

**CITY OF PITT MEADOWS  
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
held at the Pitt Meadows City Hall, Meadows Room, Pitt Meadows, BC  
Thursday, April 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

**Committee Members:**

Bob Hopcott,  
Agritourism  
Joe Bachmann,  
Farmers' Institute Representative  
Dan Kosicki,  
Chamber of Commerce Representative  
Macky Banns,  
Farmers' Institute  
Chris Zabek,  
Ministry of Agriculture & Food  
Ron Richter,  
Golden Eagle Group

**Staff:**

Kim Grout, Dir. Operations & Development  
Services, Chair  
Randy Evans, Superintendent, Public Works  
Joy Rutquist, Recorder

**Regrets:**

John Becker, Council Representative  
Scott Pelton, Greenhouse Grower Rep  
Leo Captein, Nursery Grower

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The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

Introductions were made and Ron Richter, President of Field Operations for the Golden Eagle Group, was welcomed. He will be the AAC Committee member representing berry growers.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Joe Bachmann that the minutes of the January 14, 2010 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED.

Kim Grout advised that Anbrook did not use the Temporary Land Use Permit.

**Water Levels in the Drainage System**

At the September 10, 2009 AAC meeting, the committee recommended the responsibility for determining the pump settings in Policy F09 Administering Internal Drainage change from the Farmers' Institute to the Agricultural Advisory Committee and that the changes suggested by the sub-committee be incorporated with the understanding that important issues will be discussed with the affected stakeholders.

Randy distributed a copy of an email that outlined the sub-committee's recommendations and it was reviewed.

The settings for Area #3 were agreed upon; the settings for Areas #1 and #4 will be discussed in a separate meeting with Ron Richter and Leo Lakowski (President of Plant Operations for Golden Eagle Group), Kim Grout and Randy Evans; Area # 2 will not change.

**Recommendation:** The Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that the drainage settings for Area #3 read as follows:

April 1 – May 10 for frost protection a setting of G.S.C. Pump On +0.10, Pump Off -0.10

During October for cranberry harvest a setting of G.S.C. Pump On +0.10, Pump Off -0.10

The rest of the year -30 with no minimum.

The City will reserve the right to make a change in the settings due to extreme weather systems.

CARRIED.

### **Roundtable**

Bob Hopcott – said an agent for the Pelton Exclusion Application has been approaching Pitt Meadows' farmers. Kim advised that our AAC will not comment on the application until Maple Ridge Council and Maple Ridge AAC have referred the item.

Dan Kosicki – asked if the permit for the airport fill site included the exportation of materials. Kim said it didn't. The Drainage Utility is productive and paying dividends to more than agriculture.

Joe Bachmann – positive things have come since the implementation of the Drainage Utility. He suggested the AAC draft a letter to DFO regarding the farming use of river water. The committee agreed and this item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Randy Evans – advised that pumps with variable frequency drive will be tried in the Katzie area for the Baynes pump station. The trash racks at the new #1 station are working well and will be considered for other pump stations. This year's capital project at McKechnie will incorporate weir structures to isolate systems and open them when needed. The letters for the 2010 ditch cleaning program have been mailed to the property owners.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.