

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

**Thursday, November 7, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill  
Shane Brienen  
Mark Fisher  
Tom Greenaway  
Clint Lambert  
Brad Layton  
Mark Parker  
Jerry Petersen  
Bev Playfair – via teleconference  
Michael Riis-Christianson  
Kim Watt-Senner

Directors Absent Dolores Funk, Village of Burns Lake  
Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle  
Rob Newell, Electoral Area “G” (Houston Rural)

Alternate Director Thomas Liversidge, Village of Granisle

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services  
Jason Blackwell, Regional Fire Chief –arrived at 11:37 a.m.  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services  
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Ron Blinn, The First Responders Café – arrived at 10:54 a.m.  
Vanessa Foord M.Sc., P.Ag. Research Climatologist, North Area, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development via teleconference 11:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Randall Sweet, Senior External Relations Advisor, Chevron Canada– left at 11:22 a.m.  
Cindy Wiebe, The First Responders Café – arrived at 10:54 a.m.

Media Blair McBride, Lakes District News – arrived at 10:42 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

**AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Watt-Senner

C.W.2019-8-1

“That the Agenda of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee of the Whole meeting of November 7, 2019 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **MINUTES**

Committee of the Whole  
Minutes – October 10, 2019

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2019-8-2

“That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of October 10, 2019 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **CHEVRON CANADA – Randall Sweet, Senior External Relations Advisor RE: Proposed Kitimat LNG Project and Pacific Trails Pipeline (PTP)**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Randall Sweet, Senior External Relations Advisor, Chevron Canada.

Mr. Sweet provided a PowerPoint Presentation

#### **Kitimat LNG Project Update**

- Chevron Corporation and Woodside Energy – Global LNG experience and strengths
- Kitimat LNG Overview – Designed to set the global standard for clean LNG
- Recent Kitimat LNG Plant project changes – significant reductions achieved in LNG unit cost
- Kitimat LNG Reducing global emissions while providing benefits for First Nations, BC and Canada
- Marine route
- Kitimat LNG Environmental Assessment Certificate History
- Kitimat LNG current focus area – Working to advance a cost competitive project

Mr. Sweet provided an update regarding an estimated timeline for the project in the next 5-10 years, the shipping process to keep the liquid gas in liquid form and BC Hydro rates for the project. He also provided an outline of Chevron Canada’s monitoring of the fracking process and the BC Oil and Gas Commission oversight. Discussion took place regarding schematics of the project including powerlines and roads, employee hiring and potential overlap of other major projects in the region. Mr. Sweet noted that Chevron Canada is a part of the BC LNG Alliance and has also been in conversations with LNG Canada to determine potential synergies and areas that they can potentially work together. Chair Thiessen requested that as the project moves forward the Regional Board receives further detailed discussion in regard to the project and the pipeline route.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Sweet for attending the meeting.

## **DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

### **MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – Vanessa Foord M.Sc., P.Ag. Research Climatologist, North Area RE: Climate Change – via teleconference – 11:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Vanessa Foord, M.Sc. P.Ag. Research Climatologist, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

Ms. Foord provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

#### **Climate Change and Drought Risk in the Bulkley-Nechako**

- Top Ten Hottest Years (1880-2018)
- BC Climate Change
  - o BC-Wide Annual Mean of Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly

**DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – Vanessa Foord M.Sc., P.Ag. Research Climatologist, North Area RE: Climate Change – via teleconference – 11:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Cont'd)**

- Northern BC Climate Change
  - o Annual Mean Temperature Fort St. James 1895-2018
  - o Northern BC Climate Trends
- Poles warming faster than Equator
  - o Artic Amplification
- Impact to mid-latitude jet stream
- Effect on BC weather/extreme events
- Climate Records for long term climatology
  - o Smithers Airport Winter Total Precipitation 1942-2018
  - o Smithers Airport Summer Max Temperature 1942-2018
  - o Smithers Airport Winter Max Snow Depths 1955-2018
  - o Vanderhoof (3) May to September with Rain 1980-2018
- 2041-2070
  - o Change in Mean Annual Precipitation
  - o Change in Summer Precipitation
  - o Change in Precipitation as Snow
  - o Change in Mean Annual Temperature
  - o Change in Extreme Max Temperature
- Spruce Drought Risk Comparison
  - o Past 1961-1990
  - o Future 2080s
- Wildfire Threat Mapping
  - o 2017 Provincial Strategic Threat Analysis BC Wildfire Service Wildfire Threat

Ms. Foord commented that the lack of water and moisture is becoming more frequent within the Regional District and water shortages may be an issue outside municipalities and in rural and agriculture areas. Discussion took place in regard to information specific to the Nechako Reservoir and Rio Tinto and the research being completed by the University of Northern B.C. (UNBC). Ms. Foord reviewed the impacts of greenhouse gasses attributing to climate change and impacts to the jet stream changes, atmospheric river and the FLNRORD's considerations to changing silviculture. The drought tool is assisting in silviculture considerations. Discussion took place in regard to human and natural factors contributing to climate change. Ms. Foord spoke of information from NASA and a study released in 2018 by Environment Canada.

Chair Thiessen thanked Ms. Foord for attending the meeting.

**DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

**THE FIRST RESPONDERS CAFÉ – Ron Blinn, Cindy Wiebe, RE: Update – Support to First Responders**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Ron Blinn and Cindy Wiebe, The First Responders Café.

Ms. Wiebe and Mr. Blinn provided an overview of The First Responders Café. They provided an outline of what they do, Canadian facts and figures, compassion fatigue and burnout syndrome. They spoke of the value and importance of structured formal resources for the mental health of all first responders and identified the need for additional assistance and resources in small communities where accessing formal resources can often be challenging. They noted peer support can often be integral in the process. They provided an outline in regard to hiring a part-time coordinator and providing The First Responders Café's throughout the northwest.

**DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

**THE FIRST RESPONDERS CAFÉ – Ron Blinn, Cindy Wiebe, RE: Update – Support to First Responders (Cont'd)**

Director Watt-Senner spoke of her experience as a retired RCMP officer. Discussion took place in regard to funding options.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Blinn and Ms. Wiebe for attending the meeting.

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

The First Responders Café Moved by Director Greenaway  
Society – Request for Funding Seconded by Director Layton

C.W.2019-8-3 “That “The First Responders Café Society – Request for Funding” be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Layton  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2019-8-4 “That the meeting be adjourned at 12:27 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Gerry Thiessen, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant