

Agricultural Service Board

Board/Committee Type: Agricultural Service Board

Approval Date: February 3, 2021

Review/Revision Date: October 29, 2021⁽⁰¹⁾

Purpose

The Agricultural Service Board will act as an advisory to Council in the development and promotion of agricultural policies and programs designed to meet the needs of the Municipal District of Bonnyville agricultural community.

Scope

- (1) In addition to duties outlined in the *Agricultural Service Board Act* (RSA 200 Chapter A-10), the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) will act in an advisory capacity to Council on matters in accordance with duties, powers, and functions outlined in **the following statutes**:
 - (a) Alberta Weed Control Act,
 - (b) Alberta Soil Conservation Act,
 - (c) Alberta Agricultural Pest Act; and
 - (d) Animal Health Act.

Authority

- (1) Review and provide recommendations to Council designed to support good farming practices, improve the economic welfare of farming, promote, and develop agricultural policies to meet the needs of the municipality and to promote farm safety.

Membership

- (1) Composition
 - (a) The ASB will consist of five (5) members, **comprised of** two (2) members of Council and three (3) members at large, who will be appointed by Resolution of Council, normally at the Organizational Meeting, **or throughout the year, as needed**.
- (2) Chair
 - (a) The position of Chair will be filled by a member of Council or a Member at Large and appointed to the position **annually** by Resolution of Council.
- (3) Term

~~(a) Members at large will be appointed for a 4-year term and then eligible for reappointment for a second 4-year term. If, after the second term, no new applicants apply for the position of Member at Large, Council may re-appoint the current member for an additional 4-year term. Members of Council will be appointed on an annual basis by resolution of Council at the Organizational Meeting. Members at Large may serve on a Board or Committee for a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms. After serving a third consecutive term, Members at Large cannot serve on that Board or Committee for at least one (1) term before being eligible for re-appointment.~~

Meeting Arrangements

- (1) Meetings will be scheduled at a minimum of four (4) times per year, with additional meetings as issues dictate. The Chief Administrative Officer and/or designates (typically the Agricultural Services Manager/Assistant Fieldman), in conjunction with the Chair, determines when additional meetings are required.
- (2) A member who is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Board without receiving authorization by way of a Board Resolution to be absent, ceases to be a member of the Board.
- (3) Remuneration and travel expenses for ~~members at large~~ ~~Public Members~~ shall be in accordance with ~~municipal policy~~ ~~the M.D. of Bonnyville Policy 1.010~~.

Reporting

- (1) The Board, through the General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services will bring forth formal recommendations to Council through Request for Decision (RFD) reports at public meetings of Council.

Resources and Budget

- (1) Provincial funding ~~for Agriculture and the Rat and Rabies Program of \$123,907.21 (Agriculture) plus \$37,500.00 (Rat and Rabies)~~ will be provided ~~by the Province~~ annually as per ~~the current contract ending 2024~~.
- (2) The Agriculture Service Board may approve annual community funding to local clubs as listed:
 - (a) Alberta Farm Safety Centre up to \$4000.00
 - (b) Goodridge 4-H Beef Club up to \$500.00
 - (c) Bonnyville 4-H District Council up to \$3000.00
 - (d) Bonnyville Tuesday Farmer Market up to \$600.00
 - (e) Grazing School for Woman up to \$1000.00 plus registration fees for local farm woman
 - (f) Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) up to ~~\$60,000~~ \$80,000
 - (g) Alberta Agriculture and Forestry grant of \$65,000 as per current contract ending 2025.

Deliverables

- (1) The role of the ASB is to encourage good farming practices and farm safety while performing all of the duties and responsibilities of an ASB, the ASB shall remain accountable to the ratepayers. It will also include developing and evaluating agricultural policies and programs to meet the needs of the municipality.

Review

The ASB Terms of Reference will be reviewed every ~~five (5)~~ four (4) years, ~~from the date amended or reviewed the next review will occur in October 2025~~.