



**Northumberland County
Agriculture Advisory Group Meeting
Minutes
February 22, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Zoom Conference**

Present: Deputy Warden M. Martin, L. Meekes, P. Burnham, A. Carruthers, B. Butter, D. Gray, M. Stergios

Staff Present: D. Borowec, A. McCue, J. Moore, G. Dees, T. Mellor, D. Marshall

Regrets: M. Ellis, K. Stubbings, A. Cole, M. Dejong, P. Linton

1) Welcome

- Dan Borowec, Director of Economic Development, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives
- Adam McCue, Associate Director of Operations

2) Approval of the February 22, 2022 Agenda / Additional Items

- Agenda accepted as presented.

3) Approval of the November 30, 2021 Minutes

- Minutes accepted as presented.

4) Action Items and Follow Up from Previous Meetings

a) Recycling Update

- The lone buyer of the County's Film Plastics will be doing a trial in November on the wholly white bale wrap.
- **Action:** Adam will provide an update to the group after the November trial is complete. (Complete)
 - Adam discussed the challenge of accepting all white bail wrap.
 - The owner has indicated a 6-month delay in accepting material.
 - **Action:** Adam will investigate whether the material can be sent to a plant in Pennsylvania.
 - Adam indicated that material from the MRF is clean enough to be accepted.

- **Action:** Lisa asked whether BBL Energy has been considered and will provide contact information to gauge their interest in being added to buyer list. Bruce indicated he will also follow-up.

5) Communications

- a) Correspondence, Township of Hamilton 'Marine and Agricultural Plastic Wrap Disposal'
 - No discussion.

6) New/Other Business

a) Ontario Agri-Food Venture Centre (OAFVC) Update - Dan Borowec

- Dan Borowec provided an update on the 'Contract Positions - Ontario Agri-Food Venture Centre (OAFVC) Annual Renewal' report.
 - 7 support positions have been created based on cost recovery system, 32-35 hours per week.
 - OAFVC finished 2021 in a positive position - demand for use of facility and new product development has helped.
 - At the end of February, OAFVC will host a marketplace to sample products being developed and to provide more information to the public on OAFVC activities.
- Dan provided an update on Broadband initiatives currently underway.
 - 14k unserved or under-served homes will be supported by new fibre to the home.
- Deputy Warden Martin expressed thanks to County staff who helped make this a reality.

b) Recycling Update

- Please see attached presentation.
- Adam McCue provided a detailed presentation on 'Changes to Blue Box Recycling in Northumberland County'.
- Adam discussed legislative changes which will transition the Blue Box Program to full Producer Responsibility, phased over a three-year period between 2023 and 2025.
- An overview of next steps was provided, and possible challenges discussed.

c) 2022 Budget Update

- Glenn Dees provided an update on the 2022 budget process.
 - The budget passed in December 2021 with an increase after growth of 3.1%.
 - The Golden Plough Lodge (GPL) and Northumberland County Archives & Museum (NCA) redevelopment project is the largest capital expenditures.
 - Glenn discussed how COVID-19 pressures are ongoing and highlighted that the County has received a significant amount of funding from the Province.
 - The County continues to look for land to expand social housing

programs.

d) Municipal Drainage

- Denise Marshall discussed best practices regarding municipal drains and mutual agreement drains.
- In order to ensure consistency across the County, the ideal situation would be for member municipalities to administer and for landowners to petition for a drain.
- **Action:** Denise will work with member municipalities to draft a policy.

e) 2022 Construction Program

- Denise Marshall provided an update on the various road projects and design work underway across the County.
 - Paving taking place at County Road 25, County Road 2, Peterborough County Road 42, section of County Road 18 and County Road 64 in Brighton.
 - County Road 45 retaining wall and Loomis Bridge work in Brighton underway.

7) Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Crop signs – 6 safe locations
- Infilling on Rural Lots
- Housing

8) Next Meeting - April 26, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.