

MINUTES OF THE BRAZEAU COUNTY ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES (ALUS) PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC), HELD IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ROCKY RAPIDS MEETING ROOM, IN DRAYTON VALLEY, ALBERTA ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2017.

IN ATTENDANCE

Sara Wheale, Councillor
Graham Kathol, Member-at-Large
Henry Hughes, Member-at-Large
Duane Movald, Member-at-Large
Allan Goddard, Member-at-Large
Laina Wentland, Member-at-Large
Mary Ellen Shain, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Kerri O'Shaughnessy, Cows & Fish
Jessica Watson, West-Central Forage Association
Benjamin Misener, Manager of Land & Environment
Nancy Chambers, Recording Secretary

Via conference call:

Christine Campbell, ALUS Hub Manager (West)
Candace Vanin, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada

ABSENT

none

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

none

CALL TO ORDER

B. Misener, ALUS Program Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

B. Misener confirmed with C. Vanin that due to her joining via conference call, we would assume she was voting in favour of each motion unless we heard her verbal opposition.

INTRODUCTIONS

Partnership Advisory Committee members and Administration introduced themselves.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions were presented.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

062-17 Moved by H. Hughes to approve the agenda as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**NOMINATION OF
CHAIRPERSON**

B. Misener, ALUS Program Coordinator, called for nominations for the Chairperson of the Partnership Advisory Committee.

Graham Kathol nominated Duane Movald for Chairperson. Duane Movald accepted the Nomination.

B. Misener called a second and third time for nominations.

063-17 Moved by A. Goddard that nominations for Chairperson cease.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Misener, ALUS Program Coordinator, called for a motion to appoint a Chairperson.

064-17 Moved by L. Wentland to appoint Duane Movald as Chairperson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Movald assumed the Chair.

**NOMINATION OF
ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON**

D. Movald, Chairperson, called for nominations of the Vice Chairperson of the Partnership Advisory Committee.

G. Kathol nominated Allan Goddard. A. Goddard declined the nomination.

S. Wheale nominated Graham Kathol. Graham Kathol accepted the nomination.

D. Movald called a second time and a third time for nominations.

065-17 Moved by A. Goddard that nominations for Vice Chairperson cease.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Movald called for a motion to appoint a Vice Chairperson.

066-17 Moved by L. Wentland to appoint Graham Kathol as Vice Chairperson of the Partnership Advisory Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

067-17 Moved by H. Hughes to adopt the minutes of the September 6, 2017 ALUS PAC meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING

068-17 Moved by G. Kathol to adopt the 2018 PAC meeting schedule as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PAC ORIENTATION

B. Misener reviewed an ALUS power point presentation. C. Campbell provided information on behalf of ALUS Canada regarding project verification as well as ecosystem services.

B. Misener advised that Council budget has just been passed, and a budget update will be provided at the next PAC meeting with budget updates at each meeting.

M.E. Shain and K. O'Shaughnessy entered the meeting at 9:31 a.m. and introduced themselves.

B. Misener reviewed the ALUS PAC binder and encouraged members to review the entire binder, in particular the PAC Administrative Roles, Terms of Reference and ALUS-1 Guiding Framework.

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.

C. Vanin declared a conflict of interest and left the conference call at 9:36 a.m.

PROJECTS

a) **PROPOSAL: Riparian/Creek Exclusion Fencing and Solar Waterer and Water Well**
FILE: 17E-004

B. Misener presented the above application proposing project #1 for fencing on 51.84 acres (1176 m), project #2 for fencing on 5.94 acres (190 m) and project #3 for a solar waterer, pump and a water well.

B. Misener clarified the parcel size is 144 acres rather than 156 acres and project #2 has page wire fence rather than four strand barbed wire.

Members asked why a solar waterer was applied for when they are so close to the farm's yard site.

Members requested confirmation on the ownership. Benjamin confirmed the applicant is renting the 144 acres from their parents. The applicant owns 53 acres to the east of the subject lands.

B. Misener confirmed the state of the existing fencing was in good order.

Members discuss the standard of the 20% cap for lands to be enrolled.

For file 17E-004, 20% of the 144 acre parcel is 28.8 acres.

Members asked about the contracts, particularly about breaking the contract part way through the 5 year agreement. B. Misener confirmed that the amounts would be pro-rated for the annual payments and would require repayment of establishment costs on a pro-rated basis. Clarification was provided that the landowner would enter the agreement and receive the payments, rather than the lessee.

C. Campbell advised that a Schedule D could be added to the contract to clarify who will be receiving payments and be responsible for the project.

Members discussed prioritizing the projects and confirmation of pasture vs wetlands to determine the rate to be paid.

They also discussed the possibility of paying for the fencing but keeping the per acre payments at only 20% of the lands and discussed what the appropriate rate would be.

Members moved to discussing project #2 as presented.

069-17 Moved by G. Kathol to approve a 50% cost-share for the exclusion fencing establishment costs as well as annual payment at the pasture rate of \$37.50 per acre for the riparian pasture area contained within the exclusion fencing (5.66 acres), and annual payment at the existing permanent wetland rate of \$20

2017

per acre for the wetland area contained within the exclusion fencing (0.28 acres) for Project 2, File 17E-004.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Members discussed the eligible acres for project #1. The parcel is 144 acres and 20% of that parcel is 28.8 acres. Subtracting the 5.94 acres approved for project #2, the remaining eligible acreage is 22.86 acres.

070-17 Moved by J. Watson to approve a 50% cost-share for the exclusion fencing establishment costs for project #1, File 17E-004.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

071-17 Moved by G. Kathol to approve the annual payment at the existing permanent wetland rate of \$20 per acre for the wetland area contained within the exclusion fencing (1.20 acres) for Project 2, File 17E-004.

S. Wheale offered a friendly amendment to clarify the project as project #1. G. Kathol accepted the friendly amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Members discussed the payment of pasture rate vs wetlands rate and whether another field verification was required to confirm. B. Misener suggested enrolling the whole riparian pasture area of 50.64 acres for project 1, but only pay annual payments on 21.66 acres rather than changing the map.

072-17 Moved by H. Hughes to approve the annual payment at the pasture rate of \$37.50 per acre for the riparian pasture area contained within the exclusion fencing (21.66 acres) for Project 1, File 17E-004.

J. Watson offered a friendly amendment to add – to enroll all of the 50.64 acres of riparian pasture contained within the project but only pay for annual payments on 21.66 acres. H. Hughes accepted the friendly amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion moved to project #3. It was confirmed this project has not been commenced. Members thought the GF2 water well program is still open.

B. Misener confirmed that project "6" shown in the budget table on page 8 should be listed as project "3".

Members discussed funding of water wells and terms and conditions associated with funding and decided to keep it as a "Parking Lot Item" to be discussed at a later date.

073-17 Moved by G. Kathol to reject Project #3, File 17E-004 due to lack of merit or ability to justify the cost because there is another water well on site.

IN FAVOUR

M. E. Shain
L. Wentland
G. Kathol
A. Goddard
H. Hughes
D. Movald
J. Watson
S. Wheale

OPPOSED

K. O'Shaughnessy

CARRIED

D. Movald called for a break at 11:11 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 11:19 a.m.

C. Vanin joined in via conference call at 11:15 a.m.

b) PROJECT UPDATES

B. Misener provided a verbal update indicating projects that were approved this year (with the exception of today's approval) have entered into contracts.

B. Misener advised he hopes to have more advertising in the new year. An article on one of the producers was included in the Brazeau County newsletter.

Official acres enrolled will be provided at the next meeting, along with amounts paid out.

074-17 Moved by S. Wheale to accept the verbal update as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ALUS-1 POLICY: GUIDING
FRAMEWORK**

B. Misener reviewed the motions made at the November 7, 2017 Council meeting regarding fencing standards.

Members discussed the current PAC fencing standard at up to \$7 per meter. No standards were provided on what fence type to be installed, as it will be up to the producer.

FENCING OBLIGATIONS

B. Misener reviewed the email form the Farmers' Advocate regarding fencing obligations. These are the Acts that regulate fencing at the Provincial level.

GREEN ACREAGES

B. Misener provided a verbal update on the status of the Green Acreages Program.

Council did not approve the Green Acreages Program in the interim budget, but this may be reviewed again in the new year.

2018 TARGETS

B. Misener reviewed the 2018 acre targets that were provided to ALUS Canada in anticipation of 2018 projects.

Enrollment of 200 acres was projected for 2017 and for 2018 the same enrollment was projected.

BUDGET

B. Misener reviewed the budget summary, including revenue, expenses, committed funds for approved projects, and funding provided to participants through other grants.

Members asked if any feedback has come from the INFFER program yet. B. Misener has been in discussion with Brian Ilnicki of the Land Stewardship Centre and hopes to have a draft report in January. B. Ilnicki will be invited to the March meeting to discuss the final report.

B. Misener explained the INFFER analysis to the PAC as a cost-benefit analysis used to determine project priorities and cost benefits. A determination of the best use of funds will be shown through the analysis.

More newspaper and newsletter advertising, hand-outs, radio, social media and signage will be done in the new year. We will also look at organizing tours of project areas.

075-17 Moved by K. O'Shaughnessy to accept the budget summary as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS
& CONFERENCES**

B. Misener advised that Brazeau County, in partnership with Cows & Fish, will be hosting a free workshop at the County office titled "Beavers in our Landscape". The date will be determined and information distributed to the PAC. More details will follow in the new year.

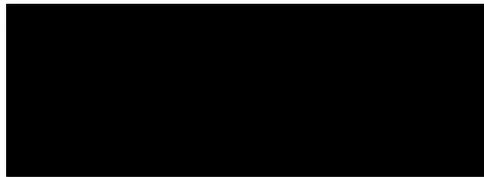
Members discussed charging fee of around \$10 to attend the workshop which would cover a portion of their lunch. Registration would potentially be capped at 40 attendees.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
MATTERS**

B. Misener reviewed expense claims and rates for per diems and mileage for the members-at-large.

ADJOURNMENT

076-17 Moved by A. Goddard to adjourn at 12:04 p.m.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Duane Movald
Chairperson



Nancy Chambers
Recording Secretary