



## **AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

---

**TO:** Agricultural Service Board  
**DATE:** March 31, 2021  
**FILE:** N/A  
**SUBJECT:** Agricultural Fieldman Report

---

**DIVISION:** All

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides updates on Agricultural Services matters since the last update provided on February 25, 2021. The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) should be aware of the following items for County Council consideration.

### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:**

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Fieldman report be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Since the last meeting of the ASB, the following highlights have taken place within the Agricultural Services section.

### **DISCUSSION:**

1. The Alberta Agriculture and Forestry ASB Program conducts field visits annually to ensure ASB Grant funding appropriately supports ASB Grant Program objectives. Information gathered from the field provides evidence to the Office of the Auditor General on the effective and efficient use of ASB Grant dollars to support programs related to the ASB Act and environmental extension and awareness. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry visited 15 municipalities in 2020 under the field visit program. Five municipalities from the South, three from Central, two from Northwest, one from Northeast, and three from the Peace region. Rocky View County's field visit was completed on September 10, 2020 and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry identified five recommendations for change in the attached report. Administration is currently working to address the issues identified.
2. Rocky View County's Resource Management funding stream grant application was approved on Thursday, March 12, 2021 for the full five-year term. Rocky View County will receive \$75,000 per year from 2020 to 2024 to assist with environmental programming.
3. The Provincial ASB Committee has been updating their website with the resolution responses and other relevant ASB information. If you are interested in staying up to date with the Provincial ASB Committee, you can sign up to receive notifications for new items posted on the website. <https://agriculturalserviceboards.com>
4. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is revitalizing the Key Contact program. The Key Contact program began in 2009. The program started as a way to facilitate better communication between ASB's and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry around programs and policies in the Ministry. The new Key Contact program under development by the Ministry will have fewer staff but those involved will be fully dedicated to the program through virtual tools.

---

### **Administration Resources**

Jeff Fleischer, Agricultural and Environmental Services



5. Red Deer County ASB recently wrote a letter to the Provincial ASB Committee expressing their concerns with the Provincial Conference held virtually on January 21, 2021. Their letter is attached for your review.
6. Delivery of the 2% liquid strychnine (2% LSC) has commenced and inventory is limited due to manufacturing delays caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Health Canada has cancelled the registration and Administration is currently rationing product to farmers and ranchers to ensure everyone interested receives some to deal with their Richardson ground squirrel problems.
7. The importation of topsoil to agricultural land from development projects has been an on-going concern in Rocky View County for several years. At the February 24, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission meeting, a motion was passed "The Municipal Planning Commission recommends to Council to direct Administration to create a detailed policy / servicing standard related to soil transfer." Administration is currently drafting a policy to outline the soil testing and minimum quality requirements for topsoil to be imported for agricultural purposes.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

No budget implications.

**OPTIONS:**

- Option #1                      THAT the Agricultural Fieldman Report be received as information.  
Option #2                      THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

"Jeff Fleischer"

"Byron Riemann"

---

Manager, Agricultural and Environmental Services

---

Executive Director, Operations

**Attachment 'A' – RVC 2020 ASB Field Visit Final Report and Recommendations**

**Attachment 'B' – Red Deer County Letter to ASB PC**

# County of Rocky View Field Visit

9/10/2020



Figure 1 Rocky View County Building

## Table of Contents

List of Figures .....	3
INTRODUCTION .....	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	3
OBSERVATIONS: .....	4
SECTION 1: LEGISLATED DUTIES & REQUIREMENTS .....	6
<b>Requirement 1: Legislated activities are reported to council as per section 4 of ASB Act.</b> .....	6
<b>Requirement 2: ASB acts as an advisory body to council to support section 2 (a) through (e) of ASB Act.</b> .....	7
<b>Requirement 3: Promote and develop agricultural policies as per ASB Act Section 2e.</b> ..	8
<b>Requirement 4: Appeal committees meet requirements of Acts.</b> .....	10
<b>Requirement 5: Inspector Appointments and Inspections</b> .....	11
<b>Requirement 6: Act Compliance &amp; Enforcement</b> .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.13
<b>Requirement 7: Program &amp; Policy Awareness as per Section 2 of the ASB Act.</b> .....	16
SECTION 2: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: .....	18
<b>Requirement 8: Resource Management.</b> .....	18
RECOMMENDATION CATEGORIES: .....	20
<b>Recommendations.</b> .....	21
<b>Appendix 1.</b> .....	23
Requirement 1 .....	23
Requirement 2 .....	23
Requirement 3 .....	23
Requirement 4 .....	23
Requirement 5 .....	24
Requirement 6 .....	24
Requirement 7 .....	28
Requirement 8 .....	28

