



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, August 22, 2013

Members:	Bruce Naka Director S. Fowler Councillor M. Besso Alt. Director C. Fraser Alt. Director S. Ghattas Director R. Fairbairn Mike Randell Dennis Lapierre Joel Allen Ian Eggen Tom Boeve Peter Stockdale Ralph van Daltsen Wendy Aasen Doug Gordon	Member at Large City of Armstrong District of Coldstream Township of Spallumcheen Electoral Area "B" Electoral Area "D" Agricultural Producer Agricultural Producer Agricultural Producer Agricultural Producer Agricultural Producer Agricultural Producer Agricultural Producer Agricultural Producer Member at Large Young Farmer	Vice Chair
Staff:	R. Smailes A. Kittel J. deGroot	General Manager, Planning and Building Regional Growth Strategy Coordinator Executive Assistant (Temp.) (taking minutes)	

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting – August 22, 2013

Moved and seconded by Councillor Besso and Ralph van Daltsen
That the agenda of the August 22, 2013 regular meeting of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee be approved with the following additions:

- Item C.10 - Meeting date for September; and
- Item C.11 - Meat Regulations

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting – May 16, 2013

Moved and seconded by Alt. Director Fraser and Councillor Besso
That the minutes of the May 16, 2013 regular meeting of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Medical Marihuana and the Agricultural Land Reserve

The General Manager, Planning and Building provided a verbal update in regards to changes in Federal legislation regarding medical marihuana.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- requirements of the new regulations;
- Building Permitting requirements;
- where these operations will be permitted under zoning; and,
- what other jurisdictions are doing.

Moved and seconded by Alt. Director Fraser and Ian Eggan

That it be recommend to the Board of Directors Building Permits be required for all medical marihuana facilities even in areas where Authorization to Construct is permitted.

CARRIED

Opposed: Director Fairbairn and Doug Gordon

Moved and seconded by Alt. Director Fraser and Director Fairbairn

That the report dated July 25, 2013 from the Regional Growth Strategy Coordinator regarding Medical Marihuana and the Agricultural Land Reserve be received for information.

CARRIED

Agricultural Land Commission Application LAROCQUE, D. & G. [File No. 13-0249-D-ALR]

- Application for inclusion into the Agricultural Land Reserve at 83 McQuinna Road.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the reasons for the application;
- the amount of water required for this kind of use;
- production of other pharmaceuticals on ALR lands;
- construction of buildings on ALR lands.

Comments:

The Committee raised the following concerns:

- The effects on properties downstream if the application proposes to use creek water;
- Is there a means to ensure the land is converted back to agricultural use once the facility is no longer operating or the licence is revoked (ie//security)?

Agricultural Land Commission Application SCHALIN, J. c/o W. E. MADDOX [File No. 13-0274-F-ALR]

- Application for a subdivision within the ALR at 2843 Enderby Mabel Lake Road

Discussion regarding

- The requirements for home site severance applications.

Comments:

- No concerns were noted regarding the proposed homesite severance.

Moved and Seconded by Mike Randell and Tom Boeve

That the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee support the homesite severance application of J. Schalin c/o W.E Maddox and that it be recommended to the Board of Directors the application be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission.

CARRIED

Regional Agricultural Area Plan Terms of Reference

Moved and seconded by Director Fairbairn and Councillor Besso

That the report dated July 24, 2013 from the Regional Growth Strategy Coordinator regarding the Regional Agricultural Area Plan Terms of Reference be received for information.

CARRIED

Regional Agricultural Area Plan Referral Comments from the Township of Spallumcheen

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- making the wording of the plan attainable and logical;
- consulting with many different kinds of agricultural producers;
- the benefits of a land inventory to farms; and,
- the opportunities on the Regional level to create and meet attainable goals.

Moved and seconded by Councillor Besso and Mike Randell

That the letter dated July 18, 2013 from the Township of Spallumcheen regarding the Regional Agricultural Area Plan be received for information.

CARRIED

Buy Local BC Initiative

Moved and Seconded by Councillor Besso and Alt. Director Ghattas

That Shayne Wright be invited to future meeting of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee to present on the Buy Local Initiative.

CARRIED

Opposed: Alt. Director Fraser, Ralph van Dalfson and Tom Boeve

Silver Hills Ranch Biodiversity Tour and Social

Moved and seconded by Director Fairbairn and Doug Gordon

That the letter received on July 30, 2013 from Silver Hills Ranch regarding the sixth annual Silver Hills Ranch Biodiversity Tour and Social be received for information.

CARRIED

Letters Received regarding Genetically Modified Organisms

Moved and seconded by Director Fowler and Wendy Aasen

That the letter dated June 13, 2013 from the Okanagan Specialty Fruits regarding Genetically Modified Organisms be received for information.

CARRIED

Moved and seconded by Directors Fowler and Wendy Aasen

That the letter dated July 15, 2013 from the Council of Canadians regarding Genetically Modified Organisms be received for information.

CARRIED

Bylaw 2603 – Electoral Areas “D” and “E” Official Community Plan Amendment [Genetically Modified Organisms]

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- difference between genetically modified, genetically engineered and transgened crops;
- definitions that are clear and say what we want;
- including a reference to food supply;
- labels for modified and engineered foods;
- the objectives of an OCP;
- changing the recommendation to a positive objectives rather than negative;
- improvements and amendments to accommodate everyone’s interests;
- could we change this to encourage farmers to label what is not a GMO;
- is this a precedence for the other electoral areas?;
- how does this effect other growers;
- loop holes in being genetically modified or not;
- the public’s feelings on niche markets; and,
- contamination risks.

Move and seconded by Director Fairbairn and Ian Eggan

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors Electoral Areas “D” and “E” Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2603 be amended to not include Policy 4.2.21

DEFERRED

Move and seconded by Councillor Besso and Ian Eggan

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors Electoral Areas “D” and “E” Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2603 be amended to amend Policy 4.2.20 to a positive statement.

CARRIED

September Meeting

Due to a conflict with the UBCM Convention, the September meeting date will be changed. The meeting date was changed to September 11, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. to accommodate a presenter from CropLife and the conflict with UBCM.

Meat Regulations

Director Fairbairn spoke in regards to Meat Regulation and the upcoming UBCM Convention. Discussion on this topic will be scheduled for the next meeting.

Kelowna Railway

Moved and seconded by Councillor Besso and Alt. Director Ghattas

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors a letter be sent to CN Railway to encourage them to take over the sections of rail affected by the Kelowna Pacific Railway bankruptcy, and keep them operational, as they form part of an important transportation corridor for agriculture and many other industries.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Certified Correct:



Chair



Corporate Officer

