# **SMOKY LAKE COUNTY**

Suchy Lake

Minutes of the **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** held on Monday, **October 22, 2018** at 11:28 A.M. in the County Council Chambers.

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

		ATTENDANCE
Div. No.	Councillor(s)	<u>Monday, October 22, 2018</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present
2	Johnny Cherniwchan	Present
3	Craig Lukinuk	Present
4	Lorne Halisky	Present
5	Randy Orichowski	Present
CAO	Cory Ollikka	Present
Assist. CAO	Lydia Cielin	Present
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present
Ag. Fieldman	Tori Cherniawsky	Present
Assistant A.F.	Amanda Kihn	Present
GIS/Comm.	Paul Miranda	Absent
Legislative Svcs./R.S.	Patti Priest	Present
*****	******	******

No Member(s) of the Media Present. No Member of the Public Present.

Kelly Lund, P.Eng, Research Engineer, On-Farm Energy Systems, Environmental Stewardship Division with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development present as a key contact for Smoky Lake County.

# 2. Agenda:

1027-18: Lukinuk That the Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Monday, October 22, 2018, be adopted as amended:

# Addition to the Agenda:

1. Emergent Resolution – Exemption of Agricultural.

Carried Unanimously.

# 3. <u>Minutes:</u>

1028-18: HaliskyThat the Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on<br/>Monday, August 27, 2018, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

1029-18: OrichowskiThat the Action List from the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held<br/>on Monday, August 27, 2018, be filed for information.

Carried.

Brenda Adamson, Finance Manager, entered Council Chambers, time 11:30 a.m.

# 4. <u>Request for Decision:</u>

# Policy Statement No. 62-28-02: Mowing Program

1030-18: LukinukThat Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-28-02: Mowing<br/>Program be amended:

Title: Mo	wing Program	Policy No.: 28-02				
Section: (	52	Code: P-R	Page No.: 1 of 3			
Legislatio	n Reference:	Alberta Provincial Statutes				
Purpose:	Purpose: Smoky Lake County will govern the municipal mowing program on developed road allowance and County lands under the Agricultural Service Board.					

### Policy Statement and Guidelines: 1. STATEMENT: Smoky Lake County will mow developed road allowances annually to maintain safe visibility for the travelling public and to improve drainage of infrastructure. 1.1 The mowing program promotes effective control of weeds and brush within the municipal right-of-way encroaching the roads surface. 1.2 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 Developed Road Allowances: Road allowances containing a gravel or hard surfaced roadway under the jurisdiction of Smoky Lake County. 2.2 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: · to assist with weed control by preventing the seed set of noxious weeds in the rightof-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

Olicy Ola	tement and Guidelines:
	<ul> <li>to provide a fire break and reduce the amount of fire load material in right-of-way.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>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</li> </ul>
4. GUID	ELINES:
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	The Mowing Program will commence in the last week of June and will cease no later than November 1 <sup>st</sup> .
4.3	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.
4.4	Without limiting the program or its effectiveness, it will generally be planned as following:
4	4.1 Developed Road Allowances: All grassy areas along, oiled, or gravel roads will be mowed once a year with a single pass (one cut) mowing from roads edge to fenceline where conditions allow.
	<ul> <li>Main roads into lake resorts will only be mowed prior to the July and Augus long weekends (two passes per year)</li> </ul>
	The Iron Horse Trail shall only be mowed once per season
	<ul> <li>It is recognized that inclement weather, such as rain and early winter could prevent completion of the program</li> </ul>
4.5	All other mowing requests will be at the discretion of the Agricultural Service Board and added to Schedule "A" Approved Additional Mowing



Carried.

# 2019 Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Contract

1031-18: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County execute the Operational Funding Agreement with Lakeland Applied Research Association (LARA) for the term effective January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019; and allocate \$55,000.00 from the 2019 Budget for LARA funding.

Carried.

# Policy Statement No. 62-15-04: Vegetation Management Plan

## 1032-18: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County **Policy Statement No. 62-15-04: Vegetation Management Plan** be amended:

