

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 01/21/2025, in person & via Zoom/teleconference. Chair Jeff Vance called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**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 – N/A, Bates –N/A, Bergy- N/A, Boring – Yes, Davies – Yes, Jenski-Yes

VOTE: 5 yes, 0 no, and 3 absent during Roll Call vote.

Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

- Jeffrey (Jeff) Vance, Chair (Zoom)
- John Anderson, Vice Chair Absent
- Matt Bates, Board Member Absent
- Tom Bergy (Zoom)
- James (Jamie) Boring, Board Member (Zoom)
- Stuart (Stu) Davies, Board Member (Zoom)
- Adam Jenski, Board Member (In Person)

Staff in Attendance:

- Bryan Scoresby, Director
- Christy Kolvoord, Natural Resource Specialist III (ARLF Loan Officer, In person)
- Ed Cook, Administrative Assistant II (In Person)
- George Deaton, Accountant 3, DNR (Zoom)
- Kevin Higgins, Attorney 5, Dept. of Law (Zoom)
- Gavin Ulbrich ARLF Loan Officer (In Person)

Public Attendance: Brock Blankenship, Taylor

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES-NONE**

**D. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

- i. Bryan Scoresby Division Update:
  - i. Today is the first day of Alaskan Legislature session, the Governor's executive order for the Division of Agriculture to become a department is effective.

- ii. New construction of the division office finished up in December, we now have walls instead of cubicles for our front office space and storage space in the back.
- iii. PMC is finalizing drafts of new seed production and cleaning facility with construction set to take place this summer. The PMC also held a winter lunch with producers from across the state with a turnout of around 25.
- iv. Christmas tree inspections went well with the inspections team finding no new insects.
- v. There has been one public comment in support of the new regulation changing the maximum ARLF lending limit from \$1 million to \$3 million. This regulation needs the lieutenant governor's signature and then has a 30-day period before it is official.
- vi. We need capital investments and more leadership in Alaskan Ag. Doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result is insanity.
- vii. The Golden Carrot award will be presented to Three Bears this year, we are still working out a time for this.

ii. ARLF FINANCIALS

- i. Jeff Vance – is the date correct on statement of revenues?  
George Deaton – no, my apologies, this should say December 2024.
- ii. Discuss what is left to lend:  
Christy Kolvoord: roughly \$3.7 million  
\$6.9 million Cash  
-\$1.8 million Undisbursed loans  
-\$362,000 doubtful accounts  
- \$1 million for ARLF emergency funds  
Totals of \$3.7 million left to lend
- iii. Public Comment Session: None

**E. NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

Interest Rate Review

- i. MOTION: Keep interest rates the same for Calendar year 2025 per loan officers' recommendation
  - ii. 1<sup>st</sup> – Stu Davies
  - iii. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jamie Boring
- Roll Call  
VOTE:   5   Yes,      No,   2   Absent,      Recused

Motion APPROVED

**F. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- i. MOTION: Moved to go to executive session to discuss confidential loan information and delinquencies.

Appendix 1 (BAC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 01/21/2025)

- i. 1<sup>st</sup> – Stu Davies
- ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Adam Jenski

Roll call- Vance – Yes, Anderson – N/A, Bates –N/A, Bergy- Yes, Boring – Yes, Davies – Yes, Jenski-Yes

VOTE:   5   Yes,    No,   2   Absent,    Recused

Motion APPROVED

**G. PUBLIC SESSION ON LOAN APPLICATIONS**

- iv. MOTION: Approve good borrower credit calendar year 2025
- v. 1<sup>st</sup> – Stu Davies
- vi. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Adam Jenski

Roll Call: Vance

VOTE:   5   Yes,    No,   2   Absent,    Recused

Motion APPROVED

**H. PUBLIC SESSION ON LOAN APPLICATIONS**

- vii. MOTION: Approve TJ Gittins collateral release
- viii. 1<sup>st</sup> – Stu Davies
- ix. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jamie Boring

Roll Call

VOTE:   5   Yes,    No,   2   Absent,    Recused

Motion APPROVED

**I. PUBLIC SESSION ON LOAN APPLICATIONS**

- x. MOTION: Approve Bryce Wrigley Loan Application
- xi. 1<sup>st</sup> – Adam Jenski
- xii. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tom Bergy

Roll Call

VOTE:   5   Yes,    No,   2   Absent,    Recused

Motion APPROVED

**J. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS:**

Jamie Boring: we need to assign responsibilities for Alaskan Ag. between Federal Gov., State Gov., Local Gov. and the private sector. To do this we need to understand the overall costs and problems presented specifically in Alaska. Alaska food security is like a ship without a rudder. The newsletter is stellar!

Tom Bergy: We need a point system for each loan to rank which is most beneficial towards food security.

Adam Jenski: we need to alert the LLC.'s who normally apply for annual operating loans about the lack of funding ARLF has to loan out. The state needs to allocate more funds to the ARLF program in order to grow Alaskan agriculture.

Jeff Vance: Next meeting we will vote to stop lending until our two applications greater than \$1 million on hand from September are addressed.

Appendix 1 (BAC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 01/21/2025)

Director Scoresby – ARLF is attracting business to and in Alaska with our lower interest rates, we have done our job of lending out ARLF funds if we are almost out.

**K. NEXT MEETING:** [03/25/2025]

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn: Stu Davies motion, Jamie Boring seconds

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

Adjourned 10:42 AM