

Alberta Conservation Association

Minutes of the March 25, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting



Via ZOOM
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

PRESENT: Bill Abercrombie (Chairman) – Alberta Trappers Association
Robert Gruszecki (Vice Chairman) – Alberta Hunter Education Instructors Association
Sandra Mellon (Treasurer) – Public At Large, NW Region
Mark Boyce (Director) – ACA / U of A Chair in Fisheries & Wildlife
Fred Calverley (Director) – Trout Unlimited Canada
Randy Collins (Director) – Alberta Fish and Game Association
Brian Joubert (Director) – Nature Alberta
Perry McCormick (Director) – Pheasants Forever Alberta Council
Chuck Priestley (Director) – Public At Large – NE Region
Travis Ripley (Director) – Alberta Environment and Parks
Jeana Schuurman (Director) – Alberta Professional Outfitters Society
Richard Stamp (Director) – Public At Large, SO Region
Brent Watson (Director) – Alberta Bowhunters Association

Todd Zimmerling – President & CEO, ACA
Debra Dueck – Recording Secretary, ACA
Lori-Jeanne Edwards – CFIO, ACA

REGRETS: Ken Ambrock (Director) – Public At Large, Northern Alberta Board Liaison
Robert Grandjambe (Director) – Indigenous BOD Liaison
Matt Mellon – Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta
Vacant - Treaty 8

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bill Abercrombie called the meeting to order March 25, 2021 @ 9:10 AM
Chairman Bill Abercrombie welcomed the board members to the meeting, round table introductions were made of those participating in person and via ZOOM.

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2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA & MEETING TIME LIMIT

MOTION # 05/21

Moved by: Robert Gruszecki
Seconded by: Randy Collins

Move that the March 24, 2021 agenda be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting is anticipated to conclude by 4:00 PM.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

a. December 10, 2020 Board of Directors' Meeting – Electronic Motion: 01/21EV (Attachment A – Minutes of the December 10, 2020 BOD Meeting)

MOTION # 06/21

Moved by: Randy Collins
Seconded by: Robert Gruszecki

Move that the ACA Board of Directors' agree that this is an accurate reflection of the votes placed and therefore ratify Electronic Motion: 01/21EV stating: **"Move that the Minutes of the December 10, 2020 Board of Directors' meeting, be accepted as presented"**.

MOTION CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING

a. Review of Action Items (Attachment B – Action Items)

Action Items were reviewed and updates were provided.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Chairman / Executive Committee

Bill Abercrombie, Chairman, provided a report to BOD:

- President and CEO Annual Performance Review – completed by the Executive Committee. His leadership and vision gets more and more relevant in what we are trying to accomplish as a conservation group. Continually explores new ideas and opportunities.

- With the pandemic it has been a difficult year, but ACA was very prepared to make adjustments to deal with the situation and circumstances that came forward. Congratulations on a job well done.
- Impacts of COVID have doubled down on the effects on member groups and the economic situation.

b. President & CEO

(Attachment C)

The President & CEO report was reviewed and highlights were discussed and noted:

Despite the varied impacts of COVID 19 ACA has finished the 2020/21 fiscal year in a very good position, not only fiscally, where we have seen a surge in both hunting and angling sales, but also from a health and safety and mental health perspective. In March we had our first case of COVID 19 with one of our staff members. Fortunately, because of the protocols ACA had in place, this individual had no contact with any other staff and as a result we did not have a larger outbreak. In addition, our staff survey indicates all but one person is happy with working at ACA and many people commented on how well ACA handled COVID, placing staff safety above all else and being proactive in our actions. Despite the current positive attitude of staff, it is clear that ACA staff, like everyone else, want to get back to “normal”.

c. Finance & Audit Committee

Financial Overview to February 28, 2021 - *(Attachment D)*

Sandra Mellon, Treasurer, presented the Financial Overview to February 28, 2021 points noted:

- Total revenue increased from the prior fiscal year by \$ 1,484,571.
- Levy revenues are \$ 1,755,248 higher than received in the prior year. Fishing license sales have increased 30.4% (approximately 75,754 additional licenses over the prior year).
- Wildlife Certificate revenue was collected during the draw season (in the past collected in mid-August – mid-September), a change over the prior year and as a result an additional \$545,859 was collected for Wildlife Certificates over the prior year.
- Hunting Draw applications increased over the prior year by \$10,959 resulting in an estimated additional \$40,000 in levy, or 2.5%.
- Hunting licenses overall have increased over prior year, with the main increases being seen in the following categories: Elk Antlerless – 19.4%; Black Bear – 16.1%; Whitetail Deer – 8.0%; Moose – 9.0%; Trophy Sheep – 15.8%; Pheasant – 15.7%; Game Bird – 12.9%.
- Non-Resident License sales have been heavily impacted due to COVID, with reduced revenue year over year of \$576,569, or 61%.
- Partner contributions are \$ (227,533) lower than received in the prior year.
- Miscellaneous revenue includes advertising fees for the Conservation Guide, magazine, event sponsorship and raffles.

Revenue are \$ 917,641 higher than year to date budgeted amounts.

- Levy revenue was higher than budgeted levels by \$1,119,764.

- Partner revenue is lower than the year-to-date budget by \$ (158,850).
- Grants and funds are under budget by \$ (218,767). The Predator Compensation revenue is included in this line and is billed on a quarterly basis. Also, Syncrude funds for Biodiversity is included in the budget but recorded in Partner Revenue.

Operating expenses (expenses that are controllable by management) were \$ (810,366) below previous year levels. ACA management is practicing constraint in spending, with an emphasis on reorganizing projects where applicable considering COVID-19 restrictions and challenges. Although the individual expense categories vary, the overall expenditure is consistent.

The organization is \$(3,160,998) under budgeted year to date expenditures. COVID-19 has impacted the ability for ACA to conduct planned work throughout the entire year. Field work commenced in July and through August with adjusted restrictions due to COVID-19. Explanations of the major item variances as noted in the Financial Overview report.

An operating surplus (excess of revenue over expenditures for management-controlled items including actual interest revenue which is outside of management control) of \$4,660,489 exists compared to the results of the prior year where a surplus of \$2,294,937 was recorded. This demonstrates the results of continued focus on expenditure reduction due to COVID 19 as well as project realignment due to COVID 19.

When adjustments are made to recognize realized and unrealized investment gains and losses, asset disposals, investment income and removing revenue from donations that was allocated to land purchases, the result ends in an accounting surplus of \$5,794,453 for the period compared to \$2,518,193 in the prior year. Management continues to focus on advertising and promotion related to fishing and hunting to continue to drive levy sales.

ACA reported an accounting or total organizational surplus of \$5,794,453, an amount that included interest income, realized (actual changes from sold investments) and unrealized (changes in book value due to cost versus market fluctuations) results for investments and asset disposals that are not in management control. The realized gain on investments was \$22,809; the unrealized gain on investments was \$797,704. Investment income was \$296,053 and gain/loss on disposal of assets was \$33,358. Exchange rate gains incurred were (\$16,006).

Once these are removed from the total organizational results, the true operational surplus that is in direct control of management (including the interest revenue which is outside of management control) is \$4,660,489 compared to a prior period operational surplus of \$2,365,552.

Cash Flow Statement

- Cash flows from operating activities resulted in a cash increase of \$3,645,765. Inflows were used to maintain operating expenditure with amounts that are not restricted.
- The net cash balance after asset purchases, debt repayment and other operating cash uses is \$4,322,616. Of this amount, \$710,628 is restricted and not available for operating expenditures, which includes the In Trust, Restricted and RAP accounts. USD funds available for use are \$770,229. No further USD funds were purchased in the month.

Statement of Financial Position

As an overview of the financial position as at February 28, 2021, ACA reports:

- Current assets have increased by 145.3% from recorded levels at February 29, 2020. Accounts Receivable is comprised of receivables from partners and contributors.
- The Endowment Fund balance is \$3,067,290 up 11.4% from last year. Part of the increase is related to additional contributions made to the fund. These contributions include: \$131,400 ALT Grant in June 2020. Half of the increase in the fund on a yearly basis due to interest and gains (not including increase because of additional principle investment) is directed towards enhancement and/or management of ACA lands, and half is retained to grow the fund on an annual basis (to allow for monies to be removed from the fund the interest and gains retained must at a minimum match the rate of inflation for the previous year).
- Equipment purchases this period were \$157,566. Land was purchased in the amount of \$461,250 (HSF Enviro Can \$425,000, \$36, 250 Scheerschmidt) related to Timber Ridge Expansion. Land donations were received in the amount of \$1,205,000. Boulder Lake was donated for \$1,100,000 and the Stefaniuk site was donated for \$105,000.
- The total fair market value of the investments is \$3,495,179 representing a increase of 9.8% over the fair market value at February 28, 2021.
- The Habitat Securement Fund has a balance of \$600,000 as of February 28, 2021 and the land team has anticipated the use of the full fund.

Annual Operating Plan 2021-2022

The final draft of the Annual Operating Plan 2021-22 was provided to the BOD for review and approval.

MOTION # 07/21

Moved by: Sandra Mellon

Seconded by: Robert Gruszecki

Move that the ACA Board of Directors' approve the Annual Operating Plan 2021-22 as presented

MOTION CARRIED

Other discussion from F&A Committee Meeting:

- Q-Trade Account Resolution – Discussion by the group, questions to go back to the F&A Committee for clarification.
- Investment Policies – No changes identified. **ACTION ITEM: Administration will follow up with Investment advisor to confirm any potential changes and report back at the June 2021 BOD Meeting.**

d. Communications Committee

Randy Collins, Committee Chair advised that no committee meeting was conducted.

e. **ACA Grants Program Committee**

Chuck Priestley, Acting Committee Chair provided update, points noted:

Biodiversity Grants:

- The Biodiversity Grants successful recipient list was provided for information only.
- ***ACTION ITEM: Biodiversity Grants Process - Recommendation to revise the process to be the same as the other granting processes, adjudication committee would stay the same for the Biodiversity Grants.***
- ACA Research Grants - Recommendation to approve the recipient list and release the funds in the amount of \$329,918.40.

MOTION # 09/21

**Moved by: Randy Collins
Seconded by: Brent Watson**

Move that the ACA Board of Directors' award the funds allocated to the successful recipients of the ACA Research Grants in the amount of \$329,918.40 (Three Hundred and Twenty Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighteen Dollars and Forty Cents).

MOTION CARRIED

- ACA CCE Grants - Recommendation to approve the recipient list and release the funds in the amount of \$969,727.31.

MOTION # 10/21

**Moved by: Brent Watson
Seconded by: Fred Calverley**

Move that the ACA Board of Directors' award the funds allocated to the successful recipients of the Conservation, Community and Education Grants in the amount of \$969,727.31 (Nine Hundred and Sixty Nine Thousand, Seven Hundred and Twenty Seven Dollars and Thirty One Cents).

MOTION CARRIED

- Grants Program TOR – will be reviewed/revise by the committee, a draft will be presented to the BOD at the June meeting.
- Grants Program Committee TOR - Reviewed - no changes required, recommend review in 3 years as per schedule.

MOTION # 11/21

**Moved by: Randy Collins
Seconded by: Brent Watson**

Move the recommendation from the ACA Program Grants Committee, that the following document has been reviewed with no revisions required and will be maintained for an additional 3 years. After which time the document will be brought forward for review by the committee.

TOR006-Rev3-20151210 – ACA Grants Program Committee Terms of Reference.

MOTION CARRIED

- COVID Relief Fund Update – Results of the COVID Relief Fund were provided for information (Attachment “H”).

Other Discussion:

- PAL Members could reach out to grant recipients once their projects have been approved and they have been notified.
- Amy McKinven to advise President and CEO once the recipients have been notified of the results/awards. President & CEO will then advise BOD.

f. Operations Standards Review Committee

Mark Boyce provided an update from the committee meeting:

- North American Model presentation/discussion is scheduled.
- Carbon sequestration discussion.

g. Recruitment Committee

Robert Gruszecki provided an update from the meeting that was held, points noted:

- Recommendation to the BOD that the Academic Representative Terms of Reference be approved.

MOTION # 12/21

**Moved by: Chuck Priestley
Seconded by: Fred Calverley**

Move the ACA Board of Directors' approved the recommendation from the Recruitment Committee, that the Academic Representative Terms of Reference be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: Administration will issue a document number, format and brand the Academic Representative Terms of Reference.

- Human Dimensions Representative TOR/Position description– committee continues to work on TOR and position description.
- Recommendation to add “Succession Plan for BOD Members Discussion” to the June Strategic Planning meeting agenda.
- Decision that this will be added to the agenda of the June 2021 Strategic Planning Meeting. Committee chair explained the purpose of the BOD Profile Matrix. ***ACTION ITEM: Revised BOD Profile Matrix will be forwarded to board members for completion and analysis for the June 2021 board meeting.***

h. Governance Committee Report

Committee Chair Brian Joubert provided updates from the committee meeting, points noted:

Reviewed/revised the following documents, which will be presented at the June BOD Meeting for approval.

- BOD005-Rev2-20151210 – Code of Conduct.
- BOD011-Rev0-20150819 - Electronic Voting.
- BOD014-Rev0-20171214 – Removal or Suspension of a Member.
- Grounds for Disqualification from Receiving Funds from ACA.
- Diversity, Equality and Inclusion statement – to be presented at the June 2021 meeting.

i. PAL Member Committee

Sandra Mellon provided updates from the committee meeting conducted. PAL Member quarterly reports were provided for information, reviewed and discussed.

j. Organizational Risk Report
(Attachment K)

Organizational Risk Report was presented by Todd Zimmerling, President & CEO, no major risks were identified.

k. Northern Board Liaison Report

No report provided.

l. Indigenous BOD Liaison Report

No report provided.

m. **Director Emeritus Report**

No report provided.

n. **AEP Representative Report - Verbal**

Regulatory Assurance Division

Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) is undertaking significant system transformation. The transformation is incremental, taking place in phases over the next three years, and will impact the way we operate and interact with stakeholders as a regulator.

The work we are doing to transform our system really focusses on creating a predictable, fair regulatory process while maintaining the high environmental standards Albertans expect.

This system transformation involves:

- Regulatory transformation
- Sub-regional and local planning and policy
- Integrated crown land management

On the regulatory transformation front, Alberta is developing a digital platform to manage applications under the *Water Act*, the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* and the *Public Lands Act*. This digital system, the Digital Regulatory Assurance System or DRAS, is designed to support investor confidence in Alberta, while demonstrating the province's commitment to strike the right balance between environmental, social and economic goals.

This modern system will allow applications to be submitted, reviewed and managed digitally, which will provide more certainty, clearer expectations and improve approval timelines for applicants.

The full lifecycle of an environmental authorization will be handled through DRAS – from application to closure of a project.

Currently, an applicant may need to access multiple technologies in a disjointed system. The technical solution will enable a streamlined and integrated approval.

This system will allow AEP staff to focus on managing the landscape versus managing applications. The first IT release of DRAS is anticipated in June 2021. It will include the functionality to accept, review and track Water Act approvals and codes of practice-related applications, as well as sand and gravel-related applications. Additional modules will be added regularly until 2023.

AEP is conducting regular bi-weekly meetings with various industry associations to discuss our regulatory transformation efforts.

AEP has been working with other regulators like the Alberta Energy Regulator and Forestry on our regulatory transformation, and coordinating and aligning where it possible.

Policy Division

Post 2020 global biodiversity program (30 by 30)

Without counting private easements and other OECM's Alberta ranks 3rd in Provinces and Territories for conserved areas.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS - CHANGES TO FUNDING MODELS – STEWARSHIP PRIVATIZATION

Alberta's government has undertaken significant conservation work to protect Alberta's land, water and air. This includes careful management of our parks and public lands and support for stewardship on private land. In 2020 and 2021 combined – Environment and Parks is investing more than \$300 million capital, operating and grant dollars to support responsible outdoor recreation and conservation. We are working with not-for-profits to help in the delivery of certain Alberta Environment and Parks programming. AEP is working with the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) in the delivery of the caribou habitat restoration program. The program brings together government and industry partners to fund restoration in caribou ranges across Alberta, working through FRIAA ensures this work can be coordinated and completed in a cost-effective way.

Capital and Grant Funding

- \$158 million in capital funding (2020-22) for new and improved infrastructure and grants that enhance responsible recreation, tourism and conservation. Highlights include:
 - \$43 million in 2020 for upgrades and improvements to trails, campgrounds, and facilities at sites across the province:
 - \$1 million for trail and staging area improvements in David Thompson Country announced in 2020.
 - \$6 million announced in 2020 for a new main day lodge at William Watson Lodge, to provide barrier-free wilderness lodging for persons with disabilities, seniors and their families.
 - \$10.5 million allocated for the 2019-21 Watershed Resiliency Restoration Program, which helps improve the health of Alberta's watersheds and reduce the impacts of both flood and drought.
 - \$9.7 million in 2020 (from the land stewardship fund) for conservation-related activities, including seed gathering and tree planting to restore seismic lines in caribou management areas. Projects will also focus on culvert and bridge replacement, as well as repairs to water crossings that help recover at-risk species and protect habitat.
 - \$15 million for the Land Trust Grant Program (2020-22), which supports efforts aimed at conserving ecologically important lands to prevent habitat fragmentation, maintain biodiversity, and preserve native landscapes.

- Operating grants to partners to conserve and natural landscapes and headwaters
 - \$3 million in grant funding for Cows and Fish who help protect headwaters.
 - Since 2018, more than \$25 million has been invested in the Caribou Habitat Recovery Program, along with \$14 million for caribou monitoring and active management of caribou populations.

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Additional Initiatives:

- In 2020, Alberta's government announced it is planning a massive expansion of protected forest in the the Kitaskino Nuwenënë Wildland. The expansion will add about 143,800 hectares of land to the protected area in northeastern Alberta – almost three times the size of Waterton Lakes National Park.

Changes to funding models

- Changes to the funding models for caribou habitat restoration activities will reduce expenses by \$10 million annually beginning in 2021-22.
 - Starting in 2022-23, an additional reduction of \$8 million annually will reflect changes to the Wetlands Replacement Program.
 - This is an administrative change that will allow important industry funding specifically for restoration work to be targeted to caribou recovery sooner. There is no reduction in the amount of funding for wetland replacement or caribou habitat restoration, rather it reflects a change in how we manage funds.
 - Instead of industry paying government and then government paying to complete the work, we're simplifying the process and taking government out of the middle, while still maintaining a key leadership role in how the funding is administered.
 - The intention is not to reduce the contributions from industry but to find a more efficient way to administer the funds through time.
 - This is specifically for restoration work and does not include staffing or administrative expenses.
 - Industry will contribute the same amount as had been previously planned, and Environment and Parks will remain responsible for approving priorities and setting standards for this work.

Caribou Habitat Recover Program

- Since 2018, more than \$25 million has been invested in the Caribou Habitat Recovery Program (\$2.2 million in federal funding, \$700,000 from industry and \$22 million in provincial funding).
 - In addition, since 2018, our province has expended \$14 million on caribou monitoring and active management of caribou populations.

Wetland Replacement

- Since 2015, more than \$38 million has been invested through Wetland Replacement Fees towards restoring and replacing wetlands for economic, social and environmental benefits.
 - In the first six months since the Wetlands Replacement Program was implemented in September 2020, AEP expended about \$4 million on approximately 160 hectares of wetlands through contracts with Ducks Unlimited, County of Grande Prairie, City of Leduc, and M.D. of Greenview. At least twelve companies have benefited from this program since September 2020, of which seven are Alberta owned and one is Indigenous-owned.

