

Minutes of the regular meeting of the AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE held at the CVRD Boardroom, February 25, 2011 at 12:00 pm.

PRESENT: Chair M. Marcotte
Director L. Duncan
Director G. Giles
Director G. Seymour
Director L. Iannidinardo
Peter Keber
Rodger Hunter
Joanne McLeod
Ian Christison
Dan Ferguson
George Robbins
Rob Kline
George Baird
John Milne
Marsha Stanley

ALSO PRESENT: Director M. Dorey
Director K. Kuhn
Director I. Morrison
Pat Durose, Farm Credit Canada

STAFF: Tom Anderson, GM, Planning & Development
Geoff Millar, Manager, Economic Development
Kathy Lachman, Business Development Officer
Judy Mills, Recording Secretary

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair called the inaugural Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting to order. All members introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Two addenda were added. New Business was moved to item #3.

It was moved and seconded the agenda be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

**NB1
PROPOSED AVICC
RESOLUTION**

A handout was provided with the proposed AVICC (Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities) resolution and February 9, 2011 Board recommendation (11-060) referring to the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Director M. Dorey reviewed the proposal. The Chair requested members send their comments to EDC staff (Judy Mills) prior to the next meeting. It will be on the next AAC agenda for discussion and a recommendation to the Board. Director G. Giles requested Director G. Seymour's comments/email be circulated to the members for information purposes.

Director M. Dorey left at this point.

REPORTS

R1 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The AAC Terms of Reference were provided with the agenda.

Director L. Iannidinardo and Rob Kline arrived at this point and gave introductions.

R2 PROVINCIAL AAC MEETING

Geoff Millar reported there was very good representation at the Provincial Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting on February 24, 2011 in Richmond, BC. Local attendees included Geoff Millar, Kathy Lachman, Rob Kline, Joanne McLeod and Chair M. Marcotte. The Provincial Committee mandate is:

- 1) Work with communities who want to institute Agricultural Committees
- 2) Work with Agriculture Committees who are starting up
- 3) Work with Agriculture Committees to move forward with Agriculture strategy/plan

IAF (Investment Agriculture Foundation) discussed various funding programs to support Agriculture throughout the province. Report to be released in April 2011 on how well Agriculture Area Plans have fulfilled their mandates, by-laws and working with Agriculture Sector. Geoff Millar & Kathy Lachman met with experienced Ministry of Agriculture staff regarding the Area Agriculture Plan. An overview paper of the days input will be circulated by event organizers.

Members commented on their experience with the AAC information day.

DISCUSSION

D1 AAC MEETING SCHEDULE

EDC staff will circulate a proposed meeting schedule. Initially the consensus was monthly meetings. As time goes by if less meetings are required this can be decided.

Director I. Morrison arrived at this point.

D2 MEMBER REVIEW OF PLAN

The Chair asked the members to read the Area Agricultural Plan thoroughly prior to the next meeting so the Committee can then review general points of the document. In the Plan there are 78 recommendations. A Top Five Action Items worksheet was distributed to complete. Kathy Lachman will email an electronic version of the worksheet and collect responses. Working groups will then be set up to work on common items. Role of the Committee is implementation of Plan.

The AAC mandate was discussed and the Chair pointed out the Committee is to advise the Board on issues of importance to the

Agriculture community and on ALR exclusion applications as well as any matters referred to the Committee. Will not be reviewing all applications but applicable ones involved with sustaining agriculture and depending on the interest to the Committee, review and decide if they will go to the ALC. The AAC will decide criteria.

It was noted there is no budget allocated to the AAC and the administrative support will come from the EDC budget.

Director G. Seymour recommended this group determine the relationship between DNC and the AAC. DNC is in the middle of an OCP review so the timing is good for feedback and comments.

Discussion took place regarding protection by-laws of agriculture land. Rob Kline will send link on info on buffers and examples of provincial by-laws and edge planning processes.

AAC meeting minutes will be forwarded to the Board.

Director I. Morrison left at this point.

CORRESPONDENCE

C1
EMAIL FROM JIM
(J.W.) VAN
BARNEVELD

Director G. Giles received an email from Jim (J.W.) van Barneveld dated February 14, 2011 which commented on the DNC OCP. The email is included in your agenda.

C2
MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE
DISCUSSION PAPER

Geoff Millar received a package from the Ministry of Agriculture dated January 20, 2011 regarding a Discussion Paper on the draft Bylaw Standard for Residential Uses in the ALR. Rob Kline stated the Ministry of Agriculture & Land has extended the response deadline from February 28, 2011 to April 15, 2011.

CLOSED SESSION

Not applicable.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm.

Certified Correct:

Chairperson

Secretary

Dated: _____