



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

MINUTES of a **REGULAR** meeting of the **REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE** held in the Board Room at the Regional District Office on Thursday, February 21, 2013

Members:	Director S. Fowler	City of Armstrong
	Director H. Cyr	City of Enderby
	Director P. Nicol	City of Vernon
	Director B. Fleming	Electoral Area "B"
	Director M. Macnabb	Electoral Area "C"
	Alt. Director C. Fraser	Township of Spallumcheen
	Councillor Maria Besso	District of Coldstream
	Mike Randell	Agricultural Producer
	Dennis Lapierre	Agricultural Producer
	Ian Eggen	Agricultural Producer
	Peter Stockdale	Agricultural Producer
	Ralph van Daltsen	Agricultural Producer
	Tom Boeve	Agricultural Producer
	Susan Van den Tillaart	Agricultural Commodity – Alternate
	Doug Gordon	Young Farmers
	Joel Allen	Farmers Market
	Wendy Aasen	Member at Large
	Bruce Naka	Member at Large
Staff:	R. Smailes	General Manager, Planning and Building
	A. Kittel	Regional Growth Strategy Coordinator
	A. Bevan	Executive Assistant (taking minutes)
Others:	Director J. Pearase	Electoral Area "F"
	Ken McAra	Ministry of Agriculture
	Member of the Public	

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The General Manager, Planning and Building called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The General Manager, Planning and Building thanked everyone for attending the first Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting and gave a brief introduction of the agenda. Roundtable introductions ensued.

ELECTION OF REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR

The General Manager, Planning and Building called three times for nominations for the office of Chair of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Alt. Director Fraser nominated Director Fowler. Director Fowler declined.

Director Fowler nominated Director Macnabb. Director Macnabb accepted.

There being no further nominations, Director Macnabb was declared elected, by acclamation, as Chair of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee.

ELECTION OF REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR

The General Manager, Planning and Building called three times for nominations for the office of Vice Chair of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Councillor Besso nominated Director Fleming. Director Fleming accepted.

Director Fleming nominated Bruce Naka. Bruce Naka accepted.

Voting by secret ballot was conducted. Bruce Naka was declared elected as Vice Chair of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved and seconded by Director Fleming and Councillor Besso
That the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting – February 21, 2013

Moved and seconded by Director Cyr and Ian Eggen
That the agenda of the February 21, 2013 regular meeting of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee be approved with the following additions:

- B.2 – Presentation by Ken McAra with the Ministry of Agriculture
- B.7 – Upcoming Events in the Community – Wendy Aasen

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee Overview

Presentation by Regional Growth Strategy Coordinator

- Agricultural Advisory Committees in British Columbia
- Agricultural Land Reserve
- North Okanagan Context
- Agricultural Advisory Committee Purpose and Mandate
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Conflict of Interest
- Regional Growth Strategy and Agriculture

Presentation by Ken McAra

- Role of Ministry of Agriculture in Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Strengthening Farming Program

Discussion ensued regarding farm bylaws.

Terms of Reference – Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee

- Discussion ensued regarding the terms of reference as well as sustainability being a part of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee.
- Suggestion to have an alternate fruit grower representative in the event that the appointed representative is unable to attend.

Moved and seconded by Directors Cyr and Fleming

That the Terms of Reference for the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee dated February 8, 2013 be received for information.

CARRIED

Membership List – Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee

The membership list was distributed to the committee members.

Central BC Agricultural Advisory Committee Workshop

- Bruce Naka, Director Fleming, and Director Nicol to attend
- Interested parties are encouraged to contact Rob Smailes, General Manager, Planning and Building.

Moved and seconded by Bruce Naka and Dennis Lapierre

That the letter dated January 4, 2013 from the Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture regarding a Central BC Agricultural Advisory Committee Workshop be received for information.

CARRIED

Items referred to Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee

Discussion ensued regarding:

- conflicts of interest
- items previously referred to the committee for inclusion on the March agenda.

Moved and seconded by Director Cyr and Tom Boeve

That the staff memorandum dated February 7, 2013 regarding items referred to the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee be received for information and that the items be placed on the March Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda for discussion.

CARRIED

Upcoming Events in the Community – Wendy Aasen

Certified Organic Association of BC is holding their annual conference the weekend of February 22-24, 2013 in Vernon at the Prestige Inn.

Meet Your Maker Okanagan is being held March 6, 2013 in West Kelowna.

REPORTS

General discussion ensued on what committee members are looking to accomplish from being part of the committee.

- relationship between biodiversity and agriculture
- legislative boundaries, Water Act modernization
- education, basis of soils/seeds
- accomplish and complete projects
- action planning
- buying local
- assessments for farms
- brainstorming session for local agriculturalists for “buying local”
- food capacity building
- young farmers – how do we do it?
- climate change
- suggestion for a tour for members on producers farms

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Certified Correct:



Chair



Corporate Officer

JEANNE BYRON
CORPORATE OFFICER