## List of Figures

Figure 1 – Rocky View County Building	1
Figure 2 – Invasive weed reporting	24
Figure 3 – Computerized tracking on truck	24
Figure 4 – Weed spray boom on truck	24
Figure 5 – Chemical spray tank vehicles	25
Figure 6 – Truck chemical storage and controls	25
Figure 7 – Mower	25
Figure 8 – Roadside mowing	26
Figure 9 – Secure chemical and pesticide storages	27
Figure 10 – Weed control	27
Figure 11 – Rental trap storage	28
Figure 12 – Topsoil project	28

## INTRODUCTION

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Program conducts field visits annually to ensure ASB Grant funding appropriately supports ASB Grant Program objectives. Information gathered from field visits also benefits other ASBs in the development and delivery of programs related to the ASB Grant and provides evidence to the Office of the Auditor General on the effective and efficient use of ASB Grant dollars to support programs related to the *ASB Act* and environmental extension and awareness.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) visited 15 municipalities in 2020 under the field visit program. Five municipalities from the South, three from Central, two from Northwest, one from Northeast, and three from the Peace region received a field visit in 2020.

South	Central	Northwest	Northeast	Peace
Warner	Lacombe	Strathcona	Bonnyville	Fairview
Lethbridge	Red Deer	Leduc		Northern Sunrise
Taber	Rocky View	Yellowhead		Mackenzie
Vulcan				
Special Area 4				

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Alan Efetha, Agricultural Service Board Program Specialist and Kellie Jackson, Strategic Evaluation Specialist met with the Jeff Fleischer, Agricultural Fieldman for the Rockyview County and team, Ashley Stewart, Delaney McNaughton, Laura Poile and Matt Chilakos, on 10/12/20 to review programs and projects implemented under the various Acts the ASB is delegated to enforce.

Rockyview County received funding under the Legislative Funding Stream and Environmental Funding Stream of the ASB Grant. The County has demonstrated they applied resources and implemented programs for the funding streams that indicated effective use of ASB Grant dollars to support activities related to the administration of legislative requirements under the *Agricultural Service Board Act* and environmental awareness.

## OBSERVATIONS

- Agricultural services in Rockyview County is comprised of highly qualified and knowledgeable staff who work cohesively with the ASB and County to fulfil the mandate of the ASB. Agricultural and Environmental Services encompasses operations for weed inspection, weed control, mowing, crop inspection, workshops/education and environmental programs including WSG's, AEP, EPP, CAP and ALUS.
- The Agricultural and Environmental Services team delivers a very effective weed and pest surveillance/management program throughout the county.
  - Roadside weed control operates on a 3-year rotation for county divisions. Units have computer-linked warnings that notify the operator of non-spray exclusion zones and provide real time viewing with 3 sec data input of where an operator is spraying. Computer tracks weather, roads and colour codes unit spray on/off. The county controls ~ 2000 ha of weeds per year. Since 1990 have used bio-control, insects for specific weed species.
  - Roadside mowing of all county maintained roads, ditches and municipal reserves, using 3 – 4 computer-linked mowers that map GIS and colour code unit location and routing along with road/sign issues. Target 2 cuts/season: 7962 km mowed in 2019; July 1 and Aug 31, 2020 - 6817 km.
  - In 2020, the county had 9 pest survey locations in the county for DED with 2 additional locations in Calgary. They also monitor for Bertha Armyworm, grasshopper, elm bark beetle, and emerald ash borer.
  - Data for clubroot survey tracking is entered into a mapping program and colour coded depending upon clubroot confirmation. The program can overlay annual data. Positive samples are sent to UA for pathotyping. Work with landowner and issue a notice that specifies conditions for growing canola again on the land. Reissue notices each year and check in with every landowner to assist with management practices. In 2020, 186 fields inspected - 3 new confirmed R pathotype cases for a total of 9 locations in the county. Surveyed for blackleg and Fusarium head blight.
  - CityView inspection, tracking and reporting system for weed and pest notices to enforcement providing current and past issues and activity viewing with auto calendar assignment for due activities. The system will not allow next step until requirements are met. All information is retained so history accompanies the land even if ownership changes enabling issues to be effectively tracked and managed over time.
  - The County provides an online form and hotline number for residents to report suspected weed and pest issues. In 2020, 120 complaints were investigated with majority resolved through educating landowners.
  - County sells pocket gopher traps, bat boxes blue books, Weeds of the Prairies and 2% strychnine to residents and provides 1080 for coyote control. The county rents skunk, racoon, pigeon, magpie, squirrel traps, and provides a free pasture sprayer
- The County provides information and resources on their website on regulated weeds, pests and offers a wide range of agricultural programming to residents
- The County provides information and resources on their website on regulated weeds, pests and offers a wide range of agricultural programming to residents
  - Prior to covid-19 shutdown, the county hosted 8 workshops that included vegetable gardening, Beekeeping 101 and Rural Security. 6 additional workshops were scheduled with 1 being delivered on Zoom and one in person with Foothills Forage in Madden
- The County continues to offer and operate a variety of environmental programs and projects. This includes:

- Jumpingpound Creek Bioengineering to stabilize riverbanks;
- partnership with Mountainview County for ag plastics;
- mitigate impacts of exporting mixed topsoil from development projects to agricultural lands;
- purple loosestrife control on Bow River;
- flowering rush options for control and mitigation;
- ALUS projects for riparian plantings and pollinator establishment and an
- Incentive program for Ag landowners to off set cost of environmentally beneficial projects.

## Section 1: Legislated Duties &amp; Requirements

Requirement 1: Legislated activities are reported to council as per section 4 of ASB Act (Summary of activities - Minimum annually)					
Fully Meeting		Partially Meeting		Not Meeting	
Criteria	Notes	Status		Recommendations	
		Yes	No	Critical	Significant
ASB is appointed by council	ASB is comprised of 3 councillors, one of which acts as Chair, for a one year period with 4 board members at large – 2 east and 2 west of highway 2 appointed for 3 year terms. 6 scheduled meetings/year	X			
Ag Fieldmen is appointed by council	Appointments are documented in council minutes	X			
ASB members meet section 3 (3) of ASB act (knowledgeable on ag and qualified to develop ag related policies)	Nominations Oct 22/2019: Kamachi, McKylor, Henn (Chair) and L. Reicheneder (2022 – Member@ Large East, Vice chair) Other members at large include T. Eklund (2021), L Gallelli (2021) and J Van Gaalen (2020) Appendix C ToR #C-ASB stipulates qualifications for ASB	X			
Summary of activities provided to council	Agricultural and Environmental Services provide quarterly reports to Council and reports to ASB at each of their meetings. Appendix C – ToR #C-ASB	X			
Minimum one report(s) provided to council per year	Q2 report provided to council July 2020 Appendix C – ToR #C-ASB	X			
Council accepts the annual report	Report to council 11/26/2019 <a href="https://www.rockyview.ca/Portals/0/Files/Government/Council/Minutes/2019/2019-11-26-Council-Minutes.pdf">https://www.rockyview.ca/Portals/0/Files/Government/Council/Minutes/2019/2019-11-26-Council-Minutes.pdf</a>	X			



Requirement 2: ASB acts as an advisory body to council to support section 2 (a) through (e) of ASB Act.					
Fully Meeting		Partially Meeting		Not Meeting	
Criteria	Notes	Status		Recommendations	
		Yes	No	Significant	Enhancement
ASB provides input into municipal plans on areas of agricultural interest	<p>Annual review of ASB 3-year plan. Review scheduled for Oct 2020 – likely to change to a 5-year plan to align with grant cycle.</p> <p>County has a Agricultural Master Plan that provides a long-term vision and policy framework supporting agricultural operations and guiding decisions on new opportunities for diversifying the county's agriculture industry.</p> <p>Appendix C ToR #C-ASB – approved Jan 8, 2019, reviewed Feb 26, 2019 – fulfils mandate set out in the <i>ASB Act</i> and promotes the importance of agriculture to Rocky View County.</p> <p>County has a Right to Farm Council policy C-508 effective June 2013, reviewed and amended July 2019.</p>	X			

**Requirement 3: Promote and develop agricultural policies as per ASB Act Section 2e**  
**(Minimum annually; Current within year; policies and bylaws for the following:**

- *Weed Act*
- *Agricultural Pests Act*
- *Soil Conservation Act*
- *Animal Health Act*
- *ASB Act*

Fully Meeting		<u>Partially Meeting</u>		Not Meeting		
Criteria	Notes	Status		Recommendations		
		Yes	No	Critical	Significant	Enhancement
ASB has and applies policies and/or bylaws for <i>WCA</i>	Invasive Plants A-507 policy, adopted Dec 5 2019, no reviews or amendments support the County in carrying out the duties and regulations of the <i>WCA</i> . (Appendix C – provided by email) Invasive Plants Procedure Pro-507, adopted Oct 23 2003, reviewed and amended Dec 4 2019 sets out the procedures the County uses for above policy. Rocky View County has Bylaw C-6909-2010 establishing Caraway as a noxious weed.	X				
ASB has and applies policies and/or bylaws for <i>APA</i>	Agricultural Pests & Nuisances Policy A-502 adopted June 19 2019, no amendments or review. The policy supports Administration in carrying out the duties and regulations of the <i>APA</i> . (Appendix C – provided by email) Agricultural Pests & Nuisance Procedure PRO-502 adopted Oct	X				

	23 2003, reviewed March 1 2019 and amended June 19 2019 documents procedures for the above policy. (Appendix C – provided by email) Procedures include Norway rat inspections; Coyote predation of livestock; Fusarium graminearum inspections; Clubroot of canola inspections; Dutch elm disease monitoring; Richardson's ground squirrels; Pocket gophers, Skunks, Racoons and Other Pests and Nuisances. Carried: 2020-03-05 (D-3) ASB approved Procedure 502 as amended.					
ASB has and applies policies and/or bylaws for <i>SCA</i>	Agricultural Stubble Burning A-505 policy allows for removal of stubble from agricultural fields in the County by permitting controlled burning under specific conditions was adopted Dec 5 2019, no reviews or amendments. (Appendix C – provided by email)	X				
ASB has and applies policies and/or bylaws for <i>AHA</i>	County currently has no policies or bylaws for <i>AHA</i> . They do have a Disaster Response for Livestock (2017) that addresses relevant federal and provincial legislation for animal health. This document lists Rocky View County address as 911 32 Ave NE Calgary. County offices moved to current location in Balzac in Oct 2018. 2020-03-05-07 (D-4) report on Serious Animal Disease		X			Recommend County consider the need for policies and procedures under <i>AHA</i> Recommend reviewing all policy and procedure documents to identify information such as address/location that need updating.

	Emergencies in Red Deer – March 6, 2020					
ASB has and applies policies and/or bylaws for ASB act	Policy 503 requires ASB farmer member input into the consideration of approvals of redesignations and subdivisions throughout the County to ensure an agricultural perspective is provided. There is no effective or revision date on posted policy ASB ToR – approved Jan 8, 2019, reviewed Feb 26, 2019 – fulfils mandate set out in the ASB Act and promotes the importance of agriculture to Rocky View County. (Appendix C – provided by email)	X				Recommend including effective and revision dates on all policies

Requirement 4: Appeal committees meet requirements of Acts.						
Fully Meeting		Partially Meeting			Not Meeting	
Criteria	Notes	Status		Appeal Committee Names	Recommendations	
		Yes	No		Critical	Significant
ASB has appeal committee that meets the WCA	County has an Enforcement Appeal Committee comprised of council members that functions for all appeals.	X		Councillor Henn (ASB Chair – 1 yr – exp Oct 2020); Councillor McKylor (alternate – 1 yr – exp Oct 2020); Wendy Metzger (member at large - 2 yr – exp Oct 2021); Hazel George (member at large 2 yr – exp Oct 2021); Ian Galbraith (alternate member at large - 2 yr – exp Oct 2021); Morrie M, Goetjen (member at large 3 yr – exp Oct 2022);		Recommend having the Enforcement Appeal Committee Chair to be independent of any notice related enforcement decisions to avoid potential conflicts of interest at the appeal stage.

				Tricia Fehr (member at large 3 yr exp Oct 2022)		
ASB has appeal committee that meets the <i>APA</i>	Appeal committee appointed in October and does not specify appeal committee term. APA requires an appeal board be appointed at the beginning of the calendar year.		X	See above	Recommend identifying the committee members term is effective beginning Jan 1 – Dec 31 of upcoming calendar year when appointing committee members in October.	
ASB has an appeal committee that meets the <i>SCA</i>	County has an Enforcement Appeal Committee comprised of council members that functions for all appeals.	X				

Requirement 5: Inspector Appointments and Inspections						
Fully Meeting		Partially Meeting		Not Meeting		
Criteria	Notes	Status		Recommendations		
		Yes	No	Critical	Significant	Enhancement
Local authority appoints inspectors under the <i>WCA</i> 7(1)	Rocky View County has a CAO Delegation Order* which enables the Manager, Agricultural and Environmental Services to appoint inspectors. <a href="https://www.rockyview.ca/Portals/0/Files/Government/Bylaws/CAO-Delegation-Order.pdf">https://www.rockyview.ca/Portals/0/Files/Government/Bylaws/CAO-Delegation-Order.pdf</a> 2020-03-05 (B1) minutes and Sept 10 2020 report identified posting for and start dates (June 8, 2020) for 6 weed/pest inspectors. Appointments for weed and pest inspectors effective June 8, 2020.	X			Recommend County reviews CAO delegation order for inspector appointments to ensure it meets 7(1) of <i>WCA</i>	
Local authority provides	Weed Inspector ID (Appendix B – provided by email) for Ag Fieldman effective April 30, 2012. Address is 911, 32 Ave NE.	X				Recommend reviewing

inspectors with identification <i>WCA 10 (1)</i>						identification documents to update address location.
Local authority appoints sufficient # inspectors under the <i>APA 9 (1) (2) 10 (1) (2)</i>	Rocky View County has a CAO Delegation Order* which enables the Manager, Agricultural and Environmental Services to appoint inspectors. 2020-03-05 (B1) minutes and Sept 10 2020 report identified posting for and start dates (June 8, 2020) for 6 weed/pest inspectors. Appointments for weed and pest inspectors effective June 8, 2020.	X			Recommend County reviews CAO delegation order for inspector appointments to ensure it meets 9(1)(2) 10 (1) (2) of <i>APA</i>	
Local authority provides inspectors with identification <i>APA 17 (3)</i>		X				
Inspector(s) with Form 7 certification <i>APA Regulation 14 (2)</i>	5 inspectors have Form 7 certification Appendix A – License #4184 (exp Dec 31 2021) and 4042 (exp Dec 31 2023)	X				
Local authority appoints at least one inspector under the <i>SCA 15 (1) (2)</i>	County has full time Ag Fieldmen	X				
Municipality meets requirements listed in section	RVC has a livestock trailer in conjunction with Wheatland County for livestock emergency response. No designated burial site but have guidelines for site selection. Continue to build relationships with some local veterinarians. County had a mock disaster exercise for					Recommend continuing to enhance capabilities

2c of ASB Act for AHA	cattle scheduled in spring 2020 with fire services and AFAC that was cancelled due to covid.					under AHA to assist with supporting livestock emergencies
-----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	---

Requirement 6: Act Compliance & Enforcement						
Fully Meeting		Partially Meeting			Not Meeting	
Criteria	Notes	Status		Recommendations		
		Yes	No	Critical	Significant	Enhancement
Local authority has procedures in place for issuing notices and tracking enforcement under the WCA Part 3	<p>Rocky View County has excellent system for issuing notices and tracking enforcement for WCA. For weeds and pests, the County offers online form and hotline number for residents to report suspected weed and pest issues. So far in 2020, county investigated 120 complaints. Most get resolved by educating landowners.</p> <p>As of Sept 10, 2020 6123 inspections, opened 385 cases and issued 17 with 3 enforcement actions. Weed inspection report, notice and debt recovery notice provided by email – Appendix E Case #: CEWC20200318, and CEWC20200124. Information on control and management was</p>	X				

	provided with the weed inspection report. Excerpts from the WCA were included with notice. Debt recovery notice was provided for CEWC20200124. PRO-507 (provided by email Appendix C) describes process for inspections, letters, notices, enforcement of notices and debt recovery notices for WCA.					
Seed cleaning plants licensed WCA Regulation Part 1 (2) – (7)	Inspection for licensing done using SCF licensing form. Also inspect using Seed Smart during same inspection. Contact board President in October to arrange inspection. Area Director and 3-4 members attend the plant inspection. Twice per year, Fieldmen picks up seed samples, for testing for Section 2 of the licensing process, which the plant has collected for them. Inspection report and license provided		X		Recommend reviewing sample collection protocols for seed cleaning plant licensing. Section 2 of the Seed facility inspection form currently states samples are to be collected on at least 10 occasions and WCR3(2)(a) license issue states ..'completes the inspection in the form and manner required by the Minister'	
Local authority has procedures in place for issuing notices and tracking enforcement under the APA 12 (1) – (4) 13 (1) and APA Pest & Nuisance Control Regulation 14 (2) (3) (6) (7) (8) (9) (13)	Rocky View County has excellent system for issuing notices and tracking enforcement for APA. Integrated tracking system for notices through to enforcement. Case set up in CityView – input inspector ID, parcel information, weed related information and	X				



	<p>get a case #. The program provides GIS mapping of site and adjacent parcels and the ability to see past issues and activity. Due dates and activity tracking are generated so re-inspections show up in calendar when due. System doesn't allow you to move past a point until requirements are met. Completion date is entered when all requirements are met. All information is retained so history accompanies the land even when ownership changes enabling problems to be tracked over time.</p> <p>A-502 and PRO-502 (provided by email Appendix C) describes policy and processes for inspections, responses and control for Norway rat, coyote predation, <i>Fusarium graminearum</i>, Clubroot, Richardson's ground squirrels, pocket gophers, skunks and racoons. There is no process for DED other than monitoring arrangements stated in the procedure.</p> <p>2019 report – inspected ~ 500 fields for pests with 2 notices issued in 2019 Copy of case#: CEP20200151 inspected July 9, 2020 notice issued for clubroot July 15, 2020</p>					
--	---	--	--	--	--	--

Local authority has procedures in place under the SCA 4 (1) (2), 5 6 (1) – (3) * procedure to monitor soil condition is mandatory; actions taken are based upon local circumstances	Rocky View County would use same system for issuing notices and tracking enforcement for SCA.	X				
--	---	---	--	--	--	--

**Requirement 7: Program & Policy Awareness (Section 2 of ASB Act)**

Fully Meeting		Partially Meeting		Not Meeting	
Criteria	Notes	Status		Recommendations	
		Yes	No	Significant	Enhancement
ASB has E&A programs in place for all legislated responsibilities under ASB Act 2 (b) – (c)	<p>The County provides information to landowners online on WCA, problem weeds and includes a short video on 'Invasive Weeds in Rocky View County. The website includes information on landowner responsibilities under WCA as well as information on the county's Weed control program, inspections, sprayer rentals and supporting services offered.</p> <p>The County provides information to landowners on the APA including main pests and nuisances of concern in the County.</p> <p>There is also a link to the online report form for weeds and pests. Since 1990 County has used biocontrol methods to try to control specific weed species i.e Hounds Tongue, Leafy spurge</p>	X			

	<p>beetles. Not as effective for toadflax or scentless chamomile</p> <p>County provides 1080 for coyote control ~ 3-5X/year.</p> <p>County sells to residents: pocket gopher traps, bat boxes, blue books, Weeds of the Prairies, 2% strychnine (RGS).</p> <p>County rents to residents: skunk, racoon, pigeon, magpie, squirrel traps; pasture sprayer is provided free and is highly utilized – considering purchasing a 2<sup>nd</sup> unit.</p>				
ASB has programs in place for all legislated responsibilities under ASB Act 2 (d) (e)	<p>The County provides information to landowners through their Disaster Response for Livestock resource related to the <i>AHA</i> for the destruction and disposal of dead animals' regulation. This includes links for livestock mortality burial techniques and livestock mortality management (disposal) and the, emergency farm animal carcass disposal plan AB July 2006. There are also federal references for emergency responses to animal diseases.</p> <p>The county provides links for agricultural operations, animal and livestock legislation.</p> <p>The County provides residents with information on rural life and direction on how to comply with animal control and land use bylaws</p> <p>Pre-Covid: RVC hosted 8 workshops which included Vegetable Gardening; Beekeeping 1010, Farm</p>	X			

	and Rural Security; planned to attend Aggie Days and host AgVenture tour. Since Covid hosted one workshop via Zoom and one in person - partnered with Foothills Forage in Madden.				
--	--	--	--	--	--

## Section 2: Resource Management Requirements

<b>Requirement 8:</b> Resource Management Programming (as per grant agreement) - describe activities and programming supported under this funding stream. Does it align with programming outlines in application?					
<b>Received Resource Management Funding: Yes No Partnership (list)</b>					
<u>Fully Meeting</u>		Partially Meeting		Not Meeting	
Criteria	Notes	Status		Recommendations	
		Yes	No	Significant	Enhancement
ASB – CAP programming	2019 grant report: met with 31 clients for CAP (water quality)	X			
ASB – EFP programming	2019 grant report: met with 31 clients for EFP	X			
ASB – Environmental/Resource management programming	ALUS – Partnership Advisory Committee guides the ALUS program for the County. Appendix C – pp 7 – 10 Watershed Water Management Plans – Since October 2008, RVC has been part of water stewardship groups: Nose Creek, Elbow River and Bow River Basins, and in 2014 expanded to include Jumpingpound	X			

<p>Creek. Projects include Bioengineering to stabilize riverbanks.</p> <p>Ag plastics: RVC has a large plastic transfer site in Irricana; bring small quantity jugs to Mountain View County and take their large quantity plastics in partnership</p> <p>Odour monitoring at industrial compost site and meat plant.</p> <p>Investigating options to mitigate impact of exporting topsoil (mixed with subsoil, rocks, garbage, weeds etc.) to agricultural lands from development projects.</p> <p>Application now requires proof of agricultural benefits. Working with developers and landowners to control weeds and reclaim impacted land.</p> <p>Becoming a significant issue as it takes agricultural land out of production.</p> <p>Purple loosestrife survey with Wheatland County and City of Calgary to date eradicated 147,799 plants from shorelines/back eddies of Bow River.</p> <p>Down to 4 sites with 95 plants.</p> <p>Flowering Rush is being surveyed in irrigation canals and a project with UC is underway to identify options for control and eradication.</p> <p>Delivered Agri-Environmental Incentive Program - off sets cost of environmentally beneficial eligible projects on a first come first served basis.</p> <p>2 ALUS projects with AWES in 2020 – riparian plantings and pollinator establishment</p>				
--	--	--	--	--

Recommendations Categories

Critical: directly impacts legislated requirements with implications for grant fund disbursements

Significant: directly impacts legislated requirements without implications for grant fund disbursements

Enhancement: indirectly impacts legislated requirements and provided for continuous improvement

Recommendations Process

- √ Recommendations for the ASB are categorized based upon the criteria's impact on the requirement.
- √ Due dates reflect the timeframe permitted for the identified issue to be resolved by the ASB.
- √ Signatures accepting the recommendations reflect the ASB's commitment to resolve the issue by the due date.
- √ Materials substantiating the resolution of the issue are provided by the ASB to the Minister's representative by the due date.
- √ The Minister's representative in conjunction with the ASB unit reviews all submitted materials to assess whether the actions taken are sufficient to resolve the issue and meet the requirements' criteria.
- √ If the issue is assessed as resolved, the Minister's representative will sign off on the recommendation. If further actions are required, the ASB Unit Manager and Minister's representative will work with the ASB until the issue is closed and requirements are met.

Field Visit Recommendations Plan Summary (for all critical and significant recommendations)					Recommendation Tracking	
Requirement	Recommendation	Critical	Significant	Due Date	Assessment Decision	Approved by/Date
ASB has appeal committee that meets the <i>WCA</i>	Recommend having the Enforcement Appeal Committee Chair to be independent of any notice related enforcement decisions to avoid potential conflicts of interest at the appeal stage.		X	April 2021		
ASB has appeal committee that meets the <i>APA</i>	Recommend identifying the committee members term is effective beginning Jan 1 – Dec 31 of upcoming calendar year when appointing committee members in October.	X		March 2021		
Seed cleaning plants licensed <i>WCA</i> Regulation Part 1 (2) – (7)	Recommend reviewing sample collection protocols for seed cleaning plant licensing. Section 2 of the Seed facility inspection form currently states samples are to be collected on at least 10 occasions ...		X	April 2021		
Local authority appoints inspectors under the <i>WCA</i> 7 (1)	Recommend County reviews CAO delegation order for inspector appointments to ensure process meets 7(1) of <i>WCA</i>		X	April 2021		
Local authority appoints inspectors under the <i>APA</i> 9(1)(2) 10 (1) (2)	Recommend County reviews CAO delegation order for inspector appointments to ensure process meets 9(1)(2) 10 (1) (2) of <i>APA</i>		X	April 2021		

Recommendations accepted:

ASB Chair: [insert name]

Signature of ASB Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agricultural Fieldmen: [insert name]

Signature of Ag Fieldmen \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations assessment:	
Reviewed by: _____	Date: _____
Assessment decision: _____	Date: _____



## Appendix 1

The items listed below were sent by email attachments

Appendix A: Form 7 examples

Appendix B: Weed Inspector ID

Appendix C: ToR #C-ASB; ALUS – Partnership Advisory Committee ToR; A-502 Agricultural Pests & Nuisances Policy; PRO-502 – Agricultural Pests & Nuisances Procedure; A-505 Agricultural Stubble Burning; A-507 Invasive Plants Policy; PRO-507 Invasive Plants Procedure

Appendix D: Disaster Response for Livestock

Appendix E: Weed Awareness Letter (Case No. CEW20200318)

## Section 1

### Requirement 1 Legislated Activities Reported to Council

See Appendix C TOR #C-ASB

### Requirement 2 ASB Advisory Body

<https://www.rockyview.ca/agricultural-service-board>

### Requirement 3 Agricultural Policies

See Appendix C – ToR #C-ASB

### Requirement 4 Appeal Committees

<https://www.rockyview.ca/enforcement-appeal-committee>

### Requirement 5 Inspector Appointments and Inspections

See Appendix B – Weed Inspector ID

See Appendix A – Form 7

See Appendix E – Weed Awareness Letter

## Requirement 6 – Act Compliance &amp; Enforcement



Figure 2 Invasive weed reporting

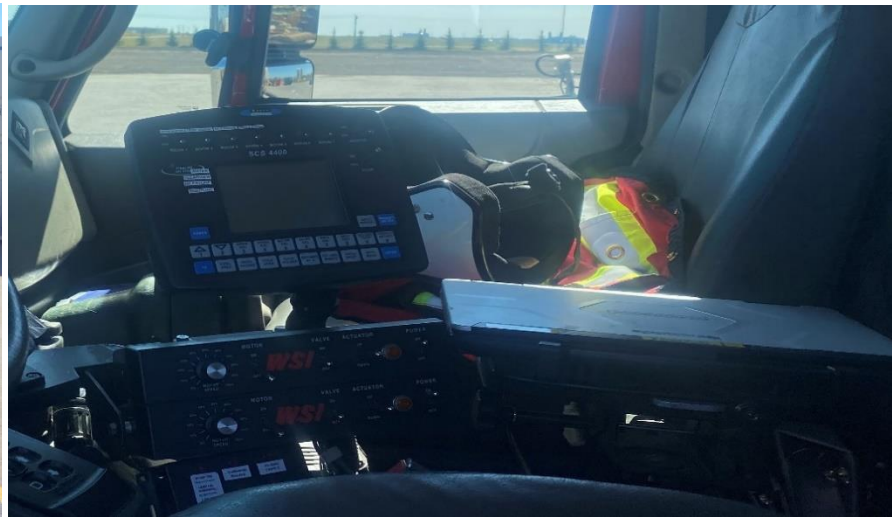


Figure 3 Computerized tracking from truck



Figure 4 Weed spray boom on truck





Figure 5 Chemical spray tank vehicles



Figure 6 Truck chemical storage and controls



Figure 7 Mower





Figure 8 Roadside mowing





Figure 9 Secure chemical and pesticide storages



Figure 10 Weed control



**Requirement 7 Program & Policy Awareness**



Figure 11 Rental trap storage

**Section 2**

**Requirement 8 - Resource Management**



Figure 12 Topsoil project

**Agricultural Services**

38106 Rge Rd. 275  
Red Deer County, AB  
T4S 2L9

Phone: 403.342.8654

Email: [agriculture@rdcounty.ca](mailto:agriculture@rdcounty.ca)

March 11, 2021

**RE: PROVINCIAL ASB CONFERENCE**

---

Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee,

Red Deer County Agricultural Service Board would like to express its concern with the Provincial Conference that was held virtually January 21, 2021. Our members have had numerous discussions in the weeks since the provincial conference and we feel that the afternoon resolution session was disorderly and ineffective. Agricultural Service Boards may be losing their voice at a provincial level and we need to ensure that we put forward relevant agricultural concerns that are well researched and well written to regain our seat at the table in discussing provincial matters. We were also concerned with some of the language and attempts at humor from the meeting itself. As a group that reports to the provincial agriculture minister we should hold ourselves to higher standard of professionalism. In addition, there were representatives from other organizations in attendance including speakers, government officials and our Agriculture Minister, and these comments did not improve our standing.

We understand that holding a session of this nature in a virtual setting poses many challenges. However, it is our opinion that excessive time was spent discussing items that were ready for a vote and there were also a number of administrative processes that were either not followed or should have been eliminated to make a more effective use of the attending delegates' time. The Review Committee did call for amendments in advance of the Resolutions Session and yet there were multiple "friendly amendments" from the floor for minor grammar and punctuation that should have been resolved in the review process, or during the call for amendments in advance of the Conference. Also, the seconder of the motion should be determined in advance and included in the resolutions package; too much time was spent on the formality of calling a seconder to the microphone which doesn't impact the discussion or outcome of a resolution.

There were two resolutions regarding the continued registration of 2% Liquid Strychnine, and while the first resolution was carried with little discussion, the second resolution resulted in extended discussion with the mover even attempting to amend it from the floor. Discussion wandered from amending the "Therefore be it resolved" statement to withdrawing the resolution all together. Ultimately the resolution was carried, but much time was exhausted in the process. These resolutions were very similar in nature and the Provincial ASB Resolutions Review Committee should have requested (or insisted that) the sponsors combine them before presenting them both at the Conference.

Red Deer County's ASB believes that resolutions are to raise awareness to agricultural issues and advise the appropriate ministry or agency of our concerns. Far too many resolutions are defeated for minor grammatical or technical concerns yet the original intent is generally supported by ASBs throughout the province. We would like to see the resolutions presented by their sponsoring municipality, hold discussion for and against, then a vote called. This would



**Agricultural Services**

38106 Rge Rd. 275  
Red Deer County, AB  
T4S 2L9

Phone: 403.342.8654

Email: [agriculture@rdcounty.ca](mailto:agriculture@rdcounty.ca)

eliminate any opportunity for "friendly" amendments and general discussion, and the vote can then be called on the original resolution.

Red Deer County's ASB values our collective voice to communicate matters of concern to the federal and provincial government, but we have been losing confidence in the resolution process in recent years.

Our Ag Service Board has chosen to write letters directly to the Minister to bring awareness to issues; such as,

- Loss of access to "Ropin' the Web"
- Agricultural Impacts of Mandatory Entry Level Training for Class 1 Drivers Licenses
- The federal cancellation of 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate

Not only were we able to communicate our concerns in a timely manner but we also received written responses from each ministry contacted within weeks of our letter being mailed. These responses addressed our concerns, and we believe ultimately effected positive change and/or extensions to the benefit agricultural producers.

We feel strongly that the resolution process should be refined to make the most effective use of the regional and provincial sessions and the time each delegate commits to its concern. Is it time that we restructure the resolution process to deliver our concerns to the correct department in a more timely and effective manner?

We eagerly await your response and would like to encourage the ASB PC to investigate more effective options to compile agricultural concerns from the community and advocate them at a provincial and federal level.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Regards,

Red Deer County Agricultural Services Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Connie Huelsman".

Connie Huelsman, Chair

cc: Alberta Agricultural Service Boards  
Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldman