

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Thursday, May 2, 2019

PRESENT: Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Taylor Bachrach
Shane Brienen
Mark Fisher
Dolores Funk
Tom Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Brad Layton
Linda McGuire
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Bev Playfair
Michael Riis-Christianson
Kim Watt-Senner

Director Absent Jerry Petersen, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)

Alternate Director Roy Spooner, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)

Staff Cheryl Anderson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer/Manager of Administrative Services
Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator – arrived at 1:25 p.m.
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Rory McKenzie, Director of Environmental Services – arrived at 1:25 p.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Tom Barnes, CEO, Municipal Insurance Association of BC – left at 11:47 a.m.
Agathe Bernard, Stewardship Officer, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:21 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.
Maria Creighton, CFO, Municipal Insurance Association of BC – left at 11:47 a.m.
Beth Eagles, Resource Manager, Regional Operations, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:24 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.
Darrell Hill, Councillor, Village of Burns Lake – left at 11:47 a.m.
Brent May, District Manager, Regional Operations, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:24 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.
Brad McRobert, Regional Manager Bulkley-Nechako (Vanderhoof), Regional Economic Operations Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:24 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.
Diane Nichols, Provincial Chief Forester, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.

Others (Cont'd)

Atmo Prasad, Manager, Forest Analysis and Data, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development– arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.
Jim Snetsinger, RPF, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development– arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.
Qiong Su, Timber Supply/Geomatics Forester, Forest Analysis, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – arrived at 11:13 a.m., left at 12:47 p.m.
Sheryl Worthing, CAO, Village of Burns Lake – left at 11:47 a.m.

Media

Blair McBride, Lakes District News – left at 11:03 a.m., returned at 11:41 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:49 a.m.

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Layton

C.W.2019-4-1

“That the Agenda of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee of the Whole meeting of May 2, 2019 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Minutes –April 4, 2019

Moved by Director Layton
Seconded by Director Bachrach

C.W.2019-4-2

“That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 4, 2019 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF BC – Tom Barnes, CEO, Maria Creighton, CFO
RE: Overview

Chair Thiessen welcomed Tom Barnes, CEO and Maria Creighton, CFO Municipal Insurance Association of BC.

Mr. Barnes and Ms. Creighton provided a video and PowerPoint Presentation.

- Overview of MIA – 30th Anniversary video
- Not a private insurer... MIABC's goals are its members goals
- Return to MIABC members
- Provide members with more than just insurance
- MIABC exists because communities in BC want to work together and support each other
- Great things are done by a series of small things brought together

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF BC – Tom Barnes, CEO, Maria Creighton, CFO **RE: Overview (Cont'd)**

- Loose Lips – Sink Townships
 - Reducing Risk Arising from Communications with the Public
 - Where does the liability exposure of elected officials arise?
 - Defamation and Negligent Misrepresentation
 - Cost of claims
 - Direct costs
 - Indirect cost
 - Intangible cost
 - Biggest mistake – negligent misrepresentation – saying something you think is right or sounds like it should be right but isn't right
 - Examples
 - Information relating to future plans
 - Contracts or tender documents
 - Interpretation of bylaws
 - Subdivision requirements
 - Building regulations
 - Business regulations
 - Municipal assets or property for sale
 - Defamation is....
 - Words used had a negative impact on the plaintiff
 - Words referred to the plaintiff
 - Communication made to third party

Mr. Barnes spoke of some local governments having a Reimbursement Bylaw addressing coverage for elected officials when personally sued. He noted the importance of remembering that a Board speaks with one voice after a debate, resolution and a vote. Ms. Creighton commented that a communication plan can provide guidance and contacting the CAO prior to having conversations or discussions will also assist in determining direction.

- Under promise + over deliver = reasonable expectations
 - More tips for managing public expectations
 1. Understand who the party is and what is important to them
 2. Confirming letters/emails
 3. Develop an invariable practice
 4. Keep good notes
 5. Remain professional and take the high road
 6. Avoid doing or saying anything that you would be embarrassed to see show up in an affidavit before a judge.

Director Bachrach spoke of the use of Facebook and personal/corporate business pages. He noted that personal pages provide more opportunity to interact and respond to people. Mr. Barnes commented that risk recognition and managing the risk is important.

Discussion took place regarding MIABC Risk Management Grants. Mr. Barnes provided an overview of the grant process.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Barnes and Ms. Creighton for attending the meeting.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – Jim Snetsinger, RPF, Diane Nichols, Provincial Chief Forester, Atmo Prasad, Manager, Forest Analysis and Data Management, Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review

Chair Thiessen welcomed Jim Snetsinger, RPF, Diane Nichols, Provincial Chief Forester, Atmo Prasad, Manager, Forest Analysis and Data Management, Forest Analysis and Inventory, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

Mr. Snetsinger, Ms. Nichols and Mr. Prasad provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review Discussion Paper

Presentation Outline

- Timber Supply Review (TSR) Objectives and Process
- Role of the Chief Forester
- Current Status of the Lakes TSA (Timber Supply Analysis) TSR Process
 - Release of the Discussion Paper
 - Public review and comment requested by July 5, 2019
- Key messages heard to date
- Discussion paper
 - The Forest
 - Crown managed forest land base
 - Timber Harvesting Land Base
 - Lakes Timber Supply Area Context
 - Impact of Mountain Pine Beetle
 - Wildfire Impacts
 - Tenure Changes
 - Harvest History
 - Base Case
 - Alternative Harvest Flows
 - Sensitivity Analyses
 - Socio-economic Analysis
- Engagement.

Chair Thiessen spoke of the importance of the Lakes Timber Supply Area (TSA) Timber Supply Review (TSR) to the region.

Director Riis-Christianson questioned the following:

- The weight and impact of public comments to the Chief Foresters determination of the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC).
 - o Ms. Nichols noted that the sensitivity analysis conducted is based on comments that were received. Community, land base and socio-economic concerns have a strong bearing on her decision.
- An update in regard to the science used for the information package provided to the Chief Forester.
 - o Mr. Prasad provided an overview:
 - Inventory was updated in 2016
 - Different stands are updated annually
 - Permanent sample plots are used to monitor growth of old and young stands to ensure modeling is on track
 - Analysis was conducted by a vigorous peer group using the best minds and the best available information
 - The information used is the most up to date information possible.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT –RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review (Cont'd)

- Ms. Nichols noted that the following is also included:
 - Aerial and ground forest health surveys
 - Any cumulative effect assessments conducted on the area
 - Wildlife habitat assessments and monitoring
 - Forest and range effectiveness programs results
 - Values of *Forest Range Practices Act* (FRPA)
 - Most completed on an annual/biannual basis
- In regards to socio-economic it has been suggested that job losses are conservative, How and what methodology is used to determine the socio-economic impacts?
 - Utilized FLNRORD staff to determine the cubic meters and the potential impacts to jobs – which will be determined by the forest companies
 - Ms. Nichols noted that wood does flow in and out of the area depending on the trading of wood to support the various mills
 - Socio-economic assessment also looked at primary and secondary jobs and multiplier affects built in the modeling.

Director Layton requested clarification on:

- The impacts of moving from volume based to area based salvaging to the AAC in cubic meters.
 - Mr. Prasad commented on the proportion of the Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) affected has a direct proportional effect to the AAC.
- Science completed in regard to how much better managed stands are closer to harvest date vs. mother nature?
 - Ms. Nichols spoke of two types of plots:
 - Permanent sample plots
 - In mature timber
 - Sets growth and yield rates
 - Young stem monitoring plot program
 - Going into young managed stands
 - Ensure yield projections are for managed stands – second growth – plantation stands
 - Ensure growth projection and if needed recalculate yield to go into modeling.
- Need to be proactive and is there recommendations to mitigate the intensively managed stands sooner than 60 years
 - Ms. Nichols discussed:
 - Timber Supply Review is most sensitive to fastest rejuvenation
 - Forest Genetics
 - “Results” silviculture program
 - Small amount of fertilization being tried
 - Information built into the growth and yield

Director Bachrach questioned the social choice being asked of the public?

- Ms. Nichols commented that the base graphs show the live volume
- The current practice is utilizing live and dead volumes of fiber
- There is potential dead volume that could be utilized depending on milling and other opportunities and could assist with timber supply
- Some pellet plants utilizing deciduous fiber and some facilities are looking at opportunities moving forward
- Ms. Nichols spoke of being realistic about potential opportunities and a balanced decision making process.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT –RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review (Cont'd)

Director Brienen spoke of the 2014 timber swap that occurred with the sawmill in Quesnel and Houston and the apprehension. He spoke of the interest today in the Discussion Paper. He requested that it would be very beneficial to include an acronym definition appendix in the discussion paper. Ms. Nichols commented that it has been excellent to have the interest in the process that is taking place and it is important for people to have an understanding of the process.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Snetsinger in his past role as Chief Forester and Ms. Nichols in her present role as Chief Forester for being open to discussions in regard to issues and concerns.

Director Funk asked:

- Has there been a consideration to the shelf life of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) wood and to harvesting it all until it is no longer salvageable?
 - o Ms. Nichols noted that the shelf life for the MPB is different in different areas of the province
 - o Use the dead wood – not burn it – except for wildfire mitigation and fuel management consideration.
- Take aways from the May 1 Public Meeting in Burns Lake
 - o People looking for information
 - Stewardship in the TSR
 - Job effects
 - o Specific questions of the Chief Forester – how conduct analysis?
 - o Discussion Paper is not the AAC determination – Chief Forester's process moving forward to determine the AAC
 - o Having information explained.

Director Layton requested access to the summary of the fiber available in the TSA. The District FLNRORD office can provide the information.

Ms. Nichols spoke to clarification of the volume base to area base changes, that while the TSA has been reduced, the wood is still available to harvest under different tenures.

Alternate Director Spooner brought forward diversity in regard to the use of fiber. Ms. Nichols mentioned that it is not included in the AAC determination but she does work with researchers from around the world about various opportunities and emerging initiatives for wood fiber. She spoke of the provincial and federal governments programs in regard to research, delivery and commercialization of biofuels. Ms. Nichols noted she has spoken to supporting communities with new initiatives and opportunities concerning the changing wood fiber basket. Chair Thiessen spoke of the importance of having support for communities to develop variations of community energy systems.

The Regional Board thanked Mr. Snetsinger and Ms. Nichols for their engagement and feedback.

Director Newell questioned the influence that FLNRORD has in regard to pipelines and their utilization of fiber on right of ways and access ways. Ms. Nichols noted that the Oil and Gas Commission has a certificate program and that certificate has certain conditions that have to be met. The certificate includes language in regard to the utilization of fiber. She spoke to moving towards developing stronger methods to ensure utilization of fiber.

Chair Thiessen spoke to the regions communities being resource based and the importance of sharing information.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT –RE: Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review (Cont'd)

The Regional Board thanked Mr. Snetsinger and Ms. Nichols for their engagement and feedback.

Chair Thiessen thanked Messrs. Prasad and Snetsinger and Ms. Nichols for attending the meeting.

REPORTS

First Draft – Updated Purchasing Policy

Director Bachrach identified that the Village of Cumberland has developed a social procurement policy that may be beneficial to review.

Discussion took place in regard to the Expense Authority Limits and Approval of Expenditures. Chair Thiessen spoke of clearly identifying the approval authorities for expenditures.

First Draft – Updated Purchasing Policy

Moved by Director Bachrach
Seconded by Director Layton

C.W.2019-4-3

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the Chief Financial Officer’s April 24, 2019 memo titled “First Draft – Updated Purchasing Policy”; and further, that staff provide a presentation to the Regional Board in regard to the Updated Purchasing Policy at a future RDBN Meeting; and that staff review the Village of Cumberland’s Social Procurement Policy.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Northern Capital and Planning Grant

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Newell

C.W.2019-4-4

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the Chief Financial Officer’s April 24, 2019 memo titled “Northern Capital and Planning Grant.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Newell commented that he has drafted a distribution model for the Northern Capital and Planning Grant funding that he can provide at a future Rural Directors Committee Meeting. Staff will forward a Doodle Poll to determine a date in July, 2019 to discuss further the Northern Capital and Planning Grant distribution.

Northern Development Initiative Trust - Building Façade Improvement Program

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Bachrach

C.W.2019-4-5

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the Economic Development Support Assistant’s April 24, 2019 memo titled “Northern Development Initiative Trust – Building Façade Improvement Program.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Manson Creek Landfill -Operations Contract –Tender Results

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Playfair

C.W.2019-4-6

1. “That the Committee of the Whole receive the Director of Environmental Services’ April 24, 2019 memo titled “Manson Creek Landfill – Operations Contract – Tender Results.”
2. Further, that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors award the Contract for Operation and Maintenance of the Manson Creek Landfill to Lepka Holdings Ltd. for a two year term commencing June 1, 2019 and expiring June 1, 2021 for a total amount of \$36,750 including GST.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Canfor – News Release -Canfor Temporarily

Moved by Director Layton
Seconded by Director Bachrach

C.W.2019-4-7

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the correspondence from Canfor – News Release – Canfor Temporarily Curtailing Production Capacity in BC.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director Layton
Seconded by Director Bachrach

C.W.2019-4-8

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the following correspondence:
-Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Lakes Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Analysis Discussion Paper Summary
-Northwest Invasive Plant Council – May Proclaimed Invasive Species Action Month (ISAM)
-North Central Local Government Association – 2019 UBCM Community Excellence Awards – Call for Nominations

INVITATION

-Species at Risk Program – Pacific Region – Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Public Consultation Sessions.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Layton

C.W.2019-4-9

“That the meeting be adjourned at 1:44 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant