

# SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

**A G E N D A:** County Council Meeting to be held for the purpose of discussing the **Agricultural Service Board**

on

**Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023** at 1:00 o'clock P.M.

Held virtually through Electronic Communication Technology: Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89579865196?pwd=ZVkwTVd2d05wZ0pJYmdHYThMMkN4Zz09>

~~Meeting ID: 895 7986 5196 Passcode: 875181~~

Meeting ID: 828 0493 2927  
Passcode: 979860

And with Council physically present in the County Council Chambers, Smoky Lake

\*\*\*\*\*

## 1. Meeting:

1.1 Call to Order.

## 2. Agenda:

Acceptance of Agenda:  
as presented or  
subject to additions or deletions.

## 3. Minutes:

3.1 Adopt minutes of **December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022** – Agricultural Service Board Meeting. ©

**Recommendation:** Motion to Adopt.

3.2 Agricultural Service Board Meeting: December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – **Action List.** ©

**Recommendation:** File for Information.

## 4. Request for Decision:

4.1 Policy Statement 62-10-08 Agricultural Service Board Business Plan ©

4.2 2023 Northeast Regional Agricultural Service Board Conference ©

## 5. Issues for Information:

5.1 ASB Chairman’s Report. ©

## **6. Correspondence:**

- 6.1 Letter received from Shawn Rodgers, Agricultural Service Board Chairman, County of Warner, dated January 9, 2023 RE: Retention of Large Animal Veterinarians in Alberta. ©

**Recommendation:** File for Information.

## **7. Delegation(s):**

- 7.1 Kellie Nichiporik, Interim Executive Director, Environmental Program Manager, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) @1:15pm re: LARA Update

## **8. Executive Session:**

## **9. Date and time of Next Meeting(s):**

**Adjournment**

3.1



Minutes of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Organizational and Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 1:06 P.M. held in Smoky Lake County Council Chambers and virtually online through Electronic Communication Technology: Zoom Meeting.

The meeting was called to Order by the County Chief Administrative Officer, Gene Sobolewski, in the presence of the following persons:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u> <u>Tues., Dec.13, 2022</u>
Committee Member	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
Committee Member	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
Committee Member	Dominique Cere	Present in Chambers
Committee Member	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
Committee Member	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
County CAO	Gene Sobolewski	Present in Chambers
County Assistant CAO	Lydia Cielin	Absent
County Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present Virtually
Acting Ag. Fieldman	Amanda Kihn	Present in Chambers
Assist. Ag. Fieldman	Tori Stang	Present in Chambers
County Executive Services/R.S.	Patti Priest	Present Virtually
County Communications Tech	Evonne Zukiwski	Present Virtually
County Natural Gas Manager	Daniel Moric	Present Virtually
County GIS Operator	Carole Dowhaniuk	Present Virtually

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

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

**Chairperson**

The Chief Administrative Officer called a first (1) time for nominations for Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board.

ASB001-22: Halisky That Councillor Dan Gawalko be nominated as the Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board.

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

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

HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS.

The Chief Administrative Officer declared nominations for the Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, ceased.

Mr. Dan Gawalko was declared elected by acclamation by the Chief Administrative Officer as the Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, for the ensuing year and assumed the Chair.

**Vice-Chairperson**

The Chairperson called a first (1) time for nominations for Vice-Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board.

ASB002-22: Fenerty That Councillor Linda Fenerty be nominated as the Vice-Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board.

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

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

HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS.

The Chairperson declared nominations for the Vice-Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, ceased.

Ms. Linda Fenerty was declared elected by acclamation by the Chairperson as the Vice-Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board for the ensuing year.

**2. Agenda:**

ASB003-22: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, December 13, 2022, be adopted as amended:

**Addition to the Agenda:**

1. Smoky Lake County's Year-2022 Insect Survey Results.

Carried Unanimously.

Kyle Schole, Planning Technician, virtually joined the meeting, time 1:05 p.m.

**3. Minutes:**

ASB004-22: Halisky That the Minutes of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

ASB005-22: Serben That the Action List from Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, be filed for information.

Carried.

**4. Request for Decision:**

**Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-22-05: Northlands Farm Family**

ASB006-22: Serben That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board recommend the Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-22-05: Northlands Farm Family, be amended by County Council to include Andy and Shawnalee Shwetz as the awarded Farm Family of Year-2022.

Carried.

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

ASB007-22: Halisky That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board acknowledge Barb Shapka and Charlie Leskiw, as the appointed Farm Members to the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Board, for the 2022-2025 term in accordance with Smoky Lake County Council's Organizational Meeting held on October 26, 2022.

Carried.

**5. Issues for Information:**

**Agricultural Service Board Chairperson's Report**

ASB008-22: Cere That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Chairperson report prepared by Dan Gawalko for December 13, 2022, be accepted and filed for information as follows:

- LARA Board of Directors Meeting  
Cropping Program and Interim Operations Manager Report
1. Attended Lac La Biche ASB meeting on November 2nd.
  2. Megan and Amanda held a cow bytes workshop for the Ardmore 4-H beef club on November 16th.
  3. Amanda attended ARVAC meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup> virtually.
    - LARA will be receiving \$20,925 for RVT cereal trials for 2022.
    - ARVAC did apply for funding through the Funding consortium. If funding is approved, we will continue to receive \$90/plot in the future. If not accepted ARVAC will be cutting sites to be able to continue providing \$90/plot.
    - ARVAC is also looking into taking over the RST cereal trials. Dr. Sheri Strydhorst has been hired to go over 2020 and 2021 RST data. Sheri has applied for RDAR funding for the next three years and if approved ARA's will be receiving \$11 O/plot.
  4. Got agreement signed with the MD of Bonnyville for snow removal at LARA office.
  5. Busy analyzing data and working on grant reporting.
  6. Sent away RVT wheat samples to get protein tested. LARA protein tester will need to be recalibrated as it is reading low protein numbers on samples.
  7. Events over the last month have been extremely successful. We had great attendance at the young farmer night and innovation workshop. Many producers commented that they enjoyed attending these events and hope to see more in the future.

Carried.

One Member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 1:18 p.m.

**Agricultural Service Board Department's Report & Provincial ASB Resolutions for 2023**

ASB009-22: Halisky That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board department's written report as of November 30, 2022, be accepted and filed for information; **and acknowledge** the Board's support in favour of all the following resolutions being brought forward to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board's Annual General Meeting scheduled for January 14-19, 2023:

**RESOLUTION 1-23: CREATION OF A MID-LEVEL ALBERTA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (ABVMA) PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION**

That the Alberta Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development work with the ABVMA to create a Mid- Level Veterinary Professional designation within the Veterinary Profession Act to address the rural veterinary shortage and provide mid-level supportive care to Alberta livestock producers, including but not limited to:

1. Pregnancy Checking
2. Vaccination
3. Semen Testing
4. Blood draws
5. Injections
6. Catheterization
7. Wellness checks
8. Renewing prescriptions
9. Establishing required relationship for producers to purchase prescribed medicines.

**RESOLUTION 2-23: RURAL VETERINARY STUDENTS**

That the Government of Alberta aid the crisis of rural veterinary shortage by directing the University of Calgary to adjust admissions to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine for students from rural areas applying by providing credit for rural acuity and prioritize accepting students who

intend to specialize in large animal practice and return to work in rural areas following completion of their program.

**RESOLUTION 3-23: APPLIED RESEARCH ASSOCIATIONS FUNDING**

That the Ministry of Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation provide sustainable operational funding to Applied Research Associations to maintain local, unbiased research and extension services that keep Alberta agriculture innovative and competitive.

**RESOLUTION 4-23: GRIZZLY BEAR POPULATION IMPACT ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION**

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST The Minister of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas to have BMA 2 population and density of Grizzly Bears assessed and develop a suite of programs for Agricultural Producers, like those available to agricultural producers in BMA 5, including a Provincial Grizzly Impact Mitigation Plan.

**RESOLUTION 5-23: LANDOWNER SPECIAL LICENSE**

That Alberta Environment and Protected Areas restructure the criteria for Landowner Special Licenses to allow for landowners to receive tags without having to previously be unsuccessful in a regular draw. And Further: That Alberta Environment and Protected Areas allow Landowner Special Licenses to be valid for the entirety of the season in all Wildlife Management Units (WMU's) in which the applicant has deeded land.

**RESOLUTION 6-23: ENFORCEMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT ALBERTA WATER ACT**

That Alberta Environment and Protected Areas provide adequate resources to support the Alberta Water Act, to ensure these contraventions are being dealt with.

**RESOLUTION 7-23: CAMPAIGN TO RAISE AWARENESS ON THE DISPARITY BETWEEN CONSUMER PRICING AND PRODUCER REVENUE**

That Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation develop a communication plan to promote awareness for Albertans regarding the disparity between the prices that agricultural producers receive for their products and the prices consumers pay.

**RESOLUTION 8-23: CONSIDERATION OF MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND AGRICULTURAL POLICIES FOR LARGE SCALE SOLAR AND RELATED ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS ON AGRICULTURAL LANDS**

That when Federal and Provincial governments approve large scale energy developments that they consider local environmental conditions and the policies that the local municipality has in place on the development through their permitting process.

**RESOLUTION 9-23: SYNTHETIC FERTILIZER EMISSIONS**

That the Federal Government of Canada adopt the 4R Climate- Smart Protocol approach developed by The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) of Fertilizer Canada and provide sustainable funding into research and development regarding fertilizer use efficiency. And Further: That the federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change suspend the 30% synthetic fertilizer emission reduction targets until the proper tools to measure emissions for producers are available.

**RESOLUTION 10-23: ORGANIC PRODUCTION CERTIFICATION STANDARDS AND PROVINCIALLY REGULATED WEEDS**

That Canada Food Inspection Agency add a requirement to the Canadian Organic Standards that requires the organic grower be compliant with any provincial legislation regarding invasive species in order to achieve and maintain organic certification.

**RESOLUTION 11-23: LOSS OF 2% LIQUID STRYCHNINE**

That Health Canada and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency make 2% Liquid Strychnine available to agricultural producers to utilize on their farms for control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels through an emergency registration for the 2023 season. And Further: That Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation petition and study avenues to convince Health Canada and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency to leave 2% Liquid Strychnine on the market on a permanent basis to agricultural producers to utilize on their farms for control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels.

**RESOLUTION 12-23: REVIEW OF THE LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS TRIBUNAL (LPRT)**

That Municipal Affairs establish a task force comprised of Agricultural Service Board Members, agricultural producers, experts in agricultural science, agronomy and business, as well as representatives from the oil and gas industry associations, to conduct a full review into the function and mandate of the Surface Rights components of the LPRT as directed by related legislation, with a focus on matters of, or related to:

- Contractual negotiations being fully paid by energy operators,
- Implementation of mandatory mediation prior to LPRT application,
- Improved timeliness of applications, and
- Clarity of terms used in the Surface Rights Act.

Carried.

Delegation: Mrs. Shawnalee Shwetz, entered Council Chambers, time 1:27 p.m.

**Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Year-2022 Highlights**

ASB010-22: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board acknowledge receipt of Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Year-2022 Highlights:

Carried.

**Year-2022 Clubroot Survey**

ASB011-22: Serben That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board accept the Year-2022 Clubroot survey results from within Smoky Lake County.

Carried.

**7. Delegation:**

**2022 Farm Family Award Recipient's plaque presentation: The Shwetz Family**

Virtually present before the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board from 1:30 p.m. to 1:33 p.m., was Mrs. Shawnalee Shwetz on behalf of her and her family, to receive the Year-2022 Farm Family Award plaque as presented by Division Five Councillor, Jered Serben:



Delegation: Mrs. Shawnalee Shwetz, left Council Chambers, time 1:34 p.m.

**6. Correspondence:**

**Cypress County - Rural Veterinarian Shortage in Alberta**

ASB012-22: Halisky That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board from Dustin Vossler, Agricultural Service Board Chairman, Cypress County, dated November 2, 2022, advocating to awareness to the rural veterinarian shortage in Alberta, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) Sponsorship**

ASB013-22: Serben That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board **take no action** to Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) Partner Sponsorship for Year-2023, due to budget restraints, in response to the letter received from Megan Evans, Executive Director, Alberta Invasive Species Council, dated November 3, 2022, requesting same.

Carried.

**2023 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference**

ASB014-22: Serben That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board members who can attend – attend the 2023 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference, hosted by the M. D. of Greenview, scheduled for January 17 – 19, 2023 at the Tara Evet Centre in Grande Prairie.

Carried.

**Cardston County - Rural Veterinarian Shortage in Alberta**

ASB015-22: Fenerty That the information received by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board from Roger Houghton, Agricultural Service Board Chairman, Cardston County, dated November 25, 2022, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Addition to the Agenda:**

**Year-2022 Insect Survey Results**

ASB016-22: Serben That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board acknowledge receipt of the Year-2022 Insect Survey Result and recommend the information be posted on the County's websites.

Carried.

**8. Executive Session:**

No Executive Session.

**9. Date and time of Next Meeting(s):**

**Next Meeting**

ASB017-22: Halisky That the next Smoky Lake County **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** be scheduled for **Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.** to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

ASB018-22: Cere That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting of December 13, 2022, be adjourned, time 1:56 p.m.

Carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON

S E A L

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER





3.2

3  
GOALS

100%  
GOAL COMPLETION

● Draft ● Not started ● Behind ● On Track ● Overdue ● Complete → Direct Alignment ----> Indirect Alignment

GOAL

Meetin...	Motio...	Goal	Details	Owner	Progress Update	Cur...	
		2022 12 13 Agricultural Service Board				Comple	100 / 100
2022/12/13	ASB006-22	→ Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-22-05: Northlands Farm Family	That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board recommend the Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-22-05: Northlands Farm Family, be amended by County Council to include Andy and Shawnalee Shwetz as the awarded Farm Family of Year-2022.	Agricultural Fieldman	<p><b>Patti Priest:</b></p> <p><b>Achievements:</b> Policy Statement No. 62-22-05: Northlands Farm Family was amended at the County Council Meeting held on December 14, 2022 by Motion #212-22.</p> <p><b>Challenges:</b> <i>No value</i></p> <p><b>Next Steps:</b> <i>No value</i></p>	Comple	100 / 100
2022/12/13	ASB009-22	→ Agricultural Service Board Department's Report & Provincial ASB Resolutions for 2023	That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board department's written report as of November 30, 2022, be accepted and filed for information; <b>and acknowledge</b> the Board's support in favour of all the following resolutions being brought forward to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board's Annual General Meeting scheduled for January 14-19, 2023:	Agricultural Fieldman	<p><b>Patti Priest:</b></p> <p><b>Achievements:</b> The resolution package for 2023 Provincial ASB has been electronically filed in Municipal File: 62-7</p> <p><b>Challenges:</b> <i>No value</i></p> <p><b>Next Steps:</b> <i>No value</i></p>	Comple	100 / 100
			RESOLUTION 1-23: CREATION OF A MID-LEVEL ALBERTA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (ABVMA) PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION				
			That the Alberta Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development work with the ABVMA to create				

3.2

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- Clarity of terms used in the Surface Rights Act.



<b>REQUEST FOR DECISION</b>		<b>DATE</b>	February 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2023	<b>4.1</b>
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>Policy Statement 62-10-08 Agricultural Service Board Business Plan</b>			
<b>PROPOSAL</b>	<p><b>HISTORY:</b> Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board established the Agricultural Service Board Business Plan in 2010 as a way to track duties carried out as part of the agreement with Alberta Agriculture to ensure compliance with all the duties related to the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Soil Conservation Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pest Act</i> and <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>.</p> <p><b>BACKGROUND:</b> Smoky Lake Agricultural Service Board has used the Business Plan as a way of tracking changes and improvements to the ASB Program and ensuring compliance with duties laid out by Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development.</p> <p><b>CURRENT:</b> Changes to <i>Policy Statement 62-28-06 Mowing Program</i> require updates to made to the ASB Business Plan Vegetation Management section. The Problem Wildlife section also needs updates as the Animal Control Technician position was made fulltime permanent.</p>			
<b>CORRELATION TO BUSINESS (STRATEGIC) PLAN</b>				
<b>LEGISLATIVE, BYLAW and/or POLICY IMPLICATIONS</b>				
<b>BENEFITS</b>				
<b>DISADVANTAGES</b>				
<b>ALTERNATIVES</b>				
<b>FINANCE/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS</b>				
<b>Operating Costs:</b>		<b>Capital Costs:</b>		
<b>Budget Available:</b>		<b>Source of Funds:</b>		
<b>Budgeted Costs:</b>		<b>Actual Costs:</b>		
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS</b>				
<b>COMMUNICATION STRATEGY</b>				

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	
<p style="color: red;">That Smoky Lake County Council amend <i>Policy Statement 62-10-07 Agricultural Service Board Business Plan 2023</i> to include changes made to <i>Policy Statement 62-28-06 Mowing Program</i> and the fulltime Animal Control Technician position.</p>	
<b>Agricultural Fieldman</b>	

# SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



<b>Title: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan</b>		<b>Policy No.: 10-08</b>	
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code: P-A</b>	<b>Page No.: 1 of 12</b>	<b>E</b>

<b>Legislation Reference:</b>	<i>Alberta Provincial Statutes</i>
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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:

### 1. STATEMENT:

1.1 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.

**The Agricultural Service Board is also responsible for enforcement of Provincial Legislation such as the *Weed Act, Agricultural Pest Act, Agricultural Service Board Act, Soil Conservation Act and the Animal Health Act.***

### 2. VISION STATEMENT:

2.1 To encourage sustainable agriculture, environmental integrity and improved quality of life in Smoky Lake County.

### 3. MISSION STATEMENT:

3.1 To provide services, policies and education for Agricultural families, businesses and the public to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life.

### 4. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

4.1 **The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board** identifies the following priorities:

- One: Vegetation Management Program
- Two: Weed Control Act Duties
- Three: Environmental Stewardship and Extension
- Four: Problem Wildlife
- Five: Agricultural Pest Act Duties
- Six: Soil Conservation Act Duties
- Seven: Intergovernmental Collaboration

<b>Title: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan</b>		<b>Policy No.: 10-08</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code: P-A</b>	<b>Page No.: 2 of 12 E</b>

**5. IMPLEMENTATION:**

5.1 Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board shall review annually as required by Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation.

5.2 Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board staff will consider and follow the priorities of the Business Plan when creating budgets and work plans.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	<b>December 17, 2010</b>	# 184-10 - Page # 9570
Amended	<b>March 5, 2015</b>	# 416-15 - Page # 11626
Amended	<b>December 12, 2017</b>	# 59-17 - Page # 12873
Amended	<b>December 12, 2018</b>	# 193-18 - Page # 13400
Amended	<b>December 16, 2019</b>	# 291-19 - Page # 13927
Amended	<b>December 8, 2020</b>	# 138-20 - Page # 14367
Amended	<b>December 14, 2021</b>	# 111-21 - Page # 14890
Amended	<b>February 15, 2022</b>	# 353-22 - Page # 14983





# Agricultural Service Board Business Plan 2023

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<b>3.</b>	<b>Environmental Stewardship and Extension</b>	<b>Page 7</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Problem Wildlife</b>	<b>Page 8-9</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Agricultural Pest Act Duties</b>	<b>Page 10</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Soil Conservation Act Duties</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Intergovernmental Collaboration</b>	<b>Page 12</b>



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 *Weed Control Act*, *Agricultural Pest Act*, *Agricultural Service Board Act*, *Soil Conservation Act*, and the *Animal Health Act*.

**VISION STATEMENT:**

To encourage sustainable agriculture, environmental integrity and improved quality of life in Smoky Lake County.

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

To provide services, policies and education for Agricultural families, businesses and the public to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life.




**VALUES:**

**Integrity:** The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board will conduct business in an ethical manner respecting the environment, public and applicable legislation.

**Commitment to Service:** 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.



**Progressive:** 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.



<span style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 10px;">1.</span> <span style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">Vegetation Management Program</span>		
<p><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.</p>		
Strategies	Action	Measures
<p><b>Identify problem noxious weeds within the municipal right of way</b></p>	<p>-Key emphasis will be on Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weed species analyzing both environmental and economic threats.</p>	<p>-All roads inspected for noxious weeds at least once during the growing season.</p>
<p><b>Roadside Spraying</b></p> 	<p>-1/2 of all county roads will be sprayed receive a herbicide application following the rotation 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.</p>	<p>-Number of miles of roadside spraying completed.</p> <p>-Amount of herbicide applied for brush control</p>
<p><b>Spot Spraying</b></p> 	<p>-Spot spraying will be completed in the other two zone in which regular roadside spraying is being completed. Noxious weeds and brush will be targeted.</p> <p>-Custom spraying of private lands will occur if time and budget allows and priority is put on landowners struggling to control prohibited noxious weeds.</p>	<p>-Number of locations spot sprayed.</p> <p>-Amount of herbicide applied during spot spraying.</p> <p>-Number of landowners who receive help eliminating their Prohibited noxious weeds by the ASB Department.</p>
<p><b>Roadside Mowing</b></p> 	<p>-Roadside mowing will be conducted as stated in <i>Policy Statement 62M-02 "Mowing Program"</i>. Roadside will first receive a single shoulder pass. A second seasonal pass will be completed to the property line, where possible, ensuing passes are only done if deemed efficient to eliminate extra freewheeling and passes are 5 feet or more.</p> <p>-Lake roads leading to resorts will be mowed before the July and August long weekends.</p>	<p>-1 'shoulder' pass and a second seasonal pass of roadside mowing to the property line for weed and brush control is to be completed by November 1st of each year.</p> <p>-Iron Horse Trail mowed once a year.</p> <p>-Amount of additional mowing completed for community events.</p> <p>-Amount of additional mowing completed on other municipal properties.</p>

## 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
<p><b>Weed Inspection Program</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Weed Inspection are conducted on private land during the growing season annually.</li> <li>-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>.</li> <li>-Weed Notices are issued to landowners who do not comply with recommendation letters.</li> <li>-Enforcement actions are completed by the Agricultural Services Department for landowners who are non-compliant with a weed notice that has been issued.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of inspections completed</li> <li>-Number of letters sent to landowners/renters</li> <li>-Number of weed notices issued</li> <li>-Number of Weed enforcements completed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Noxious Weed Education and Awareness</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Provide weed identification for landowners on farm or samples brought in for identification.</li> <li>-Promote weed awareness at our annual Smoky Lake County Farmer Appreciation Event</li> <li>-Produce and circulate information on invasive species through our website, local newspapers and <b>social media</b>.</li> <li>-Weed Wanted posters hung annually at all the Towns, Villages &amp; Hamlets including all the water stations and lake lot bulletin boards.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of landowners assisted annually</li> <li>-Number of events hosted</li> <li>-Number of articles circulated</li> <li>-Number of brochures and weed wanted posters given out/posted</li> </ul>






### 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
<p><b>Environmental Farm Plans</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Assist local producers with completion of Environmental Farm Plans</li>   <li>-Provide air photographs for fields and farm yards and soils information</li>   <li>-Provide water well information from the Alberta Water Wells Database</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of Environmental Farm plans assisted with</li>     <li>-Increased adoption of beneficial management practices by producers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Canadian Agricultural Partnership</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Assist local producers with information about new agricultural programs and grants.</li>   <li>-Stay current with program updates and changes.</li>   <li>-Promote programs and workshop events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of producers assisted</li>     <li>-Number of events hosted or promoted</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lakeland Agricultural Research Association</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Ensure Smoky Lake County received programs as promised by LARA.</li>   <li>-Ensure crop plot trials are complete in Smoky Lake County.</li>   <li>-LARA to give updates throughout the year by attending ASB meetings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of events hosted by LARA in our county</li>   <li>-Field Day hosted for local producers</li>   <li>-Number of unbiased research plots within Smoky Lake County</li>   <li>-How many updates were received</li> </ul>

## 4. Problem Wildlife Program

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







Strategies	Action	Measures
<b>Beavers</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Beaver Tail Bounty for \$15.00 per tail from pre-approved locations as specified in <i>Policy Statement 62-07 "Beaver Management"</i></li> <li>-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>.</li> <li>-Obtain required easements from landowners and all provincial and federal permissions needed.</li> <li>-Maintain Certified Blasters License with the Province of Alberta.</li> <li>-Trapping and removing problem beavers and muskrats</li> <li>Install/ maintain pond levelers and other Flow Devices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of Beaver tails brought in.</li> <li>-Number of dams removed affecting municipal infrastructure.</li> <li>-Amount of revenue generated completing private land blasting.</li> <li>-Damage Control Licenses issued by Alberta Environment</li> <li>-Renew every 5 years as required.</li> <li>-Number of beavers and muskrats removed</li> <li>-Number of pond levelers installed/maintained</li> <li>-Number of flooded roads</li> </ul>
<b>Coyotes</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-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>.</li> <li>- Coyote control booklets available for agricultural producers to help better manage coyote predation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of tablets given out annually</li> </ul>
<b>Richardson Ground Squirrel (Gopher)</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2% Liquid Strychnine registration has been cancelled.</li> <li>-Recommend alternatives to producers</li> <li>-Recommend local trappers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of producers assisted</li> </ul>

<span style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 10px;">4.</span> <span style="font-size: 20px; font-weight: bold;">Problem Wildlife Continued</span>		
Strategies	Action	Measures
<p><b>Wild Boar</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Participate annually in the Wild Boar Ear Bounty with Alberta Agriculture (if eligible).</li> <li>-Promote the Alberta Invasive Species Council “Squeal on Pigs” Campaign for awareness and reporting wild boar sightings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of wild boar ears brought in.</li> <li>-Posts on County Website and Social Media shares</li> </ul>
<p><b>Waterfowl Damage Control</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Scare Cannons are available for rent as per <i>Policy Statement 62-26 “Scare Cannon Rental”</i>.</li> <li>-Suggest alternative control measures to mitigate crop damage cause by waterfowl during fall migration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of rentals that occur</li> <li>-number of producers that engage in alternative control measure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Alternative Control Methods</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Agricultural Fieldmen will continue to look into alternative control methods for all pest species.</li> <li>-Promote and notify producers of alternative control measures when they come in.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Attend In Service Training to hear from other Ag Fieldman from across the province</li> <li>-Attend demonstrations with government research groups</li> </ul>
<p><b>Northern Pocket Gopher (Mole)</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-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>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of mole tails brought in for bounty.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stray Dog Pickup</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Respond to ratepayer reports of loose dogs within Smoky Lake County</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of stray dogs picked up and transported to an approved animal shelter; or if possible, reunite them with owners.</li> </ul>

## 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
<b>Swede Midge of Canola</b> 	-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.
<b>Grasshoppers</b> 	-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
<b>Bertha Army Worms</b> 	- 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
<b>Wheat Midge</b> 	- 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
<b>Blackleg of Canola</b> 	- 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.
<b>Clubroot</b> 	- 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 Clubroot Management Agreements sent to producers annually as per <i>Policy Statement 62-12 "Clubroot"</i> .  -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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Agricultural Fieldman are deemed as inspectors and can issue notices under this Act.</li> <li>-Document and photograph any non-compliance with the Soil Conservation Act</li> <li>-Promote soil health workshops and site demonstrations</li> <li>-Monitor soil conditions and respond to an area of concern that needs to be assessed following an event that could impact soil/water sources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of Soil Conservation Notice issued</li> <li>-Number of Soil Conservation Letters issued</li> <li>-Number of workshops</li> <li>-Number of areas assessed for soil condition concerns</li> </ul>

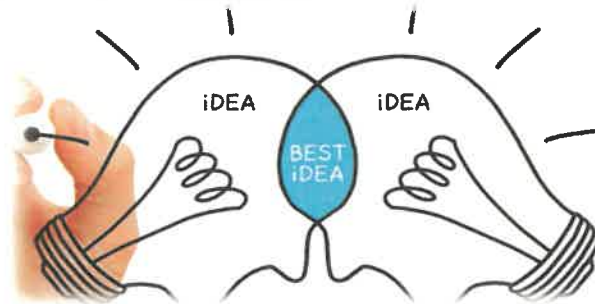





## 7. Intergovernmental Collaboration

**Goal:** 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
<b>Animal Health Act</b>	Liaison with the Chief Provincial Veterinarian, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and local Veterinarians, when necessary, on any livestock emergencies. Livestock emergencies include cattle liner accidents on the highway If a positive case or outbreak as stated in the <i>Animal Health Act</i> is confirmed within Smoky Lake County boundaries, ASB staff will act in accordance with the directives of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian (CPV) Work with our Fire Protective Service Department in case of livestock emergency on the highways. These duties would include helping them source rendering truck, trailers or calling a local vet.	-Number of investigations asked to assist on  -Number of highway livestock emergencies assisted with





<b>REQUEST FOR DECISION</b>		<b>DATE</b>	February 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2023	<b>4.2</b>
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>2023 Northeast Regional Agricultural Service Board Conference</b>			
<b>PROPOSAL</b>	<p><b>HISTORY:</b> The Northeast Regional Conference is hosted every year in November for resolutions to be brought forward at the regional level to be voted on whether they will go forward to the Provincial ASB Conference. We also receive updates from the ASB Program Manager of Alberta Agriculture &amp; Irrigation.</p> <p><b>BACKGROUND:</b> It was determined at the 2022 Northeast Regional Conference hosted by St. Paul County that Smoky Lake County will host the Conference in 2023. Traditionally the Conference is held the first week of November on a Friday.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> To pick a date and location to host the 2023 Northeast Regional Conference so administration can begin planning speakers and book a venue.</p>			
<b>CORRELATION TO BUSINESS (STRATEGIC) PLAN</b>				
<b>LEGISLATIVE, BYLAW and/or POLICY IMPLICATIONS</b>				
<b>BENEFITS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration amongst ASB's in the Northeast region on agricultural issues</li> <li>Receive information from guest speakers and updates from the ASB program</li> <li>Opportunity to showcase our region</li> </ul>			
<b>DISADVANTAGES</b>	Undetermined cost to the Smoky Lake County			
<b>ALTERNATIVES</b>	None			
<b>FINANCE/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS</b>				
<b>Operating Costs:</b> Hall rental and guest speakers		<b>Capital Costs:</b>		
<b>Budget Available:</b>		<b>Source of Funds:</b> Registration fees and sponsors		
<b>Budgeted Costs:</b>		<b>Actual Costs:</b>		
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS</b>				
<b>COMMUNICATION STRATEGY</b>				
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>				
That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board choose a date and location in November to host the Northeast Regional Agricultural Service Board Conference in Smoky Lake County.				
<b>Agricultural Fieldman</b>				

## **ASB Regional Conference Venues**

### **Metis Crossing**

- 350 people capacity
- Buffet lunch
- (waiting on rates)

### **Smoky Lake Complex**

- 700 people capacity
- \$800 for the day
- \$2.50 a plate for kitchen use
- Can use any caterer

### **Vilna Hall**

- 400 people capacity
- Over 8 hours \$1200
- Under 8 hours \$600
- \$400 kitchen fee
- Caterer has to be pre approved

### **Stry Hall**

- 700 people capacity
- \$800 for the day
- \$400 kitchen fee
- \$400 damage deposit (returned upon cleanup)
- Can use any caterer

## Dan Gawalko ASB chair report

February 15 2023

- January 23/23 attended LARA strategic planning session in Ashmont redefined our vision, goals and mission statement and looked closely at LARA moving into the future a summary of the goals of the strategic plan are improve producer engagement, strengthen collaborations with external stakeholders, strengthen program and operational funding, development of human resource strategy and increase awareness of LARA
- January 25 attended the LARA board of directors meeting Wanda gave her chair report met with MLA's in December and spent time on the HR committee Kellie also met with some MLA's and Minister Nate Horner discussing FARMRITE and research funding she also gave her executive director report. Amanda gave her cropping report she posted the summer student jobs, did 3 age verifications, attended an agronomy update, reporting rvt trials and grant funding and attended Western Canada soil conference, Megan gave the forage report she is doing grant reporting the drought book is completed, she is having a feeding webinar with Barry Yaremko, Kellie presented the finances and the 2023 budget Jay gave the LFA report they are putting out ads for a new pasture manager , upcoming events were sent to Jenna at Smoky Lake county to forward to council and to get posted on the county website for more information on the finances or the minutes please feel free to contact Kellie or Amanda at the LARA office in Ft.Kent. The next meeting is at the Ashmont legion on Monday February 27 @ 10:30 am,

- February 15 attended the Smoky Lake county council meeting and council approved being part of LARA for the 2023 year



COUNTY OF WARNER NO. 5  
AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD  
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Website: [www.warnercounty.ca](http://www.warnercounty.ca)

January 9, 2023

ASB2023-001

The Honourable Nate Horner  
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation  
131 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Horner,

**Re: Letter of Support for Attracting and Retention of Rural Large Animal Veterinarians in Alberta**

The County of Warner Agricultural Service Board supports and reiterates the concern of rural municipalities that there is a shortage of rural large animal veterinarians in Alberta.

Our industry depends on rural veterinary medicine and practice, to ensure optimal health of the Alberta Livestock Industry. Veterinary medicine is a critical component of rural lifestyle and large animal health, and the shortage is becoming a crisis in rural Alberta. It could potentially lead to increasing diseases and animal welfare issues.

We believe attracting and retention of rural large animal veterinarians has substantial benefits for the Alberta Livestock Industry. We are very supportive of graduating additional veterinarians more inclined to reside and practice in rural communities. We strongly support any government action to rectify the veterinarian shortage across the province with a focus on rural Alberta.

Yours truly,

Shawn Rodgers, ASB Chairman  
Councillor Division 5 | County of Warner No. 5

CC: The Honourable Demetrios Nicolaidis, Minister of Advanced Education  
The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
The Honourable Gudie Hutchings, Minister of Rural Economic Development  
Minister Glen Motz, MP Medicine Hat – Cardston  
Minister Grant Hunter MLA Cardston-Taber-Warner  
**Alberta Agricultural Service Boards**