

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2015 AT 1:30 PM
IN THE RDN BOARD CHAMBERS**

Present:

Director H. Houle	Chairperson
Director J. Fell	Electoral Area F
K. Wilson	Representative (South)
M. Ryn	Representative (South)
C. Watson	Representative (North)
J. McLeod	Regional Agricultural Organization
R. Thompson	Representative (North)
J. Thony	Regional Agricultural Organization
K. Reid	Regional Aquaculture Organization
W. Haddow	Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture

Also in Attendance:

G. Garbutt	General Manager of Strategic and Community Development
P. Thompson	Manager of Long Range Planning
J. Holm	Manager of Current Planning
G. Keller	Senior Planner
W. Haddow	Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture
N. Hewitt	Recording Secretary

Regrets:

Director C. Haime	District of Lantzville
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CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Houle called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

MOVED K. Wilson, SECONDED K. Reid, that the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

LATE DELEGATE

MOVED J. Fell, SECONDED M. Ryn, that the following delegation be permitted to address the Committee.

CARRIED

RDN Animal Control Bylaws – Dangerous Dogs / Dogs at Large.

Skye Donald, 1489 Grafton Road, Electoral Area 'F' resident, requested that the Regional District of Nanaimo amend the current dog control bylaw to become more effective. Ms. Donald suggested dog licensing may help reduce dogs at large.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held Friday October 17, 2014.

MOVED J. Fell, SECONDED M. Ryn, that the minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held Friday October 17, 2014 be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORTS

Member Orientation.

J. Holm provided an overview of the Agricultural Advisory Committee binder with supplementary documents.

Ministry of Agriculture, AAC Workshop Member Attendance.

G. Keller provided an overview of the AAC Workshop and Board Resolution authorizing one AAC member to attend with expenses paid. J. Holm provided an estimate of the anticipated costs for any additional AAC members who wish to attend the workshop.

MOVED K Wilson, SECONDED J McLeod, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorse C. Watson and M. Ryn attend the Ministry of Agriculture – AAC Workshop.

CARRIED

Bylaw and Policy Update Project Seminar.

G. Keller provided a summary of the community feedback on each obstacle and requested a recommendation from the AAC on whether further action is supported.

Obstacle 1: RDN Zoning is not consistent with the Provincial Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision, and Procedure Regulation.

MOVED M. Ryn, SECONDED J. McLeod, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 1.

CARRIED

Obstacle 2: The definition of structure may be too restrictive for agricultural fencing.

MOVED J. Fell, SECONDED J. McLeod, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 2.

CARRIED

Obstacle 3: Potential loss of larger parcels that have the greatest likelihood of having farm status and the most opportunity to support a broad range of agricultural uses.

MOVED M. Ryn, SECONDED C. Watson, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 3.

DEFEATED

Obstacle 4: There are no bylaw provisions that apply at the time of subdivision to ensure that parcels that are zoned for agriculture have adequate dimensions to allow the siting of a building for housing livestock or storing manure which meets minimum setback requirements.

MOVED R. Thompson, SECONDED J. Thony, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 4.

DEFEATED

Obstacle 5: The maximum height of buildings and structures in the Water 1 zone may be too restrictive.

MOVED K. Reid, SECONDED J. Fell, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 5.

CARRIED

Obstacle 6: The minimum setback requirements for agricultural buildings do not take into consideration the scale or type of operation.

MOVED J. Fell, SECONDED K. Wilson, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 6.

CARRIED

Obstacle 7: Farmer's market is not permitted in any zone where agriculture is a permitted use.

MOVED J. Thony, SECONDED K. Reid, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 7.

CARRIED

Obstacle 8: The maximum parcel coverage for farm buildings is too low.

The committee did not consider a motion on this obstacle.

Obstacle 9: Farmers are unable to have signs directing customers to their farms.

The committee did not consider a motion on this obstacle.

Obstacle 10: The potential impacts of estate residential and non-farm use threaten agricultural viability and productivity.

MOVED J. Fell, SECONDED M. Ryn, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 10.

DEFEATED

Obstacle 11: Farmland Protection Development Permit Areas may not provide an adequate level of protection and are not consistent across all electoral areas.

MOVED C. Watson, SECONDED M. Ryn, that the Agricultural Advisory supports taking on Obstacle 11.

CARRIED

Obstacle 12: The impacts of non-farm use and development adjacent to the ALR is not contemplated by RDN OCPs or Zoning Bylaws.

MOVED J. Fell, SECONDED C. Watson, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 12.

CARRIED

Obstacle 13: RDN animal control bylaws do not appear to be adequately addressing concerns regarding the impacts that dangerous dogs and dogs at large are having on livestock.

MOVED J. Fell, SECONDED M. Ryn, that the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports taking action on Obstacle 13.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Next Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting.

The committee discussed the next AAC meeting and would prefer to continue meetings on Friday afternoons.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED K. Reid, SECONDED C. Watson, that this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Time 3:28 pm

CHAIRPERSON