain prices went down a bit
- Seeding is in full swing, wheat and peas are in and up, canola is almost done
- Frost in the forecast could be hard on the seeded fields
- Most of the seeding happening in the area is barley
- It is hive splitting time for bee keepers
- Cattle farmers hoping for rain to so the hay and grain will start growing to feed the cattle
- Calving is mostly done, there are a few people that calve later or have some stragglers but most everyone is done.

Travis Eklund

- Praying for rain in the area
- No one has started seeding in the area, hopefully it will start next week
- Calving went well, not many death losses and a lot of twins this year
- A lot of calves coming out of all of the province
- There was a fire to the south, but was put out quickly so there was no threat to livestock
- Traffic volumes and dust with all the cars and dog walkers in the area, enforcement has been stepped up in the area
- Hoping for rain so things start grown and they can put the cows out to pasture

**F-1 All Divisions - Upcoming Events**

**File: N/A**

Jeff Fleischer, Agriculture and Environment Manager, reported on the following:

1. Animal Nutrition Conference of Canada. May 10-14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This event will provide unique opportunities for attendees to learn, share and network in an interactive digital environment that closely mirrors the traditional in-person event. To accommodate all participants, simultaneous presentations will be offered in both English and French. More information about the event and registration available [here](#).
2. In the Field Webinar-Stripe rust considerations and management. May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Concerned about stripe rust and looking for management tips for the growing season? This edition of 'In The Field Webinar Series' features Dr. Reem Aboukhaddour, AAFC-Lethbridge to answer all your questions about stripe rusts and provide management tools to help address stripe rust. More information about the event and registration available [here](#).
3. 2021 Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies Awards Gala. May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The AAAS will be hosting a Virtual Awards Show. More information about the event and registration available [here](#).
4. Canada's Farm Show. June 15<sup>th</sup>-June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021. A three-day business-to business show that is the only place to see it all. From education in the latest agricultural technology to networking and business development opportunities, this is truly the place to be for agricultural producers, manufacturers and suppliers to receive the tools, experiences and connections to get ahead and go beyond. More information about the event and registration available [here](#).



5. Ag in Motion: Getting on with growing. Continuously Ongoing. Now that the season is underway, what pressures are you facing? We'll talk to experts about emerging issues and opportunities in the field, ways to be more efficient with inputs and how to get the most out of your farm equipment this spraying season. More information about the event and registration available [here](#).

MOVED by Deputy Reeve McKylor that the Upcoming Events Report be received as information.  
Carried

The Chair called for a recess at 9:36 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 9:51 a.m. with all previously mentioned members present.

The Chair called for a recess at 9:52 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 9:58 a.m. with all previously mentioned members present.

**E-1 All Divisions - 10:00 a.m. Appointment - Nose Creek and Jumpingpound Creek Watershed Partnership Report**  
**File: N/A**

Presenter: Sandi Riemersma, Palliser Environmental Services Ltd

The Chair called for a recess at 10:22 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:29 a.m. with all previously mentioned members present.

Due to technical issues Sandi Riemersma will be returning to the September meeting to provide her presentation on the Nose Creek and Jumpingpound Creek Watershed Partnership Report.

The Chair called for a recess at 10:31 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:40 a.m. with all previously mentioned members present.

**E-2 All Divisions - 10:45 a.m. Appointment - Rockyview 4-H**  
**File: N/A**

Presenter: Heather Finn, Rockyview 4-H District President  
Jesse Wray, Rockyview 4-H District Junior Club Member

Heather Finn, Rockyview 4-H District President provided a report that included an overview of how the County's funding is being utilized.

Jesse Wray a Junior Club Member of the Irricana 4-H Beef & Multi Club provided the ASB with his speech that was presented at the Provincial 4-H Juniors Public Speaking competition.

MOVED by Councillor Wright that the Rockyview 4-H District Report be received as information.  
Carried



**G     Next Meeting**

September 22, 2021

**H     Adjourn the Meeting**

MOVED by Deputy Reeve McKylor that the May 19, 2021 Agricultural Services Board meeting be adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Carried

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Chair or Vice Chair

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Chief Administrative Officer or Designate