Resource Stewardship Division

- AEP's *Citizen Science Principles of Good Practice* were published in November 2020. These principles were co-developed by AEP and the Miistakis Institute, with guidance and input from external organizations, researchers and practitioners. The principles provide practitioners, researchers and decision makers common guidance to consider when designing, implementing, and evaluating citizen science initiatives. <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/9781460146514>

Flood Maps Update

- Municipal and public feedback received for recently released draft flood inundation maps has been reviewed and addressed. Flood inundation maps are valuable emergency response products.
- Work continues on the creation of flood hazard maps for many at-risk communities across Alberta. Flood hazard maps are used when making land-use and development decisions in flood prone areas.

Species at Risk

- In October 2020, Alberta signed a 5-year conservation agreement with the federal government to support woodland caribou conservation and recovery in the province.
 - The agreement is now being implemented and will enhance caribou recovery efforts in the province.
- Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) is working with ECCC and Parks Canada for the conservation and management of wood bison herds.
- AEP has prepared a draft recovery plan for Alberta's provincial fish – the bull trout – to public engagement in the near term.
- AEP is working with a number of government and external partners to deliver a comprehensive Native Trout Recovery Program in the eastern slopes, with a focus on habitat restoration.
 - These efforts have been significantly enhanced by a multi-year federal funding award of over \$5.1M.
- AEP has negotiated two multi-year federal funding agreement to expand our existing recovery programs for sage-grouse and Ord's kangaroo rat, two critically imperilled species in Alberta.

Increased Hunting opportunities and Engagement with Hunters:

- AEP focused on preparing for engagement with hunting and trapping communities in late spring of 2021, once a vision for hunting and trapping was shared with the public. The Ministers Vision for hunting and trapping highlights several topics for engagement that cover the review and renewal of Wildlife Act and regulations, providing quality hunting opportunities, updating data and analysis to support decisions and modernizing game management plans.
- In a recent update to the Wildlife Act and Regulations, over 40 amendments were made that addressed issues related to hunting licences, commercial trapping, falconry, reporting requirements, habitat protection, conservation and wildlife taxonomy to better manage wildlife populations.

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- Annual hunting regulations were also adjusted that enabled season date changes for big game seasons, creation of big game seasons in specific wildlife management units and removing restrictions on daily and possession limits for pintail ducks.
- In addition, AEP introduced a new hunting seasons for sandhill crane across portions of the province.

Human Wildlife

- Alberta BearSmart program has been working with community groups to educate people living, working and recreating in bear country to avoid conflicts
- This work aligns with the continued delivery of the grizzly bear recovery plan

Summary provided on sport fishing webinars held in January:

- Over 6,500 visits to online engagement and over 2,500 contributions to the online survey
- Over 4,000 registrations for webinars
- Over 70 questions submitted and responded to through the “ask the expert” online portal

Discuss global values survey and relation to the “America’s Wildlife Values” – Alberta is involved and seeking provincial information.

o. Membership Committee

Sandra Mellon, committee chair updated the board members on discussions from the meeting regarding the membership application received from the Alberta Backcountry Hunters & Anglers Association.

Recommendation from the committee level that the ACA Board of Directors forward the membership application to the ACA Annual General Meeting for acceptance by the Member Groups.

MOTION # 13/21

**Moved by: Greg Shyba
Seconded by: Robert Gruszecki**

Move the ACA Board of Directors' take a recommendation to the ACA Annual General Meeting for acceptance of the Alberta Backcountry Hunters & Anglers Association application to become a member of the ACA Board of Directors'.

**MOTION CARRIED
1 Abstention**

ACTION ITEM: President & CEO directed to ask ABHA to elaborate on the statement in the association's bylaws as discussed.

7. Old Business

a. **RAP MOU – AHEIA** (Attachment “K”)

- Report A Poacher Memorandum of Understanding between AHEIA and ACA was presented to the board members for review, discussion and approval. ACA will provide the RAP truck, trailer, promotional items and support to AHEIA.

MOTION # 14/21

Moved by: **Brent Watson**
Seconded by: **Chuck Priestley**

Move the ACA Board of Directors' approved the Report A Poacher Memorandum of Understanding between AHEIA and ACA as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

b. **Golden Ranches - Update**

Update on the status of the Golden Ranches project was provided by R. Gruszecki and President & CEO:

- ECOgift penalty – CRA advises that there would be 300K penalty to go back to the original footprint.
- President & CEO has approached ECOgift about a swap of other lands for the ecogift. ECOgift is looking into how to deal with this request.
- AHEIA is willing, able and eager to move forward with this project.

c. **JPC / MOU – Update**

- MOU and program agreements are currently waiting for signature by the AEP Minister.

8. Reports

a. **Annual Operating Plan 2021-2022** (Uploaded to BOD Website)

Approved under Item 6 (c) Finance & Audit Committee Report.

9. New Business

a. Employee Survey Results

(Uploaded to BOD Website)

Employee Survey Results were available for board member review on the BOD Website.

- Overall results were positive.
- Staff felt ACA dealt with the COVID Pandemic very well.

b. Electronic Motion: 02/21EV – Ratification: Qtrade Resolution

(Attachment L)

Discussion: The Qtrade account that is being opened is to allow for people to donate stock to ACA. It is meant to be a deposit location for donations to be received. From there ACA would immediately sell the stock and move the proceeds from the sale into the general account.

MOTION # 15/21

Moved by: Jeana Schuurman

Seconded by: Richard Stamp

Move that the ACA Board of Directors agree that this is an accurate reflection of the votes placed and therefore ratify Electronic Motion: 02/21EV stating:

“Move that the ACA Board of Directors adopt the Qtrade Resolution as presented”.

MOTION CARRIED

1 Abstention

c. Electronic Motion: 03/21EV – Ratification: HSF Purchase – Manyberries Creek Conservation Site

(Attachment M)

MOTION # 16/21

Moved by: Chuck Priestley

Seconded by: Mark Boyce

Move that the ACA Board of Directors agree that this is an accurate reflection of the votes placed and therefore ratify Electronic Motion: 03/21EV stating:

“Move that the ACA Board of Directors approve \$67,450.00 (Sixty Seven Thousand, Four Hundred and Fifty Dollars) from the 2020/2021 Habitat Securement Fund to purchase the Manyberries Creek Conservation site (Jussila), NE 04-006-05-W4M (160 Acres). Located in the Sage Creek Focus Area, in partnership with other conservation organizations”.

MOTION CARRIED

1 Abstention

d. **Electronic Motion: 03/21EV – Ratification: Funds to Close – Manyberries Creek Conservation Site**
(Attachment N)

MOTION # 17/21

Moved by: Randy Collins
Seconded by: Perry McCormick

Move that the ACA Board of Directors approve the wire transfer to Dentons LLP (In Trust) in the amount of \$288,000.00 (Two Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Dollars) representing the Funds to Close for the Manyberries Creek Conservation Site (Jussila). NE 04-006-05-W4M (160 Acres) Closing Date: March 25, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED
1 Abstention

10. **Closed Session**

MOTION # 18/21

Moved by: Robert Gruszecki
Seconded by: Jeana Schuurman

Move that the ACA Board of Directors move into Closed Session at 2:36 PM

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION # 18/21

Moved by: Robert Gruszecki
Seconded by: Jeana Schuurman

Move that the ACA Board of Directors revert back to the regular meeting at 3:42 PM

MOTION CARRIED

11. **Date and Location of Next Meeting**

- a) BOD Calendar Event List (Attachment O) – provided for information
- b) 2021 Meeting Calendar (Attachment P)

The next scheduled BOD Meeting – June 10-11, 2021– Edmonton, AB

- **May 31 – June 8, 2021** Committee Meetings will be scheduled.
- **June 10, 2021 (Thursday)** 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Strategic Planning Meeting
- **June 11, 2021 (Friday)** 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Regular ACA BOD Meeting

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12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION # 19/21

**Moved by: Brian Joubert
Seconded by: Perry McCormick**

Move that the BOD Meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The Board of Director's meeting was adjourned at 3:47 PM.



(Chairman)



(Secretary)