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| To: | Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council |
| Committee Date: | May 9, 2019 |
| Subject / Report No: | CCR-CW-08-19 |
| Title: | Alternate Land Use Services (ALUS) Representation |
| Prepared by: | Heather Morrison |
| Reviewed by: | Randy Scherzer |
| Lower Tier(s) Affected: | None |
| Status: | |

Recommendation

1. That Report CCR-CW-08-19 regarding Grey County Council representation on the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS)-Grey Bruce Chapter Board Partner Advisory Committee be received; and
2. That the Warden be appointed annually as Grey County's representative to the ALUS Partner Advisory Committee.

Executive Summary

The Alternative Land Use Service (ALUS) Grey-Bruce Chapter is a partner with the Grey Agricultural Services and is a program that recognizes land stewardship and assists farmers in implementing and funding projects to produce ecosystem services. ALUS is looking for a representative from Grey County Council to sit on its Board of Directors of the Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) for the Grey-Bruce Chapter.

Background and Discussion

The Alternative Land Use Service (ALUS) Grey-Bruce was introduced into Grey and Bruce Counties in 2012 and is a partner with Grey Agricultural Services. ALUS is recognized as the "Farmer to Farmer Conversation Program". The group identifies the value of conserving ecologically sensitive parcels of marginal land while maintaining active agriculture on the more productive areas. Its overall aim is to improve the biodiversity on the agricultural landscape.

ALUS supports such projects as tree planting, grassland preservation and plantation and wetland creation. There are several ALUS chapters throughout Ontario.

Historically the Wardens from both Grey and Bruce Counties have been the representative on the ALUS Grey Bruce Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) Board of Directors. Warden

Hicks has indicated his wish to continue with past practice and serve as a member of the PAC Board. Given the history, infrequency of meetings (up to four times per year) and the linkages between Grey County and the agriculture community and economic development, it makes sense to have the Warden appointed to represent the interests of Grey County.

The Board of Directors includes members from Ontario Nature, Grey Agricultural Services, Ducks Unlimited, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, National Farmers Union, Conservation Authorities, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry among others. The PAC meets up to four times per year.

Legal and Legislated Requirements

There are no legal or legislated requirements related to this report.

Financial and Resource Implications

The costs associated with the Warden's attendance at board meetings for ALUS will be minimal and include mileage costs only. These can be covered within the current operating budget.

Relevant Consultation

- Internal Randy Scherzer, Kevin Weppler
- External Keith Reid, Executive Director, ALUS

Appendices and Attachments

None