

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

PRESENT	Nancy van Herk Frances Davis Ilene Gellings Wilbert Bontrup MacKay Ross	Vice Chair Council Representative Member Member Chair
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REGRETS

ATTENDING	Audrey Bjorklund Aaron Zylstra	CDM Ag Fieldman
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CALL TO ORDER Vice Chair van Herk called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

ADOPTION OF
AGENDA

AG019 (022008) MOTION by Councillor Davis to adopt the agenda governing the February 20, 2008 meeting with the following additions: 9L 2008 Census; 9M Joint Meeting Topics.

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES

AG020 (022008) MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the January 20, 2008 Agricultural Service Board Regular meeting as presented.

CARRIED .

BUSINESS ARISING There was no business arising from previous minutes

DELEGATION There was no delegation

CDM/AG FIELDMAN REPORTS The Manager and Ag. Fieldman had the opportunity to report on meetings attended and other topics.

AG021 (022008) MOTION by Member Gellings that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Managers & Ag. Fieldman's reports for information.

CARRIED .

BYLAWS & POLICIES There was no item on the agenda

OLD BUSINESS

ASB ACT REVIEW The ASB Act review was brought forward to the 2008 ASB Conference, and the results of that discussion were sent to the board.

AG022 (022008) **MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board directs administration to forward all discussed comments to the Provincial ASB Supervisor on the ongoing ASB Act Review.**

CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

2007 VSI 4th
QUARTER
SUMMARY Dr. Henderson provided the 4th quarter VSI summary for Clear Hills County.

AG023 (022008) **MOTION by Councillor Davis that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the 2006, 2007 VSI summaries and related discussion.**

CARRIED.

2008 VSI
REQUISITION The 2008 VSI requisition letter was presented to the board.

AG024 (022008) **MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board send a the letter to Dr. Henderson thanking him for the work he does on the VSI program and apologizing for not publicly supporting the VSI program at the 2008 ASB conference knowing that there are municipally supported programs for other aspects of agriculture, ie) fusarium testing and financial support of cooperative seed cleaning plants.**

CARRIED.

AG025 (022008) **MOTION by Member Gellings that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the letter from Dr. Henderson about the 2008 VSI requisition and the copy of the letter to Debbie Oyarzun, Provincial ASB Program Supervisor, for the 2007 VSI expenditures.**

CARRIED.

AGRICULTURAL
PESTS ACT Agricultural Fieldmen from around the province are weighing in on the discussion of privacy in regards to the Agricultural Pests Act as well as the Weed Control Act.

AG026 (022008) **MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the email conversation between AAAF and Debbie Oyarzun, Provincial ASB Program Supervisor, and Paul LaFlamme, Alberta Agriculture Pest Management Branch Head, about release of landowner**

information in regards to the Agricultural Pests Act.
CARRIED.

ROADSIDE
GRASSHOPPER
CONTROL

The board was presented with considerations in regards to developing a roadside grasshopper control program.

AG027 (022008)

MOTION by Member Gellings that this Agricultural Service Board directs administration to draft a roadside grasshopper control policy as discussed.

CARRIED.

GRAZING SCHOOL
SUPPORT

The County of Grande Prairie is hosting a 3 day grazing school in March 2008 at the Saskatoon Lake Hall and is seeking financial sponsorship to host this program.

Vice Chair van Herk adjourned the meeting for lunch from 12:37 p.m.

Chair Ross entered during the lunch break.

Chair Ross reconvened the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

AG028 (022008)

MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board authorize reimbursement of 50% of the registration fee for the first three Clear Hills County farm units that attend the Grazing School being held at Saskatoon Lake Hall in March 2008, on proof of payment.

CARRIED.

4H INTERCLUB
SUPPORT

The North Peace District 4H Interclub is requesting financial support from the Clear Hills County for their Interclub Show and Sale.

AG029 (022008)

MOTION by Member van Herk that this Agricultural Service Board authorizes the donation of \$500 toward judge expenses for the 4H Interclub Show and Sale.

CARRIED.

MARCH ASB
MEETING

The board is requested to reschedule the March ASB meeting as it conflicts with the AAMD&C Conference.

AG030 (022008)

MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board approves March 26, 2008 for the March ASB meeting date.

CARRIED.

RENTAL
EQUIPMENT

Bob Martin, Transport Officer was invited to come by the County compound and check our rental trailers and inform us of our legal

- TRAILERS requirements.
- AG031 (022008)** **MOTION by Councilor Davis that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the Agricultural Fieldman's report about the County's rental equipment trailers.**
CARRIED.
- AESA UPDATE The AESA Update provides information from Alberta Agriculture and Food on agri-environmental programming, priorities and issues to Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture (AESAs) Farm-based Program participants.
- AG032 (022008)** **MOTION by Member Gellings that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the January 2008 AESA Update for information.**
CARRIED.
- PEACE COUNTRY PRODUCERS The Canada Peace Country Producers sent a thank you for having an opportunity to have their products on the buffet table at the reception dinner for the Provincial ASB conference on January 22, 2008 at the Holiday Inn in Grande Prairie.
- AG033 (022008)** **MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the Thank You note received from the Canada Peace Country Producers.**
CARRIED.
- CLUBROOT POLICY GUIDELINES FOR MUNICIPALITIES Adoption of uniform enforcement by Alberta municipalities is recommended by the Alberta Clubroot Management Committee for reducing the spread and severity of clubroot disease in canola and cole crops.
- AG034 (022008)** **MOTION by Member van Herk that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the Draft Clubroot Policy Guidelines for Municipalities.**
CARRIED.
- 2008 CENSUS Council is seeking the Agricultural Service Board's input on agriculturally focused questions to be included in the 2008 municipal census.
- AG035 (022008)** **MOTION by Member Gellings that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council include the following agriculturally focused questions in the 2008 municipal census:**
- *Involved in Agriculture Yes No*
 - *Capacity Involved Farmer, Employee, Service Provider*
 - *Type of Farm Grain; Mixed; Livestock; Agro-Forestry; Greenhouse*

- *Number of Animals-same list as 2004 delete Deer and add Poultry*
- *Number of Acres Farmed same list as 2004 -separate Forage and Pasture add Woodlot*
- *Market Commodities (percentage)same list as 2004*
- *Percentage of our gross income is derived from Agriculture production.*
- *Tillage method: conventional till; minimum till; zero till*
- *Preferred roadside weed control method: mechanical chemical biological(ie grazing)*
- *What percentage of the produce you purchase is grown locally*
- *What percentage of the meat products you purchase are raised locally*
- *Market Livestock (percentage) Auction Market; Direct to Packer; Locally; Direct to Feedlot*
- *How far do you transport your agricultural products to point of sale. Up to 50 kms; 100 kms, 150 kms, 200kms over 200kms,*
- *Are you certified organic Yes No*
- *Questions with "other" add space for respondent to describe "other".*

CARRIED.

**JOINT MEETING
TOPICS**

The following topics are slated for discussion at the Joint meeting with Council on February 26th:

- VSI-include herd health and fund at 25%, change service caps on fertility testing to 10 bulls and 5 boars or rams and pregnancy testing to 150 animals (include reference to programs that assist grain farmers: fusarium testing, seed cleaning co-op; chemical jug recycling program)
- Roadside vegetation control/beautification options & incentives – adopt a ditch(mowing, litter cleanup, rock cleanup);
- Agro-Forestry: Wood biomass combustion;
- ASB 3 year goals and priorities (information).
- State of the Union

AG036 (022008)

MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board accepts for information the discussion about the topics on the February 26, 2008 Joint Meeting agenda.

CARRIED.

BOARD REPORTS

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to report on meetings attended and other topics:

- Member Gellings – attended Provincial ASB Conference and Farm Tech

Member Gellings left the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

- o Councilor Davis – attended the Provincial ASB Conference
- o Vice Chair van Herk – attended the Provincial ASB Conference and the Step It Up Conference

Councilor Davis left the meeting from 3:35 to 3:42 p.m.

- o Member Bontrup – attended the Provincial ASB Conference and Banff Pork Conference

Councilor Davis left the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

- o Chairman Ross – attended the Provincial ASB Conference, and observed farming practices in Mexico

AG037 (022008)

MOTION by Member van Herk that this Agricultural Service Board accepts member reports as information.

CARRIED.

**INFORMATION &
CORRESPONDENCE**

The following information and correspondence was provided to the Board:

- o Camelina Article – Farm Living Jan 17/08
- o Staff Changes at AB Agriculture – email Feb 7/08
- o Biomass Heat Article – Peace Country Sun Feb 8/08
- o AAEPF Message – Jan 29/08
- o 2008 Swine Breeding Workshop April 24/25 Edmonton
- o Grain & Oilseed Prices Aug 07 to Present
- o CASS Farm Family Options – Feb 14/08
- o CAFE Consumer Protection Workshop – April 5 Grande Prairie
- o Trade Restrictions Affecting Beef – Western Producer Jan 24/08
- o Community Funding – The Edge Forest Business Feb 08
- o AB Grasshopper Forecast for 2008
- o ASB Supervisor secondment leave – Alberta Ag letter Feb 8, 2008
- o Molybdenum, pea inoculation & acid soils-article
- o Cleaning Equipment-article
- o Country of origin - article

AG038 (022008)

MOTION by Member Bontrup that this Agricultural Service Board receives the correspondence and information as presented on February 20, 2008.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Bontrup adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

Date

Chairperson

Date

AG Fieldman