

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
(VIRTUAL)

Thursday, May 13, 2021

PRESENT: Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill
Shane Brien
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
Jason Berlin, Chief Building Inspector – left at 12:45 p.m.
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – left at 12:05 p.m.
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 12:45 p.m.
Sashka Macievich, Financial Controller
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Other Gaëtane Carignan, Community Energy Manager, Community Energy Association – left at 12:45 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 11:53 a.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director McGuire

C.W.2021-5-1

“That the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting of May 13, 2021 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Committee of the Whole
Minutes – April 8, 2021

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director McGuire

C.W.2021-5-2

“That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 8, 2021 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

COMMUNITY ENERGY ASSOCIATION – Gaëtane Carignan, Community Energy Manager **RE: BC Energy Step Code**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Gaëtane Carignan, Community Energy Manager, Community Energy Association.

Ms. Carignan provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

Community Energy Association (CEA)

- Indigenous Recognition
- Presentation Overview
- Building a Legacy Initiative
- Introduction to Step Code – Building A Legacy
- The Performance Pathway
- Preparing for Building Code Changes
- Current Utilities Incentives
- Implementation Support
- Resources and Training
- Case Study: Hideaways Development, Invermere.

Ms. Carignan spoke of Step Code Solutions for Northern BC meeting taking place May 19, 2021. The meeting is a collaboration of CEA and CHBA (Canadian Home Builder's Association) North with funding from BC Hydro.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Appreciation of CEA in recognizing that Northern BC has different considerations in regard to building in comparison to Southern BC
- Log homes
 - o BC Energy Step Code as entire envelope
 - o Alternatives to finding ways to meet the Step Code
- Challenges of airtight structures
 - o Intentional air tight structures
- Energy Advisor's in northern B.C.
 - o Lack of capacity
 - o Requirements to be a qualified Energy Advisor
 - o Some can be completed remotely
 - o Costs of hiring an Energy Advisory
 - Optimizing design and efficiencies
- Northern representation on the Community Energy Association
- Alternative options eg – biodigestor's
- Concerns of small rural northern B.C. communities
 - o Increased regulations impacts the ability for new builds and retrofits of older buildings
 - o Concerns with the lack of capacity to implement the BC Energy Step Code
 - o Lack of Energy Advisors
 - o Costs associated with becoming an Energy Advisor
 - o Costs to purchase required equipment
- Scales of economies in regard to housing
- Example in Kootenays – Energy Advisor started with 1-2 homes and also did retrofits as well as travelled to various small communities
 - o Private sector came forward
- Impacts to First Nations communities
- BC Energy Step Code implementation deadline of 2022

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

COMMUNITY ENERGY ASSOCIATION – Gaëtane Carignan, Community Energy Manager
RE: BC Energy Step Code (Cont'd)

- A blanket policy for the Province doesn't address housing in northern BC
- North Central Local Government Association meeting with the Honourable David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing in regard to concerns of small rural communities within NCLGA region
- Support from utilities companies
 - o Support from BC Hydro and Fortis
 - o PNG (Pacific Natural Gas) in discussion with CEA
- Citizen education
- Changes to the BC Building Code applies to the entire Province
 - o In areas with no Building Inspection – no enforcement.
- CEA providing messaging to the Province in regard to testing and advisors.

Chair Thiessen thanked Ms. Carignan for attending the meeting.

REPORTS

Chinook Community
Foundation NDIT Matching
Funds Application

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Lambert

C.W.2021-5-3

“That the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Board support the Grant Application from the Chinook Community Society to Northern Development's Community Foundation Matching Grant program for \$30,000 with the communities to be identified with the grant application as Area “B” and Area “E”.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding the funding available to Rural Directors and having the Regional Business Liaison attend a future Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting.

Audit Planning and Update

Moved by Director Brienens
Seconded by Director Lambert

C.W.2021-5-4

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the Chief Financial Officer's memoranda:
-Audit Planning and Update
-Operational Reserve Update 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding revenue from hazardous waste received at Clearview Landfill. Staff will provide further information.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Funk

C.W.2021-5-5

“That the Committee of the Whole receive the following
Correspondence:
- Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and
Rural Development – Nechako First Nations and Health of the
Nechako River
- Union of BC Municipalities – Provincial Response to 2020
Resolutions.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Lambert

C.W.2021-5-6

“That the meeting be adjourned at 12:53 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant