

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 12:00 pm in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC

PRESENT: Chair Marcotte
Director Duncan
Director Seymour
Director Iannidinardo
George Robbins
Wayne Haddow
Peter Keber
Rodger Hunter
Joanne McLeod
Pat Durose

ALSO

PRESENT: Kathy Lachman, Business Development Officer
Judy Mills, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Director Giles, Ian Christison, Dan Ferguson, Mick Smith, George Baird, Marsha Stanley, Tom Anderson and Geoff Millar

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

Two items were added to Business Arising, two items to Correspondence and one item to New Business.

It was moved and seconded that the item on Section 946 of the Local Government Act, Subdivision for a Relative, as introduced by Director Duncan will be put on the next meeting agenda for discussion.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded the amended agenda be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded to approve the Regular AAC meeting minutes of October 25, 2011.

MOTION CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM THE MINUTES**

**BA1
WATER
CONSERVATION &
IRRIGATION
MANAGEMENT
WORKSHOPS**

Wayne Haddow reported further consideration has been given to the December dates for the two workshops to be led by Ted Van der Gulik and it has been decided to re-schedule them into the new year.

**BA2
COUNTRY LIFE IN BC
ARTICLE**

George Robbins reported there is an article in the November 2011 issue of Country Life in BC titled "Young farmers gain insight into the economics of ag" which directly pertains to the motion made at the October 25, 2011 AAC meeting under R1 regarding leasing.

This is provided for information purposes and any member wanting a copy of the article can contact George Robbins.

CORRESPONDENCE

**C1
AGRICULTURE LAND
USE INVENTORY**

Rodger Hunter reported the Environment Commission received a funding request from Ted Van der Gulik, BC Ministry of Agriculture, for partnership for Water Sustainability Society, to map agriculture areas, inventory of crops and irrigation used or required. The Environment Commission approved a \$30,000 contribution from their 2011 budget to support this initiative.

Discussion took place and the members agreed it was easier if the funds came from one location.

It was moved and seconded to receive and file the letter dated October 20, 2011 from John Milne, President CAS regarding Agriculture Land-Use inventory.

MOTION CARRIED

**C2
COWICHAN REGION
AREA AGRICULTURE
PLAN ACTION STEPS**

Discussion took place. The members agreed the November 19, 2011 South Cowichan Eco Depot Opinion referendum addressed this issue.

It was moved and seconded to receive and file the email dated November 8, 2011 from Harmony Huffman, Engineering and Environmental Services Department regarding response to K. Chong on Cowichan Region Area Agriculture Plan action steps.

MOTION CARRIED

**C3
EMAIL FROM
LAVONNE HUNECK**

Discussion took place. The members agreed the issue has been resolved by way of the November 19, 2011 South Cowichan Eco Depot Opinion referendum.

It was moved and seconded to receive and file the email dated November 16, 2011 from Lavonne Huneck regarding Huffman reply to K. Chong, November 8, 2011.

MOTION CARRIED

C4
UBCM IN THE HOUSE
NOVEMBER 18, 2011

For information Kathy Lachman handed out a copy of the UBCM "In the House" November 18, 2011 communication. Purpose is to inform local governments about recent legislative and policy changes that the provincial government has introduced regarding the Agriculture Land Commission (ALC). It was noted ALC changes around sustainability piece has potential to affect those farmers with applications filed.

Discussion took place.

REPORTS

R1
ISLANDS
AGRICULTURE SHOW
UPDATE

Kathy Lachman reported Kevin Koopmans will be speaking on innovative leasing. Registration is now being taken for booths and sponsorships. The website has been set up under iashow.ca. Invitations are being extended to any farmer's organizations on the island. Email Kathy Lachman to arrange a presentation. There are 63 booths available and 16 have been booked to date. Exhibitors range from 4H to suppliers to tractor displays, heritage farming equipment display and government organizations which provide services to the farming community. Farm Credit Canada is the presenting sponsor and funding keynote speaker. EDC will have a booth devoted to Economic Development and the AAC. Looking for volunteers from the AAC to participate.

R2
AGRICULTURAL
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE WRAP
UP

The Chair reported this is the last Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting. Appointments for the Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission will be made by the new Board. Bylaw No. 3515 requires the non-elected member appointment terms be staggered. A form has been created for you to commit your timeline. The Alternates will also be consulted. Chair Marcotte will submit the form as an informal recommendation to the new Board.

Discussion took place. George Robbins emphasized more representation is required. The Commission will not work without the farmers buy in. Further discussion took place regarding governance. Chair Marcotte will bring forward to the new CVRD Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

NB1
A FIELD GUIDE TO
CONSERVATION
FINANCE

For information Director Iannidinardo brought forward a copy of "A Field Guide to Conservation Finance" by Story Clark. The information was given to her by Fred Gallagher and outlines a method in the East Hamptons for strong land conservation.

NEXT MEETING

Not applicable.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 pm.

Certified Correct:

Chairperson

Secretary

Dated: