

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEETING NO. 13

Thursday, November 17, 2022

PRESENT: Chair Mark Parker

Directors Gladys Atrill
Shane Brienen
Leroy Dekens
Martin Elphee
Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Chris Newell
Michael Riis-Christianson
Stoney Stoltenberg
Sarrah Storey
Henry Wiebe

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development –
left at 11:10 a.m.
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others Dolores Funk, Burns Lake – left at 10:45 a.m.
Judge Jackson – left at 10:36 a.m.

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SWEARING IN CEREMONY – Performed by Judge Jackson

**PRESENTATION TO
OUTGOING DIRECTOR** Chair Thiessen presented a plaque to outgoing Director
Dolores Funk, Village of Burns Lake.

CALL TO ORDER Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer called the
meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson CAO Helgesen called for nominations for the position of
Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for
the year 2022/2023.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON (CONT'D)

Moved by Director Brienens
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-13-1

"That Director Parker be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for 2022/2023."

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Chairperson a second time.

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Chairperson a third time.

There being no further nominations CAO Helgesen declared Director Parker Chairperson for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the year 2022/2023 by acclamation.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Vice – Chairperson

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the year 2022/2023.

Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-13-2

"That Director Brienens be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for 2022/2023."

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson a second time.

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson a third time.

There being no further nominations CAO Helgesen declared Director Brienens Vice-Chairperson for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the year 2022/2023 by acclamation.

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairperson Parker assumed the Chair.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director Brienen

2022-13-3

"That the Board Meeting Agenda of November 17, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2022

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2022-13-4

"That the Board Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2022 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee Meeting
Minutes

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-13-5

"That the Board receive the following Committee Meeting Minutes:
-Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
 - October 13, 2022
-Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes
 -October 13, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Water Act Referral

Water Act Referral
No. 7003011 Electoral Area F
(Vanderhoof Rural)

Moved by Director Moon
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-13-6

"That the Water Act Referral No. 7003011 comment sheet be provided to the Province as amended to include in "Other Comments: that the Province consult with area residents regarding the development"."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Trade-in of Two (2) Tractors Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-13-7 "That the Board approve the trade-in of two (2) 2019 Kubota L4760 Tractors for a total of \$80,000."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

RDBN 2023 Meeting Schedule Moved by Director Brienens
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-13-8 "That the Board ratify the 2023 RDBN meeting schedule as presented."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Staff will bring forward hosting RDBN Meetings in member municipalities to the RDBN Strategic Priorities Session.

North Central Local
Government Association
(NCLGA) – Appointment of
Regional Representative
and Alternate Representative Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-13-9 "That the Board appoint Director Storey as its regional representative to the NCLGA Executive for 2022/23. That the Board appoint Director Stoltenberg as the alternate representative to the NCLGA Executive for 2022/23."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Town of Smithers Request for
Support for the CEPF
-Disaster Risk Reduction
Climate Adaptation Grant Fund
Application Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2022-13-10 "That the Board approve the Town of Smithers to apply for, receive, and manage grant funding from the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Disaster Risk Reduction Climate Adaptation Grant on behalf of the Regional District for the Airport South Slope Land Use Planning and Monitoring with Equipment project."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Community Resiliency
Investment Fund/FireSmart
Program Application Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Brienen

2022-13-11 "That the Board supports the application to the Community Resiliency Investment Fund (CRI) to continue funding the FireSmart Program within the RDBN. Further that the RDBN provide overall grant management for the project."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Official Election Results - 2022 Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-13-12 "That the Board receive the Director of Corporate Services/Chief Election Officer's Official Election Results-2022 memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Established Services that
Provide Grants to Societies Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-13-13 "That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer's Established Services that Provide Grants to Societies memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BC Structural Firefighter
Minimum Training Standards
Update Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2022-13-14 "That the Board receive the Regional Fire Chief's BC Structural Firefighter Minimum Training Standards Update memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TELUS Communications
Outage and 911 Impacts Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-13-15 "That the Board receive the Regional Fire Chief's TELUS Communications Outage and 911 Impacts memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Discussion took place regarding HAM Radio licenses. Staff will bring forward a report at the December 15, 2022 meeting.

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Coastal GasLink – TC Energy
Response to RDBN Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Dekens

2022-13-16 “That the Board receive correspondence from Coastal GasLink – TC Energy – Response to RDBN and RDBN Concerns regarding Socio-economic Effects (SEEMP).”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Newell commented that he attended the Morice Owen and Morice River Forest Service Road User Group meeting with key stakeholders. He spoke of the positive steps to mitigate risks and incidents on the FSRs. An item of note is the garbage that is being left along roadways. As pipeline installation nears completion the benefits of having discussions regarding challenges and future best practices for potential future projects was discussed.

Taylor Bachrach, MP
Skeena-Bulkley Valley
Congratulations on being
Elected to Serve the RDBN Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-13-17 “That the Board receive correspondence from Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena-Bulkley Valley – Congratulations on being Elected to Serve the RDBN.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Advance Education
and Skills Training - UBCM
Convention Follow-up Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-13-18 “That the Board receive correspondence from the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training regarding Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention Follow-up.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Parker mentioned that he has a follow-up meeting with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training and Ministry of Agriculture on November 24, 2022.

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Ministry of Agriculture and
Food – UBCM Convention
Follow-up

Moved by Director Brienen
Seconded by Director Wiebe

2022-13-19

“That the Board receive correspondence from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food regarding Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention Follow-up – Veterinarian Shortages and Food Security.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Environment and
Climate Change – UBCM
Convention Follow-up

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2022-13-20

“That the Board receive correspondence from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change regarding Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention Follow-up – Industrial, Commercial, Institutional Recycling in Rural BC.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Forests - UBCM
Convention Follow-up

Moved by Director Brienen
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-13-21

“That the Board receive correspondence from the Ministry of Forests - Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention Follow-up – Old Growth Deferral.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Municipal Affairs
-2021 Census Impact on
Regional Board Voting

Moved by Director Brienen
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-13-22

“That the Board receive correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs regarding the 2021 Census Impact on Regional Board Voting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

NCLGA – Member Notice:
Call for Nominations
-Director at Large – Two
Vacant Positions

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-13-23

“That the Board receive correspondence from the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) regarding Member Notice: Call for Nominations – Director At Large – Two Vacant Positions.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Village of Fraser Lake
-Update

Director Storey provided the following update:

- Lakeview Mobile Home Park in Fraser Lake
 - o Province is now the owner of the Mobile Home Park
 - o Lack of water for the past eight weeks
 - o Challenges for residents
 - o Support and advocacy
- Artemis Gold Inc and new mining activity in the region
 - Employment opportunities
 - Need for services and infrastructure in communities to support growth
 - Need for the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA) to build infrastructure needed for growth.

Town of Smithers – Update

Director Atrill gave a brief update:

- Post election orientation – four new councillors
- Homelessness
 - Encampment across from the Town of Smithers Municipal Office
 - Challenging to find a solution – gathering warm clothing and blankets
- Labour challenges
 - Including hospital
- Town of Smithers hired two new positions
 - Economic Development
 - Climate Action Specialist

Electoral Area G (Houston/
Granisle Rural) – Update

Director Newell spoke of drilling that is taking place in the Bob Creek Area. The company conducting the drilling held a public meeting to address past concerns, provide education and an update to area residents. Residents have indicated their concern regarding a local wild goat population in the area.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) – Update Director Moon provided an overview of the cattle liner rollover that occurred on Highway 16 near Cluculz Lake. She spoke of the BC Livestock Association, the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) and RDBN's participation. Director Moon commented that the BC Livestock Association Manager would like to have future discussions with the RDBN regarding planning for potential future events.

Director Moon recognized the impacts to ranchers and the deficiencies regarding succession in the agriculture industry.

Director Moon also provided an update regarding Artemis Gold Inc. She noted that they are conducting land works and the camp is moving ahead. Director Moon noted the labour challenges, and that the majority of earth works are moving through the Williams Lake area.

District of Houston – Update Director Brien provided the following District of Houston update:

- Orientation
- Housing and mental health issues and drug addictions
 - o Lack of contractors in the area – impacts available housing
 - o Lack of housing a factor in labour shortages
 - o Rental prices incredibly high – challenges in hiring employees in minimal wage jobs
 - Provincial and Federal downloading of housing crisis.

Village of Burns Lake – Update Director Wiebe provided the following update:

- Inaugural Meeting November 1, 2022
- Four returning councillors
- Concerns regarding housing
 - Developing a new subdivision
- Retention of staff
- Lack of physicians and medical staff
 - In past hospitals had tools to practice, services are now centralized
 - Need to return medical service levels in local communities.

District of Vanderhoof

Director Moutray noted the following:

- District of Vanderhoof experiencing similar challenges regarding housing and labour shortages
- Orientation
- Active transportation and flood mitigation.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

Electoral Area E (Francois/
Ootsa Lake Rural) – Update

Director Lambert noted that he has received concerns regarding the implementation of tipping fees at RDBN Solid Waste Management facilities.

Director Lambert provided an overview of the following:

- Opening of the Post Office on the Southside
- His purchase of the Grassy Store and Butcher Shop.

Electoral Area B (Burns
Lake Rural)

Director Riis-Christianson spoke of the following:

- Village of Burns Lake Remembrance Day Ceremony and wreath laying
- Met with Mayor Wiebe and Director Lambert regarding services budgets
- Recreation Services
 - Budget
- Consider housing during future RDBN Strategic Priorities session.

District of Fort St. James
-Update

Director Elphee noted the following:

- physician shortages
- New hospital and RCMP building in Fort St. James
 - RCMP representatives will be arriving from Ottawa
- Long term housing project will be complete in 2023 with 36 beds.

Village of Telkwa – Update

Director Dekens commented that:

- Three new councillors have been elected to the Village of Telkwa
- Orientation sessions
- Working on housing availability and new subdivisions.

Electoral Area C (Fort St.
James Rural) – Update

Director Greenaway commented that:

- The Luck Bay Fire Hall has eight volunteer Firefighters
 - The Fire Chief has done a lot of work regarding recruitment
- Decar Mine exploration and Environmental Assessment Process is taking place
- Midnight Madness, Toy Drive and Festival of Trees will be take place this year in Fort St. James.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

- Village of Granisle – Update Director McGuire mentioned the following:
- Village of Granisle Runoff Election November 19, 2022
 - RCMP met with Village of Granisle Council
 - RCMP House in Granisle will be furnished and have the ability for a RCMP member to spend a few days at a time in the community
 - Village of Granisle acquisition of mall in tax sale
 - Will be assessing outcome of building in January 2023
 - Village of Granisle Remembrance Day Ceremony
 - Light Up the Park – December 4, 2022 with the light up of 85 trees
 - Reviewing zoning amendments
 - The school is wanting to have a farm to table program
 - Budget process.

- Chair Parker – Update Chair Parker thanked past Chair Gerry Thiessen for his mentorship. He also spoke of the following:
- Village of Fraser Lake Remembrance Day Ceremony
 - YRB Fall Stakeholders meeting
 - Veterinarian Shortage advocacy
 - Economic Assessment Study.

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

2022-13-24 “That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INTRODUCTION OF RDBN SENIOR MANAGEMENT CAO Helgesen introduced Senior Management Staff.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter to Premier Delegate David Eby and Kevin Falcon, Official Opposition Liberal Leader– Invitation to Visit the RDBN Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-13-25 “That the Board write a letter inviting Premier Delegate David Eby and Kevin Falcon, Official Opposition Leader of the BC Liberal Party to visit the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-13-26

"That the meeting be adjourned at 12:16 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate
Services