

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



Minutes of the **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** held on Tuesday, **August 10, 2021**, at 9:04 A.M. held virtually online through Electronic Communication Technology: Zoom Meeting and physically in County Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to Order by the Chairperson, Councillor Dan Gawalko in the presence of the following persons:

ATTENDANCE		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Tuesday, Aug 10, 2021</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Johnny Cherniwchan	Present in Chambers
3	Craig Lukinuk	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5	Randy Orichowski	Present in Chambers
CAO	Gene Sobolewski	Present in Chambers
Assist. CAO	Lydia Cielin	Virtually Present
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Absent
Ag. Fieldman	Carleigh McMullin	Present in Chambers
Assist. Ag. Fieldman	Amanda Kihn	Present in Chambers
Legislative Svcs./R.S.	Patti Priest	Virtually Present
Natural Gas Manager	Daniel Moric	Virtually Present
Planning & Dev. Assist.	Kyle Schole	Virtually Present

No Members of the Media were Present.
No Members of the Public were Present.

2. Agenda:

1006-21: Orichowski That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, August 10, 2021, be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

3. Minutes:

1007-21: Halisky That the Minutes of the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

1008-21: Lukinuk That the Action List from the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, be filed for information.

Carried.

4. Request for Decision:

Policy Statement No. 62-28-04: Mowing Program

1009-21: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, amend Policy Statement No. 62-28-04: Mowing Program:

Title: Mowing Program		Policy No.: 28-04
Section: 62	Code: P-R	Page No.: 1 of 3 E
Legislation Reference: Alberta Provincial Statutes		
Purpose:	Smoky Lake County will govern the municipal mowing program on developed road allowances and County lands under the Agricultural Service Board.	

Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
1. STATEMENT:	
1.1	Smoky Lake County will mow developed road allowances annually to maintain safe visibility for the travelling public and to improve drainage of infrastructure.
1.2	The mowing program promotes effective control of weeds and brush within the municipal right-of-way encroaching the roads surface.
1.3	The County will mow County lands on a as needed basis.
2. DEFINITION(S):	
2.1	County Lands: Property owned and/ operated by Smoky Lake County
2.2	Developed Road Allowances: Road allowances containing a gravel or hard surfaced roadway under the jurisdiction of Smoky Lake County.
3. OBJECTIVES:	
3.1	Define areas that will be mowed within the right-of-way and on County lands.
3.2	Provide the level of right-of-way mowing as set out by the Agricultural Service Board.
3.3	The County's desire to achieve the following objectives with its roadside mowing program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to assist with weed control by preventing the seed set of noxious weeds in the right-of-way and to cut any brush regrowth encroaching on the road ▪ to enhance road maintenance with minimal gravel loss and allow positive drainage of rainwater to be more efficiently channeled to the right-of-way ▪ to increase visibility of wildlife crossing and reduce obstructed visibility of signs at intersections for the safety of the travelling public ▪ to provide a fire break and reduce the amount of fire load material in right-of-way. ▪ To prevent drifting on roads, where the blowing snow will travel across the road, rather than being trapped by standing vegetation which will travel across

Title: Mowing Program	Policy No.: 28-04
Section: 62	Code: P-R
Page No.: 2 of 3	E

Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
4. GUIDELINES:	
4.1	The mowing program will be developed and planned by the Agricultural Service Board and implemented through the Agricultural Services Department. The defined mowing areas consist of three (3) zones, divided using range road 150 and Highway 855 as boundaries.
4.2	Ditch clean-up and equipment maintenance will commence 2 weeks prior to mowing program start date.
4.3	One-pass herbicide mowers will begin mowing operation the first week of June for more effective weed control. Non-herbicide mower operations will begin the last week of June. All mowing operations will cease no later than November 1 st .
4.4	Mowing Operations consist of three (3) tractors and mowers used to cut grass, brush, and noxious weeds. These mowers are able to accomplish a significant amount of mowing and right-of-way clearing very efficiently when compared to other methods of mechanical control.
4.5	Without limiting the program or its effectiveness, it will generally be planned as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.5.1 Developed Road Allowances: All grassy areas along, oiled, or gravel roads will be mowed once a year mowing from roads edge to property line where conditions allow. Which may require several mowing passes to accomplish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These secondary passes should be a minimum of 5ft. • Main roads into lake resorts will only be mowed prior to the July and August long weekends (two seasonal passes per year) • Township Road 610 from Range Road 181 East to Hwy 855 will be mowed in conjunction with the lake resorts prior to July and August long weekends (two seasonal passes per year) • The Iron Horse Trail shall only be mowed once per season • It is recognized that inclement weather, such as rain and early winter could prevent completion of the program
4.6	All other mowing requests will be at the discretion of the Agricultural Service Board and added to Schedule "A" Approved Additional Mowing

Section 62

Policy: 28-04



SCHEDULE "A"
APPROVED ADDITIONAL MOWING



Metis Crossing
Smoky Lake Rodeo Grounds
Smoky Lake Air Strip
Hamlin Ball Diamonds
Waskatenau Ball Diamonds
Bellis Ball Diamonds
Bonnie Lake Enviro Reserve 7921626

Carried.

5. Issues for Information:

Agricultural Service Board Chairperson's Report

The Agricultural Service Board Chairperson: Dan Gawalko Councillor Division 1, provided a verbal Agricultural Service Board Chairperson's report as follows:

- Attended the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Field Day in Smoky Lake County on July 22, 2021.
- The next LARA meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashmont Agri-plex.

1010-21: Orichowski That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Chairman's verbal report for the period: June 16, 2021, to August 10, 2021, in regard to the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), be accepted for information.

Carried.

2021 Pest Monitoring Report

1011-21: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, accept the Agricultural Service Board Departments' Year-2021 Pest Monitoring report as of July 28, 2021, as presented for information.

Carried.

2021 Weed Inspection Report

1012-21: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, accept the Agricultural Service Board Departments' Year-2021 Weed Inspection report as of August 3, 2021, as presented for information.

Carried.

Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), virtually joined the meeting, time 9:26 a.m.

2021 Mowing Progress Map

1013-21: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, accept the Agricultural Service Board Departments' Year-2021 Mowing Progress Map as of August 3, 2021, as presented for information.

Carried.

2021 Herbicide Progress Map

1014-21: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, accept the Agricultural Service Board Departments' Year-2021 Herbicide Progress Map as of August 3, 2021, as presented for information.

Carried.

Kyle Schole, Planning & Development Assistant, virtually left the meeting, time 9:31 a.m.

One Member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 9:34 a.m.

7. **Delegation:**

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)

Virtually present before Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board from 9:32 a.m. to 9:43 a.m., was Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), to provide a verbal update, which included but was not limited to the following points:

- Thank you for attending the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) July 22, 2021, Field Day in Smoky Lake County.
- There will be a Hemp Workshop September 15, 2021, with Rocky Mountain Hemp.
- A Cattle Nutrition Workshop is being planned for September 21, 2021, tentatively hosted at the National Hall in Smoky Lake.
- Alyssa Krawchuk, Manager, Forage and Livestock Program, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), is back from maternity leave.
- The July/August 2021 newsletter is being prepared and will be emailed to producers and posted on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, as well as a mailed out to Lac La Biche County, County of St. Paul No. 19, Municipal District of Bonnyville, and Smoky Lake County.

Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), virtually left the meeting, time 9:43 a.m.

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)

1015-21: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, accept the report from Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), for information as presented on August 10, 2021.

Carried.

Kyle Schole, Planning & Development Assistant, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:45 a.m.

Dave Franchuk, Environmental Operations Manager, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:54 a.m.

Alberta Fish and Wildlife

1016-21: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, write a letter to Travis Ripley, Executive Director of Alberta Fish and Wildlife to:

- request clarification in respect to the Damage Control Licence (DCL) which provides legal authority to hunt or trap nuisance wildlife to attempt to minimize the damage and issued to the landowner and not the County who is conducting the work,
- express the need for blanket permits to facilitate damage control of municipal infrastructure,
- bring attention to the need for reducing “red tape” in respect to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) compliance requests to address Problem Wildlife control in a timely fashion, and
 - indicate the negative impact on the municipal budget due to both the Federal and Provincial Policy changes affecting blasting regulations,

and carbon copy Glenn van Dijken, MLA for Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock, for awareness.

Carried.

Agricultural Fieldman Report

1017-21: Halisky That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Fieldman's written Report as of August 3, 2021, be accepted and filed for information.
Carried.

Trevor Cameron, County Trapper, left the Council Chambers, time 10:11 a.m.

6. Correspondence:

Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66 - Open Pit Coal Mining Eastern Rocky Mountains

1018-21: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, file the letter received by Smoky Lake County from Jody Wilson, Agricultural Service Board Chair, Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66, dated June 10, 2021, concerning Open Pit Coal Mining in the Eastern Rocky Mountains, for information.
Carried.

Thorhild County – Advocating for Funding for Agricultural Service Boards

1019-21: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, file the letter received by Smoky Lake County from Kevin Grumetza, Reeve, Thorhild County, dated June 15, 2021, advocating for Agricultural Service Board funding, for information.
Carried.

Brazeau County - Synthetic Fertilizer Emissions Concerns

1020-21: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, file the letter received by Smoky Lake County from Dallas Ekstrom, Agricultural Service Board Chair, Brazeau County, dated June 16, 2021, concerning Synthetic Fertilizer Emissions, for information.
Carried.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry - Wild Boar Containment Standards

1021-21: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, file the letter received by Smoky Lake County from Bruce Hamblin, Director of Inspection and Investigation Section, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, dated June 22, 2021, in regard to Wild Boar Containment Standards, for information.
Carried.

M.D. of Smoky River - Synthetic Fertilizer Emissions Concerns

1022-21: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, file the letter received by Smoky Lake County from Robert Brochu, Agricultural Service Board Chair and Reeve, M.D. of Smoky River, dated July 14, 2021, in regard to Synthetic Fertilizer Emissions, for information.
Carried.

Next Meeting

1023-21: Orichowski That the next Smoky Lake County **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** be scheduled for **Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.** to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

1024-21: Gawalko That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting of August 10, 2021, be adjourned, time 10:18 a.m.

Carried.

CHAIRPERSON

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER