



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, November 21, 2013

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

The Chair introduced and welcomed the new representative from the Ministry of Agriculture.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting – November 21, 2013

Moved and seconded by Director Fleming and Councillor M. Besso

That the agenda of the November 21, 2013 regular meeting of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee be approved with the following additions:

- Item C.6 – Restricted Farm Losses; and,
- Item C.7 – December Meeting Date

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting – October 17, 2013

Moved and seconded by Councillor M. Besso and Director Fleming

That the minutes of the October 17, 2013 regular meeting of the Regional Agricultural Advisory Committee be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Agricultural Land Commission Application MERTION, Klayton [File No. 13-0395-C-ALR]

Wendy Aasen entered the meeting.
Director Fowler left the meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Agricultural potential of the properties prior to the extraction, rather than following extraction;
- There is no statutory ability for the Regional District to require security for remediation of the properties following the extraction;
- An agrologist report or reclamation plan have not been submitted by the applicant;
- Zoning requirements;
- Affects on hydrology and wells on adjacent properties;
- Affects on riparian areas;
- Reasons given for the extraction (build a homesite);
- Proposed future uses of the properties; and
- Soil classifications.

Comments:

- There appears to be no agricultural justification of the improvements to agriculture or the potential for agriculture;
- There may be impacts to the agricultural use of neighbouring properties;
- Potential for agriculture hinges on reclamation, a report is necessary;
- An agrologist report would be beneficial to provide more information and give an indication of the agricultural potential; and
- The agricultural potential of the property was questioned due to its size and soil classifications.

Moved and seconded by Alt. Director Fraser and Ralph van Daltsen

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors it be requested the Agricultural Land Commission ask for financial security for reclamation to be completed and the applicant provide an agrologist report and a geotechnical hydrological report.

CARRIED

Agricultural Land Commission Application CAMPBELL, Dean & Laura [File No. 13-0063-D-ALR]

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- The property has little area with farming potential;
- Upgrading an existing older residence (mobile);
- Intent of the manufactured home versus permanent modular home;
- Size of the proposed modular;
- 'Home plate' issue;
- Options of the Board with the application; and,
- Water servicing requirements for the Building Permit application.

Comments:

- Consensus that the application has little or no negative impacts on agriculture; and,
- Support for authorizing the Building Inspector to accept a Building Permit application.

Agricultural Land Commission Application
NASON, Robert & Samantha c/o W.E. Maddox [File No. 13-0410-D-ALR]

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- The level of activity on Albers Road;
- A boundary adjustment with the property to the north would make sense for agricultural purposes;
- Use of productive farm land by constructing buildings or dwellings on the proposed lot;
- No reasons for the proposed subdivision have been provided; and,
- Other previous subdivisions in the area.

Comments:

- Proposed subdivision may reduce agricultural potential; and,
- Proposal shows no benefit to agriculture.

Core Review – Agricultural Land Commission

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Pressures from political parties;
- Influence and interference from Ministries;
- Delegation from the Chair of the Agricultural Land Commission; and,
- Lending support to the Agricultural Land Commission

Moved and seconded by Director Fleming and Mike Randell

That the letter dated October 28, 2013 from the City of Salmon Arm regarding the Agricultural Land Commission review be received for information.

CARRIED

Moved and seconded by Director Fleming and Ian Eggen

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors a letter be sent to the Minister of Agriculture indicating the Board's strong support of the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) and the ALC's independence as the ALC is vital to the preservation of agricultural land and sustainability of agriculture in British Columbia.

CARRIED

Agricultural Land Commission: Message from the Chair: An Update

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Issues surrounding the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC); and,
- The role of the ALC.

Moved and seconded by Ian Eggen and Bruce Naka

That the update report dated October 4, 2013 from the Chair of the Agricultural Land Commission be received for information.

CARRIED

Restricted Farm Losses

Moved and seconded by Dennis Lapierre and Director Fleming

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors the recommendation of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture that the comprehensive income test outlined in Canada v. Craig be maintained to ensure that small, innovative operations continue to provide the next generation of Canadian farmers be supported.

CARRIED

December Meeting Date

The December meeting date is confirmed for December 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Certified Correct:



Chair



Corporate Officer