

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 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017.

- CALL TO ORDER** D. Movald, PAC Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
- IN ATTENDANCE** Duane Movald, Chairperson & Member-at-Large
Graham Kathol, Alternate Chairperson & Member-at-Large
Henry Hughes, Member-at-Large
Cliff Whitelock, Member-at-Large
Lawrence Strocher, Member-at-Large
Shirley Mahan, Councillor
Mary Ellen Shain, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Candace Vanin, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada
Jessica Watson, West-Central Forage Association
Benjamin Misener, ALUS Program Coordinator
Nancy Chambers, Recording Secretary
- ABSENT** Kerri O’Shaughnessy, Cows & Fish
Christine Campbell, Hub Manager (West)
- GUESTS** none
- INTRODUCTIONS** No introductions were required.
- ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA** **055-17** Moved by S. Mahan to approve the agenda as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES** **056-17** Moved by G. Kathol to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2017 PAC meeting as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- BUSINESS ARISING** **057-17** Moved by H. Hughes to adopt the revised 2017 ALUS PAC meeting schedule as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- FENCING STANDARDS** B. Misener reviewed the Provincial Grazing Reserve fencing standards that were presented at the July 19, 2017 meeting. B. Misener asked for confirmation if the PAC wants to adopt the standards in their entirety or make changes to the standards as required. This will be added as an appendix to the ALUS -1 policy and be given to applicants.

Members discussed the standards, including right of way clearing, wood vs steel materials, and diameter of posts. It was suggested calling it "Guidelines" rather than "Standards" so the PAC would have discretion, based on the proposal. It was agreed that the guidelines specify that material must be new, rather than used.

058-17 moved by L. Strocher to adopt the fencing guidelines with the changes as discussed, as an appendix to the ALUS-1 policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GRAZING BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

B. Misener attended an ALUS tour at the County of Vermillion River (CVR), bringing back the County of Vermillion River Sustainable Grazing Management Practices, along with the Red Deer County (RDC) guidelines for Sustainable Grazing Management. CVR pays for the Sustainable Management practices as a project, while RDC offers the handout as a guideline.

Members discussed the payment of sustainable grazing practices as a standard that producers should be following anyway, so why are we paying them to do it? Cows & Fish are currently monitoring the project areas and would provide guidelines very similar to these guidelines. Compliance would be difficult to monitor with limited manpower.

It was suggested that guidelines such as these be available to producers, but the producers would not be paid to follow the guidelines. The guidelines could be provided for information to producers. The Society for Range Management has specialists that can provide more information and producers can be referred to them if they are seeking additional information.

It was suggested that a survey could be offered to find out how Best Management Practices (BMPs) are being maintained and followed. Money may not motivate the producers but seeing results and gaining education may motivate them.

059-17 moved by S. Mahan to receive the guidelines as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT
PLAN AGRICULTURAL
POLICIES**

B. Misener advised the Brazeau County Municipal Development Plan (MDP) is being brought before Council on September 19, 2017 for a Public Hearing, followed by second and third readings. The Public Hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m.

Significant changes to agricultural lands are proposed in the MDP, including: restrictions to agricultural lands may be lessened, and an increase in the number of potential subdivided parcels out of a quarter may be allowable. The draft of the MDP is currently on the County website, along with public comments from the MDP Charrette event and survey results. PAC members are invited to attend the Public Hearing on September 19, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in Brazeau County Council Chamber.

Discussion ensued surrounding the protection of agricultural lands, but also the revenue generated for the landowner by subdividing and selling parcels from the quarter.

B. Misener also provided information on the County's public web map system that is available to the public on the home page of the County's website at www.brazeau.ab.ca. It shows color aerials, property lines, roads, wells, pipelines, assessed values, etc. You can also measure distances and areas using the measurement tool in the mapping system.

**DECLARATION OF
CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

PROJECTS

PROPOSAL: Riparian/Watercourse Exclusion Fencing
FILE: 16E-012

B. Misener presented the above application proposing project #1 for the existing riparian/creek exclusion fencing on 17.09 ac (1529 m) which was tabled at the March 30, 2017 PAC meeting.

The total project was \$17,579.68. \$11,550 was paid by Growing Forward 2 (GF2), leaving \$6029.68. The original recommendation was that the PAC pays for 50% of that amount, being \$3014.84. At the July 19, 2017 meeting, a motion was carried to not approve payment for the in-kind labour.

1529m x \$7/m = \$10,703.00 is what we would potentially look at paying 50% of this (\$5351.50). The applicant was already paid \$11,550 by GF2 which is more than ALUS would have paid out.

It was suggested that the applicants still be paid for the per acre payments to be enrolled in the ALUS program, but they have been already compensated fairly for the fencing costs already by GF2.

The recommendation by B. Misener is to enroll the acres in the ALUS program and pay per acre, but not pay for the fencing cost.

Discussion ensued surrounding the small number of animals vs the amount of money being received.

060-17 Moved by J. Watson to approve the annual payment at the pasture rate of \$37.50 per acre for the riparian and upland pasture area contained within the exclusion fencing (16.3 acres), and annual payment at the existing permanent wetland rate of \$20 per acre for the unnamed watercourse area contained within the exclusion fencing (0.79 acres) for Project 1, File 16E-012.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Misener will review the Brazeau ALUS application to note that funding from other sources will be taken into consideration when the PAC reviews the project.

VIDEOS

No videos were shown.

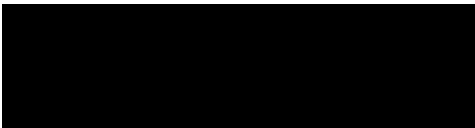
ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

B. Misener discussed the submission of Expense Claims.


ADJOURNMENT

061-17 Moved by S. Mahan to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Duane Movald
Chairperson



Nancy Chambers
Recording Secretary