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**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	<u>014-18</u> Moved by S. Wheale to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES	<u>015-18</u> Moved by L. Wentland to adopt the minutes of the April 5, 2018 ALUS PAC meeting as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
BUSINESS ARISING	<u>016-18</u> 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 has 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 INTERST

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-002

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.



J. 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-002 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 regarded 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**



Duane Movald
Chairperson



Tamara London
Recording Secretary