

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEETING NO. 6
VIRTUAL

Thursday, April 22, 2021

PRESENT: Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill
Shane Brienen
Mark Fisher
Dolores Funk
Tom Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Brad Layton
Linda McGuire
Bob Motion
Chris Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Michael Riis-Christianson
Sarrah Storey

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Other Chad, Cypress Land Services

CALL TO ORDER Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Storey

2021-6-1 "That the Board Meeting Agenda of April 22, 2021 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2021 &
Special Board Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2021 Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-6-2 "That the Board Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2021 and Special Board Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2021 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

MINUTES (CONT'D)

Committee Meeting Minutes

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-3

"That the Board receive the following Committee Meeting Minutes:

- Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
-April 8, 2021
- Connectivity Committee Meeting Minutes
-April 8, 2021
- Natural Resources Committee Meeting Minutes
-April 8, 2021
- Regional Transit Committee Meeting Minutes
-April 8, 2021
- Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
- April 8, 2021
- Waste Management Committee Meeting minutes
-April 8, 2021."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)

Bylaw for 3rd Reading & Adoption

Rezoning Application RZ E-02-20 3rd Reading and Adoption Rezoning Bylaw No. 1942, 2021 Electoral Area "E"

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-6-4

1. "That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1942, 2021.
2. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1942, 2021 be given third reading and adoption this 22nd day of April, 2021."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for Adoption

Rezoning Application RZ A-02-20 Adoption Rezoning Bylaw No. 1937, 2021 - Electoral Area "A"

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-6-5

"That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1937, 2021 be adopted this 22nd day of April, 2021."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)

ALR Application

ALR Exclusion Application 1230 - Electoral Area "F"

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-6

1. "That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Agricultural Land Reserve Exclusion Application No. 1230.
2. That Agricultural Land Reserve Exclusion Application No. 1230 be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission for consideration."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Municipal Referral

Village of Burns Lake Rezoning Referral Electoral Area "B"

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-7

"That the Board request that the Village of Burns Lake consider limiting the industrial use area to the western half of the property and requiring a treed buffer along the eastern property boundary."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Crown Land Referral

Crown Land Referral 7410175 Electoral Area "F"

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2021-6-8

"That the Comment Sheet for Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410175 be provided to the Province."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Miscellaneous Referral

Telecommunications Referral Telus BC 2368 Electoral Area "A"

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-6-9

"That the Board direct staff to send a letter stating that the RDBN has no objection to the proposed communication tower location."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cypress Land Services commented that the location of the Smithers Airport has been taken into consideration regarding the location of the tower and all federal approvals have been obtained.

BUILDING INSPECTION (All Directors)

First Quarter Building Permit
Summary

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-6-10

“That the Board receive the Building Inspector’s First Quarter Building Permit Summary Staff Report.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Committee Meeting
Recommendations
-April 22, 2021

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-6-11

“That the Board approve Recommendations 1 through 4 as written:

Committee of the Whole Meeting – March 11, 2021

Recommendation 1:

Re: Provincial COVID-19 Funds

“That of the \$314,000 in additional COVID Relief funds received, that \$251,200 be allocated to rural government special projects and that \$62,800 be allocated to general government special projects.”

Connectivity Committee – April 8, 2021

**Recommendation 2: Re: Wireless Connectivity
Improvements in the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako**

“That the Board write a letter to the Ministry of Citizens’ Services requesting expansion of wireless connectivity to the Southside of Francois Lake, Highway 118 and Highway 27 as connector routes to the Highway 16 (‘Highway of Tears’) route.”

Waste Management Committee Meeting – April 8, 2021

**Recommendation 3: Re: RDBN Letter of Support for
Inclusion of ICI Cardboard in EPR**

“That the Board write a letter of support to the Smithers District Chamber of Commerce regarding its resolution to the BC Chamber of Commerce in regard to Industrial Commercial and Institutional (ICI) recycling; and further, that the letter be forwarded to Nathan Cullen, MLA - Stikine and John Rustad, MLA – Nechako Lakes.”

**Waste Management Committee Meeting – April 8, 2021
(Cont’d)**

**Recommendation 4: Re: RDBN Review and
Recommendation Letter for a 10¢ Bottle Deposit Refund for
all Cans**

“That the Board write a letter to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy requesting that a consistent deposit system for the return deposit for all cans is paid in its entirety; and further, that the system is implemented throughout the Province.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Repeal Electoral Area "A"
Emergency Response Bylaw
No. 714, 1992

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-6-12

"That Electoral Area "A" Emergency Response Contribution Local Service Establishment Repeal Bylaw No. 1944, 2021 be given first, second and third reading this 22nd day of April, 2021."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COVID-19 Relief Funds

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-13

"That the Board approve the following Applications for Covid-19 Relief Funds:

Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural)

-Paul Lychak Community Hall – Hall Insurance - \$3,729.00
-Glenwood Community Hall – Hall Insurance - \$3,495.00

Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

-Francois Lake Hall – Hall Insurance - \$1,339.00
-Grassy Plains Community Hall Association
– Hall Insurance - \$4,315.00

Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)

-Cluculz Lake Community Hall – Hydro Bills - \$4,291.14

Electoral Area "G" (Houston Rural)

-Granisle Public Library – Computer Equipment - \$2,500
-Love by the Bowl Soup Kitchen
– Sterilizing Equipment - \$2,500."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding staff reviewing applications and providing information regarding additional options.

Grant in Aid Request
-Nechako Valley Historical
Society

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Parker

2021-6-14

"That the Nechako Valley Historical Society be given \$30,000 in Grant in Aid monies from Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural) for a records digitization project."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grant in Aid Update:
-January – March 2021

Moved by Director Greenway
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-15

"That the Board receive the Manager of Regional Economic Development's Grant in Aid Update: January – March 2021 memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS

Nechako Valley Secondary School – Survey

Director Fisher mentioned that the Nechako Valley Secondary School is conducting a survey in regard to waste management.

Coast Waste Management Association

Director Fisher participated in a teleconference with the Coast Waste Management Association. Director Fisher commented that the Association hosts information sessions and this session was on Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste. He noted that they focused on dismantling rather than demolition. He spoke of joining the Association and will follow up with staff.

Meeting with Rural Directors and Telecom Providers

Director Riis-Christianson spoke of the recent meetings that took place between Rural Directors and telecom providers regarding connectivity in the region.

RDBN Agriculture Coordinators

Director Parker mentioned, as Rural/Agriculture Committee Chair he will be meeting with the Agriculture Coordinators in May.

He also spoke of the Agriculture Development Area (ADA) lands and the Nechako Valley Land Stewardship Committee. He was asked to participate in the Committee but has declined. If there is any interest from Directors they may contact Director Parker.

Meetings with CityWest, Rio Tinto, Nechako First Nations

Director Lambert mentioned he had separate meetings with CityWest, Rio Tinto and Nechako First Nations. Each meeting was good. Director Newell also noted that his meeting with CityWest went well.

Fire Near Takysie Lake

Director Lambert noted that a downed powerline April 21, 2021 near Takysie Lake started a fire. The Chinook Emergency Response Society responded and kept the fire to under an acre of land.

Northern Health Spring Meeting -April 19, 2021

Directors Petersen and Greenaway attended the Northern Health Spring Meeting on April 19, 2021. Northern Health presented its Capital and Operational Budget for 2021. Director Petersen will provide a report at a future Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting.

Meeting – RDBN Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA)

Director Newell commented he met with Liliana Dragowska, HRVA Coordinator and Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services to discuss the Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) Committee.

Town of Smithers Budget & New CAO

Director Atrill mentioned that the Town of Smithers is finalizing its budget and spoke of the challenges of a 10.8% tax rate increase for 2021.

Director Atrill announced that the Town of Smithers CAO Alan Harris is retiring, and Dianna Plouffe, Corporate Officer will be the new CAO.

Bulkley Nechako Emergency & Public Alerts System

Director Atrill mentioned that the Bulkley Nechako Emergency & Public Alerts System was used regarding a fire at the tree nursery east of Telkwa. She mentioned that the alert system worked really well. The Town of Smithers also had a chlorine incident with their water system on April 21st and the Alert System worked great with that event as well.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Broadcast Burning – District of Houston Director Brienens spoke of the broadcast burning that will be taking place in the community of Houston. He mentioned that the public education from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is important. He spoke of the potential opportunity for future applications utilizing broadcast burning in regard to wildfire mitigation.

Village of Granisle Budget Director McGuire mentioned that the Village of Granisle is finalizing its budget with a 1.2% tax rate increase. Their Audit is also being completed and will be presented to council May 4, 2021.

COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout Director McGuire commented that the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in Granisle went well. She also noted that there is a pop up vaccine clinic in Burns Lake for residents of Burns Lake, Southside and Granisle.

Director Storey noted that the vaccine rollout in Fraser Lake also went well.

Chair Thiessen commented that the vaccine clinic in Vanderhoof begins April 30, 2021.

Village of Granisle – Bulkley Nechako Emergency & Public Alert System Director McGuire reported that the Village of Granisle utilized the Bulkley Nechako Alert System for a water shutoff in the community and received good feedback from community members regarding the Alert System.

Village of Fraser Lake Fire Truck Director Storey mentioned that the Village of Fraser Lake main fire truck has mechanical issues and the old truck was used for backup. A new fire truck is being ordered in 2021.

District of Fort St. James Timber Supply Apportionment Video Director Motion announced that he has been working on a video regarding the Prince George Timber Supply Apportionment and the video is now complete and available on YouTube.

Receipt of Verbal Reports Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Brienens

2021-6-16 "That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Administration Correspondence Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-17

“That the Board receive the following Administration Correspondence:

- Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Response to RDBN Letter re: Lakes and Prince George Timber Supply Area Apportionment
- Coalition of Small Rural Community Mayors – Letter to Minister Osborne, Ministry of Municipal Affairs – Emergency Fire Equipment and Facilities Funding for Small Rural Communities
- City of Penticton – B.C. Government’s Use of Provincial Paramourncy to Undermine Local Government Bylaws.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)

Public Hearing Reports Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Storey

2021-6-18

“That the Board receive the following Public Hearing Reports
-Rezoning Application RZ E-02-20
-ALR Exclusion Application 1230.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Staff Report

UBCM Local Government Development Approvals Program Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-6-19

1. “That the Board support a grant funding application for the applications portal project through the UBCM Local Government Development Approvals Program.
2. That the Board supports the project and commits to any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Letter of Support for the RDFFG Development Approvals Program Application

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-20

“That the Board direct staff to provide a letter of support for the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George’s application to the UBCM Local Government Development Approvals Program.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSIENSS

Letter to Minister Osborne,
Ministry of Municipal Affairs
– Emergency Fire Equipment
and Facilities Funding for Small
Rural Communities

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-6-21

“That the Board direct staff to write a letter to the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting Provincial support for Emergency Fire Equipment and Facilities Funding for Small Rural Communities.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Federation of Canadian
Municipalities (FCM)
Virtual Convention –
May 31-June 4, 2021

Discussion took place regarding the registration costs for FCM's Virtual Convention and registering Chair Thiessen for the convention as well as a Rural Director to be hosted in the RDBN Boardroom.

Federation of Canadian
Municipalities (FCM)
Convention – May 31
-June 4, 2021

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Brienen

2021-6-22

“That the Chair and One (1) Rural Director be registered for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Virtual Convention May 31-June 4, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-6-23

“In accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Sections 90(1)(c) – labour relations or other employee relations, must be closed to the public, therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2021-6-24

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:55 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant