

Request for Decision

Title	Appointment of Agricultural Fieldmen
Proposed Motion	That Council appoint Angela Veenstra, Tara McGinn, Victoria Dubord, Bradley Belanger and Shelayne Hofman as Agricultural Fieldmen under the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i> .
Administrative Recommendation	That Council approve the proposed motion.
Previous Council Direction	<u>April 25, 2017- Motion 173/17:</u> That Council appoint Alyssa Hutchings and Victoria Dubord as Agricultural Fieldmen under the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i> .
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 <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i> and <i>Soil Conservation Act</i>. • If a board is established under the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, municipalities are responsible for ensuring that agricultural fieldmen are 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, under the condition that the County adheres to all requirements under the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>. • Failure to appoint agricultural fieldmen may result in failure to uphold the functions, duties, and powers of the municipality under the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i>, <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> and <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>. <p><u>External Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p><u>Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under Section 8(1) of the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, if a council establishes a board, the council must appoint a qualified person(s) as agricultural fieldmen to implement agricultural policies and programs,

	<p>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></p> <p>This recommendation is consistent with multiple goals under each Focus Area of the Sturgeon County Strategic Plan.</p> <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <p>Vegetation management, pest management, rural extension and environmental conservation are program areas within the Agriculture Services Department. Various services within each of these program areas are facilitated for the benefit of County residents and agricultural producers and to ensure Sturgeon County’s legislative responsibilities pertaining to agriculture are met. The functions of the Agricultural Service Board also require sufficient support.</p> <p>The appointment of multiple agricultural fieldmen to support agricultural program delivery and administration of the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i> and <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> allows the municipality to deliver efficient, uninterrupted service to its residents.</p> <p>All individuals recommended for appointment are currently employed by Sturgeon County and have an administrative and/or supervisory role within the County’s agricultural programs, many which are eligible for cost sharing under the Agricultural Service Board Grant.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>None.</p>
<p>Alternatives Considered</p>	<p>Council could choose not to appoint individuals as agricultural fieldmen as 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></p> <p>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></p> <p>If a municipality fails to appoint an agricultural fieldman, it would result in dissolution of the Agricultural Service Board and would fail to uphold the legislative functions, duties and powers of the municipality under the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pests Act</i>, <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> and the <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>Should no agricultural fieldmen be appointed, a loss in provincial grant funding would ensue due to non-compliance with the <i>Agricultural Service</i></p>

Board Act. The municipality may also incur penalties for not upholding its legislative responsibilities under the *Agricultural Service Board Act, Weed Control Act, Agricultural Pests Act* and *Soil Conservation Act*.

Follow up Action 1. Issuance of agricultural fieldman identification as per the *Weed Control Act, Agricultural Pests Act* and *Soil Conservation Act* (Agriculture Services, May 2019).

Attachment(s) None.

**Report Reviewed
by:**



Angela Veenstra, Manager, Agriculture Services



Scott MacDougall, GM Municipal Services



Collin Steffes, Acting County Commissioner - 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
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 and MDP pg. 36)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supports a strong thriving business environment to strengthen our economic foundation</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Plans for responsible growth through the MDP and regional growth plan.</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Manages growth for current and future developments through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>transparent bylaws, policies and processes to enable responsible land development</i> ○ <i>targeting growth around existing and identified future growth areas</i> </i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities			
<i>We are committed to a safe and viable community, where our residents are provided with access to opportunities and quality of life. (Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provides access to programs and services that have a 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>Provides access to safe and reliable infrastructure assets</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supports the safety of people and property</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Strong Local and Regional Governance			
<i>We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provides effective leadership and management consistent with Strategic Plan, MDP, master plans, bylaws, policies, community engagement</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>Fosters collaborative intergovernmental partnerships</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 and MDP pg. 27)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Support and/or collaborate with voluntary organizations in the region</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Stewardship			
<i>We foster a healthy environment and minimize our impact on ecosystems. (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 27)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Plans and partnerships that minimize environmental impact on natural areas</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provides awareness of environmental issues impacting the County</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>