

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



Minutes of the **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** held on Monday, **December 16, 2019** at 12:56 P.M. in the County Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to Order by the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Lydia Cielin in the presence of the following persons:

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Monday, Dec. 16, 2019</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present
2	Johnny Cherniwchan	Present
3	Craig Lukinuk	Present
4	Lorne Halisky	Present
5	Randy Orichowski	Present
CAO	Cory Ollikka	Absent
Assist. CAO	Lydia Cielin	Present
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present
Ag. Fieldman	Tori Cherniawsky	Present
Assistant A.F.	Amanda Kihn	Present
Legislative Svcs./R.S.	Patti Priest	Present

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No Member(s) of the Media Present.

One 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 for the meeting as a key contact for Smoky Lake County.

**1. Election of Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson:**

**Chairperson**

The Assistant Chief Administrative Officer called first (1) time for nominations for Chairperson.

284-19: Orichowski

That Councillor Dan Gawalko be nominated as the Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board Committee.

The Assistant Chief Administrative Officer called second (2) time for nominations for Chairperson.

The Assistant Chief Administrative Officer called third (3) time for nominations for Chairperson.

NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS.

285-19: Lukinuk

That nominations for the Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board Committee, cease.

Carried.

Mr. Dan Gawalko was declared elected by acclamation by the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer as the Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board Committee for the ensuing year and assumed the Chair.

**Vice-Chairperson**

The Chairperson called first (1) time for nominations for Vice-Chairperson.

286-19: Lukinuk That Councillor Johnny Cherniwchan be nominated as the Vice-Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board Committee.

The Chairperson called second (2) time for nominations for Vice-Chairperson.

The Chairperson called third (3) time for nominations for Vice-Chairperson.

NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS.

The Chairperson declared Nominations Ceased.

287-19: Orichowski That nominations for the Vice-Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board Committee, cease.

Carried.

Mr. Johnny Cherniwchan was declared elected by acclamation by the Chairperson as the Vice-Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board Committee for the ensuing year.

Carried.

**2. Agenda:**

288-19: Lukinuk That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Monday, December 16, 2019, be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**7. Delegation:**

**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)**

Present before Smoky Lake County Council was Alyssa Krawchuk, Manager, Forage and Livestock Program Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), from 12:59 p.m. to 1:44 p.m., 2019 Summary and Plans for 2020 Presentation



**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association**

- **Vision:** To be a leader in applied agriculture research and extension in Alberta.
- **Mission:** LARA conducts innovative, sustainable, unbiased applied agricultural research and extension in support of sustainable agriculture.

**What that means . . .**

- Source of:
  - unbiased,
  - local,
  - and **applied** agriculture information.
- Help in the decision-making process.



**LARA:**  
County of St. Paul

MD of Bonnyville

Lac La Biche County

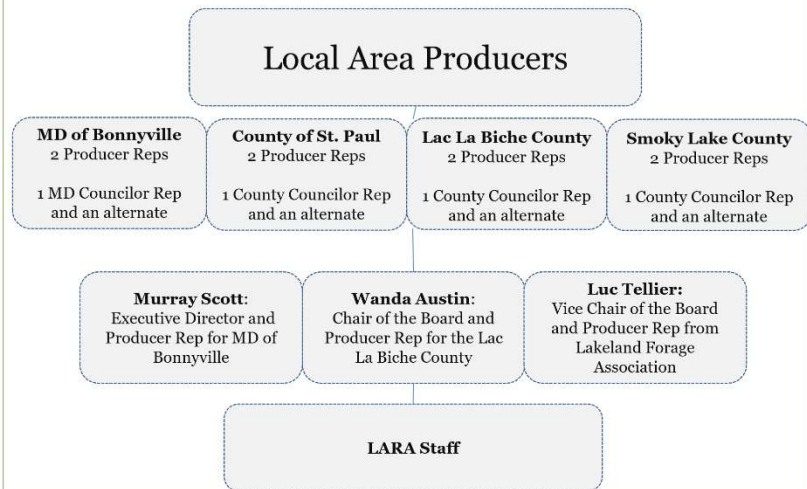
Smoky Lake County

Over 2100 Farms

950 acre/farm

Over 1.9 million acres of farmland

## Organizational Structure of LARA



## LARA Research Program

### Forage and Livestock Program

- Regional Silage Trials
- Perennial Forage Trials
- Sainfoin/Alfalfa grazing
- Alternative Forage Demonstrations
- Forage Mixtures
- Winter Grazing Standing Corn (on-farm research)



### Forage and Livestock Field Scale Projects



- Impact of Winter Grazing on Long-term Soil Health
- Rejuvenating Pastures with Legumes
- Pasture Fertility Project (Olympic Lake Grazing Lease)
- Bale Grazing Wastage Estimation
- Heifer Project (Olympic Lake Grazing Lease)
- Grazing Cocktail Cover Crops with Cattle



## Smoky Lake County Projects



- Cover Crops to Alleviate Soil Compaction and for Livestock Feed
- Soil Health Benchmarking Project (province-wide)
- Intercropping cereals for silage production
- Rejuvenating Pastures with Legumes??

## Olympic Lake Grazing Lease



- Located in Lac La Biche County
- 2000 acre heifer pasture
- 350 to 430 heifers grazed annually
- 12 patrons in 2019
  - 6 from Smoky Lake County

## Cropping Program

- Regional Variety Trials
- Canola Fertility
- Canola Agronomics
- Micro-nutrients and Plant Growth Factors
- Pea/Canola Intercropping
- Control of Ascochyta Blight in Field Peas
- Integrated Pest Management



## Cropping Program



- Sod Seeding Demonstration (on-farm)
- Benefits of Conventional vs. Zero Tillage Seeding Systems
- Assessment of ESN in Spring Wheat and Barley
- Impact of Liming on Long-term crop rotations: peas, canola, wheat

## Smoky Lake County Project



- Evaluation of ESN on Productivity and Grain Quality of Spring Wheat and Barley
- Top-Dressing Nitrogen on Spring Wheat
- Impact of seeding rate on Canola Yield
- Soybean and lentil variety demonstrations
- Pulse agronomy demonstration
- Canola variety trial

## Environmental Program

### Lakeland Agricultural Research Association

- Environmental Program
  - Water Quality
  - Ecological Impact
  - Environmental Farm Plans
  - Canadian Agriculture Partnership
  - Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils
  - Watershed Stewardship Groups
  - Riparian Health Assessments



## Environmental Farms Plans

- EFP provides a better understanding of the agricultural environmental relationship
- Is a foundation for new ways of thinking and for making managing decisions
- Opens the door for new solutions, technology, resources and opportunities
- Demonstrate individual farmers', commodity sectors' and the entire industry's commitment to stewardship.
- Proactive approach to improving societal perceptions of agriculture...
  - Social license and the 'right to farm'

## Environmental Projects

Stem Mining Weevil

Riparian Health Assessments

## Riparian Health Assessments

- **This Riparian Health Assessment is a tool designed to evaluate the selected site. It can provide a foundation to build an action plan and identify priorities. The assessment provides a snapshot in time and to be an effective tool for monitoring should be done on the same riparian area several years apart.**

## Ongoing Extension

### Newsletters



Sept/Oct 2010

Spring 2014  
Volume 5, Issue 1





## Extension Services

- Age Verification
- Forage Testing
  - 2 free feed tests/producer
- Farm Calls
- One-on-One Conversations
- Annual Report
- Workshops
- Field days



## Recent Extension Events

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winter Watering Tour</li> <li>• Establishing Cover Crops on Your Farm</li> <li>• Growing Alternative Pulse Crops</li> <li>• Energy Efficiency</li> <li>• AGM and Research Update</li> <li>• Farm Succession Planning with Elaine Froese</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nicole Masters Soils School</li> <li>• Holistic Management Grazing Tour</li> <li>• Summer Field Days</li> <li>• Feed What You Need</li> <li>• Cover Crops and Soil Health</li> <li>• Livestock Antibiotic Changes and Forage Options</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

## Events in Smoky Lake County

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farm Safety Seminar</li> <li>• Livestock Traceability Update</li> <li>• Holistic Management Open Gate Learning Day</li> <li>• Understanding Diseases in Pulse Crops</li> <li>• Cattlemen's Clinic</li> <li>• Succession Planning with Elaine Froese</li> <li>• Feed What You Need</li> <li>• Cattle, Wetlands and Profit</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stockmanship with Curt Pate</li> <li>• Grazing Management workshop with Jim Gerrish</li> <li>• High Quality Forages</li> <li>• Summer Field Tours of Research Sites</li> <li>• Marketing Grain Challenges</li> <li>• Dealing with a Tough Harvest</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

## Agricultural Research in Alberta

Every dollar invested in agricultural research generates \$32



Back L to R: Ken Coles, George Lubberts, Adrian Moens, Barry Redel, George L'Heureux, Dianne Westerlund, Vance Yaremko  
Front L to R: Rachael Ray, Grant Chittick, Minister Devin Dreeshen, Michael Benoit, Alyssa Krawchuk, Chelsey Hostettler, Gloria Nelson

## Funding - LARA

- County \$ are used to match the money we receive from the Agriculture Opportunity Fund (AOF) and other grants.
- 2020 LARA Budget: \$753 400
- Major Funders
  - Core: \$132 000
  - ASB AESA: \$65 000
  - MD of Bonnyville: \$60 000
  - County of St. Paul: \$55 000
  - Lac La Biche County: \$55 000
  - Smoky Lake County: \$55 000
  - **Total: \$422 000**
  - Remaining \$331 000
    - funded by project grants
    - projects are cut or added to balance the budget.

## Future

# \$55,000.00

- 2 producer reps and 1 council representative (plus 1 alternate) on the LARA board
- Small plot research trials
- On-farm research trials and demonstrations
- Agricultural extension
  - Events
  - Communications
    - Including all event announcements, research updates etc
  - Newsletter
  - Annual report

**3. Minutes:**

289-19: Lukinuk

That the Minutes of the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

290-19: Halisky

That the Action List from the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, be filed for information.

Carried.

**4. Request for Decision:**

**Policy Statement 62-10 Agricultural Service Board Business Plan**

291-19: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement 62-10-05: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan, for Year-2020, be amended:

<b>Title:</b> Agricultural Service Board Business Plan	<b>Policy No.:</b> 10-05
<b>Section:</b> 62	<b>Page No.:</b> 1 of 12

<b>Legislation Reference:</b>	Alberta Provincial Statutes
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<b>Purpose:</b>	To establish a Business Plan for the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board.
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Policy Statement and Guidelines:
<p><b>STATEMENT</b></p> <p>The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) is in the business of providing its residents with agricultural programming to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life. This is achieved through Vegetation Management Programming, Agricultural Extension Programming, Problem Wildlife Programming, Pest Control and Monitoring as well as Government Lobbying.</p> <p><b>The Agricultural Service Board is also responsible for enforcement of Provincial Legislation such as the <i>Weed Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pest Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> and the <i>Animal Health Act</i>.</b></p> <p><b>VISION STATEMENT:</b></p> <p>To encourage sustainable agriculture, environmental integrity and improved quality of life in Smoky Lake County.</p> <p><b>MISSION STATEMENT:</b></p> <p>To provide services, policies and education for Agricultural families, businesses and the public to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life.</p>
<p><b>PRIORITIES:</b></p> <p><b>Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board</b> identifies the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One: Vegetation Management Program</li> <li>Two: Weed Control Act Duties</li> <li>Three: Environmental Stewardship and Extension</li> <li>Four: Problem Wildlife program</li> <li>Five: Agricultural Pest Act Duties</li> <li>Six: Soil Conservation Act Duties</li> <li>Seven: Intergovernmental Collaboration</li> </ul> <p><b>IMPLEMENTATION:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board shall review annually as required by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.</li> <li>2. Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board staff will consider and follow the priorities of the Business Plan when creating budgets and work plans.</li> </ol>

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<b>Business Plan</b>	<b>Executive Summary</b>
<p>The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board is in the business of providing its agricultural producers with agricultural programming to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life. This is achieved through Vegetation Management, Agricultural Extension, Problem Wildlife, Pest Control, programming and monitoring as well as, government lobbying. The Agricultural Service Board is also responsible for enforcement of Provincial Legislation such as the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pest Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, <i>Soil Conservation Act</i>, and the <i>Animal Health Act</i>.</p> <p><b>VISION STATEMENT:</b> To encourage sustainable agriculture, environmental integrity and improved quality of life in Smoky Lake County.</p> <p><b>MISSION STATEMENT:</b> To provide services, policies and education for Agricultural families, businesses and the public to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life.</p> <p><b>VALUES:</b></p> <p><b>Integrity:</b> The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board will conduct business in an ethical manner respecting the environment, public and applicable legislation.</p> <p><b>Commitment to Service:</b> The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board will strive to provide the best service possible to its ratepayers conducting operations in an efficient and cost effective manner.</p> <p><b>Progressive:</b> The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board will take a proactive and innovative approach in its programming examining new technologies and protocol while accepting and implementing relevant public input.</p>	
	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Vegetation Management Program</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> To implement an integrated vegetation management program on municipal right-of-ways for the purpose of reducing noxious weeds and ensuring sightlines are clear for the motoring public.		
Strategies	Action	Measures
<b>Identify problem noxious weeds within the municipal right of way</b>	-Key emphasis will be on Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weed species analyzing both environmental and economic threats.	-All roads inspected for noxious weeds at least once during the growing season.
	-1/2 of all county roads will be sprayed following the rotation spraying guidelines set out in <i>Policy Statement 62-15 "Vegetation Management Plan"</i> and <i>Policy Statement 62-23 "Tansy Reduction Program"</i> . Brush Spraying will be completed during the regular roadside spraying rotation.	-Number of miles of roadside spraying completed.  -Amount of herbicide applied for brush control
	-Spot spraying will be completed in the zones in which regular roadside mowing where herbicide is being applied is being completed. Spot spraying will target brush and noxious weeds that cannot be reached with the herbicide mowers. -Custom spraying of private lands will occur if time and budget allows and priority is put on landowners struggling to control prohibited noxious weeds.	-Number of prohibited noxious weed locations controlled.  -Amount of herbicide applied during spot spraying.  -Number of landowners who receive help eliminating there Prohibited noxious weeds by the ASB Department.
	-Roadside mowing will be conducted as stated in <i>Policy Statement 62-M-02 "Mowing Program"</i> . Roadsides will be mowed as close to the municipal property line as possible, while ensuing passes are only done if deemed efficient to eliminate extra freewheeling and passes of 5 feet or less.  -Lake roads leading to resorts will be mowed before the July and August long weekends.	-1 pass of roadside mowing is completed  -Iron Horse Trail mowed once a year.  -Amount of additional mowing completed for community events.  -Amount of additional mowing completed on other municipal properties.  -Amount of herbicide ran through the herbicide mowers covering all required miles.

**2. Weed Control Act Duties**

**Goal:** To control the spread and prevent the establishment of invasive species on privately owned land through responsible communication with landowners, occupants, industry stakeholders and members of the general public as set out in the Weed Control Act of Alberta.

Strategies	Action	Measures
<b>Weed Inspection Program</b> 	-Weed Inspection are conducted on private land during the growing season annually. -Letters are sent to landowners who are in non-compliance with the Weed Control Act of Alberta, as specified in <i>Policy Statement 62-14 "Weed Inspection and Weed Notice"</i> . -Weed Notices are issued to landowners who do not comply with recommendation letters. -Enforcement actions are completed by the Agricultural Services Department for landowners who are non-compliant with a weed notice that has been issued.	-Number of inspections completed -Number of letters sent to landowners/renters -Number of weed notices issued -Number of Weed enforcements completed -Number of landowners assisted to help create a plan to control weed problems.
<b>Noxious Weed Education and Awareness</b> 	-Provide weed identification for landowners on farm or brought in sample to office -Promote weed awareness at our annual Smoky Lake County Farmer Appreciation Event -Produce and circulate information on invasive species through our website and local newspapers.	- number of landowners assisted annually -Number of events hosted -Number of articles circulated (weed awareness in Grapevine periodically in summer)

**3. Environmental Stewardship and Extension**

**Goal:** To provide Environmental Farm Plans to producers and work in partnership with Lakeland Agricultural Research Association to deliver collaborative environmental stewardship initiatives and unbiased research that results in sustainable growth of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Community.





Strategies	Action	Measures
<b>Environmental Farm Plans</b> 	-Assist local producers with completion of Environmental Farm Plans -Provide air photographs for fields and farm yards and soils information from our mindsight program. -Provide water well information from the Alberta Water Wells Database	-Number of Environmental Farm plans assisted with -Increased adoption of beneficial management practices by producers
<b>Canadian Agricultural Partnership</b> 	-Assist local producers with information about new agricultural programs and grants. -Stay current with program updates and changes. -Promote programs and workshop events.	-Number of producers assisted -Number of events hosted or promoted
<b>Lakeland Agricultural Research Association</b> 	Provide Smoky Lake County's Agricultural community with relevant workshops on various agricultural topics. Provide Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Community with a relevant crop/ forage plot trial that will accurately mimic varieties grown locally within our municipality.	-Number of events hosted by LARA in our county. -Crop Walk hosted for local producers -Number of unbiased research plots within Smoky Lake County. -Type of trials conducted in Smoky Lake County

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**4. Problem Wildlife Program**




**Goal:**  
To co-operate and execute and Problem Wildlife Management Program.

Strategies	Action	Measures
<p><b>Beavers</b></p> 	<p>-Beaver Tail Bounty for \$15.00 per tail from pre-approved locations as specified in <i>Policy Statement 62-07 "Beaver Management"</i></p> <p>-Beaver Dam Removal may occur to mitigate flooding which causes damage to municipal infrastructure. Dam removal will be conducted as per <i>Policy Statement 62-21 "Beaver Control- Fee for Removal with Explosives"</i>.</p> <p>-Maintain Certified Blasters License with the Province of Alberta.</p>	<p>-Number of Beaver tails brought in.</p> <p>-Number of dams removed affecting municipal infrastructure.</p> <p>-Amount of revenue generated completing private land blasting.</p> <p>-Renew every 5 years as required.</p>
<p><b>Coyotes</b></p> 	<p>-Maintain Form 7 License to ensure Smoky Lake County can provide 1080 toxicant to agricultural producers as per <i>Policy Statement 62-03 "Coyote Control"</i>.</p> <p>- Coyote control booklets available for agricultural producers to help better manage coyote predation.</p>	<p>-Number of tablets given out annually</p>
<p><b>Richardson Ground Squirrel (Gopher)</b></p> 	<p>-2% Liquid Strychnine is sold to producers for gopher control in the spring as per <i>Policy Statement 62-24 "Sale of 2% Liquid Strychnine"</i>.</p>	<p>-Number of bottles of strychnine sold annually.</p> <p><b>Currently awaiting registration notice for the future of STYCHNINE</b></p>
<p><b>Northern Pocket Gopher (Mole)</b></p> 	<p>-Mole tail bounty for \$1.00 per tail can be brought in as per <i>Policy Statement 62-02 "Bounty for Pocket Gopher Tails"</i>.</p>	<p>-Number of mole tails brought in for bounty.</p>

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**4. Problem Wildlife Continued**








Strategies	Action	Measures
<p><b>Wild Boar</b></p> 	<p>-Participate annually in the Wild Boar Ear Bounty with Alberta Agriculture.</p> <p>-Wild Boar ears can be brought in for a reward of <b>\$50.00</b> per set of ears. The boars <u>must</u> be at large.</p>	<p>-Number of wild boar ears brought in.</p>
<p><b>Waterfowl Damage Control</b></p> 	<p>-Scare Cannons are available for rent as per <i>Policy Statement 62-26 "Scare Cannon Rental"</i>.</p> <p>-Suggest alternative control measures to mitigate crop damage cause by waterfowl during fall migration.</p>	<p>-Number of rentals that occur</p> <p>-number of producers that engage in alternative control measure.</p>
<p><b>Alternative Control Methods</b></p> 	<p>-Agricultural Fieldmen will continue to look into alternative control methods for all pest species.</p> <p>-Promote and notify producers of alternative control measures when they come in.</p>	<p>-Attend In Service Training to here from other Ag Fieldman from across the province</p>



**5. Agricultural Pest Act Duties**

**Goal:** To provide Smoky Lake County agricultural producers with responsible pest management strategies, pest monitoring and enforcement of declared agricultural pests as deemed by the Agricultural Pest Act of Alberta.

Crop Surveying

Strategies	Action	Measures
 <p><b>Swede Midge of Canola</b></p>	-Swede Midge is monitored on behalf of Agri-food Canada. It is an 8 week program where sticky pads are changed weekly.	-Continue to monitor for new and invading pest that threaten our agriculture industry.
 <p><b>Grasshoppers</b></p>	-Townships are surveyed annually and data is sent to Alberta Agriculture for forecasting. The county ditch and field are sampled at each location.	-Number of fields surveyed -Number of outbreaks that occur
 <p><b>Bertha Army Worms</b></p>	- 3 Fields across the county are monitored starting in June until August. The traps are set out in the fields to collect the moths that lay the eggs.	-Number of moths counted annually -Number of outbreaks that are forecasted
 <p><b>Wheat Midge</b></p>	- Wheat Midge in high numbers can cause yield loss, wheat crops are monitored around the end of June as wheat heads are emerging up until anthesis (Flowering)	-Samples collected annually and sent to Alberta Agriculture when required
 <p><b>Fusarium g.</b></p>	- Fusarium is a fungal disease of wheat, Alberta Agriculture dictates the amount of fields we head sample based on wheat acres in our county. 500 heads of wheat are collected from each field.	-Number of Fields sampled annually as required
 <p><b>Blackleg of Canola</b></p>	- Canola fields are sampled annually for Blackleg Severity. Samples are provided to the Crop Diversification Centre for research purposes. Blackleg can cause significant yield loss and harm international exporting	-Number of fields sampled annually.
 <p><b>Clubroot</b></p>	- Random canola fields are surveyed after the crop has been swathed. We look for visual symptoms and if we find galls the plant sample is sent to the lab for DNA confirmation	-Number of Canola fields sampled annually -Number of letters sent to producers annually -Number of Pest Notices given Annually

**6. Soil Conservation Act Duties**

**Goal:** Protect the quality and integrity of agricultural soils in Smoky Lake County.

Strategies	Action	Measures
<b>Soil Conservation</b>	-Agricultural Fieldman are deemed as inspectors and can issue notices under this Act.  -Document and photograph any non-compliance with the Soil Conservation Act  -Promote soil health workshops and site demonstrations	-Number of Soil Conservation Notice issued  -Number of Soil Conservation Letters issued



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<b>7. Intergovernmental Collaboration</b>		
<b>Goal:</b> Conduct intergovernmental collaboration with all levels of governments.		
Strategies	Action	Measures
<b>Collaborate with multiple levels and forms of government</b>	-Agricultural Service Board to participate in drafting and passing resolutions at Regional and Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conferences annually	-Attend annual conferences and participate by discussion and voting on various agricultural issues.
<b>Protect the interests of Smoky Lake County Agricultural Community</b>	-Every effort will be made to convey agricultural concerns from the agricultural community to relevant government agencies via face-to-face interactions, letter writing or any other available means.	-Number of letters sent to MLA's, PM's or other government members

Carried.

### Agricultural Service Board Grant Reporting

292-19: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the 2019 Agricultural Service Board Grant Reporting Data Overview provided to Alberta Agriculture, outlining the outcome of programs in Year-2019, as follows, and in respect to Smoky Lake County Policy Statement 62-10-05: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan Year-2020:

#### Ag Service Board Grant Reporting Overview

##### AGRICULTURAL PEST ACT

- ☑ 4 Agricultural Pest Inspectors Appointed,
- ☑ 101 Clubroot Fields Inspected 4 Positives,
- ☑ 23 Fields Inspected for Virulent Blackleg in Canola,
- ☑ 3 Bertha armyworms locations Monitored throughout County for AB Ag,
- ☑ 2 Swede Midge of Canola traps monitored for Agri-food Canada,
- ☑ 25 Locations for Grasshoppers monitored for AB Ag,
- ☑ 5 Fields Sampled for Fusarium Head Blight in Wheat,
- ☑ 211 Dams Blasted,
- ☑ 251 Beaver Tails Brought in,
- ☑ 6 New Water Stabilizers Installed,
- ☑ 15 Distribute 1080 pills,
- ☑ 108 Bottles of strychnine sold,
- ☑ 284 Problem Beavers removed,
- ☑ 505 Pocket Gopher Tails Brought in,
- ☑ 0 Rat Calls investigated,

