

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



Minutes of the **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** held on Tuesday, **June 15, 2021**, at 9:05 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:

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Tuesday, June 15, 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	Absent
CAO	Gene Sobolewski	Present in Chambers
Assist. CAO	Lydia Cielin	Virtually Present
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Virtually Present
Ag. Fieldman	Carleigh McMullin	Present in Chambers
Assist. Ag. Fieldman	Amanda Kihn	Present in Chambers
Legislative Svcs./R.S.	Patti Priest	Virtually Present

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

Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), and Kellie Nichiporik, P.Eng, Environmental Program Manager, LARA, were virtually present for the meeting as a key contacts for Smoky Lake County.

**2. Agenda:**

837-21: Lukinuk                      That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, June 15, 2021, be adopted as presented.  
  
Carried Unanimously.

**3. Minutes:**

838-21: Halisky                      That the Minutes of the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, be adopted as presented.  
  
Carried.

839-21: Cherniwchan              That the Action List from the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, be filed for information.  
  
Carried.

**7. Delegation:**

**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)**

Virtually present before Smoky Lake County Council from 9:08 a.m. to 9:16 a.m., was Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), and Kellie Nichiporik, P.Eng, Environmental Program Manager, LARA, to provide an update, which included but was not limited to the following points:

- LARA's three summer students started work at the beginning of May.
- LARA sent away clubroot samples on four possible plot sites. Three out of the four came back with very high traces of clubroot.
- Plot site is on Darrell Ketsa's land just off of Highway 28.
- Amanda applied for hemp license and received approval at the beginning of June.

- The Smoky Lake plot site was seeded on May 27, 2021, all of the plots are seeded besides the Flax and Hemp demo as not all of the seed has arrived.
- Trials in Smoky Lake for 2021 are (Environmentally Smart Nitrogen) ESN Barley, ESN Wheat, Top Dressing Nitrogen on Spring Wheat, (Regional Silage Trial) RST Winter/Spring Cereals. (Regional Variety Trial) RVT Oats, LARA RVT and two demonstration trials hemp and flax.
- There will be five flax varieties and eight hemp varieties for the demo.
- Hemp received are Vega, Altair, Anka and Silesia other four varieties on the way as first batch got lost in mail, should hopefully arrive Wednesday.
- Smoky Lake plot tour will be July 22, 2021. More details will be provided to the council for the event at a later date.
- LARA will be soil benchmarking in the Smoky Lake County this summer as there have been multiple producers phoning to be a part of the trial.
- Alyssa will be returning to manager position as she is returning to LARA July 5, 2021.

Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), and Kellie Nichiporik, P.Eng, Environmental Program Manager, LARA, virtually left the meeting, time 9:16 a.m.

#### **4. Request for Decision:**

##### **Year-2021 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation Day**

840-21: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, take no action to host the Year-2021, 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation Day in conjunction with the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), Plot Tour scheduled for July 22, 2021, due to COVID-19 restrictions and the possibility of hosting an appreciation day in conjunction with the County's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Fall 2021 subject to pandemic restrictions; and approve to provide LARA with appropriate door prizes for their said event.

Carried.

##### **Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)**

841-21: Halisky

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), and Kellie Nichiporik, P. Eng., Environmental Program Manager, LARA, for information as presented on June 15, 2021.

Carried.

#### **5. Issues for Information:**

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

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

LARA Meeting - April 19, 2021

Dan Gawalko Councillor Division 1

- Amanda reported on FARM RITE had 1 meeting introducing LARA and what each association has to offer, she also gave the managers' report, sent in the reporting for the 2020 core grant. Attended ASS meeting with Kellie in Smoky Lake County via zoom. They also met with Amanda and Carleigh, still waiting for approval for hemp license.
- Research report presented by Stephanie started flagging trials at LARA, sourcing seed for the regional trials, servicing equipment sent in soil samples away for liming trials, soil sampling club root sampling and will be starting seed prepping.
- Kellie gave the AESA (Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture) report she presented to Lamont County on April 17, 2021, met with Craigend Agricultural Society and drafted a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for 2.2 acres on NE-05-6S-13-W4 and discussed the purpose and use of the research site, succession planning webinar will be on LARA you tube channel, and she also signed the LARA Rhap agreement.
- The financials were reported by Amanda.
- No report on HR.
- LFA presented by Stephanie they are organizing the board.

Upcoming Events

- April 27 Grazing Planning
- April 29 Water Well Webinar
- July 19-21 Soil health academy St. Paul County
- July 22 Smoky Lake - Field Day
- July 28 Fort Kent - Field Day
- August 5 St. Paul - Field Day
- August 11 Lac La Biche - Field Day

*Dan Gawalko Councillor Division 1, Verbally added:*

*LARA Meeting - June 14, 2021*

- *Working on updating policies.*
- *Next meeting will be in August.*

842-21: Lukinuk

That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Chairman's written and verbal report from March 30, 2021, to June 15, 2021, in regard to the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), be accepted for information.

Carried.

Carole Dowhaniuk, GIS Officer, and Kyle Schole, Planning and Development Assistant, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:30 a.m.

Dave Franchuk, Natural Gas Manager, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:50 a.m.

**Agricultural Fieldman Report**

843-21: Halisky

That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Fieldman's written Report as of June 8, 2021, be accepted and filed for information.

Carried.

**Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee Resolution Responses & Grading**

844-21: Cherniwchan

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, support the grades assigned by the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee (ASBPC) to the Year-2021 Resolutions and submit notice of same to the ASBPC as follows, by the deadline of June 30, 2021:

RESOLUTION	GRADE	COMMENTS
1-21: Weed issues on Oil and Gas Sites in Rural Alberta	Accept in Principle	All the concerns from the resolution were addressed in the response. The Committee will follow up with the Ministry/Department of Agriculture and Forestry for updates. May 25, the Committee brought the resolution and the responses to the attention of ADM John Conrad who committed to checking in on the status and getting back to the Committee. The Committee will be sure to bring this up when they meet with Minister Dreeshen later this year.
2-21: Pesticide Container Collection Program	Unsatisfactory	The ASBPC feels that this response, does not address the issue brought forward by the resolution and has asked for further clarification from AEP as to the legal responsibilities of the municipalities should they choose to close their pesticide container collection site; who would become responsible for improperly disposed of pesticide containers, and how would the legislation be enforced. Additional response from AEP was not yet received on May 31. On May 25 the ASBPC brought this resolution to the attention of ADM for Primary Agriculture John Conrad and he agreed to speak to AEP on behalf of the ASBs as well. Once the second response from AEP is received it will be posted on the ASB website.
3-21: An Effective Solution for Control of RG Squirrels in Alberta	Accept the Response	The Committee graded this response as Accept the Response as it addresses the resolution as presented.
4-2: 1 Registration of 2% liquid Strychnine	Accept the Response	The Committee graded the responses to 3-21 as Accept the Response as it addresses the resolution as presented.

5-21: Fusarium Testing After Cleaning	Incomplete	The ASBPC graded this response as Incomplete because the response was not received on time and so was at the time of Committee review, Incomplete. Since this response was received the Committee has distributed the response to all the ASBs so they can provide their feedback through the email address provided by the Minister.
6-21: Agriculture Research Association Check Off Option	Accept the Response	The Committee graded this resolution response as Accept the Response because it addressed the resolution as presented.
8-21: Reinstating Provincial Agriculture Department Staff	Accept the Response	The Committee graded this resolution response as Accept the Response as it addressed the resolution as presented.
9-21: Protect Farmers Right to Farm Saved Seed		The Committee grading this response as Incomplete because it did not specify how ASBs and farmers could present their perspectives, offer feedback and participate in next steps in the process. The Committee wrote to Siddika Mithani to ask for further information on the process and how to participate.  Additional Response received May 27, 2021.
10-21: Federal Fuel Charge	Accept the Response	The Committee graded this response as Accept the Response as it addressed the resolution as presented.

Carried.

### 2021 Brush Spraying

845-21: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, accept the Agricultural Service Board Departments' Year-2021 Brush Spraying report as of June 8, 2021, as presented for information.

Carried.

## 6. Correspondence:

### Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Resolutions

846-21: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, file the letter received by Smoky Lake County from Ian Sundquist, Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Chair, MD of Willow Creek, dated April 20, 2021, concerning the resolution session at the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference being flawed, for information.

Carried.

### Agricultural Service Board Grant Reduction

847-21: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, file the copied letter received by Smoky Lake County addresses to the Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, from Leanne Beaupre, Reeve, County of Grande Prairie No.1, dated May 14, 2021, requesting the Provincial government reconsider not reducing the amounts of Agricultural Service Board grant funding provided to municipalities for supporting the important work which the province has tasked to municipalities, and provide greater access to subject matter experts to address concerns and questions from agricultural producers; for information.

Carried.

**Farm Safety Centre**

848-21: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, acknowledge receipt of the letter received from Jordan Jensen, Executive Director, Farm Safety Centre, dated May 7, 2021, thanking the County for contributing funds in the amount of \$518.00 to the Alberta Farm Safety Centre's Year-2021 "Safety Smarts" school-based-farm-safety program.

Carried.

**Additional Mowing Request at Bonnie Lake Resort**

849-21: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, take no action to the email received from Ed Basaraba, Bonnie Lake Resort Developer, dated June 8, 2021, requesting additional mowing at Bonnie Lake Resort near the municipal address 59536 Range Road 132A, as the proposed area is an environmental sensitive wetland area.

Carried.

Kyle Schole - Planning and Development Assistant, Carole Dowhaniuk - GIS Officer and Dave Franchuk - Environmental Operations Manager, virtually left the meeting, time 10:08 a.m.

**8. Executive Session:**

**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)**

850-21: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal issue in regard to providing public access to information from Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: third party business interests, time 10:08 a.m.

Carried.

851-21: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board acting on behalf of County Council, go out of Executive Session, time 10:23 a.m.

Carried.

One member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 10:26 a.m.

**Next Meeting**

852-21: Halisky

That the next Smoky Lake County **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** be scheduled for **Tuesday, August 10, 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:**

853-21: Gawalko

That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting of June 15, 2021, be adjourned, time 10:27 a.m.

Carried.

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CHAIRPERSON

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER