

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEETING NO. 7

Thursday, May 9, 2024

PRESENT: Chair Mark Parker

Directors Gladys Atrill
Shane Brienen – via Zoom – left at 1:39 p.m.
Martin Elphee
Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert – via Zoom – arrived at 10:15 a.m.
Linda McGuire
Stoney Stoltenberg
Sarrah Storey – via Zoom
Henry Wiebe – via Zoom

Directors Leroy Dekens, Village of Telkwa
Absent Shirley Moon, Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)
Kevin Moutray, District of Vanderhoof
Chris Newell, Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)
Michael Riis-Christianson, Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

Alternate Directors Doug Bysouth, Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)
Brian Frenkel, District of Vanderhoof
Alex Kulchar, Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)
Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa – via Zoom – left at 11:05 a.m., returned at 11:13 a.m., left at 2:14 p.m.
Elijah Newell, Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Alexandra Aebischer, FireSmart/Protective Services Summer Student – left at 10:08 a.m.
Megan D’Arcy, Regional Agriculture Coordinator – via Zoom – arrived at 1:43 p.m.
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – via Zoom - arrived at 10:37 a.m., left at 11:01 a.m.
Mike Huntley, FireSmart Coordinator – left at 10:08 a.m.
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services – left at 10:08 a.m.
Luke Nathaus, Environmental Services Summer Student – left at 10:08 a.m.
Chloe Taylor, Planning Summer Student – left at 10:08 a.m.
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 10:35 a.m., returned at 12:02 p.m., left at 12:12 p.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Hannah Zayac, Planning Summer Student – left at 10:08 a.m.

Other Taylor Turkington, CAP, Beswick Hildebrandt Lund Chartered Professional Accountants

Media Jeremy Hull, LD News – via Zoom

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

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

OATH OF OFFICE Curtis Helgesen, CAO administered the Oath of Office to Brian Frenkel, Alternate Director, District of Vanderhoof.

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

2024-7-1 “That the Board Meeting Agenda and Supplementary Agenda of May 9, 2024 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STAFF INTRODUCTION

Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services introduced Mike Huntley, FireSmart Coordinator, Alexendra Aebischer, FireSmart/Protective Services Summer Student, and Luke Nathaus, Environmental Services Field Summer Student.

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning introduced Chloe Taylor and Hannah Zayac, Planning Summer Students for 2024.

STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Parker acknowledged and expressed gratitude to Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services for her work in Emergency Management for the RDBN and congratulated her on her new position with the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen.

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes
-April 25, 2024 Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Elphee

2024-7-2 “That the Board Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2024 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

**BESWICK HILDEBRANDT LUND CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS – (Virtual)
Taylor Turkington, CPA Re: 2023 Audit**

Chair Parker welcomed Taylor Turkington, CPA, Beswick Hildebrandt Lund Chartered Professional Accountants.

Mr. Turkington provided an overview of the RDBN 2023 Financial Statements.

- Independent Auditor’s Report
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Operations
- Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets
- Statement of Cash Flows.

Director McGuire requested clarification regarding debt recoverable for municipalities and the Village of Granisle.

Chair Parker thanked Mr. Turkington for attending the meeting.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Referrals

Notice of Work Referral Moved by Director Stoltenberg
No. 2000419 – Electoral Area Seconded by Alternate Director Kulchar
D (Fraser Lake Rural)

2024-7-3 “That the comment sheet for Notice of Work Referral No. 2000419 be amended to add the following:

The Regional District notes the high potential for impact on residents of Ely Subdivision Road. Therefore, the Regional District recommends that the Province:

- engage with residents in the area to identify their concerns regarding the proposed gravel pit;
- require a buffer between the gravel pit and Ely Subdivision Road properties; and
- prohibit access to the gravel pit from Ely Subdivision Road.

That the comment sheet as amended be provided to the Province as the Regional District’s comments for Notice of Work Referral No. 2000419.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (CONT'D)

Referrals (Cont'd)

Supplementary Information Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Notice of Work Referral Seconded by Director Elphee
No. 2000419

2024-7-4 "That the Board receive the correspondence from the Inspector of Mines, Permitting, Central/Northeast Region, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation on the Supplementary Agenda regarding Notice of Work Referral No. 2000419."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Coastal GasLink Amendment Moved by Director Greenaway
Application Technical Advisory Seconded by Director Stoltenberg
Committee

2024-7-5 "That the Board Direct staff to participate in the Coastal GasLink Environmental Assessment Certificate Amendment review process as a full member, and report back to the Board on the process as appropriate."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Prince Rupert Gas Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Transmission Project Seconded by Alternate Director Bysouth
Response Letter for Section 2,
2a, 3, and 4, and Middle River
Compressor Site (Notification
No. 130316)

2024-7-6 "That the Board receive the Senior Planner's Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Response Letter for Section 2, 2a, 3, and 4, and Middle River Compressor Site (Notification No. 130316) memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Greenaway spoke of sending a letter to the Nisga'a Nation and Western LNG, the new owners of the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project outlining the RDBN interests. Staff will forward the letter.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS

Purchase of a New 53'
Walking Floor Trailer

Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-7-7

"That the Board approve the purchase of a new Titan 53'
Walking Floor Trailer from Ocean Trailers for a total of
\$164,280 plus applicable taxes."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Purchase of a New Compact
Excavator

Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2024-7-8

"That the Board approve the purchase of a new Hyundai R55
compact excavator from Anchored Firm Ventures for a total
of \$109,700 plus applicable taxes."

(All/Directors/Majority)

DEFEATED

Discussion took place regarding the evaluation process and
the recommendation to purchase a new Hyundai R55.
Staff will review the Request for Proposal criteria and bring
forward a report at the May 23, 2024 meeting.

Purchase of Two Skid Steers

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director McGuire

2024-7-9

"That the Board approve the purchase of two (2) 2024 John
Deere 324G skid steers including specified attachments from
Brandt Tractor Ltd. for \$103,800/each plus applicable taxes."

Opposed: Director Elphee CARRIED

(All/Directors/Majority)

Employee equipment training at RDBN Transfer Station and
Landfill Sites was discussed.

Disposal of a 2020 Kubota
MX5400 Tractor

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Elphee

2024-7-10

"That the Board approve the disposal of a 2020 Kubota
MX5400 Tractor for no less than \$30,000."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship -Wildlife Habitat Area Proposal for Southern Mountain Caribou-Submission of Written Comments by May 30, 2024

The following was discussed:

- Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) indicated during its presentation at the April 25th Board meeting they would follow up regarding the initiative between Cheslatta Carrier Nation, Rio Tinto and WLRS to remove debris from the islands in Whitesail to allow the Caribou access to breeding grounds.
- District of Houston's letter to WLRS and the request for clarity regarding information, regions and boundaries and the consideration for underwater logging.
- Recognizing the attempt to assure and assist in the future of the species.
- Ecosystem for the caribou and logging roads providing predatory access
- Provincial government spending regarding wildlife sustainability
- Wildfire impacts to Tweedsmuir Park
 - o No logging
 - o Mountain Pine Beetle
 - o The need to manage the land that comprises the caribou habitat
- Living in a fire ecosystem and the need for better management practices
 - o Manage through control burns
- Climate change and wildfire lens
- Needs to be a living document reviewed annually.

Delegation Request – Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

The Board discussed requesting a presentation including the following topics:

- Water licensing explained for a better understanding of the process
- Location of Test Wells
 - o Map of the test wells across the entire Regional District
 - o WLRS's plans for the test wells and aquifers moving forward
- Community irrigation systems, large scale systems, wells and water storage systems.

North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) – RDBN Resolutions

The Board identified keynote speakers for the following NCLGA – RDBN Resolutions:

1. Healthcare Worker Shortage – Reducing Barriers to Training - Director Storey
2. Housing Support in Northern and Small Communities - Director Atrill
3. Industry Shutdown - Director Storey or Chair Parker
4. Search and Rescue – Capability Approval Process – Director Moutray
5. Vaccine Mandate for Healthcare Workers – Director McGuire or Director Newell.

Discussion took place regarding the ability to attend NCLGA for a day rather than the entire conference. Director Greenaway, NCLGA 1st President will bring it forward to the NCLGA Executive.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

UBCM Convention 2024
-September 16-20, 2024
-Vancouver, B.C. – Attendance
Authorization – Resolution
Deadline – Minister/Ministry
Staff Meetings

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Alternate Director Bysouth

2024-7-11

“That the Board authorize attendance of Rural Directors at the UBCM Convention from September 16-20, 2024 in Vancouver, B.C.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Invitation: Advisory
Committee on Emergency
Management Regulations

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Alternate Director Frenkel

2024-7-12

“That the Board submit Director Parker’s name to UBCM for consideration on the Advisory Committee on Emergency Management Regulations.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Event Participation
Policy

Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director Elphee

2024-7-13

“That the Board approve the Public Event Participation Policy.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RDBN Procedure Bylaw No.
2042, 2024 and Electronic
Meeting Policy

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-7-14

“That staff bring forward RDBN Procedure Bylaw 2042, 2024 to replace RDBN Procedure Bylaw No. 1964, 2021 and bring forward the amended Electronic Meeting Policy.”

Opposed: Director Lambert CARRIED
Alt. Dir. Morgan

(All/Directors/Majority)

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Discussion took place regarding:

- Attendance/Quorum and Roll Call – Section 4.3
 - Chair’s discretion for members to have cameras on at all times in the event of connectivity issues
- Recording of attendance during in-person and virtual meetings
- Elected and appointed Director’s responsibilities to conduct themselves during meetings
- Governance of Regional District meetings.

Break for lunch and Regional Transit Meeting at 12:12 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:39 p.m.

Remuneration Bylaw Review

The following was discussed:

- Consideration 5
 - Remuneration for attending Board meetings virtually
 - Climate commitments and carbon credits – carpooling
 - Preparation time for attending in-person or virtual meetings
- Consideration 4
 - Meeting the RDBN Cybersecurity requirements and the provision of electronics by the RDBN and municipalities for municipal Directors
 - Providing electronics to Alternate Directors
- Considerations 1-4
 - Move forward recommended changes
- Consideration 5 and 6
 - Leave as currently written.

Remuneration Bylaw Review Moved by Director Elphee
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2024-7-15 “That staff bring back an amendment to the Remuneration Bylaw to incorporate the items of consideration.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORT (CONT'D)

2023 Financial Statements and Audit Report Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Alternate Director Frenkel

2024-7-16 "That the Board accept and authorize the Chair and the Chief Financial Officer to sign the Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2023; and that the Year End Audit Findings Report to the Board be received."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grant in Aid for Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Chinook Emergency Response Society Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-7-17 "That the Board approve allocating \$10,000 in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Grant in Aid monies to the Chinook Emergency Response Society."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Alternate Director Morgan removed herself from the meeting at 2:14 p.m. due to a conflict of interest regarding Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society – Letter of Support Request as she is employed by the Society.

Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society – Letter of Support Request Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Atrill

2024-7-18 "That the Board provide a Letter of Support to Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society for their funding application to BC Housing's Indigenous Housing Fund."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Environmental Assessment Office – Follow-up 2023 UBCM Convention Moved by Director Atrill
Seconded by Director McGuire

2024-7-19 "That the Board receive the correspondence from the Environmental Assessment Office regarding follow-up from the 2023 Union of BC Municipalities Convention."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Kulchar

2024-7-20

"That the meeting be adjourned at 2:17 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate
Services