Legis		Code: P-I Page No.: 1 of 6
	lation I	Reference: Alberta Provincial Statutes
Purp	ose:	To carry out Vegetation Management Program under the provisions of the Control Act, and the direction of the Agricultural Fieldman. All programs implemented in accordance with budget, manpower and weather.
Policy	Stater	nent and Guidelines:
1.	Oper	ational Guidelines:
	1.1	The Agricultural Fieldman must be a certified pesticide applicator and spr operators must be authorized assistants as a minimum.
	1.2	Sprayer operators must follow all legislative requirements and all relevan and laws.
	1.3	All areas of the Vegetation Management policy fall under the discretion of Agricultural Fieldman.
	1.4	Applicators must keep accurate spray records as follows:
		1.4.1 Name of unwanted vegetation for which herbicide was applied.
		1.4.2 Date of application and dimensions of application area.
		1.4.3 Exact location.
		1.4.4 Trade name of herbicide and PCP registration number.
		1.4.5 Application rate and amount of herbicide used.
		1.4.6 Temperature, wind speed, and wind direction at the time of appli
		1.4.7 Method of application.
		1.4.8 Applicators name.
		1.4.9 Records must be kept for a minimum three (3) years.
		greater than 16 km/hr. Wind measurements will be taken during spray operations and recorded. In temperatures below 5 degrees Celsius and ab degrees Celsius, and in weather conditions which are conducive to tempe inversions spraying operations will cease.
Polic	y State	ment and Guidelines:
2.	Blan	ket Spray:
	2.1	Divide County into Two Zones as follows: 2.1.1 Zone 1:
	2.1	<ul> <li>2.1.1 Zone 1: West County Line of Range Road 200 to Range Road 160.</li> <li>2.1.2 Zone 2:</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>2.1.1 Zone 1: West County Line of Range Road 200 to Range Road 160.</li> <li>2.1.2 Zone 2: Range Road 160 to East County Line Range Road 120.</li> </ul>
	2.1 2.2 2.3	<ul> <li>2.1.1 Zone 1: West County Line of Range Road 200 to Range Road 160.</li> <li>2.1.2 Zone 2: Range Road 160 to East County Line Range Road 120.</li> <li>Spraying the entire County in a two -year rotation.</li> <li>Spray one half of the County per year using a residual herbicide; Cheming</li> </ul>
	2.2	<ul> <li>2.1.1 Zone 1: West County Line of Range Road 200 to Range Road 160.</li> <li>2.1.2 Zone 2: Range Road 160 to East County Line Range Road 120.</li> <li>Spraying the entire County in a two -year rotation.</li> <li>Spray one half of the County per year using a residual herbicide; Cheming</li> </ul>
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	2.2 2.3	<ul> <li>2.1.1 Zone 1: West County Line of Range Road 200 to Range Road 160.</li> <li>2.1.2 Zone 2: Range Road 160 to East County Line Range Road 120.</li> <li>Spraying the entire County in a two -year rotation.</li> <li>Spray one half of the County per year using a residual herbicide; Chemic will be at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman as environmental, of technical and legal factors may change.</li> <li>Conduct blanket spraying, targeting the whole ROW where possible. Wil crops, pasture or brush are encroaching spray as close to edge as possible best control. If brush is small enough to be controlled then it should be s well.</li> </ul>
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### Policy Statement and Guidelines: Landowners may apply to participate in a "Reverse Fenceline Program" at the direction or request of the Agricultural Fieldman or at the request of the landowner if time permits. This program will allow Agricultural Services staff to apply herbicide from the landowner's property into the County Right-of Way thereby controlling invasive species on fenceline and field margins. Landowners interested in participating in the "Reverse Fenceline Program" must sign *Schedule "B"*: Reverse Fenceline Spray Program – Application Form. 3.7 4. Brush Spraying: Brush spraying will commence once brush has "greened up" in late spring and continue until leaf color changes in fall. 4.1 Brush spraying will be coordinated with Public Works Department, following brushing easements to administer brush control program. 4.2 4.3 Re-growth is to be sprayed where hydro axing brushing was carried out the year prior as re-growth permits. Trees greater than five feet of height will need to be removed by mechanical means. 4.4 A "brush" control chemical will be used at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman. 5. Public Works/ Road Construction: The Agricultural Services Department and the Public Works Department will 5.1 coordinate to control vegetation where road construction is to take place and where road construction took place the year prior. 5.2 The Public Works Department will submit to the Agricultural Service Board a schedule for the current years' construction projects to allow glyphosate application for non-selective vegetation control. 5.3 Glyphosate must be applied a minimum of 14 days prior to construction up to a imum of 30 days 5.4 At the request of the Public Works Department the Agricultural Service Board may conduct other spray operations at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman. Hamlets, Resorts, Subdivisions, Other: 6. 6.1 Hamlets and resorts will be sprayed at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman. 6.2 All proper legislation must be followed when applying pesticides in populated area

### Policy Statement and Guidelines:

- Proper signage must be displayed where applicable. 6.3
- 6.4 Other spraying operations can take place at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman; e.g. Spraying around shop, spraying around office, spraying around gas dept. meter station etc.).
- 6.5 The Agricultural Service Board may take applications from the public, as required, to conduct spraying for noxious weeds on private land as manpower and budget permit. Landowners interested in herbicides applied on private land must sign *Schedule "A"*: Chemical Release Form.

