Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

1. The <u>Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program (OWDCP)</u>, administered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAFRA), stipulates that Municipalities must appoint a Livestock Valuer to investigate incidents of Livestock and/or Poultry damage that have been reported to the Clerk of the Municipality. The Program provides compensation to eligible Applicants whose Livestock and/or Poultry have been injured or killed as a result of Wildlife.

2. Meetings

- 1. Site visits as requested, plus appeal hearings when required.
- 2. A member shall not be absent for three (3) consecutive site visits without notice. For any anticipated lengthy absence (3 meetings or more), the member shall submit a request for leave of absence in order to preserve membership standing. Without a valid and acceptable reason, the individual's appointment will be rescinded.

3. Responsibilities

- 1. The Valuer shall have a thorough working knowledge of the Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program (OWDCP).
- 2. The Valuer shall make a full investigation within two (2) days of receiving the notification from the Clerk.
- 3. The Valuer shall have access to a digital camera and will record such evidence, including the taking of photographs and/or video, that is reasonably necessary to allow another person to review the evidence and make a conclusion as to whether Wildlife caused the Injury or death.
- 4. The Valuer will make and serve his/her report in writing within three (3) days (with the exception of statutory holidays) after receiving notification.
- 5. The Valuers report will include the following information:
 - a. Whether the injury or death was, to the Valuer's best knowledge and belief,
 i. Caused by Wildlife covered under the Program,

- ii. Caused by a dog owned by or habitually kept on the premises of the owner of Livestock and/or Poultry, or
- iii. A result of the owner's failure to take reasonable care to prevent the injury or killing of the Livestock and/or Poultry by Wildlife
- b. The extent and amount of damage to the owner's Livestock and/or Poultry;
- c. Evidence that the owner of the Livestock and/or Poultry have made reasonable effort (if any) to prevent incidences of Wildlife damage;
- d. The quantum of compensation (if any) the owner of the Livestock and/or Poultry should receive as determined by the calculation set out in the Program Guideline: Payment is not to exceed fair market value. Any insurance payments a Recipient isEligible to receive as a result of injury or death to Livestock and/or Poultry shall be deducted from any compensation the Recipient may be eligible to receive under this Program.
- 6. The Valuer will provide a copy of his/her report to:
- a. The owner of the Livestock and/or Poultry;
- b. The Clerk of the municipality in which the Livestock and/or Poultry was injured or killed.
- 7. If the Valuer determines that the damage was caused by a dog that is not habitually kept on the premises of the owner of Livestock and/or Poultry, the owner is not eligible for compensation through this Program. If the damage is caused by dogs, the process set out in the Protection of Livestock and Poultry from Dogs Act shall be followed.

4. Term & Membership Composition

- 1. Council shall appoint at least two (2) Livestock Valuers.
- 2. Resignations from Livestock Valuers must be in writing.
- 3. The Livestock Valuers shall be appointed for the term of Council, but shall continue until such time as new members are appointed by a new Council following an election. Members may be reappointed at the discretion of Council.
- 4. Recognizing that vacancies may arise, Council will request submissions from the public and will appoint citizens to fill such vacancies.

5. Remuneration

1. \$40.00 per site visit, plus mileage.

6. Member in Good Standing

1. All members should reflect appropriate conduct when attending meetings and/or representing the Town of Georgina in public.

7. General Conduct

1. All Livestock Valuers will abide by the Town of Georgina's Code of Conduct and other applicable Town policies and guidelines.

8. Budget

- 1. If deemed necessary, Council will approve a budget to include anticipated revenue and estimated expenditures.
- 2. Purchases will adhere to the Town's purchasing By-law or require the CAO's approval.
- 3. The budget will be administered by the Director of Infrastructure and Operations.

9. Use of Town Logo/Letterhead

1. Not Applicable.

10. Authority

1. The Livestock Valuers shall work within the scope of their responsibilities as set out in this Terms of Reference.

11. Confidentiality

1. The *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25,* shall bind the Livestock Valuers as it relates to confidentiality, conflict of interest, closed sessions, and any other requirements under the *Act*, which pertain to the conduct of officials.

12. Procedural By-Law

1. Not Applicable.

History: Amended by Council on August 15, 2018