

MD of Bighorn
Agriculture Services and Environmental Advisory Board
January 7, 2022 – 9:00am
Held Virtually

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|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| In Attendance | Jackie Phillips | Public Member & Chair |
| | Pat Bedry | Public Member |
| | Erik Butters | Public Member |
| | Paul Clark | Deputy Reeve, MD of Bighorn |
| | Patricia MacMillan | Public Member |
| | Rick Tuza | Councillor |
| Staff | Lana Hill | Facilitator |
| | Leslie Rea | Executive Assistant/Facilitator |
| | Kendra Tippe | Environmental Fieldman |
| | Lynda Gale | Recording Secretary |
| Regrets | Kellie Jackson | AFRED Regional Liaison |

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

A. Agenda

- a. Additions – there were no additions
- b. Deletions – there were no deletions

MOTION by MacMillan to approve the agenda as presented.

Carried

B. Adoption of Minutes

MOTION by Butters to approve the November 19, 2021, minutes with the following amendments:

5) Ghost Watershed Alliance Society

2nd bullet to read “there is a GWAS member testing for lead related to target shooting in 4-Mile Creek and other areas along the eastern slopes have seen similar concerns with target shooting into creek banks and reportedly one creek in southern Alberta was seen to have an orange appearance from this”

7th bullet to read “the bioengineering workshop with Dave Polster was very successful, there is a bioengineering video being produced with grant funds from the City of Calgary, that will be available on the GWAS website by year-end”

6) Public Member Reports

5th bullet to read “Phillips said the Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA) hosted a Lunch & Learn on clubroot”

Carried

C. Environmental Fieldman's Reports

- MacMillan asked about attendance at the water well workshop, Tippe said there were approximately 35 attendees
- Clark asked about the overall concern with well-water
- Tippe said the typical concerns are about maintenance and testing, how often, what to look for and where to take tests

D. Business Arising from the Minutes

- There were no items

E. Delegations

- There were no delegations

F. General Business

1) Living in the Natural Environment

- Tippe said sponsorship and ticket sales are down and said the facility needs at least one-week notice if the event is going to be cancelled
- Discussion about postponing the event to later in 2022 and issues regarding sponsorship and attendance
- Discussion about refunds for tickets and sponsorships

MOTION by Clark to postpone the 2022 Living in the Natural Environment event until 2023.

Second by MacMillan
CARRIED

2) Jumpingpound Creek Watershed Partnership (JCWP)

- Tippe said JCWP has not had any news regarding their Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP) grant

3) Municipal Update

- Deputy Reeve Clark said the MD Heritage Resource Committee (HRC) has their 2022 calendars ready for circulation
- Deputy Reeve Clark said he attended the Bow River Basin Council (BRBC) Working Group where the proposed replacement of the current dam at the Ghost Reservoir was discussed
- Deputy Reeve Clark said there was an announcement from the Cochrane RancheHouse regarding approval of a trail that will connect the City of Calgary to the Town of Cochrane and said there may be plans to connect that trail to the Legacy Trail in Canmore
- Deputy Reeve Clark said the Bow Valley Regional Housing (BVRH) has completed 60, Level 4D units in the Canmore lodge, but are waiting for an emergency backup generator prior to residents moving in

- Deputy Reeve Clark said he and Councillor Tuza have been appointed to the Intermunicipal Collaborative Framework (ICF) committee between the MD of Bighorn and Mountain View County
- Discussion followed regarding HRC 2022 Calendars, the new dam site and battery storage on the Bow River

4) Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development Update

- There were no items

5) Ghost Watershed Alliance Society (GWAS) – MacMillan

- MacMillan said the video regarding the bio-engineering workshop will be available on the GWAS website by mid-January
- On December 8, 2021, GWAS Executive Director, M. Krainer, made a presentation to the BRBC Quarterly Forum and received encouragement from a retired water-quality specialist, to further investigate concerns regarding lead from target shooting in streams

6) Public Member Reports

- Butters said the drought in 2021 has resulted in a shortage of hay and feed for livestock which led to extremely high prices and the recent cold weather has not helped
- Butters said the Alberta Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) has a voluntary drought insurance program that has helped to cover costs for qualified producers in this drought situation with high-priced feed, but there has been government help for producers to get through
- Bedry said she has had some issues with predators and said a wolf hurt a heifer
- Bedry said she has been using some greenfeed and said it may attract bears in the spring
- MacMillan said she is hoping some moisture gets into the ground for pastures and fire suppression
- Phillips said the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists (ASPB) newsletter had an interesting article about a new conservation initiative that will be working in Alberta to identify key biodiversity areas in the province
- Phillips said the initiative was introduced by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Phillips said there are biologists in Alberta working to identify what these areas would be and said what makes this initiative new, is that it will bring everything in the natural environment together as a whole ecosystem to identify these areas
- Phillips said Alberta has a high amount of biodiversity areas and said there are 54 nationally endemic species

- Phillips said two sites mentioned in the article are the Castleguard Cave in Banff National Park and the Castle-Waterton corridor because of the high number of species and the biodiversity in that area
- Phillips said there may be areas within the MD of Bighorn identified in this process

H. **New Business**

1) ASB Provincial Conference Draft Agenda - Tippe

- MacMillan asked if the conference was participating in the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP)
- Tippe said yes and masking and proof of vaccination or negative test will be required while at the conference except while eating or in your hotel room
- Discussion about carpooling to the ASB conference and completing rapid testing prior to travelling in a group
- Tippe will email with any updates regarding the conference

2) ASB 2022 Resolutions – Tippe

- Discussion regarding resolutions and resulting solutions
- Tippe will send a TEAMS meeting invitation for the week of January 17th to discuss the ASB conference details

3) Strathcona County vs Apollo Plastering – Original Appeal Decision and Court of Queen’s Bench Decision – Tippe

- Tippe summarized the Weed Notice appeals and said the Court of Queen’s Bench upheld the County’s decision

4) Nutrient Management Webinar Series – Tippe

- Tippe said she wanted to bring the webinars to the Board’s attention and said the speakers are very knowledgeable

5) Letters from Various Municipalities

- Tippe told the Board the letters are included in the agenda package so members can stay informed with what is happening in other municipalities

I. **Next Meeting Date**

- March 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Phillips
Chair

Lynda Gale
Secretary