

MINUTES
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD Meeting
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LESSER SLAVE RIVER NO. 124
August 13, 2020 9:00 a.m.
Zoom Video Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT	Sandra Melzer (Chair) Damond Stadnyk (Vice-Chair) Robert Esau Jessica Mittelstadt	Flatbush (Council) Flatbush Flatbush (Council) Flatbush
MEMBERS ABSENT	Orin Sand	Hondo
IN ATTENDANCE	Russ Jassman Peggy Laing	Director of Rural Services/ Agricultural Fieldman, MDLSR Recording Secretary, MDLSR
CALL TO ORDER	S. Melzer called the meeting to order at 9:14 AM.	
ADOPT AGENDA	<u>81-20</u> J. Mittelstadt moved to adopt the agenda as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY	
ADOPT MINUTES	<u>82-20</u> D. Stadnyk moved the minutes of the July 9, 2020, Agricultural Service Board meeting, be adopted as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY	
REPORTS	ADMINISTRATION: DIRECTOR OF RURAL SERVICES/AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN – Russ Jassman Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Spaces Bylaw 2010-14• Research, extension request and applications for several Temporary Field Authorizations• Roadside Herbicide Application Program Notification discussion at Council• Community Assistance Board Agenda August 12th• Weed Inspections/Inspectors Notices (Orange Hawkweed and Himalayan Balsam)• Planning and Development - Development Permits and the Land Use Bylaw rewrite• Advising Chantelle and Tara for spot spraying• Working on virtual NW Region ASB Conference details• 2020 Ag Fieldmen In-Service-Training and 2021 ASB Conference will be virtual conferences <u>83-20</u> J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the Director of Rural Services/Agricultural Fieldman’s report as information. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY	
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	ASB Business Plan Update Administration presented the updates to the 2020 ASB Business Plan and asked the board for additional input. <u>84-20</u> D. Stadnyk moved to accept the updated ASB Business Plan as information. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY Pesticide Packaging Administration received communication from the Key Account Manager with Bayer Crop Sciences, in response to our request for smaller packaging sizes of range and pasture herbicides. He posed the question back to us of what size (acres) of packing would we want?	

85-20

R. Esau moved that Administration respond to Bayer Crop Sciences representative proposing container sizes of herbicide that would be sufficient to spray one to five acres with a goal of reducing the initial cost and avoiding storage of un-used herbicide for long periods of time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Declaration of a Municipal Agricultural Disaster

To date several Alberta municipalities have made declarations of Agricultural Disaster. MDLSR adjacent municipalities to the south and west have not declared.

Administration will continue to monitor the agricultural lands in MDLSR with the option of returning this agenda item to a future ASB meeting if the Board feels it is warranted to initiate making a Declaration of a Municipal Agricultural Disaster.

86-20

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the information surrounding the conditions of agricultural lands in MDLSR and to return the topic of a Declaration of a Municipal Agricultural Disaster to a future ASB meeting if local conditions warrant it.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Soil Conservation Act

As discussed at the last ASB meeting, there are areas of soil erosion in our MD that need to be addressed with education and extension. The *Soil Conservation Act* is another provincial act that is delegated to local municipalities to administer. The Act was provided for the Board's information. Administration covered the highlights of The Act and clarified the roles for himself – the Officer, and the role of the ASB.

Board members discussed how incidents of manmade soil erosion are also increasing due to the use of ATV's on continuous tracks or trails in vulnerable areas.

87-20

R. Esau moved to accept the details of the *Soil Conservation Act*, in relation to the ASB, as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Council Organization Meeting – Agricultural Service Board Members Members-at-Large

Annually in October, the MDLSR Council holds an organizational meeting to appoint Councilors and members-at-large to the various committees and boards; the ASB is one of them.

The current three members-at-large can reapply if they wish to be considered for reappointment for a one-year term.

88-20

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the process for applying to be a members-at-large for the ASB, as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020 Northwest Region Agricultural Service Board Conference

The MD is slated to host the 2020 NW Region ASB Conference on October 29th. With the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference will need to be an online event. Administration will be working to determine how that will look.

Other than the mandated resolution component the agenda is wide-open, and Administration encouraged the Board members to suggest topics they feel would be relevant.

Potential topics for the conference are:

- Rural Programming, Facilities and Emergency Services Branch, Agriculture and Forestry, offering to present regarding their existing programs and services, specifically, addressing the ability to assist rural municipalities prepare for and

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respond to emergencies involving livestock. This is a timely topic given the number of times record fires and floods have occurred in the NW region of Alberta.

- It is hoped that the manager of the Agricultural Service Boards branch will provide an update, as our ASB has had no feedback at all from our ASB grant application
- Soil erosion and alternate measures for control beyond enforcement

89-20

D. Stadnyk moved that Administration move forward with planning the 2020 NW Region ASB Conference as an online event.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VSI Second Quarter Update

The second quarter VSI statement letter, from the Manager of the VSI Program, indicates that we are below budget so far for 2020. Program use generally escalates in the fall as animals are brought home from summer pastures.

90-20

J. Mittelstadt moved to accept the report on the VSI Second Quarter report as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

91-20

R. Esau moved that for the purpose of presenting at the VSI AGM, the MDLSR 2021 VSI levels of coverage will remain the same as current levels.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEXT MEETING

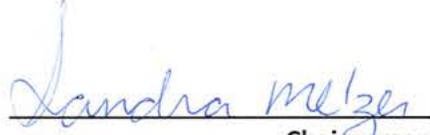
September 10, 2020, @9:00 AM

ADJOURNMENT

92-20

S. Melzer adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Chairperson



Agricultural Fieldman