



**ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES (ALUS)
PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING**

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

**Next Scheduled Meeting:
TBD**

**BRAZEAU COUNTY
ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES (ALUS)
PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)**

DATE: December 10, 2019

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Brazeau County Administration Building, Drayton Valley, AB
EOC Meeting Room

	1.	Call to Order	Corbyn Pankonin
	2.	Introductions	All
	3.	Additions to the Agenda	All
Pg. 1	4.	Adoption of the Agenda	All
	5.	Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson	Corbyn Pankonin
Pg. 2-6	6.	Adoption of the October 3, 2019 Minutes	All
	7.	Business Arising	All
	8.	ALUS Orientation	
		a) ALUS Canada	Christine Campbell
		b) ALUS Brazeau	Corbyn Pankonin
		c) External Agencies (verbal)	External Agencies
	9.	ALUS by the Numbers	Corbyn Pankonin
Pg. 7		a) Year to Date	
Pg. 8		b) 2020 Projections	
	10.	2020 Promotions	Corbyn Pankonin
	11.	ALUS Conferences and Field Days	Corbyn Pankonin
Pg. 9-10	12.	Project Updates	Corbyn Pankonin
	13.	Administrative Matters	
Pg. 11		a) Proposed 2020 ALUS PAC Meeting Schedule	Chairperson
		b) Expense Claim Reminder	
	14.	Adjournment	Chairperson

MINUTES OF THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES (ALUS) PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC), HELD IN THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EOC MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019.

CALL TO ORDER D. Movald, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE Duane Movald, Chairperson & Member-at-Large
Henry Hughes, Member-at-Large
Allan Goddard, Member-at-Large
James Coombes, Member-at-Large
Jessica Watson, West-Central Forage Association
Tonya Lwiwski, Cows & Fish
Kara Westerlund, Councillor
Dawnia McCann, Manager of Agricultural Services
Corbyn Pankonin, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman / ALUS Coordinator
Nancy Chambers, Recording Secretary

ABSENT Christine Campbell, ALUS Canada Western Hub Manager
Laina Wentland, Member-at-Large
Candace Vanin, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Mary Ellen Shain, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE None

INTRODUCTIONS PAC Members and Administration introduced themselves.

ADDITIONS AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA **032-19** Moved by T. Lwiwski to adopt the agenda with the following addition:
9c) 19E-006

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES **033-19** Moved by A. Goddard to adopt the minutes of the August 15, 2019 ALUS PAC meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING None

ALUS BY THE NUMBERS C. Pankonin presented the ALUS by the Numbers report.

034-19 Moved by H. Hughes to receive the ALUS by the Numbers report for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

M.E. Shain joined the meeting via conference call at 9:11 a.m.

**DECLARATION OF
CONFLICTS OF
INTEREST**

D. Movald reminded PAC members if there are any conflicts of interest, they must be declared before proceeding to the discussion of the projects.

**PROJECT
PROPOSAL**

a) File: 19E-003

File 19E-003 was brought back to the PAC after being tabled August 15, 2019. With new information, C. Pankonin presented file 19E-003 proposing project #1 for fencing of approximately 1101.28 m for wetland restoration and project #2 for tree planting on approximately 16.11 acres combined. C. Pankonin noted the project is not within the Modeste Sub-Watershed, so funds would have to come from ALUS Brazeau.

Members discussed the payment rate being based on the current land type. Members also discussed that the applicant will be responsible for the perimeter fencing on the East side of the project area. Members discussed the timing of the fencing being installed now, given that fact that cattle are not currently on the lands. However, the fencing will ensure the land is protected and will also demonstrate buy-in to the project by the producer.

Price estimates for tree planting are for the plants only. Labour would come from the participants. It was suggested that consultation with AWES and the ALUS Coordinator, to determine the optimal tree species and planning, would be beneficial.

035-19 Moved by A. Goddard that the PAC approve a 50% cost-share for the exclusion fencing establishment costs, as well as annual payment at the cropland rate of \$50 per acre for the project area (16.11 acres) for Project 1, File 19E-003.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Members asked if plants would be planted around the perimeter or all through the project area. Consultation with the participants would be required to determine their preference.

036-19 Moved by J. Coombes that the PAC approve a 50% cost-share for the planting costs with a maximum of \$1820.43 payable to the producer for Project 2, File 19E-003.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Members discussed ensuring participants have farm tax status by having them filling out that portion on the EOI.

b) File 19E-004

C. Pankonin presented file 19E-004 proposing project #1 for fencing of approximately 745.31 m for wetland exclusion and project #2 for tree planting on approximately 9.4 acres.

037-19 Moved by A. Goddard that the PAC approve a 50% cost-share for the exclusion fencing establishment costs, and a 50% cost-share for site prep costs, as well as annual payment at the pasture rate of \$37.50 per acre for the area contained within the exclusion area (8.31 acres), and annual payment at the existing permanent wetland rate of \$20 per acre for the waterbody area contained within the exclusion fencing (1.09 acres) for Project 1, File 19E-004.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. McCann left the meeting at 9:56 a.m. and returned at 9:58 a.m.

Members discussed using species of trees and shrubs that do not shed a lot of leaves so that leaf litter does not clog the water.

038-19 Moved by J. Watson that the PAC approve a 50% cost-share for the tree planting costs with a maximum of \$225 payable to the producer for Project 2, File 19E-004.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) File 19E-006

C. Pankonin presented file 19E-006 proposing project #1 for pollinator/wildlife habitat on approximately 3.15 acres. The hen house portion of the project would need to be completed by December 1, 2019 in order to qualify for WRRP funding. The remainder of the project for planting would be funded by ALUS Brazeau and therefore could be completed in the spring of 2020.

M. E. Shain left the conference call at 10:09 a.m.

Members asked about ensuring that flower mixes do not have any noxious weeds in the seeds. With the recommendation of plugs, it is more accurate

to know what is being planted and there is also a better chance for success with plugs rather than seeds.

J. Coombes left the meeting at 10:12 a.m. and returned at 10:19 a.m.

D. Movald called for a break at 10:14 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:19 a.m. and M.E. Shain re-joined the conference call.

Members noted the description title on page 3 of the addition to the agenda should be "Project 1 - Habitat Creation" rather than "Project 1 - Fencing".

Members discussed the proposed annual payment rate and differentiating between cropland and hayland. In general, the cropland rate is for annual cultivated crops, while hayland and pasture is in constant vegetative cover over the year so the pasture rate would apply to hayland. The highest increase of ecosystem services happens with a project that is in cropland because it is not in permanent cover all year long so the land use change is so different.

With no fenceline, members asked about the delineation of the project. It was suggested to stake out the area. An ALUS sign could be used along the road on the southern tip of the project area. Members asked about adding shrubs as pollinator habitat. There is currently quite a bit of bush already, but an eco-buffer could be used along the perimeter of the existing bush. Consultation with AWES could be looked at for the eco-buffer if the participants were interested. The cost of the project might increase with the introduction of an eco-buffer.

Members discussed adding some site prep costs and costs for an eco-buffer and suggested bumping up the cost estimate to \$1500 and for the ALUS coordinator to bring the suggestion of an eco-buffer to the participants.

039-19 Moved by H. Hughes that the PAC approve a 50% cost-share for the pollinator/wildlife habitat establishment costs with a maximum of \$750 payable to the producer, as well as annual payment at the pasture rate of \$37.50 per acre for the area contained within the exclusion area (3.15 acres) for Project 1, File 19E-006.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PROJECT UPDATES

C. Pankonin reviewed the project updates for files 18E-003, 18E-004, 18E-005, 19E-001 and 19E-002.

040-19 Moved by A. Goddard to accept the Project Updates Report for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CITIZEN
APPOINTMENTS**

D. McCann reminded members to submit applications for citizen appointments by October 11, 2019 if they are interested in being on the ALUS PAC for another term. D. McCann initiated discussion on the possibility of asking Council to appoint the ALUS PAC for a two-year term rather than a one-year term. K. Westerlund will check if a board can be appointed for more than one year.

041-19 Moved by K. Westerlund to direct administration to prepare a report to Council asking for a two-year appointment for ALUS PAC members, subject to meeting MGA requirements.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATIVE
MATTERS**

a) 2019 Meeting Schedule

Administration is away on December 5, 2019.

042-19 Moved by J. Coombes to reschedule the December 5, 2019 meeting to November 28, 2019.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Expense Claims

D. Movald reminded members to submit their Expense Claims at the conclusion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

043-19 Moved by A. Goddard to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Duane Movald
Chairperson

Corbyn Pankonin
ALUS Coordinator

ALUS By the Numbers - as of December 10, 2019

	TOTALS to end of 2018	TOTALS for 2019 to Date	GRAND TOTALS
Total number of contracts signed	9	4	13
Number of projects approved	16	12	28
Acres enrolled under contract	285.01	106.09	391.10

EXTERNAL FUNDERS (GRANTS RECEIVED)

2015 - Weston	\$ 2,000.00
2015 - NCP	\$ 5,000.00
2017 - Bissett	\$ 18,800.00
2017 - Weston	\$ 10,000.00
2018 - WRRP	\$ 20,000.00
2019 - WRRP (projected)	\$ 19,250.00
Total External Funds Received	\$ 75,050.00

FUNDS PAID OUT BY BRAZEAU (from funders & Brazeau ALUS)

Establishment costs paid to date	\$ 23,993.54
2017 Annual payments paid out	\$ 2,900.75
2018 Annual payments paid out	\$ 8,531.44
2019 Annual payments paid out	\$ 10,343.00
Total Paid Out By Brazeau	\$ 45,768.73

FUNDING PAID BY OTHERS

16E-005 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 15,375.00
16E-006 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 18,689.16
16E-007 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 2,500.00
16E-007 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 17,583.60
16E-009 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 14,504.00
16E-010 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 12,278.00
16E-011 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 11,354.00
Total Funding Paid by Others	\$ 92,283.76

COMMITTED FUNDS **

Establishment costs	\$ 19,063.12
2019 Annual payments	\$ 1,559.71
2020 Annual payments	\$ 13,547.70
2021 Annual payments	\$ 13,547.70
2022 Annual payments	\$ 10,646.99
2023 Annual payments	\$ 4,985.58
2024 Annual payments	\$ 1,631.87
Total Committed Funds	\$ 64,982.67

** as approved by PAC

2020 Projections

	BASIC	MODERATE	AMBITIOUS	Notes/Comments
Admin Costs (including outreach, comms, salaries, etc.)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Our admin requirements are minimal as all admin costs are paid by the municipality, so we are asking just \$5000 for the ALUS membership fee.
Project Costs (establishment costs, annual payments)	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	Not anticipating any grant funding from other sources, so we would be required to fund the full amount with this ALUS money and make up the balance with Brazeau money.
TOTAL Funding Ask for NEW ACRES	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	
EcoType	Acre Projections (#)	Acre Projections (#)	Acre Projections (#)	
Grassland	30	40	60	
Modified Agricultural Practice	20	20	30	
Tree and Shrubs	40	70	85	
Waterbody	10	20	25	
TOTAL NEW ACRES	100	150	200	

Basic: Program necessities are met (salary, verification, membership fee, per diems). Project acres would be below average for your community (would need to create a wait list of participants) Outreach and communications activities (sign printing/install etc) would be minimal or not happen at all. No budget for extension services.

Moderate: Program necessities are met, project acres would be average to slightly above average for your community (you could complete all EOI's you have received to date, with one or two more anticipated). Some budget for outreach and communications activities. Would have some extension services, but not an ideal amount.

Ambitious: Program necessities are met, project acres would be well above average for your community, you could complete all EOI's you have, and all those you anticipate to receive in 2019. Full budget for multiple outreach events and communications activities. Ideal budget for

Project Updates – as of December 10, 2019

19E-001

Project 1 – Riparian/Creek Exclusion Fencing (916.17 m and approximately 25.37 acres)

Project 2 – Tree Planting for Bank Stabilization

Project 3 – Shelterbelt Tree Planting

Completed:

- ✓ Approved by PAC June 5, 2019
- ✓ Contract signed June 24, 2019
- ✓ Project 1 - Fence installed by producer in the summer of 2018
- ✓ Project 3 - Shelterbelt tree planting completed in October of 2019
- ✓ Establishment costs paid to producer for projects 1 & 3

To Do:

- Project 2 - Producer to complete tree planting for bank stabilization
- ALUS Coordinator to do final inspection
- Update map with tree planting for project 2
- Verify receipts and make payment for project 2 establishment costs to producer
- Amend contract with Schedule B (payments) & Schedule C (final map)

19E-002

Project 1 – Riparian/Creek Exclusion Fencing (approximately 1619.8 m and 11.44 acres)

Completed:

- ✓ Approved by PAC June 5, 2019

To Do:

- Producer to determine if they will proceed with project

19E-003

Project 1 – Wetland Restoration Fencing (approximately 1101.28 m and 16.11 acres)

Project 2 – Tree Planting

Completed:

- ✓ Approved by PAC October 3, 2019

To Do:

- Producer to determine if they will proceed with project

19E-004

Project 1 – Wetland Exclusion Fencing (approximately 745.31 m and 9.4 acres)

Project 2 – Tree Planting

Completed:

- ✓ Approved by PAC October 3, 2019

To Do:

- Producer to determine if they will proceed with project

19E-006

Project 1 – Pollinator/Wildlife Habitat (approximately 3.15 acres)

Completed:

- ✓ Approved by PAC October 3, 2019

Upon further investigation it was determined the producer did not have farm tax status and is therefore not eligible for the ALUS program.

File closed.

BRAZEAU COUNTY
2020 ALUS PAC Meeting Schedule

February 6, 2020

April 2, 2020

June 4, 2020

August 6, 2020

October 1, 2020

December 3, 2020

DRAFT