

**Annual General Meeting
Minutes
Battle River Alliance for Economic Development
June 22, 2017**

The Annual General Meeting for the Battle River Alliance for Economic Development (BRAED) was held in Killam, AB at the, Killam Agriplex, Multi-purpose room.

Communities:

- County of Paintearth: Rocky Dahmer
- Flagstaff County: Ducan Coutts, Jennalee Blackhurst, Brent Hoyland
- M.D. of Wainwright: Phil Valleau
- Alliance: Dell Wickstrom and guest
- Wainwright: Ed Chow
- Daysland: Edward Kusalik, Gail Watt
- Beaver County: Arnold Hanson
- Holden: Bernie Marko
- Edgerton: Wes Laporte, Barb Sjoquist
- Irma: Joan Green
- PEPS: Carol Thomson, Diane Elliott, Gina Groger, Meriah Wiart
- Forestburg: Peter Miller
- Bittern Lake: Angela Lorente
- Ryley: Brian Ducherer
- Killam: Bud James
- Camrose: Vic Goodman

Executive Director: Margot Begin

Administration: Debra Anderson

Alberta Innovation & Advanced Education: Dawna Allard

Government of Alberta – Labour: Jean Vidal

REACH: Rodger Cole

Guest Speaker(s): Michael Wetsch, (Grant Thornton LLP) Craig Dobson, (Taylor Warwick Consulting)

Call to Order: Arnold Hanson, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

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Adoption of Agenda:

Motion #1/17 Moved by Bud James to accept the agenda for June 22, 2017.

CARRIED

Minutes of June 22, 2016

Motion #2/17 Moved by Rocky Dahmer that the AGM minutes of June 22, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Presentation of the BRAED Annual Report: Margot Begin (see report)

- Discussion regarding highlights of the annual report
- Prepared in a user friendly format to share with individual councils etc.
- BRAED will develop a new Summer Intern Program model

2016-2017 Annual Report

Motion #3/17 Moved by Bernie Marko to accept the 2016-2017 Annual Report as presented.

CARRIED

Presentation of the Financial Report: Michael Wetsch, Grant Thornton LLP (see handout)

Financial Report:

Financial Statements - EATC
Unaudited (see hand-out)

Financial Statements – BRAED
Unaudited (see hand-out)

Motion #4/17 Moved by Peter Miller to accept the Financial Statements (March 31, 2017) as presented.

CARRIED

2017-2018 Operations Plan: Margot Begin (see handout)

- Discussion on the next year's projects
- Working with coal affected communities may evolve into a BRAED project
- "Resource Community Volunteer Staff and Consulting" at no cost

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Approval of the Operations Plan:

Motion #5/17 Moved by Phil Valleau, to accept the BRAED 2017-2018 Operations Plan as presented.

CARRIED

NOTE: at the next Board of Directors Meeting – review the BRAED Mission Statement

By-Election: Executive Committee Member

- Acclaimed – Brian Ducherer

Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor –

Resolution to leave EATC

Motion of the Executive Committee

“**Motion** Moved by Gail Watt, that the executive committee make a recommendation to the Board of Directors to terminate our partnership with Eastern Albert Trade Corridor.

CARRIED”

- Discussion regarding the relationship with EATC and BRAED
- A motion was brought forward to withdraw from the EATC
- Capacity to leverage funding thru this partnership will be gone.

Motion #6/17 Moved by Vic Goodman, that BRAED accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee and terminate BRAED’s partnership with EATC, effective immediately.

CARRIED

- Discussion on BRAED withdrawing it’s share of EATC funds before handing over the books to PEP

Motion #7/17 Moved by Joan Green, that BRAED withdraw it’s one third share of the EATC funds before the EATC books are turned over to PEP.

CARRIED

Project Updates

Broadband Preparedness – Craig Dobson, Taylor Warwick Consulting (see PowerPoint)

- Study overview
- Phase 1 CAEP and BRAED leverage

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- Will present a report, with status, next steps, current state, desired state
- Potential sub region partnerships

One Less Trip

- BRAED will continue to support OLT By Local campaign
- Will promote regional collaboration and support local businesses
- Wes Laporte has been working on the OLT Greenhouse promotion

Regional Value-Added Agriculture Project

- BRAED will implement a multi-phased project aimed at building capacity of member communities to attract investment

Business Retention & Expansion

- BRAED will design and deliver a regional approach to the delivery of Business Retention and Expansion Services

Appointment of Accounting Firm for 2017-18

Motion #8/17 Moved by Bud James, to appointment Grant Thornton LLP as the BRAED accounting firm for 2017-18.

CARRIED

Alberta Innovation & Advanced Education: Dawna Allard

- Alberta Investor Tax Credit – (AITC) – Government of Alberta (see hand-out)
- The AITC is an initiative under the Alberta Jobs Plan that will encourage investment in businesses that are bringing new products and services to market and creating jobs in Alberta.
- The program will accept applications as of January 16, 2017
- Budget of \$90 million over three years
- TOURISM - GOA offers two free guides
- Tourism Business Planning guide
- Tourism Development Guide
- Community and Regional Economic Support Program (CARES)
- Alberta JOBS Plan

Round Table Reports from Members

Flagstaff County: Ducan Coutts, Jennalee Blackhurst, Brent Hoyland

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- Would like to partner with BRAED
- Value-Added Agriculture
- Broadband
- Summer Intern is Duncan Coutts
- Country Roots Tour – August 11, 2017
- New run way lights for airport

Irma: Joan Green

- Plans for a new school are underway
- Ball tournaments are up and coming
- Irma Daze – July 27 – August 3

Holden: Bernie Marko

- Holden Junior Cattle Show – June 24-25
- Farmer's Day - June
- Legion Pig Roast – August

Edgerton: Wes Laporte, Barb Sjoquist

- Grant Funding Information for Community Groups and Non-profit Organizations
Read more: http://www.edgerton.ca/blogs/show_entry/8279
- CARES program –able to hire Wes Laporte
- Sports Day – July 7-9
- STILL STANDING – airs July 18 CBC episode 8
- 100 year Community Anniversary Grant from Canadian Government
August 11, 12, 13, 2017

M.D. of Wainwright: Phil Valleau

- Pavement contracts in place
- Gravel pits reclamation
- Rural Route Supper – August 11, 2017

REACH - Rodger Cole

- REACH is work with 7 communities
- Has two active programs running

Bittern Lake: Angela Lorente

- Increasing security system
- Garbage and recycling have been gated
- Bittern Lake Block Party and Canada 150's Celebration – August 11, 2017

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Ryley: Brian Ducherer

PEPS: Thomson, Diane Elliott, Gina Groger, Meriah Wiart

- Industrial land development opportunities
- Residential land for sale
- 150 – tourism
- Castor Rodeo, Swim-a-thon, Castor Fair, Castor Show and Shine, Caster Cabaret
- Check out Town of Castor Website for above dates

Paintearth County: Rocky Dahmer

- Survey of community coal shut downs
- More wind projects for Halkirk
- Water grant for water lines

Forestburg: Peter Miller

- Pending closure of the coal mine Forestburg is in the process of reinventing their village September 2017
- Investment in the village – Korean couple bought the FAS GAS station

Daysland: Ed Kusalik

- Paterson Grain Terminal Grand Opening
- Hired two new doctors

Town of Wainwright: Ed Chow

- REACH 2nd phase
- PLANT THE TOWN RED AND WHITE CONTEST July 26 deadline
- Taste of Wainwright – July 20 Celebrating Canada 150

Alliance: Dell Wickstrom

- 2018 100 year anniversary
- Train station opens July 1
- Sports Day – July 1 150 year celebration
- Ag Society Horse Show & Bench Fair – July

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Camrose: Vic Goodman

- Tourism process researching what it could look like in Camrose
- Working on improving tourism in Camrose
- Great economic engine for hiring people

Government of Alberta – Labour: Jean Vidal

- Bonnieville Oil and Gas Show – cautious optimism
- Some hiring but not a lot
- Canada Job Grant still available, up to \$15,000 available per employee
- Subscription service

Next Board of Directors Meeting: September 7, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in TBA

Adjournment

The AGM meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Arnold Hanson, Chair

Carley Herbert, Secretary