



BIG LAKES COUNTY POLICY

TITLE: Agricultural Service Board	
POLICY NUMBER: ASB-01	
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Agricultural Service Board Act, Agricultural Pests Act, Weed Control Act, Soil Conservation Act, Animal Health Act	
APPROVED BY COUNCIL:	
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 9 th , 2007	REVISED DATE: May 27, 2020

Policy Statement

The Council of Big Lakes County recognizes the important role that agricultural programs and policies play in the prosperity of the municipality. As such, Council deems it appropriate to establish an Agricultural Advisory Committee to advise council on issues and concerns faced by the agricultural community and to direct agricultural programming within the County.

Policy

Establishment of Agricultural Service Board

1. Council hereby establishes Council as the Big Lakes County Agricultural Service Board, to be advised by the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Committee Membership and Structure

2. Council shall appoint four members-at-large and three Council members to the committee for their term at the organizational meeting of Council or as required by attrition.
 - a. Members-at-large shall be agricultural producers or former agricultural producers knowledgeable about current agricultural practices and interested in the betterment of the industry for all County residents.
 - b. Members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee shall be granted the privileges and voting rights of the Agricultural Service Board at Regional and Provincial Conferences for the purposes of voting on and presentation of resolutions.



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- c. Members having served on the committee can let their names stand for re-appointment or inform Administration of their wish to withdraw by June on their final year of their term.
 - d. A person who is a member of a committee ceases to be a member of the committee if, without being authorized by a resolution of the committee, the member is absent from 3 consecutive regular meetings of the committee.
- 3. A Chair and Vice-Chair shall be appointed at the beginning of the committee meeting directly following Council's organizational meeting annually.
 - a. The Chair shall conduct the meetings
 - b. In absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall conduct the meeting
- 4. Quorum shall be met when four voting members are present to conduct committee business
- 5. The committee shall serve as the appeal committee for any Soil Conservation notices under the Soil Conservation Act, appointed annually by Council.
- 6. The committee shall serve as the Intermunicipal Weed and Pest Appeal Board for partnering municipalities, ensuring an impartial review process, appointed annually by Council
- 7. Non-voting members of the committee shall consist of the following:
 - a. Agricultural Fieldman
 - b. Recording Secretary/Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
 - c. Director responsible for Agricultural Services
 - d. Chief Administrative Officer

Roles and Responsibilities

- 8. The Agricultural Service Board (A.S.B.) is established under the Agricultural Service Board to:



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- a. Act as an advisory body and to assist Council and the Minister of Agriculture, in matter of mutual concern.
- b. Advise on and help organize and direct weed, pest control and soil and water conservation programs.
- c. Assist in the control of livestock disease under the Livestock Diseases Act.
- d. Promote, enhance and protect viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving the economic viability of the agricultural producer.
- e. Promote and develop agricultural policies for approval by Council to meet the needs of the County. (R.S.A 2000 c. A-10 s.2, 2007 c. A-40.2 s.74)
- f. Ensure Provincial Statutes (Weed Control Act, Soil Conservation Act, Agricultural Pests Act, and Agricultural Service Board Act) are administered to the benefit of all County residents.
- g. Annually prepare and submit operating and capital budgets and an annual report on programs and expenditures to Council for approval.
- h. Carry out the programs approved by Council in the annual operating and capital budgets
- i. Review Annual the Strategic Business Plan document describing all the goals and programs provided by the A.S.B.
- j. Advise Council with respect to proper land utilization, specifically regarding land remediation and reclamation orders as outlined in the Agricultural Service Board Act.
- k. Advice council in proper land utilization in general terms with the view to improving the economic welfare of County farmers.
- l. Develop and oversee environmental programs with Agricultural impacts.



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9. All A.S.B. programs and procedures shall be subject to Council approval, county policies and bylaws.
10. All matters relating to administration shall be subject to County policy.

Meetings

11. Meetings shall occur bi-monthly with the annual schedule being set in January of every year
 - a. Postponing and cancellation shall be done by majority vote.
 - b. The Agricultural Fieldman shall arrange the committee meeting dates through consultation with Council, with due regard for other scheduled council meetings/events.
12. Meetings shall receive administrative support from:
 - a. The Agricultural Fieldman
 - b. A recording secretary as provided by the C.A.O.
 - c. Any other staff as deemed appropriate by the C.A.O. for the effective conduct of the meetings

Remuneration of Members:

13. Members appointed by Council shall receive an honorarium pursuant to Policy Counc-04.



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Reeve



Chief Administrative Officer



Date of Final Signature