

STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024

PRESENT: Chair Judy Greenaway

Directors Martin Elphee
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Mark Parker
Michael Riis-Christianson
Sarrah Storey
Henry Wiebe

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Secretary
Cheryl Anderson, Acting Secretary
John Illes, Treasurer
Wendy Wainwright, Confidential Clerk

Others Debra Lamash, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, BC Hydro -via
Zoom – arrived at 10:18 a.m.
Mark Alexander, Project Manager, BC Hydro, – arrived at 10:18 a.m.
Rob Ringma, Senior Manager, Government Relations, BC Transit – via
Zoom – arrived at 10:32 a.m.
Rylan and Hunter Storey, Fraser Lake

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Greenaway called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Elphee

SNRHD.2024-6-1

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda of August 15, 2024 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Stuart-Nechako Regional
Hospital District Meeting
Minutes –June 20, 2024

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Storey

SNRHD.2024-6-2

“That the minutes of the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District meeting of June 20, 2024 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Lambert

SNRHD.2024-6-3 "That the Supplementary Agenda of August 15, 2024 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORT

Financial Statements
-June 30, 2024 Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Elphee

2024-6-4 "That the Board receive the Treasurer's Financial Statements – June 30, 2024 memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAWS

Capital Expenditure Bylaw
No. 90 Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Moutray

2024-6-5 "That Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 90, 2024 be given first, second, third reading and adoption this 15th day of August, 2024."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Budget Amendment Bylaw
No. 91, and Capital
Expenditure Bylaw No. 92 Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Storey

2024-6-6 "That Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Annual Budget Amendment Bylaw No. 91, 2024 be given first, second, third reading and adoption this 15th day of August, 2024.

That Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 92, 2024 be given first, second, third reading and adoption this 15th day of August, 2024."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Request for Audit of
Northern Health

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2024-6-7

"That the Board receive the correspondence from the Peace River Regional District regarding a Request for Audit of Northern Health; and the Supplementary Agenda correspondence from North Central Local Government Association regarding Follow-up on Request for Audit of Northern Health."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Ensuring that a full audit of Northern Health does not impede proposed or current projects underway
 - o Determine main issues to consider restructuring
 - o Review potential efficiencies within the healthcare system
- Healthcare worker shortage
 - o Pressing issues regarding retention and attraction
 - o Communities without physicians
 - o A national and international concern
 - o Focus funding towards recruitment
 - o Village of Burns Lake Recruitment of Medical Professionals Committee
 - o Recruitment and retention strategies to showcase communities
 - o Advocacy with a collective voice to the Minister of Health and Northern Health
 - Challenges scheduling meetings
 - Provide potential solutions
 - o Advocacy with the Minister of Post Secondary and Future Skills to support individuals through education
 - Shortening the length of time required to complete healthcare education programs
 - Improving the ability to ladder between professions such as a Licensed Practical Nurse and a Registered Nurse
- Recent and potential Emergency Room closures and diversions at hospitals within the region due to staffing shortages
 - o Impacts to BC Ambulance in small surrounding communities from emergency room closures and diversions
- Impacts from Vaccine Mandates on healthcare in B.C.
- Consider meeting with the College of Physicians, along with the Minister of Health in a collaborative approach to identify the main issues and provide solutions.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

REPORT

Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention – Invitation to Meet with Northern Health and Discussion Topics

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Moon

SNRHD.2024-6-8

“That the Board direct staff to schedule a meeting with Northern Health at the Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention including the following topics for discussion:

1. Seniors Health
2. Healthcare Worker Shortage
3. Neurodevelopmental Assessment wait times.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS

Healthcare Staffing Shortages- Vanderhoof

Director Moutray noted that Vanderhoof has been experiencing healthcare staffing shortages and recently managed to fill 18 of 20 shift absentees. Director Lambert spoke of the cost of hiring contractors to fill vacant positions due to leaves, holidays etc.

New Physician and LPN starting work -Fort St. James spouse who is

Director Elphee announced that a new physician will be in the community at the end of August as well as their a Licensed Practical Nurse.

New Fort St. James Hospital

Director Elphee mentioned that the new hospital in Fort St. James has recently received its Letter of Occupancy.

Chair Greenaway – Update

Chair Greenaway commented that she met with Gregory Marr, Senior Operating Officer, NI Rural, Northern Health regarding primary care in Vanderhoof.

BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) – Air Ambulance

Director McGuire reported that BCEHS Air Ambulance helicopters landed on a property on the Southside of Francois Lake and in Granisle to transport patients to Prince George for immediate treatment.

Director Lambert spoke of the restrictions for Air Ambulance helicopters to land in rural areas without designated helipads.

Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Elphee
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

SNRHD.2024-6-9

“That the verbal reports of the various Directors be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Moutray
Seconded by Director McGuire

SNRHD.2024-6-10

"That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(2)(b) of the *Community Charter* for the Board to deal with matters relating to the following:

- Fort St. James Hospital."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Break for SNRHD In-Camera Meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:44 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Moutray
Seconded by Director Storey

SNRHD.2024-6-11

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Judy Greenaway, Chairperson

Wendy Wainwright, Confidential Secretary