##### WEED CONTROL ACT

- ☑ 4 Weed Inspectors Appointed,
- ☑ 3 Weed Enforcements,
- ☑ 50% of Municipal Rights of way's were sprayed for control of Weeds,
- ☑ 2 Location sprayed for Prohibited noxious weeds,
- ☑ 221 Introduction Letters Sent,
- ☑ 0 Weed Notice Sent,
- ☑ 312 Inspections Completed,
- ☑ All County Roads Mowed once,

##### SOIL CONSERVATION ACT

- ☑ 2 Soil Conservation Inspectors Appointed,
- ☑ 0 Soil Conservation letter issued,
- ☑ Monitoring for different types of Soil erosion occurs throughout growing season.

Carried.

### 2020 Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation Event

293-19: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board host a lunch event of hamburgers and hotdogs to sponsor the Year-2020 18th Annual Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation Day in conjunction with the Bellis 4-H Beef Show, scheduled for Friday, June 5, 2020, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., to be held in the Town of Smoky Lake.

Carried.

**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) – Year-2020 Contract**

294-19: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County **not enter** into a contract with the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) for the Year-2020 Extension Programming, as Smoky Lake County has provided a municipal contribution in the amount of \$55,000.00 each year from Year-2015 to Year-2019, and LARA is not willing to accept Smoky Lake County's reduced Year-2020 municipal contribution offer as per the November 6, 2019 Council Motion #1221-19 in the amount of \$25,000.00 towards the LARA program.

Carried.

**Agricultural Services Board In-House Extension Programming**

295-19: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County allocate funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 towards an In-House Agricultural Extension Programming through the County's Agricultural Service Board for Year-2020.

Carried.

**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) - Farm Member Appointment**

296-19: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County advise the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) of Councils' decision to not provide a Year-2020 Municipal Funding Contribution to LARA, and therefore will not be recommending any Farm Members be appointed to the LARA board to represent Smoky Lake County.

Carried.

**5. Issues for Information:**

**Agricultural Service Board Chairperson's Report**

297-19: Cherniwchan That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Chairman's Verbal Report as of December 16, 2019, be accepted for information.

Carried.

**Agricultural Department Report**

298-19: Lukinuk That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Fieldman's written Report as of December 10, 2019 be accepted and filed for information.

Carried.

Kelly Lund, P.Eng, Research Engineer, On-Farm Energy Systems, Environmental Stewardship Division with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development was present for the meeting as the key contact for Smoky Lake County, and observer, whose position is scheduled to end as of April 30, 2021, due to Provincial cutbacks.

**2020 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Resolutions**

299-19: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County acknowledge Smoky Lake County Council and Staff will not be attending the Year-2020 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference scheduled for January 21-14, 2020, to be held in Banff, Alberta; and therefore, the copies of the Year-2020 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Resolutions received, be filed for information.

Carried.



**6. Correspondence:**

**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association**

300-19: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County provide a letter of support for Lakeland Agricultural Research Association's (LARA) initiative in regard to forming the North East Watershed Team (NEWT), which is a collaboration led by the Moose Lake Watershed Society, the Municipal District of Bonnyville and LARA, whose collaborative goal is to create a regional network which works towards increasing knowledge and improving the environment and water quality through watershed stewardship, and the NEWT's proposed project: to purchase a quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (qPCR) and necessary equipment to set up a lab to test DNA through fecal source tracking in bodies of water; in response to the letter received from Kellie Nichiporik, Environmental Program Manager, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association, dated October 28, 2019.

Carried.

**Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Fieldman**

301-19: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County accept with regret, the resignation of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Fieldman: Tori Ponich, ending employment on December 31, 2019.

Carried.

**8. Executive Session:**

No Executive Session.

**Next Meeting**

302-19: Gawalko That the next Smoky Lake County **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** be scheduled for **Monday, February 24, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** to be held at the County Council Chambers.

Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

303-19: Gawalko That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting of December 16, 2019, be adjourned, time 2:25 p.m.

Carried.

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CHAIRPERSON

S E A L

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER