




Request for Decision

Title	Appointment of Agricultural Fieldmen
Proposed Motion	That Council appoint Alyssa Hutchings and Victoria Dubord as Agricultural Fieldmen under the Alberta <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i> .
Administrative Recommendation	Administration recommends the appointment of the individuals.
Previous Council Direction	None.
Report	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Fieldmen aid in the implementation of agricultural policies and programs as well as manage agricultural resources of a municipality. • Agricultural Fieldmen are designated municipal inspectors under the Alberta <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i> and the Alberta <i>Soil Conservation Act</i>. • Under the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, if a board is established, municipalities are responsible for ensuring that an Agricultural Fieldman is appointed to implement agricultural policies and programs. • Sturgeon County receives Agricultural Service Board Grant funds from the province to contribute to eligible Agricultural Service Board Programs if municipalities adhere to all requirements under the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>. • Failure to appoint an Agricultural Fieldman may result in failure to uphold the functions, duties and powers of the municipality under the Alberta <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i>, the Alberta <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> and the Alberta <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>. <p><u>Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:</u></p> <p>Under Section 8(1) of the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, if a council establishes a board, the council shall appoint a qualified person(s) as Agricultural Fieldman to implement agricultural policies and programs, manage agricultural resources of the municipality, and act as a designated officer under all Acts related to agriculture.</p>

<p>Implication of Administrative Recommendation</p>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u> This recommendation is consistent with multiple goals under each Focus area of the Sturgeon County Strategic Plan.</p> <p><u>Organizational:</u> Vegetation Management, Pest Control and Environmental Conservation are programs facilitated for county residents. Proactive and reactive Weed and Pest Control are key services within these programs.</p> <p>The appointment of Agricultural Fieldmen cross trained in the administration of the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i> and <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> allows the municipality to deliver services efficiently. They support the goals of the Agricultural Services Board and implement agricultural policies and programs to best serve Sturgeon County residents.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u> No impact.</p>
<p>Alternatives Considered</p>	<p>1. That Council refrain from appointing an Agricultural Fieldman required to administer the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i>, <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> and <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>.</p>
<p>Implications of Alternatives</p>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u> This recommendation is not consistent with the Sturgeon County Strategic Plan Focus Areas, specifically Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership</p> <p><u>Organizational:</u> If a municipality fails to appoint an Agricultural Fieldman, they would fail to uphold the legislative functions, duties and powers of the municipality under the Alberta <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Alberta Agricultural Pests Act</i>, <i>Alberta Soil Conservation Act</i>, and the <i>Alberta Agricultural Service Board Act</i>.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u> Should no Agricultural Fieldman be appointed, a loss in provincial grant funding would ensue due to noncompliance with the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>. The municipality may also incur penalties for not upholding its legislative responsibilities under the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i> and <i>Soil Conservation Act</i>.</p>
<p>Follow up Action</p>	<p>1. Issuance of Agricultural Fieldman Identification, as per the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i>, and <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> (Agriculture Services, May 2017).</p>

Attachment(s)	1. None.
Report Reviewed by:	 Angela Veenstra, Agriculture Services Manager  Ian McKay, P. Eng, GM Municipal Services  Rick Wojtkiw, Acting CAO

Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.

Mission: Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership			
<i>We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans, policies</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Considers fiscal stability and sustainability</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Has a positive impact on regional and sub-regional cooperation</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Respect the Natural Environment			
<i>We acknowledge the importance of a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations and/or legislation</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Ensure effective environmental risk management</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Community Identity & Spirit			
<i>We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan, (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Enhances service provision through community partnerships</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Supports Sturgeon County's cultural history</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planned Growth and Prosperity			
<i>We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Considers cumulative costs and long-term funding implications</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Targets growth around current or planned infrastructure</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities			
<i>We are committed to a safe, secure community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Positive impact on residents' quality of life</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Supports and promotes volunteer efforts</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Provides programs and services that are accessible to all residents</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operational Excellence			
<i>We have the organizational capability to deliver consistent and defined levels of service to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Staff have the knowledge, skills and capability to perform their jobs</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Streamlines operational processes and policies</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>