

MINUTES

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD Meeting
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LESSER SLAVE RIVER NO. 124
April 9, 2020 9:00 a.m.
Zoom Video Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Russ Jassman Director of Rural Services/
Ag Fieldman, MDLSR
Barry Kolenosky Director of Rural Services/MDLSR
Peggy Laing Recording Secretary, MDLSR

CALL TO ORDER

S. Melzer called the meeting to order at 9:22 AM.

ADOPT AGENDA

40-20
O. Sand moved to adopt the agenda as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT MINUTES

41-20
D. Stadnyk moved the minutes of the March 12, 2020, Agricultural Service Board meeting, be adopted as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

RUSS JASSMAN -Director of Rural Services/Agricultural Fieldman

Highlights:

- 2020 – 2024 Provincial Grant Application
- Resource Management Stream funding partner
- Weed/Pest Technician hiring
- Richardson Ground Squirrel – liquid strychnine
- 2020/2021 Roadside Herbicide Application request for Proposal

42-20

R. Esau moved to accept the Agricultural Fieldman/Director of Rural Services report as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Kolenosky – Co-Director of Rural Services

Highlights:

- TLAER workshop cancelled but there had been good response from our area so will keep it in mind for future delivery
- Attended AFAC virtual conference, they are working on an emergency response plan for the farming sector
- All types of livestock and livestock transporters will be affected by the changes to the Livestock Regulations Act
- Currently no recyclables can be accepted at Transfer Sites or Regional landfills.
- All public parks and like environments are closed to public access

43-20

R. Esau moved to accept the Director of Rural Services report as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Kolenosky left the meeting at 9:55 AM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ASB Business Plan Update

Administration presented the updates to the 2020 ASB Business Plan and asked the board for additional input.

44-20

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the updated ASB Business Plan as information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020 – 2024 ASB Provincial Grant Application

Administration shared Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's specifics of what the ASB grant includes:

- Funding for the next five years (2020 – 2024)
- One-time application for a five-year term
- Legislative stream of funding (base)
- Resource management stream of funding (enhanced)
- Basic Legislative stream reduced 27%
- Base Resource management stream reduced to \$0
- Partnership with Big Lakes County for the Resource management stream of funding

The completed application was reviewed by the Board.

45-20

D. Stadnyk moved to approve the partnership between MDLSR and Big Lakes County for the Resource Management grant stream of the ASB 2020 – 2024 grant.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

46-20

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the 2000 – 2024 ASB Provincial Grant Application.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Richardson Ground Squirrels (Gophers)

There was an enquiry on the availability of *Liquid 2% Strychnine* for use to control Richardson Ground Squirrels (gophers). Investigation revealed that the Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency holds the registration to this product, and it has been cancelled as of March 4, 2020, with March 4, 2021, being the last date retailers can sell product. Neighbor municipalities have declined to partner to provide this product. Our chemical storage facility is not acceptable for the storage of the *Liquid 2% Strychnine*, so it is not acceptable for us to possess any. The MD is not a retail agent.

Additional research revealed that *Rozal* is a control product that can be purchased from retailers. It is not advisable for the MD to get involved as there are retail agencies offering a product.

47-20

R. Esau moved to accept the report on control options of Richardson Ground Squirrels as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CORRESPONDENCE
/INFORMATION**

Notice of Changes to the Ag-Info Center

48-20

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the changes to the Ag-Info Center's way of handling inquiries as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Farm Safety Center Alternate Delivery Plans for Schools

49-20

R. Esau moved to accept the Farm Safety Centers explanation of how they will contribute to school programs during COVID-19 as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CleanFarms Ag plastics Recycling Update

CleanFarms provided an update for the ag plastics recycling plan is for retailer provide the recycle bags to the purchaser. The purchaser will follow the directions

for proper preparation practices and bagging, and they will take them to the landfill and deposit in the designated area only. This mitigates any third-party handing by the landfill operators or the agent picking up the bags.

One issue not covered in obtaining bags in this manner, is the purchaser who already has product and how they will obtain a bag?

50-20

J. Mittelstadt moved to have administration continue to research how producers can obtain the recycle bags if not provided by a retailer.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grazing lease Renewal Issues

Administration was recently asked to review a renewal of a grazing lease and new stipulations not previously stated on applications or renewals. One new requirement is the need for liability insurance on the grazing lease. A Board member found that farm liability insurance covers all land under your direction – owned and leased, so that as a stipulation of the renewals, would already be covered by existing insurance.

NEXT MEETING

May 14, 2020 9:00 AM

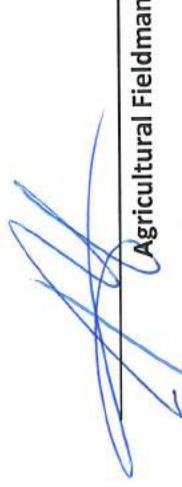
ADJOURNMENT

51-20

S. Melzer adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM.



Chairperson



Agricultural Fieldman