



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

SCRD Board Room, 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, B.C.

CALL TO ORDER 3:30 pm

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda

DELEGATION

2. Raphael Shay, Water & Energy Projects Coordinator, Infrastructure Services Presentation
Regarding Rain Water Harvest Rebates
3. Nicholas Simons, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Powell River – Presentation
Sunshine Coast
Regarding Future of Agriculture on the Sunshine Coast

MINUTES

4. Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2019 Pages 1 - 3
(*Receipt and Adoption*)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS

NEW BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

November 26, 2019

MINUTES FROM THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE CEDAR ROOM AT THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES, 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, BC

PRESENT:	Chair	Paul Nash
	Members	Gretchen Bozak David Morgan Jon Bell
ALSO PRESENT:	Electoral Area F Director	Mark Hiltz (Non-Voting Board Liaison)
	Electoral Area E Director	Donna McMahon (Non-Voting Board Liaison)
	Manager, Protective Services Planner	Matt Treit (part) Julie Clark
	Recording Secretary	Genevieve Dixon
REGRETS:	Members	Gerald Rainville Erin Dutton Barbara Seed
ABSENT:	Members	Faye Kiewitz Raquel Kolof

CALL TO ORDER 3:35 p.m.

DELEGATION

Matt Treit, Manager, Protective Services provided an introduction regarding emergency planning for farmers and people with livestock.

Key points of discussion:

- Committee suggested that the Manager, Protective Services discuss emergency/evacuation planning with the Farmers Institute
- Will the SCRd provide animal evacuation services?
- Committee member asked - Does the equestrian community have an evacuation plan in place? The equestrian community often has trailers that could be used in evacuations.
- How many farms on the Sunshine Coast would require evacuation services?
- Provincial funding available for classified farmers.
- Where would livestock go if evacuated either for a fire/earthquake?
- Food source a concern.

- Provincial (Ministry of Agriculture) recently updated Agricultural Land Use Inventory which is a resource for emergency planning.
- Staff to provide Manager, Protective Services with the contact information for the Farmers Institute.

AGENDA The agenda was amended and adopted as follows:

NEW BUSINESS:

Ponds and Rainwater Harvest

MINUTES

Recommendation No. 1 *AAC Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2019*

The Agricultural Advisory Committee recommended that the meeting minutes of October 22, 2019 be received and adopted as presented.

REPORTS

Regional Inter-Jurisdictional Invasive Plant Management Strategy

The Planner gave a brief background introduction to the committee.

Key points of discussion:

- Is there a technical working group meeting in the future?
- Different disposal techniques per each species.
- MoTI is responsible for mowing of the highways and roads (outside the municipalities). MoTI has a policy / treatment schedule in place regarding invasive plants.
- SCRD remains with the Coast Invasive Plant council, and has looked into the Sea to Sky Invasive Plant Council.
- Land owners are required to control noxious plants on private property (*BC Weed Control Act*).
- Updated invasive plant control plan required.
- Incentive/rebate approach is favoured over restrictive bylaws for control
- Collaboration with local municipalities.
- Invasive plant public awareness day in the spring.
- Increase in public communication.
- Make a disposal option available for larger land clearing needs (i.e. incinerator).
- Education regarding onsite management for home owners is needed.

Recommendation No. 2 *Regional Inter-Jurisdictional Invasive Plant Strategy*

The Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that staff engage with the Coastal Invasive Plant Council to conduct an annual invasive plant awareness event suitable for farmers and residents of the Sunshine Coast.

NEW BUSINESS

Ponds and Rainwater Harvest

- Digging a pond is eligible for rain water harvesting rebate program.
- Staff are requested to provide the AAC, the Drought Management Plan clarification/information regarding, “what is eligible for rebate”.
- Drought Management Plan information to be provided by staff to the AAC in early 2020.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday, January 28, 2020

ADJOURNMENT 5:00 p.m.