

# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AGRICULTURE ADVISORY BOARD

<b>Chairman –</b>	Tony West (03)	Adam Jensi (07)	Kenneth Hoffman (10)
<b>Vice Chair –</b>	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**

**February 19, 2025**  
**4:30 P.M.**

**Call In #: 1-907-290-7880**  
**Participant Code: 103 984 176#**

- I. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER
- 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
    1. Upcoming Ag Conversion – Stahl
    2. Upcoming Ag Conversion - Oleck
  - 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: March 19, 2025
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

4 <b>Chairman</b> – LaMarr Anderson (01)	Melanie Glatt (03)	VACANT (06)	Kenneth Hoffman (10)
<b>Vice Chair</b> – 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)

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)

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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

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73 VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

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79 \_\_\_\_\_  
80 LaMarr Anderson, Chairman      DATE

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.**

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### OVERALL GOALS:

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

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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.***