Wainwright, Alberta
January 15th, 2026

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) of the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:00 am, January 15th, 2026.

Present: Acting Chairman – Councilor Shaun Rue
Farm Members – Jason Dahlgren, Colton Ukrainetz, and Bryan Skinner
Agricultural Fieldman – Shelby Oracheski
Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and ASB Secretary – Kaitlin Hirsekorn

Acting Chairman Clr. Rue called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

01/26 Moved by Colton Ukrainetz that the agenda be accepted as presented. CARRIED

02/26 Moved by Jason Dahlgren that the minutes from October 16th, 2025 be accepted as presented. CARRIED

Delegations: N/A

Correspondence was reviewed by the Agricultural Fieldman, Shelby Oracheski and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, Kaitlin Hirsekorn.

a) Heartland Training & Support Hub M.D. of Wainwright School Visits
b) Letter of Concern Farmer Pesticide Certificate Program and Updates to Compound 1080 Registration (Northern Sunrise County)
c) Letter of Continued Support for Unlimited On-Farm Slaughter Sales in Alberta (Northern Sunrise County)
d) Letter of Concern Regarding the Proposed Changes to the On-Farm Slaughter Operation License Program (Saddle Hills County)
e) Letter of Inquiry Regarding the Vacant Research Scientist Position at AAFC Lethbridge Research and Development Centre (M.D. of Ranchland)
f) Request for Provincial Exemption or Reinstatement of 2% Strychnine for Gopher Control (County of Two Hills)
g) Request for the Addition of Kochia as Noxious to Provincial Weed Regulation (M.D. of Smoky River)
h) 2025 Environmental Farm Plan Completions

The correspondence was taken as information.

The ASB agenda package included the October, November and December ASB monthly report.

Reports were taken as information.

Shelby Oracheski, Agricultural Fieldman and Kaitlin Hirsekorn, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented their report:

a) An extension programming update was provided. There are currently two events being advertised, and an additional three in development.
b) 2025 pest and disease survey results were reviewed.

03/26 Moved by Colton Ukrainetz that the reports be accepted as presented. CARRIED

An update was provided regarding the newly created Shelterbelt Establishment Program. The Program was launched the first week of January and is accepting applications.

An update was provided regarding the Battle River Research Group (BRRG) Partnership. The one-year pilot partnership agreement was executed for January 1st. The Board discussed webinar topics.

The Northern Alberta Farm Family Award program has been taken over and relaunched by the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS). The ASB requested clarification if a family can be nominated annually by the MD if the MD sponsors their attendance as the Municipal Farm Family Award is presented annually.

Rural Routes 2026 was discussed.

04/26 Moved by Colton Ukrainetz that the ASB recommends to Council that Rural Routes be hosted in Wainwright on a weeknight in late July. CARRIED

05/26 Moved by Bryan Skinner that the ASB recommends to Council that a 125-year Farm Family Award be developed. CARRIED

The ASB took a break from 10:22am-10:34am.

The ASB reviewed the Provincial ASB Resolutions in preparation of the upcoming Provincial ASB Conference.

A brief overview of the 2026 budget was completed. An in-depth review will be conducted at the next ASB meeting.

Upcoming events for the ASB are the Provincial ASB Conference hosted by the Northeast Region in Edmonton on January 20-22, 2026.

The ASB Summer Tour is returning and will be hosted by Wheatland County July 14- 16, 2026.

The next ASB Meeting will be held on February 24, 2026 at 9:00am in the Council Chambers.

06/26 Moved by Colton Ukrainetz that the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED

Councilor Rue adjourned the meeting at 12:05pm.

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Acting Chairman – Councillor Shaun Rue

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Secretary – Kaitlin Hirsekorn