

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
BOARD OF AGRICULTURE & CONSERVATION

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM AND ROLL CALL:

The regular meeting of the Board of Agriculture & Conservation (BAC) was held on August 20, 2024, in person & via Zoom/teleconference. Chair Jeff Vance called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

A. ROLL CALL/ APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

Rollcall Vote:

- i. MOTION: Moved to approve the agenda and minutes of preceding meeting.
Vance – Yes, Anderson – Yes, Bates –Yes, Bergy- Absent, Boring – Yes, Davies – Yes, Jensi-Yes

VOTE: 6 yes, 0 no, and 1 absent during Roll Call vote.

Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

- Jeffrey (Jeff) Vance, Chair
- John Anderson, Vice Chair
- Matt Bates, Board Member (Zoom)
- James (Jamie) Boring, Board Member (Zoom)
- Stuart (Stu) Davies, Board Member
- Adam Jensi, Board Member

Staff in Attendance:

- Bryan Scoresby, Director
- Christy Kolvoord, Natural Resource Specialist III (ARLF Loan Officer)
- Gavin Ulbrich, Loan Collection Officer 1
- Ed Cook, Administrative Assistant II
- Cynthia Morales, Accountant 4, DNR
- George Deaton, Accountant 3, DNR
- Public in Attendance: Bruce Bush

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

- i. Jamie Boring stated he has interest in a fungi company that is currently underway. Kevin Higgins replied this is not a conflict due to their business not applying to the current applicant but that the board chair would decide. Jeff Vance concurred with Higgins and the board agreed.

D. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Bryan Scoresby Division Update:
 - i. ARLF quorum is now 4 changed from 5. The Governor will sign the bill August 24, 2024 at the State Fair.

Appendix 1 (BAC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES August 20, 2024)

- ii. Gavin Ulbrich started as new Loan Collection Officer August 19, 2024.
 - iii. Publication Specialist position has been filled by Stephanie Stillmen
 - iv. Purdue University did a study on Alaska Agricultural. They traveled all over Alaska visiting 8 farms while with the Division of Agriculture. They also met with people from Homer. We are waiting on their report.
 - ii. ARLF FINANCIALS
 - i. John Anderson: What are the Repossessed Property numbers?
 - ii. Cynthia Morales: A Land Lease that was depreciated in 2020.
 - iii. ARLF Loan Officer
 - i. June and July Metrics. Christy: We are required to post our monthly metrics so I added them to the BAC packet as well. As you can see, I have been busy in these reports. Any questions?
 - 1. Stu Davies: The farm visits are very important, thank you for making this happen.
 - ii. FY20241 Report: Christy: As you can see we approved about 6.1 million in the FY 2024.
 - iii. Delta outreach report: Christy: Erick Johnson, Stephanie Stillman and I went to Delta Junction for 4 days August 4-8. We were able to visit many farms and inspect collateral and fences. Please see the report for the pictures.
 - E. Public Comment Session: Bruce Bush, the Farm Family of the Year, presented successes and struggles since he became a farmer.
 - i. Christy: What can the Division do to help more?
 - ii. Bruce: Help farmers find people to buy their products.
 - ***Video stopped due to internet outage.***
 - ***The remaining minutes are a summation of the events***
 - F. NEW/OLD BUSINESS
 - i. Welcome Gavin Ulbrich.
 - ii. Board nominated the existing Chair and Vice Chair to continue their posts. All were in favor and the positions were accepted.
 - iii. Board Goals and Mission Review
 - 1. Jamie Boring made a motion to create a committee to focus on the board goals. Adam Jenski was the 2nd. Motion passed 6/0 with one absent.
 - 2. Adam Jenski, Jamie Boring, Jeff Vance, and Christy Kolvoord will reach out to see if farmers would like to join the committee.
 - G. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- MOTION: Moved to go to executive session to discuss confidential loan information and delinquencies.
- i. 1st – Stu Davies
 - ii. 2nd –John Anderson

Roll call- Vance – Yes, Anderson – Yes, Bates –Yes, Bergy- Absent, Boring – Yes, Davies – Yes, Jencki-Yes

VOTE: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent, 0 Recused

Motion APPROVED

H. PUBLIC SESSION ON LOAN APPLICATIONS

i. Far North Fungi-

MOTION: Approve the loan per the Loan Officer Recommendation.

i. 1st Stu Davies

ii. 2nd John Anderson

Discussion: None

Roll call- Vance – Yes, Anderson – Yes, Bates –Yes, Bergy- Absent, Boring – Yes, Davies – Yes, Jencki-Yes

VOTE: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent, 0 Recused

Motion APPROVED-Loan Approved

ii. Lyndaker- MOTION-Decline the loan.

i. 1st Adam Jencki

ii. 2nd John Anderson

Discussion: A vote of “yes” is declining the loan.

Roll call- Vance – Yes, Anderson – Yes, Bates –Yes, Bergy- Absent, Boring – Yes, Davies – Yes, Jencki-Yes

VOTE: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent, 0 Recused

Motion APPROVED-Loan Denied.

iii. Rammell- MOTION-Decline the Loan

i. 1st Adam Jencki

ii. 2nd John Anderson

Discussion: None

Roll call- Vance – Yes, Anderson – Yes, Bates –Yes, Bergy- Absent, Boring – Absent, Davies – Yes, Jencki-Yes

VOTE: 5 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent, 0 Recused

Motion APPROVED-Loan Denied.

I. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS: None recorded

J. NEXT MEETING: October 15, 2024.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

1st- Stu Davies

2nd-John Anderson

All in favor say “Ay”. The ayes have it.

Adjourned 12:36 PM