

MINUTES

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD Meeting
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LESSER SLAVE RIVER NO. 124
September 18, 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

CALL TO ORDER

S. Melzer called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM.

ADOPT AGENDA

83-19

D. Stadnyk moved to adopt the agenda with the following addition:
New Business 8a. Opportunities Workshops

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATE

Ann Holden – MDLSR Development Authority

A. Holden presented on the background reasoning for Municipal Development Planning. She spoke in relation to MDLSR and the various agricultural designations in our MD. She informed the Board that as the MD Land Use Bylaw is amended, there will be public consultation in designated areas throughout the MD for the people to have input for the specific area/community of the municipality that they live in. The hope is to have an LUB that takes into consideration that all areas of the MD are not in the same demographic. She fielded many questions and provided much thought-provoking information.

84-19

D. Stadnyk moved to accept A. Holden's presentation as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT MINUTES

85-19

J. Mittelstadt moved the minutes of the August 8, 2019, Agricultural Service Board meeting, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION: AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN – Barry Kolenosky

Highlights:

- Council and Directors will be going on road tours soon and there will be opportunity for weeds to be a part of the observations
- T. Wright had done some reverse fenceline spraying
- Bare ground spraying is being done in appropriate areas at municipal sites to lessen the amount of time dedicated to weed trimming in future

- As well, there will be investigation into products that could be applied for bare ground that won't harm trees, shrubs and various vegetation to reduce time required for weed trimming in future
- Roadside & MD facility vegetation management targeted spot spraying program completed
- Weed Inspection program wrapping up, over 150 Inspections were revisited with some new create.
- Curly Burdock infestation sprayed, with continued monitoring, second application in 2020
- Weed Control Partnership Program continued landowner program use, ratepayers are providing receipt.
- Farmer/landowner consultations continuing
- Municipal Grasshopper Survey completed and submitted, total of 4 fields and roadsides surveyed

- Continuing to work on ASB policy review
- Landscape summer and beatification program winding down
- Regional Ag. Plastic Recycling site selected in Barrhead, Barry to attend Partner Meeting on September 19th
- J 18 Agricultural Acts Appeal Panel implementation
- Municipal gravel pits, Regional Landfill and the roadside of Poplar Lane were sprayed for legislated and nuisance weeds
- Successful spot treatments in municipal right-of-ways throughout the spray season for legislated weed species
- 4 seasonal staff stayed on while 4 seasonal staff have returned to school
- Preparation for crop surveys
- Chemical shed inventory has been taken after spray season and is on-going
- Other items, 2020 budget discussion, disposal of old ag. disposal asset items discussion, on-going

86-19

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the Agricultural Fieldman's report as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

Clean Farms Ag Plastics Recycling Pilot Program

MDLSR collaborated with other municipalities to apply for the site of an Ag Plastics Recycling Pilot Program. The application was successful and Barrhead has been selected as the project site.

The Board reviewed the letter of confirmation of selection from the County of Barrhead and the press release announcing the successful application.

Administration will attend a meeting of the partners and we will provide information on what we collect, to provide, in hopes of being able to move some of our applicable material out of our landfills.

87-19

D. Stadnyk moved to accept the update on the Ag Plastics Recycling partnership as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fall Social Update

- P. Laing update the Board on the status of the Fall social preparations
- Board members were encouraged to seek out businesses and agencies for door prize donations
- PACO, SHARA and FCA will be approached for partner funding
- The Board viewed the poster/flyer in progress to be launched in early October
- Flyers will be distributed to mailboxes as well as all other avenues of advertising methods
- Set up scheduled for Thursday Oct 31 at 10 AM

Given the current state of harvest difficulties in our region a change of cost tickets for the social was discussed.

88-19

O. Sand moved to set the ticket for admission for the 2019 Fall Social at \$10 per person, with no minors.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

89-19

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the Fall Social update as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2019 Ag-Food Business Conference

The decision of whether any Board members would attend the 2019 Ag-Food Business Conference had been deferred to this meeting. The intent of this conference is to bring agriculture and food businesses, government and regional

farmers from across commodity sectors, together to learn from experts, and to connect and champion regional growth.

90-19

D. Stadnyk moved that J. Mittelstadt attend the 2019 Ag-Food Business Conference on November 1, 2019.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Opportunities Workshops

The Canadian Agriculture partnership is sponsoring 3 workshops in Lacombe:

- Opportunities in Fruit Workshop October 28
- Opportunities in Vegetable Workshop October 29
- Opportunities in Greenhouse Workshop November 8

The Board consensus is that there may be information of value to bring back to the region considering the interest shown by local vendors participating in the Rural Roots Farmers Markets held in Fawcett and Flatbush this year.

91-19

R. Esau moved that J. Mittelstadt attend all three workshops.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

UPCOMING EVENTS

NW Regional ASB Conference

The only information to date available for the NW Regional ASB Conference:

Hosted by: Barrhead County
 Date: Thursday November 7, 2019
 Location: Summerdale Hall

This date will follow the ASB appointment of ASB members by Council on October 23, 2019, so it is recommended that current members save that date until appointees are announced.

92-19

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the details for the NW Regional ASB Conference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020 ASB Provincial Conference

The 2020 ASB Provincial Conference will be held in Banff. At the Regional AAAF meeting on October 9th, it is hoped more information will be made available.

93-19

R. Esau moved to accept the current information available for the 2020 ASB Provincial Conference.

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.

94-19

O. Sand moved to accept the updated ASB Business Plan as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Powerline Vegetation Control Issue Update

D. Stadnyk provided follow-up information on the outcome of his issue of the energy company vegetation management contractor spraying onto his forage seeded land, hay in the swath and baled hay. After a good deal of the "pass the buck" from contacts it was determined that Alberta Environment and parks was the organization to deal with the issue.

D. Stadnyk confirmed this was not a just matter of the funds involved, but more a matter of a corporation having hired a firm that was not using acceptable practices with no remorse. He is hopeful that a mutually beneficial outcome will be reached but if he had not adamantly stayed on the issue, by following every avenue possible and dedicating a great deal of time, nothing would have come of his complaint.

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J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the follow-up information regarding inappropriate spraying by a vegetation management company.

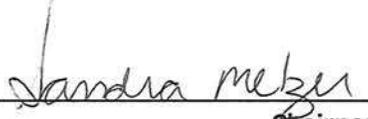
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEXT MEETING

October 10, 2019 9:00 AM Start

ADJOURNMENT

S. Melzer adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.


Chairperson


Agricultural Fieldman