



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

**Thursday, September 6, 2018**

**Next Scheduled Meeting:  
Thursday, November 1, 2018**

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

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**DATE:** September 6, 2018

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

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

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|-----|-----------|--|-------------|
| 1.  | 9:00 am   | Call to Order  | Chairperson |
| 2.  |           | Introductions  | All         |
| 3.  |           | Additions to the Agenda  | All         |
| 4.  |           | Adoption of the Agenda   | All         |
| 5.  | Pg. 1-5   | Adoption of the Minutes<br>a) Adoption of June 7, 2018 minutes             | All         |
| 6.  | Pg. 6     | Business Arising<br>a) Review & Adoption of 2018 ALUS PAC Meeting Schedule | All         |
| 7.  |           | Investment Framework for Environmental Resources (INFFER) Final Report     | Warren Noga |
| 8.  | Pg. 7     | Parking Lot Items  | All         |
| 9.  |           | Labour Rate Cap (verbal)   | Warren Noga |
| 10. | Pg. 8-9   | Interim Agreement & Time Frame for Entering Into Contracts                 | Warren Noga |
| 11. |           | Declaration of Conflicts of Interest                                       | All         |
| 12. | Pg. 10-12 | Project Updates<br>a) 18E-001 (verbal)<br>b) 16E-008                       | Warren Noga |
| 13. | Pg. 13    | ALUS by the Numbers  | Warren Noga |
| 14. |           | Administrative Matters<br>a) Expense Claims – Review Honoraria & Mileage   | Chairperson |
| 15. |           | Adjournment  | Chairperson |

**MINUTES OF THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES (ALUS) PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC), HELD IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EOC MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018.**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Sara Wheale, Councillor  
Graham Kathol, Member-at-Large  
Henry Hughes, Member-at-Large  
Duane Movald, Member-at-Large  
Laina Wentland, Member-at-Large  
Jessica Watson, West-Central Forage Association  
Mary Ellen Shain, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance  
Warren Noga, Acting Assistant Agricultural Fieldman  
Tamara London, Recording Secretary

**CONFERENCE CALL**

Christine Campbell, ALUS Hub Manager (West)

**ABSENT**

Candace Vanin, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada  
Kerri O'Shaughnessy, Cows & Fish  
Allan Goddard, Member-at-Large

**GUESTS**

none

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

none

**CALL TO ORDER**

D. Movald, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Partnership Advisory Committee members, guests and Administration introduced themselves.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

none

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**014-18** Moved by S. Wheale to approve the agenda as presented.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**015-18** Moved by L. Wentland to adopt the minutes of the April 5, 2018 ALUS PAC meeting as presented.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**BUSINESS ARISING**

**016-18** Moved by S. Wheale to accept the 2018 PAC meeting schedule for information.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## TRANSITION DISCUSSION

W. Noga informed the PAC that the ALUS program has been moved from Planning and Development to Agricultural Services. Agricultural Services is currently hiring an Agricultural Technician to help administer the ALUS program.

H. Hughes asked if B. Misener forwarded information that the PAC was working on. W. Noga responded that he did have several emails forwarded that he will be looking at more closely.

The PAC noted that in previous meeting minutes they have notes about "parking lot" items that the PAC is working on.

**017-18** Moved by H. Hughes to accept W. Noga's report regarding ALUS program transition for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## AWES CONFERENCE

**018-18** Moved by G. Kathol approve funding for PAC members to attend the AWES conference on July 19, 20, 2018.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 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. No conflicts of interest were noted.

## PROJECTS

**11) PROPOSAL: Unfenced Riparian Area with Installation of a Portable Solar Waterer**  
**FILE: 18E-003**

W. Noga presented the above application proposed installation of a solar waterer to draw water from Buck Lake Creek. The riparian area is outlined in red and the proposed solar waterer location is indicated in yellow. The PAC reviewed the farm operation, criteria, landscape and project description.

M.E. Shain, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

There are concerns regarding the fact that the project is being completed on leased land. Is their commitment from the landowner for this project? How would this affect the agreement? Who would receive the funding?

The riparian area is not being fenced, therefore, will long term land stewardship be achieved?

G. Kathol commented that cattle are lazy creatures and it's unlikely if they are on the other end of the quarter that they will walk to where the waterer is proposed to be installed. The 40 acres is not enough to sustain 30 cow/calf pairs, therefore, it is likely the waterer would be moved with the herd to other lands.

W. Noga commented that other projects like this have been completed in other counties. There is no firm data on the number of cows that will use/walk to the waterer. However, some data suggests 8 out of 10 cows will use the waterer, therefore, riparian conservation is being achieved.

Could the solar waterer be located to a more central location for the cows?

W. Noga commented that there is a good water source where the waterer is located.

H. Hughes, asked, are we paying for a modification to manage this sensitive area, or are we just throwing a waterer out there?

M.E. Shain commented there is something to be said for someone that is managing an environmentally sensitive area before it becomes sensitive.

L. Wentland doesn't think it's worth the funding, since there is no guarantee that we will be protecting the riparian area.

S. Wheale noted that the proposed project does not demonstrate that the waterer will be making an impact to protect the riparian area.

The PAC asked if the landowner would be interested in fencing?

W. Noga commented that the applicant had the vision just for the waterer. However, he may be interested in fencing, which is something he would need to speak with the landowner about.

D. Movald asked for W. Noga to go back to the applicant and ask about fencing. It is 50% covered. If the landowner agreed to fencing it, he would demonstrate commitment to the project.

W. Noga said the applicant may be interested in the installation of a culvert and gates to move the cattle across the riparian area. Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP) does have funding for waterers, riparian area protection and crossings.

S. Watson noted that the applicant can explore other funding sources that may be used in conjunction with the ALUS program.

**019-18** Moved by L. Wentland that project 18E-003 is not approved as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**020-18** Moved by J. Watson to recommend to the applicant to explore additional funding streams, water course crossings and/or fencing (i.e. electric) to limit access to riparian area, a grazing management plan and a 5 year commitment with the landowner.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. Movald, Chairman, called for a break at 10:33 a.m., meeting resumed at 10:38 a.m.

## **RIPARIAN ASSESSMENT PROJECT PRESENTATION**

M.E. Shain made a presentation regarding the topic of Riparian Assessment from North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance.

The PAC suggested that topographical/terrain mapping would be a helpful tool to understand/determine the value of a proposed ALUS project.

The information gathered regarding Riparian Reporting – Intact Areas vs Impacted Areas could be very helpful in giving priority to projects that can make the biggest impact to improve the health of the land when receiving a lot of applications.

**021-18** Moved by H. Hughes to accept M.E. Shain's presentation on Riparian Reporting – Intact vs. Impacted Areas for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

S. Wheale left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

## **WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES**

### **Brazeau County Eco-Fair – Saturday, June 23, 2018**

W. Noga notified the PAC about the event and encouraged their engagement. ALUS information will be made available to the public at the Brazeau County booth.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**022-18** Moved by G. Kathol to adjourn at 12:01 p.m.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Duane Movald  
Chairperson

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Tamara London  
Recording Secretary

DRAFT

## **2018 Brazeau County ALUS PAC Meeting Schedule**

~~March 1, 2018~~ - cancelled

April 5, 2018

June 7, 2018

September 6, 2018

November 1, 2018

December 6, 2018





## BRAZEAU COUNTY

### UPDATE REPORT TO THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ALUS PAC)

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**SUBJECT:** Parking Lot Items

**DATE TO PAC:** September 6, 2018

**PREPARED BY:** Warren Noga, ALUS Coordinator

**UPDATE INFORMATION:** At the June 7, 2018 PAC meeting, members inquired about the status of “parking lot” items.

The following is a summary of items placed in the parking lot:

- 1. Maximum cap for the amount of money a producer can utilize.**  
This was initially discussed in 2016 but we have not had a need to have further discussions on it as of yet.
- 2. By your own hand.**  
This was first discussed in 2016 but no definitions or need for follow up have come forward yet.
- 3. Application deadline for Brazeau EOI's**  
This was from 2016 as well. We have not had a need to implement an application deadline at this time.
- 4. Funding of water wells and terms and conditions associated with funding.**  
This was from December 21/17 meeting. Members decided this topic may need further discussion in the future.



## BRAZEAU COUNTY

### UPDATE REPORT TO THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ALUS PAC)

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**SUBJECT:** Interim Agreement & Time Frame for Entering into Contracts

**DATE TO PAC:** September 6, 2018

**PREPARED BY:** Warren Noga, ALUS Coordinator

**UPDATE INFORMATION:** At the April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 PAC Meeting the following motions were made:

**006-18** Moved by L. Wentland for an interim agreement to be drafted by B. Misener to be brought back for the June 7, 2018 meeting for review by the PAC.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**007-18** Moved by L. Wentland for policy wording to be drafted by B. Misener to be brought back for review by the PAC at the June 7, 2018 meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

To minimize the paperwork requirement for participants, Administration recommends amending the Brazeau County ALUS policy, ALUS – 1 (Guiding Framework), in addition to adding wording to the project proposal.

ALUS – 1 , point 8 would be changed to (changes bolded):


“If approved, the ALUS coordinator will follow up with the producer to sign a Participant Agreement **within 12 months of PAC approval** and finalize project details including payment. **If a Participant Agreement is not signed in this timeframe, the project will be closed, and the participant must reapply if they wish to proceed with the project**”.

Additionally, the Project Proposals going forward will state the time requirement for the participant to enter into a Participant Agreement. For example:

“Recommending a five year agreement with the ALUS Conservation Agreement to be entered into within 12 months of PAC approval of the project(s)”.

This will allow all participants to have a full “field season” to complete their project. Projects approved in the Fall and Winter will be budgeted for the following year.

By amending the ALUS Policy, Administration will have a mechanism for closing approved projects that were not signed to a Participant Agreement. Additionally, the changes to the project proposal will allow both the participant and PAC members to see the requirement for entering into an agreement.

<b>BRAZEAU COUNTY</b>			
<b>REQUEST FOR ALUS PAC DECISION</b>			
SUBJECT:	Summary Report – ALUS File		
DATE TO PAC:	September 6, 2018		
SUBMITTED BY:	Warren Noga, ALUS Coordinator		
ENDORSED BY:			
REVIEWED BY CAO:			
FILE NO:	16E-008		
Report/Document	Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Available <input type="checkbox"/>	Nil <input type="checkbox"/>

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

That PAC directs Administration to send a letter to the participant for file 16E-008, advising the participant that if an ALUS Conservation Agreement is not entered into within 30 days, the file will be closed and the participant will have to re-apply if they wish to proceed.

**1. TOPIC DEFINED**

**Executive Summary/Key Issue(s)/Concepts Defined:**

On March 30, 2017 file 16E-008 was presented to the PAC. The proposal included the following projects:

- Project 1 – Riparian/creek exclusion fencing on 8.07 acres (1378.23 m)
- Project 2 – Solar waterer and pipe
- Project 3 – Bridge

The PAC minutes reflect the following motions pertaining to the projects:

***022-17*** Moved by L. Strocher to approve **project #1** of 16E-008 as presented and submit the application to the AWE Grant for 100% coverage of the exclusion fencing establishment costs and a 50% cost-share of any remaining amount up to a maximum of \$7 per meter as well as annual payment at the pasture rate of \$37.50 per acre for the riparian and upland pasture area contained within the exclusion fencing (7.8 acres), and annual payment at the existing permanent wetland rate of \$20 per acre for the wetland area contained within the exclusion fencing (0.27 acres).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**023-17** Moved by L. Strocher to approve **project #2** of 16E-008 as presented up to a maximum of \$6000 and submit the application to the AWE Grant for 100% coverage of one solar waterer, one pump, two piping systems, and two troughs for establishment costs and a 50% cost-share of any remaining amount.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**024-17** Moved by S. Mahan to approve **project #3** of 16E-008 as presented and submit the application to the AWE Grant for 100% coverage of the bridge establishment costs and a 50% cost-share of any remaining amount, and should any municipal, provincial or federal permits or adherence to legislation be required, they are the responsibility of the applicant.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The file notes from September of 2017 indicate that in order to receive AWE funding, the projects would have to be completed by the end of 2017. No further notes were on file since September of 2017. As such, the participant was contacted in August of 2018 to determine if the project proceeded. The participant advised he wants to review funding and caps on fencing as the project will depend on funding levels.

An ALUS Conservation Agreement has not been entered into as of yet, and committed funds for these projects total \$16,080 (\$14,591 for establishment costs plus \$1489 for annual payments over a five-year period).

Currently, we do not have a policy to provide guidance on how long a project can remain open without signing an ALUS Conservation Agreement. As such, Administration is seeking the PAC's direction on proceeding with this file.

**Relevant Policy:**

ALUS-1 Guiding Framework

**Strategic Relevance:**

To encourage the enrollment of acres in the ALUS program to provide ecosystem goods and services.

**RESPONSE OPTIONS**

Option	Analysis
<p>a. PAC approves staff recommendation to direct Administration to send a letter to the participant for file 16E-008, advising the participant that if an ALUS Conservation Agreement is not entered into within 30 days, the file will be closed and the participant will have to re-apply if they wish to proceed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Either the status of the file becomes active and the participant enters into an agreement, or the file is closed and no further financial obligation exists.</li> <li>- Funds are either paid to the participant or redistributed to other projects as necessary.</li> </ul>
<p>b. PAC directs Administration to close the file immediately.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The file is closed and no further obligation is held by Brazeau ALUS. Funds can be redistributed into other projects as necessary.</li> </ul>
<p>c. PAC directs Administration to leave the file open indefinitely.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funds must be held to fulfill the financial obligations of PAC decisions.</li> </ul>
<p>d. Any other action as directed by the PAC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PAC has other direction for Administration to follow.</li> </ul>

**2. IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Operational:**

Staff proceed as directed.

**Financial:**

Funds are dispersed to the participant or made available for re-allocation to new projects.

## ALUS By the Numbers - as of August 24, 2018

Total number of contracts signed since program inception	9
Number of contracts signed in 2018	2
Number of individual projects approved *	15
<i>* number of projects per contract range from 1 to 3</i>	
Acres enrolled under contract	285.01

<b>EXTERNAL FUNDERS (GRANTS RECEIVED)</b>	
2015 - Weston	\$ 2,000.00
2015 - NCP	\$ 5,000.00
2017 - Bissett	\$ 18,800.00
2017 - Weston	\$ 10,000.00
2018 - WRRP (projected)	\$ 20,000.00
<b>Total External Funds Received</b>	<b>\$ 55,800.00</b>

<b>FUNDS PAID OUT BY BRAZEAU ALUS</b>	
Establishment costs paid to date	\$ 10,495.00
2017 Annual payments paid out	\$ 2,900.70
<b>Total Paid Out By Brazeau ALUS</b>	<b>\$ 13,395.70</b>

<b>FUNDING PAID BY OTHERS</b>	
16E-005 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 15,207.35
16E-006 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 17,919.20
16E-007 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 2,500.00
16E-007 - Establishment Costs paid by AWE	\$ 16,747.00
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
<b>Total Funding Paid by Others</b>	<b>\$ 90,509.55</b>

<b>COMMITTED FUNDS **</b>	
Establishment costs	\$ 14,591.15
2017 Annual payments	\$ 297.90
2018 Annual payments	\$ 8,829.32
2019 Annual payments	\$ 9,554.48
2020 Annual payments	\$ 9,554.48
2021 Annual payments	\$ 9,554.48
2022 Annual payments	\$ 6,355.87
2023 Annual payments	\$ 725.16
<b>Total Committed Funds</b>	<b>\$ 59,462.84</b>
<i>** as approved by PAC</i>	