

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

RURAL/AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, July 21, 2022

PRESENT: Chair Mark Parker

Directors Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Chris Newell – via Zoom
Jerry Petersen
Michael Riis-Christianson
Gerry Thiessen – arrived at 10:30 a.m.

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Megan D’Arcy, Agriculture Coordinator (West) – via Zoom
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer – via Zoom – arrived at 10:41 a.m.
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others Shane Brienen, District of Houston – arrived at 10:21 a.m., left at 10:43 a.m.
Brian Edmonds, Superintendent, RCMP – via Zoom,
Ken Floyd, Inspector, Bronze Commander, CGL Deployment, RCMP – via Zoom arrived at 10:21 a.m., left at 10:43 a.m.
Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle
Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa – via Zoom
Bob Motion, District of Fort St. James

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2022-7-1

“That the Rural/Agriculture Committee Agenda for July 21, 2022 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Rural/Agriculture Committee
Meeting Minutes
-June 16, 2022

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

RDC.2022-7-2

“That the minutes of the Rural/Agriculture Committee meeting of June 16, 2022 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

RCMP-Superintendent Brian Edmonds and Ken Floyd, Inspector, Bronze Commander, CGL Deployment RE: Update

Chair Parker welcomed Superintendent Brian Edmonds and Ken Floyd, Inspector, Bronze Commander, CGL Deployment, RCMP.

Inspector Floyd provided the following update regarding the Coastal GasLink (CGL) Deployment:

- February 17, 2022 Incident on the Morice Forest Service Road in the Houston area
 - o Ongoing criminal investigation
 - o \$8 million damage to property and cleanup of area
 - o Active investigation.

Director Newell brought forward communication concerns regarding a lack of dialogue and spoke of developing a relationship between himself as Electoral Area Director and the RCMP and increasing communication. Inspector Floyd noted his willingness to contact Director Newell and establish expectations regarding communications.

Chair Parker suggested providing contact information for all Electoral Area Directors to the RCMP. Inspector Floyd indicated that procedures are in place to communicate with First Nations communities, Mayors and Councils and that the Regional District could also be included.

Inspector Floyd continued his update:

- August and Fall of 2022 – increase CGL activity in respect to construction
 - o Workers/supplies
- Security in regard to increased activity
 - o RCMP working with industry
 - Industry has independent security that liaises with RCMP
 - o Increased work in areas requires an escalation of care of workers
 - Enhance response times in the area to accommodate the risk
- Community Industry Support Office – remains open
 - o Staffed by RCMP
 - o Patrols of the Morice and Marten Forest Service Road areas
 - o Regular and routine patrols – Satellite communication and cameras
 - o Engagement with industry security personnel
 - o More timely and robust police and security presence.

The following was discussed:

- Community support capacity and engagement
- Safety and accountability key through the region
- Where to refer concerns and issues
 - o RCMP – criminal offences
 - o Victim Services
 - o Elizabeth Fry Society
 - o Community Youth Centres
 - o Industry contacts
 - Inspector Floyd will provide industry contact information
- In the process of formalizing Houston Sergeant Mark Small promotion to Staff Sergeant of the Smithers RCMP detachment
- Corporal Ryan Fillmore, Operations NCO will oversee operations of the Houston RCMP detachment
- RCMP outreach varies community to community
- Fraser Lake Detachment has a good communication process with Chair Parker, Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)
- Strong community engagement at all levels an RCMP priority
- RCMP District Advisory Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) (DANCOs)
 - o 5 Districts from 100 Mile House to Atlin

- 2 DANCOs within the RDBN
- Importance of communication with Electoral Area Directors
 - Building relationships with Detachment Commanders
- Consistent statistics and information to all municipalities and electoral areas
- Open invitation for Directors to contact Detachment Commanders to determine appropriate level of communication
- Human Trafficking in the North
 - Most complex and unique investigations – numerous moving components
 - 90% - younger female persons
 - Challenges regarding a willingness of victims to come forward to disclose information
 - Priority for RCMP in B.C.
 - Provincial mandated task force
 - Requested that the public report any suspicious activity they have witnessed to the RCMP.

Chair Parker thanked Superintendent Edmonds and Floyd for attending the meeting.

RURAL REPORTS

Grant in Aid Update

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

RDC.2022-7-3

“That the Committee receive the Manager of Regional Economic Development’s Grant in Aid Update memorandum.”

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Mine Referral

Notice of Work File No. 1641067-2022-01 Electoral Area “C”

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2022-7-4

“That the Comment Sheet regarding Notice of Work No. 1641067-2022-01 be provided to the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.”

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

Notice of Work File No. 1300257-2022 Electoral Area “C”

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2022-7-5

“That the Comment Sheet regarding Notice of Work No. 1300257-2022 be provided to the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.”

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

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Fisher

RDC.2022-7-6

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:44 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate
Services