

RESOLUTION 6-22
AMENDMENTS TO THE ASB CONFERENCE RESOLUTION
RULES OF PROCEDURE

WHEREAS: Resolutions are crucial to Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards' advocacy efforts;

WHEREAS: Effective resolution advocacy relies on strongly-worded resolutions providing clear and concise direction as to the issue and preferred solution;

WHEREAS: Resolutions allow Agricultural Service Boards to bring forward issues that require action by other levels of government and direct the advocacy process;

WHEREAS: Resolutions are reviewed by the Regional Resolution Committee prior to the Regional Conference and reviewed by the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee prior to the Provincial Conference;

WHEREAS: The Regional Resolution Committee membership consists of a different member structure than the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee;

WHEREAS: The Agricultural Service Board Regional and Provincial Committee do not have the authority to require changes, aside from grammar, without the approval of the sponsoring municipality;

WHEREAS: The Agricultural Service Board Regional and Provincial Committee do not have the authority to identify when a resolution duplicates an issue already addressed through a previous resolution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee bring forward amendments to the Regional and Provincial ASB Conference Rules of Procedure for consistent ASB member representation, and to facilitate greater oversight of the review of resolutions, with the objectives to clarify the content within resolutions and reduce resolution duplication in consultation with the sponsoring municipality.

SPONSORED BY: Mountain View County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee

BACKGROUND

Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) provide a voice for agricultural producers in Alberta, highlighting the importance and assertion of the issues affecting the industry. Historically, rural municipalities have deemed agriculture to be important enough to require separate regional and provincial conferences, increasing the profile of ASBs. The primary purpose of the Provincial ASB Conference is to bring forward issues to make suggestions or recommendations for future action to bring about desired change through resolutions. It is essential that resolutions articulate the issue clearly for members to vote and for a response from the designated ministries. During a resolution session, discussion can be side-tracked or confused due to the lack of clarity and uncertainty created by having resolutions on the same topic during the voting process or numerous minor amendments. This inevitably dilutes the messaging and direction of the resolution and the overall efficiency of the resolutions process.

To ensure an orderly resolution session at either the Regional or Provincial ASB Conference it is requested the ASB Provincial Committee amend the Rules of Procedure for both regional and provincial resolutions to allow for the Committees to have greater oversight in the resolution process, specifically granting them authority to clarify the content within the resolution, consolidate resolutions on the same or similar topic or intent and divide resolutions with multiple unrelated proposals for action. As well, be able to address resolutions that duplicate an issue already addressed through a previous resolution. This would be alignment with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Resolution Process Policy that identifies the authority of RMA and Resolution Committee.

The structure of the Regional Resolution Committee differs from the Provincial Resolution Committee membership. The Regional Resolution Committee has more administrative members than ASB members. The Regional Resolution Committee consist of the Provincial ASB Committee representative for that region, the hosting municipality's Agricultural Fieldmen, a member of their ASB, the Regional Director of the Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen (AAAF) and the ASB Grant Program Manager representing Agriculture and Forestry. The Provincial Resolution Committee consist of 5 Agricultural Service Board members representing their region, Director or executive member of Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), First Vice President of the AAAF, ASB Grant Program Manager representing Agriculture and Forestry and the ASB Provincial Committee Executive Assistant.

Applicable Policies:

RMA Governance Policy GOV-04: RMA Resolution Process:
<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/GOV-04-RMA-Resolutions-Process.pdf>

Regional Agricultural Service Board Conference Resolutions Rules of Procedure
<https://provincialagriculturalserviceboardcommittee.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/2021-jan-21-regional-rules-of-procedure-final.pdf>

Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Resolutions Rules of Procedure
<https://provincialagriculturalserviceboardcommittee.files.wordpress.com/2021/04/2021-jan-21-provincial-rules-and-procedure-final.pdf>