### SCHEDULE "A"

F	CHEMICAL RELEASE	FORM
DETAILS	Property Owner: Name:	Cell Number:
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	I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND A	AGREE TO THE CONDTIONS.
SIGNATUR	RE OF OWNER:	DATE:

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l,	A	PPLICANT NAME	En la		<ul> <li>Owner</li> <li>Lessee</li> </ul>	
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agents access road allowance	to parcels on farmla		line Spray Program a lerbicides as per <mark>Sch</mark> tt, or control.	Ind give SMOKY LA	AKE COUNTY a	nd its employees or
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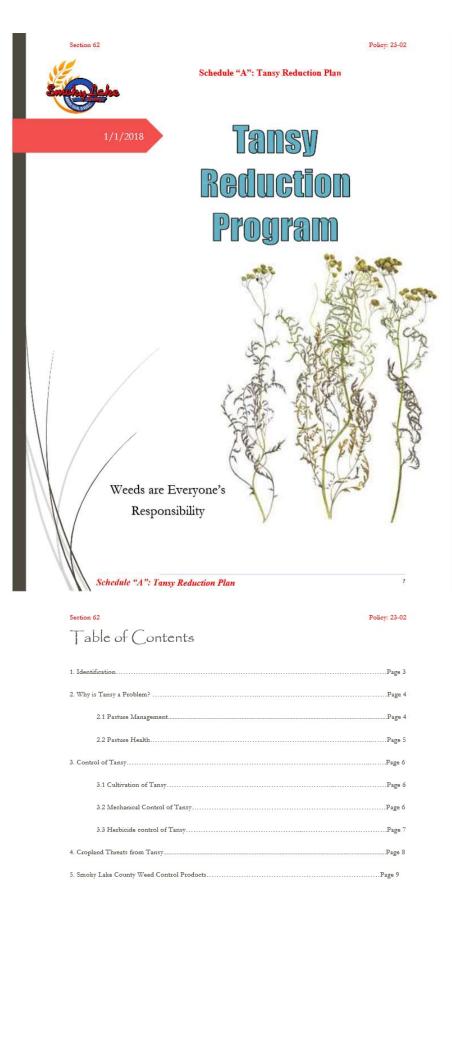
Carried.

# Policy Statement No. 62-23-02: Tansy Reduction Program

1033-18: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-23-02: Tansy Reduction Program be amended:

Title:	Ta	nsy Reductio	on Program	Policy No.:	23	-02		Ε
Section	on: <mark>62</mark>	8		Page No.:	1	of	11	
Legis	lation	Reference:	The Alberta Wee	ed Control Act Statu	tes			
Purp	ose:			a reduction of the C nicipal lands and pri				ulation
Policy	y State	ment and Guide	lines:					
1.	STAT	FEMENT:						
	1.1			perennial that is hig us weed is detrimen				
2.	DEF	INITION:						
	2.1	This Act states	that municipalitie	tious weed under th s must ensure that g ll land within its mu	rowt	h or s	pread of	
3.	GUII	DELINE:						
	3.1			ction Plan outlines t County's current T				ion and
	3.2	62-15 and Ma	owing Program Po	our Vegetation Man blicy Statement 62-2 ipal right of ways in	8 sta	rts wi	th contro	olling



Schedule "A": Tansy Reduction Plan

2

# Section 62 Policy: 23-02 Tansy Reduction Program Common Tansy (Tanacetum vulgare) 🚛 Part A: Context -Invasive Plants are often referred to as weeds! 1. Identification Common Tansy is an aromatic plant with numerous yellow button shaped flowers in dense clusters at the top of the plant. The flowers have no petals, as you can see in the picture on the left. They are called disc flowers and are quite small in size, you can see the size comparison of the rain drops on the flowers. These flowers can produce hundreds of seeds that are a yellowish brown achene with short, five tooth crowns. The seeds are dispersed as they fall on to the snow, either by wind or by animals in the winter. Below is a picture of the seed heads 1 after all the seeds have fallen out. Tansy plants can grow quite tall if all the environmental conditions are right. This can cause problems for municipalities trying to keep roadside vegetation down, so the motoring public can see any wild approaching. As you can see, Tansy can grow as tall as a fence post in some locations. In the juvenile stage it has fern like leaves that are deeply divided. If you pick a leaf and smell it, the odor will be very strong. Schedule "A": Tansy Reduction Plan Section 62 Policy: 23-02 Tansy Reduction Program 2. Why is Tansy a Problem? Common Tansy was introduced to North America from Europe in the early 1600's. Settlers brought it over for various different uses, such as medicinal. Today the plant flourishes with little problem, as it has no natural predators here. Common Tansy is designated as Noxious under the Weed Control Act of Alberta. Therefore it is landowner's responsibility to keep this weed from spreading. Local Authorities hire weed inspectors to carry out inspections under this act and enforce any noncompliance by issuing weed notices to landowners. The municipalities are also responsible for maintaining county property to ensure noxious weeds are not allowed to spread and flourish. However effective long term weed management can only be achieved through participation of all landowners, communities, and business operators. Invasive plants do not respect property, managerial or political boundaries 2.1 Pasture Management Smoky Lake County has large amounts of range and pasture land that is highly infested with Common Tansy, along with the municipal roadside ditches. Tansy is very detrimental to pasture health for multiple reasons. 1. It reduces pasture carrying capacity 2. It is toxic to livestock 3. It outcompetes beneficial species 4. If livestock ingest tansy it can lead to abortions 5. Can lead to poor overall animal health

Schedule "A": Tansy Reduction Plan



Schedule "A": Tansy Reduction Plan

Policy: 23-02

5

# 3.0 Tansy Control

Section 62

ansy Reduction Program

Intensively grazing Tansy WILL NOT control it. Cattle and horses do not graze it, unless it the only thing left in the pasture to eat. In this case the pasture is severely over grazed and this could run the risk of animals become poisoned; thus aborting their offspring.



### 3.1 Cultivation of Tansy

Common Tansy is a rhizomatous plant, which means flowering stems can re-grow from severed roots, therefor cultivation is not a recommended form of control. If cultivation is a repeated practice that is used in grain land and it can be affective in that area, but the tansy often will move to the headlands of the field where it will not be disturbed by cultivation. This just creates a headland weed problem which many neighbors will complain about spreading to their land or others.

### 3.2 Mechanical Control of Tansy

Regular mowing can reduce seed production of the plant, but this must be repeated to eliminate growth from the rootstock. Mowing alone will not remove the plant or stop it from spreading so this is not a recommended form of control. Mowing is also not economical in the case of large acres as it would

have to be mowed several times a year.



# Tansy Reduction Program

### Section 62

fansy Reduction Program

Policy: 23-02

### 3.3 Herbicide Control of Tansy

The use of herbicides is a very effective control of Tansy. There are many products and tank mixes on the market that are registered to control Common Tansy. Broadleaf selective herbicides will not harm grasses if used correctly by following the products information label.

Reclaim and Grazon are products released by Dow Agrosciences, they are excellent products to use for Range and Pasture management. They are selective herbicides, which are designed to have effective control on both broadleaf weeds and brush in permanent pasture. Reclaim and Grazon are absorbed by the leaves and roots and are translocated throughout the plant resulting in total weed control. The products have no grazing restrictions for beef cows or horses. The only restriction is for dairy cows being used for milk production. When using Reclaim, the dairy cows must be removed from the pasture for seven days, then they will be allowed to re-enter to graze as normal. If using Grazon dairy animals must not be put back in the pasture for 6 weeks. Reclaim and Grazon work like a natural growth regulating hormone found only in plants, not in livestock, wildlife or humans. Mammals do not metabolize Reclaim or Grazon, if ingested, it is rapidly excreted from the body in the urine and will not accumulate in the animal.

Reclaim



Always check the product label to ensure the herbicide is registered for the use of the species you are targeting. ALWAYS read and follow the label directions! Consult your local Agricultural Fieldmen or Certified Pesticide Dispenser for more information for other herbicide options.

Schedule "A": Tansy Reduction Plan

### Section 62

Policy: 23-02

# 4. Cropland threats from Tansy

Cropland can also host a problem and harbor Tansy infestations in the headlands. This can cause problems for producers in many different ways. One of them being the social impact that this invasive weed can cause. If you have a large infestation of noxious weeds, it does not matter what kind, this can cause tensions between neighboring landowners. Invasive plants do not respect property boundaries, this puts pressure on the County to implement fair compliance with landowners.



### 5. Smoky Lake County's Weed Control Products

The word herbicide to most people means harmful, toxic, and destructive. Anyone can think and believe that herbicides are the worst substance on the planet, until you know the real facts proven by science. At Smoky Lake County we do not target native plants species, in fact we remove the invasive plants that take over native pastures and fields because they have no natural competition. The products we use are selective, which means they will not harm the grass species and they only remove the broadleaf invasive plants that we target, such as Tansy and Canada thistle.

# ansy Reduction Program



Carried.

# Proposed Internal Agricultural Service Board Extension Plan

That Smoky Lake County take no action on the Proposed 2019 Internal Agricultural Service Board Extension Plan as prepared by the Agricultural Fieldman and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman in response to Council's request to explore an in-house alternative option to the Lakeland Applied Research Association (LARA) Extension Plan.

Carried.

# 5. <u>Issues for Information:</u>

# **Agricultural Service Board Chairperson's Report**

1034-18: Lukinuk

The Agricultural Service Board Chairman gave a verbal report including the following points:

• The Lakeland Applied Research Association (LARA) meeting was cancelled – no report.

# 13321

1037-18: Lukinuk

# **Agricultural Department Report**

1035-18: HaliskyThat the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Feldman's Report for August<br/>20, 2018 to October 22, 2018, be accepted, and filed for information.

Carried.

# North East Regional Agricultural Service Board Conference

1036-18: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board and relevant staff who can attend - attend the 2018 North East Regional ASB Conference scheduled for November 2, 2018, hosted by Beaver County at the Kinsella Community Hall, 305 King Street, Kinsella, Alberta.

Carried.

# Addition to the Agenda:

### North East Regional Agricultural Service Board Conference – Emergent Resolution

That Smoky Lake County accept in principal the Emergent Resolution being brought forward to the 2018 North East Regional Agricultural Service Board Conference by the County of Vermillion River titled: Exemption of Agricultural Producers Hauling Hay or Straw Bales from Section 5(2) of the Cargo Securement Standard.

Carried.

### Agricultural Service Board 2018 Report Card on the Resolutions

1038-18: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the "Agricultural Service Board - 2018 Report Card on the Resolutions" passed at the 2018 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference, as follows:

Res. #	Title	Grade
1-18	Environmental Stream Funding of the ASB	Accept in
	Grant	Principal
2-18	Appeals to the Minister under the Weed Control	Unsatisfactory
	Act and Agricultural Pests Act	
3-18	Requirement to Report Certain Pests to the	DEFEATED
	Local Authority	
4-18	Weed Control on Alberta Vacant Public Lands	Incomplete
	Within Green Areas	
5-18	Wildlife Predator Compensation Program	Accept in
	Enhancement	Principal
6-18	Review of Agricultural Financial Service	Unsatisfactory
	Corporation (AFSC) Crop Insurance Program	
7-18	Crop Insurance for Alberta Fruit Producers	Accept in
		Principal
8-18	Increasing Limits for Farm Direct Marketing of	DEFEATED
	Chickens for All Farm Direct Producers	
9-18	Farm Direct Marketing of Eggs and Products	Accept in
	Using Eggs	Principal
10-18	Proposed Federal Tax Changes	Accept the
		Response
11-18	Organic Food Testing and Labelling	Accept in
		Principal
12-18	Chemical Control of Wireworms	DEFEATED

Carried.

# 6. <u>Correspondence:</u>

## Innotech Alberta 1039-18: Lukinuk

That the email received by Smoky Lake County from Aakash Goyal, Native Plant Researcher, Innotech Alberta, dated August 29, 2018, in regard to a request for funding a Native Plant Pollinator Project, be filed for information.

13322

# Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC)

That Smoky Lake County take no action to the email invitation received 1040-18: Halisky from Brent Bushell, Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) Board Member, dated September 19, 2018, in regard to an Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) membership.

Carried.

# **Minister of Alberta Transportation**

1041-18: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the correspondence from Sharie Valentine, Ministerial Assistant to Honourable Brian Mason, Minister of Alberta Transportation, dated September 11, 2018, in regard to working to ensure mowing and weed control on Provincial Highways are organized for next summer.

Carried.

# Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

1042-18: Halisky That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County from Doug Macaulay, Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Program Manager -Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, dated October 1, 2018, in regard to beginning an ASB Program Review to verify previously identified issues, identify any new issues, and identify potential solutions to improve the effectiveness and impact of the ASB Program, be filed for information.

Carried.

### 7. **Delegation:**

No Delegation.

### **Executive Session:** 8.

No Executive Session.

# Next Meeting

That the next Smoky Laker County Agricultural Service Board Meeting be scheduled for Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. to be held at the County Council Chambers.

Carried.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

1044-18: Gawalko That this meeting be adjourned, time 12:09 p.m.

Carried.

**CHAIRPERSON** 

SEAL

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1043-18: Orichowski