

# MINUTES

## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD Meeting MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LESSER SLAVE RIVER NO. 124

April 11, 2019

Flatbush Sub Office Building, Flatbush AB

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandra Melzer (Chair) Flatbush (Council)  
Damond Stadnyk (Vice-Chair) Flatbush  
Robert Esau Flatbush (Council)  
Jessica Mittelstadt Flatbush  
Orin Sand Hondo

### IN ATTENDANCE

Barry Kolenosky Agricultural Fieldman, MDLSR  
Peggy Laing Recording Secretary, MDLSR  
Murray Kerik Reeve, MDLSR

### CALL TO ORDER

S. Melzer called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

### ADOPT AGENDA

#### 38-19

D. Stadnyk moved to adopt the agenda with the following additions:

- New Business b. Farmer Class 1 License
- Information c. Independent Animal Nutrition Analysis

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### ADOPT MINUTES

#### 39-19

R. Esau moved the minutes of the March 14, 2019, Agricultural Service Board meeting, be adopted as corrected.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### ADMINISTRATION

#### AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN – Barry Kolenosky

Highlights:

- Preparing for publication on next Rural Roots
- Providing info for Website posting for ag content
- Working on ASB Policy review and final draft of 2 new policies
- Summer work plan and hired seasonal staff, full complement to start out
- Arranging extension activities
- Initial site review of proposed 2019 landscape/beautification projects
- Continuing with FireSmart Grazing project
- Attended AFAC conference in Olds
- Attended Regional AAAF meeting
  - Push from industry to relax rotations surrounding Clubroot of Canola
  - Information on digital crop, pest, climate etc. monitoring

Administration will be looking for a facilitator for the local Fire Departments to have Animal Rescue training using the trailer stationed at Westlock County. An Incident Action Plan developed for the region, as recommended by Agriculture and Forestry, would be of merit.

Most Board members were not in favor of changing our Clubroot of Canola Policy as we currently follow the provincial recommendations. It was suggested that administration investigate doing a summer hands-on workshop to educate area producers on early scouting for Clubroot before it is identified after harvest.

#### 40-19

R. Esau moved to accept the Agricultural Fieldman's report as information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### BMO Farm Family Award Nomination

As per motion 33-19 March 14, 2019:

R. Esau moved have BMO Farm Family Award 2019 Application as a returned agenda item for the April 11, 2019 ASB meeting. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Every second year MDLSR is given the opportunity to nominate a local farm family for the Farm Family Awards. During Farm Fair, recipient families are invited to

Northlands for a dinner and awards ceremony and presented with gate sign that states they are a farm family winner.

The Farm Family Award has specific criteria that the nominees must meet in order to qualify. The Application deadline for completed submission is May 31, 2019.

Board members reviewed the list of previous MD family recipients and were asked to bring forward potential nominees at this ASB meeting. There is no obligation to select a nominee each eligible year.

**41-19**

R. Esau moved to submit the Farm Family of Debbie Parsons and Clarence Prins as the MDLSR nominee for the 2019 BMO Farm Family Award, if acceptable by the nominees.

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**Agricultural Appeal Panel Policy J.18**

Administration provided the final drafts of J.18 for Board approval or editing.

This will replace the current Weed Control Act and Pest Control Act Appeal Committee policies as well as now include a Soil Conservation appeal process.

**42-19**

D. Stadnyk moved to recommend the Agricultural Appeal Panel Policy J.18 to Council for approval.

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**Reverse Fenceline & Headland Herbicide Application Program Policy J.19**

Administration provided the final draft of policy J.19 for approval or editing. This policy was drafted at the request of the Board. The purpose of the policy is to allow for a program for herbicide application from inside a landowners' fenceline out into the MD road allowance. The object is to implement control on wide right-of-ways for the strip of ground that is left between the MD roadside spray program and the farmer spraying to the fenceline.

**43-19**

O. Sand moved to recommend the Reverse Fenceline & Headland Herbicide Application Program Policy J.19 to Council for approval and to carry out a one-year pilot project of this program to be reviewed in early 2020.

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Lesser Slave Integrated Watershed Management Plan**

The Lesser Slave Watershed Council (LSWC) recently completed the Lesser Slave Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP or Plan). The Plan was developed in collaboration with watershed stakeholders, including key direction provided by municipalities through the Municipal Working Group. The Plan was recently endorsed by all municipalities in the watershed and supported by Alberta Environment and Parks. MDLSR Council has accepted the plan for information only and to be used as a reference.

The LSWC is now transitioning from planning to implementation and seeks to establish an Implementation Committee to move forward recommendations and related actions to achieve the goals outlined in the Plan. The Terms of Reference aim to serve as a guiding document for the Implementation Committee.

**44-19**

R. Esau moved to return the information, of the LSWC seeking to establish a Committee, to Council, and request their decision on an MDLSR committee member appointment (or not).

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**Mandatory Entry Level Training (MELT) for Class 1 Drivers: Agriculture Industry**

The purpose of MELT is to ensure that commercial drivers have the basic skills and experience to safely operate large commercial vehicles on the road, including farm vehicles.

MELT is a mandatory training program for NEW Class 1 (tractor-trailer) and Class 2 (bus) drivers taught at driver training schools and organizations across Alberta. Once a driver has completed MELT, they must pass a knowledge and road test (based on the MELT curriculum) to get their Class 1 or 2 driver's license.

To meet the needs of the 2019 farming season, farmers and farm workers can apply to Alberta Transportation for an extension to get their Class 1 license under the pre-MELT process until November 2019.

45-19

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the details of MELT as information and for administration to draft an information article for the summer *Rural Roots* edition.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Raising Chickens Workshops Saturday May 4, 2019**

Administration has organized workshops to address the growing interest of raising chickens, both barnyard and backyard flocks. Contacts for a presenter and were made at the recent Livestock Care Conference. The plan is to host 2 workshops on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at Widewater at 10 AM and Flatbush at 2 PM. This allows us to utilize the facilitator more efficiently than just one presentation.

46-19

R. Esau moved to accept the details of the upcoming raising chickens' workshops as information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CORRESPONDENCE  
/INFORMATION**

**2019 ASB Business Plan**

Administration presented the updates to the 2019 ASB Business Plan and asked the board for additional input.

Board members expressed further interest in a method/equipment to weigh bales. Administration was asked to research less costly methods than a bale spike and check with other municipalities for options they use.

47-19

R. Esau moved to request Administration investigate more options weighing for weighing hay bales.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Clean Farms Pilot Program - Collection Bags for Empty Pesticide & Fertilizer Jugs**

MDLSR currently has a collection site at transfer stations for farmers to drop off empty pesticide and fertilizer jugs. The collection company bags the containers at the time of pickup. This system is working well as it is.

48-19

D. Stadnyk moved to accept the Clean Farms pilot project for providing farmers with the collection bags for empty pesticide and fertilizer jugs as information, and further; that MDLSR will not be applying to be a pilot location.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Independent Nutritionist Analysis Options**

Board members commented that receiving information from a nutritionist that has a connection to a specific retail supplier is not always the best or most specific it could be.

49-19

D. Stadnyk moved to have administration seek an independent nutritionist, not associated with any retail affiliate, to facilitate a workshop to livestock owners.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**NEXT MEETING**

**Friday, May 10, 2019, 9:00 AM Start**

**ADJOURNMENT**

S. Melzer adjourned the meeting at 12:05 PM.

  
Chairperson

  
Agricultural Fieldman