

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AGRICULTURE ADVISORY BOARD

Chairman –	VACANT (03)	Adam Jenski (07)	Kenneth Hoffman (10)
Vice Chair –	Alexandria Hoffman (04)	Stephen Brown (08)	Thomas Bergey (11)
LaMarr Anderson (01)	Jozef Slowik (05)	Misty O'Connor (09)	Abby Raisanen(12)
VACANT (02)	VACANT (06)		

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING
DSJ Building / Lower Level Conference Room

January 15, 2025
4:30 P.M.

Call In #: 1-907-290-7880
Participant Code: 677 280 327#

- I. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL
- II. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Limit 3 minutes)
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 18, 2024
- VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS
 - A. Staff Report – Suzanne Reilly
 - B. Work Session
Investigate the feasibility of smaller parcels and more subdivisions and develop a recommendation to the Assembly while ensuring de minimis loss of agricultural land.
- VII. MEMBER COMMENTS (Limit to 3 minutes)
- VIII. NEXT MEETING: February 19, 2025
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

1 **MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**
2 **AGRICULTURE ADVISORY BOARD**
3

Chairman – LaMarr Anderson (01)	Melanie Glatt (03)	VACANT (06)	Kenneth Hoffman (10)
Vice Chair – Stephen Brown (08)	Alexandria Hoffman (04)	Adam Janski (07)	Thomas Bergey (11)
Amanda Salmon (02)	Jozef Slowik (05)	Misty O'Connor (09)	Abby Raisanen (12)

4
5
6 **MINUTES - DRAFT**
7

8 **REGULAR MEETING**

December 18, 2024

9 **DSJ BUILDING**

4:30 PM

10 **LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM**
11
12

13 I. **CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL**

14 Mr. Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm

15 Members present and establishing a quorum were: LaMarr Anderson, Amanda Salmon
16 (@ 4:45 pm by phone; left @ 5:23 pm), Melanie Glatt (by phone), Jozef Slowik (by
17 phone), Adam Janski, Misty O'Connor (@4:41 pm), Kenneth Hoffman, Thomas Bergey
18 (left @ 5:47 pm), and Abby Raisanen.

19 Members absent and excused: None

20 Members absent: Stephen Brown, Alexandria Hoffman

21 Staff present: Joseph Metzger, Land Management Division Manager

22 Suzanne Reilly, Asset Manager

23 Margie Cobb, Department Administrative Specialist
24

25 II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

26 Agenda approved as presented.
27

28 III. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Limit 3 minutes)**

29 No audience participation.
30

31 IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

32 Mr. Bergey moved to approve the November 20, 2024 Minutes were approved as
33 submitted; Mr. Hoffman seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.
34

35 V. **ITEMS OF BUSINESS**
36

37 A. **Staff Report**

38 Mr. Metzger: Consulted with Borough Attorneys for clarification on responsibility
39 of this Board and received confirmation this Board handles business related only to
40 properties that fall under the Borough Ag Title 13, 15 & 23 programs. Items related
41 to agricultural property not in these programs is outside the responsibility of this
42 Board.

43 Ms. Reilly: The Assembly approved the Cook/Raevsky Resolution. For
44 information only, she gave a presentation to the Assembly regarding the Point Mac
45 Rail Extension Farm; the video of the presentation and Assembly interaction can be
46 viewed on the Borough's website. Input is welcome by individual Board members

47 to either Mr. Metzger or Ms. Reilly, but there is no actionable items for this Board
48 since this property falls under the State Ag Program.

49
50 Ms Salmon reported that she has been approved to serve on the Platting Board; due
51 to possible conflict of interests, she is resigning her position on this Board.

52
53 B. Work Session
54 *Investigate the feasibility of smaller parcels and more subdivisions and develop a*
55 *recommendation to the Assembly while ensuring de minimis loss of agricultural*
56 *land.*

57 Mr. Bergey motioned to go into Committee As A Whole at 5:04 pm; Mr. Hoffman
58 seconded. Mr. Hoffman motioned to come out of Committee as a Whole at 6:09
59 pm; Ms. O'Connor seconded.

60
61 VI. MEMBER COMMENTS (Limit to 3 minutes)

62
63 Ms. Glatt: She is resigning from the Board. She is confident this Board will move
64 forward well on determining the feasibility of small parcels.

65 Mr. Slowik: A new "Title" for changes is a good thought. Agrees with stricter
66 restrictions.

67 Ms. O'Connor: Definitely need to define what is considered "farming"; lots to talk
68 about.

69 Mr. Anderson: Very production discussion in tonight's Work Session.

70
71 VII. NEXT MEETING: January 15, 2025

72
73 VIII. ADJOURNMENT

74 Mr. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:16 pm.

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79 _____
LaMarr Anderson, Chairman DATE

80
81 ATTEST:
82
83
84 _____
85 Margie Cobb
86 Department Administrative Specialist

NEW TITLE ALLOWING FOR SMALLER PARCELS

Investigate the feasibility of smaller parcels and more subdivisions and develop a recommendation to the Assembly while ensuring de minimus loss of agricultural land.

OVERALL GOALS:

- Protect and preserve ag land
 - Ensure decisions today do not negatively affect the future.
 - Minimize creating future conflict
-

DISCUSSION NOTES (12/19/2024 meeting)

Possible lot size allowed: 10 acres

NEW TITLE:

- Voluntary Conversion.
- Strict
- Define rules for subdividing
- Incentivize: Allowed with Ifs: Owned it for xx years, farmed it XX% years.

Risk: Borough does not have enforcement rights.

LAYERS: ((*Highlighted to be addressed at next meeting*))

Ag Definition

Allowable Uses vs. not allowed

Incentives: Tax incentive only if property is used for Ag

Farm Plan

When does it apply?

How long with no farming activity?

Request to Staff:

Request from Borough Ag Land owners to provide feedback on what they are doing to identify how much is being used/how.