

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
(Committee Of The Whole)

Thursday, April 6, 2017

PRESENT: Chair Mark Fisher

Directors Taylor Bachrach
Eileen Benedict
Tom Greenaway
John Illes
Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Darcy Repen
Gerry Thiessen

Directors Shane Brienen, District of Houston
Absent Dwayne Lindstrom, Village of Fraser Lake
Thomas Liversidge, Village of Granisle
Rob MacDougall, District of Fort St. James

Alternate Director Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle

Staff Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer
Rory McKenzie, Environmental Services Operations Manager
Janette Derksen, Environmental Services Coordinator
Roxanne Shepherd, Chief Financial Officer
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER Chair Fisher called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Greenaway

WMC.2017-1-1 "That the Waste Management Committee receive the April 6, 2017 Supplementary Agenda."

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

AGENDA Moved by Alternate Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Miller

WMC.2017-1-2 "That the Waste Management Committee receive the April 6, 2017 Agenda."

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

MINUTES

Waste Management
Committee Meeting Minutes
-September 8, 2016

Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Director Illes

WMC.2017-1-3

"That the Minutes of the Waste Management Committee for September 8, 2016 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. RCBC Conference 2017

RCBC Conference 2017
Attendance

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Bachrach

WMC.2017-1-4

"That the Waste Management Committee receive the Environmental Services Assistant's April 5, 2017 memo titled "Attendance of the Chair of the Waste Management Committee and Environmental Services Assistant at the 2017 RCBC Conference in Whistler, B.C."
2. Further, that the Waste Management Committee recommend that the RDBN Board of Directors authorize Chair Mark Fisher and the Environmental Services Assistant's attendance at the 2017 RCBC Conference in Whistler, B.C. June 21-23, 2017."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Zero Waste Provincial Policy

Chair Fisher mentioned that he is a member of the Zero Waste Provincial Policy group. The group is an informal group of elected officials from throughout B.C. that are developing a discussion paper to focus on how provincial policy can be developed that will assist Regional Districts to meet zero waste goals. Some suggestions are: how companies can redesign packaging to minimize waste, more definition for agriculture and forestry waste, and encouraging value added initiatives.

Frustrations were expressed regarding the amount of packaging used and that the current structure of collection of packaging and printed paper is still falling to local government to address. Meeting provincial targets for packaging and printed paper and the economies of scale for volume collection of the material was discussed.

3. Update on HR Transition

Melany de Weerd, CAO mentioned that discussions regarding the Environmental Services Department personnel transition will take place at a Special In-Camera meeting as outlined in the *Local Government Act*.

4. Mattress Recycling

Chair Fisher spoke of preliminary works that could possibly take place prior to the Solid Waste Management Plan completion that would address such issues as mattress recycling.

Ms. de Weerd mentioned that the Director of Environmental Services had met with the Salvation Army representatives to find a solution for items that the thrift stores in the region reject and divert the items from the transfer stations and landfills. The Salvation Army can deliver the items for use to other areas in Canada and Nationally. Preliminary discussions took place in regard to how

4. Mattress Recycling (Cont'd)

the RDBN could facilitate making the material available for pick up by the Salvation Army at no cost to the RDBN, with the intent to divert the material from the landfills. Mattress recycling was not discussed at the original meeting but can be brought forward in future discussions to explore potential opportunities.

Director Thiessen mentioned that the Salvation Army is considering Vanderhoof as a potential location for their thrift store.

5. Update on Solid Waste Management Plan RFP

Rory McKenzie, Environmental Services Operations Manager mentioned that when the Solid Waste Management Plan RFP was first issued there was no response from proponents. Janine Dougall, Past Director of Environmental Services contacted potential proponents and their response was: more time was required and they would be better able to submit an RFP in the spring of 2017. Currently the Environmental Services Department is considering reissuing the RFP in April/May, 2017.

Discussion took place in regard to moving the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) forward and conducting preliminary works such as speaking with community members that may be willing to consider being a part of the SWMP Advisory Committee and Monitoring Committee. Chair Fisher spoke of the Waste Management Committee outlining a concise action plan for the new Director of Environmental Services. Receiving no response to the original RFP was also discussed. The reissuing of the RFP and the timeframe required was reviewed.

Director Bachrach spoke of meeting with the Smithers and Area Recycling Society and their request that the RDBN defer more materials to their operations for recycling through the SWMP.

Discussion took place in regard to completing a comprehensive update of the SWMP and the legislation requiring an advisory and monitoring committee to be formed. The composition of the committees was considered. Chair Fisher noted that there is interest from people in his community in participating in the SWMP committees.

Director Bachrach mentioned that the intent was to review the original SWMP to determine what has moved forward from that plan and what hasn't. He noted that there are new ways to recycle since the plan was developed and society's expectations have changed. He commented that the Extended Producer Responsibility programs have also created challenges wherein some products have complete producer responsibility to the end of life and some do not. Director Greenaway mentioned that Fort St. James very rarely receives pickup for end of life electronics and there is a need to provide storage for the items for when pickup can occur. He suggested the use of a C-Can storage unit at the Fort St. James Transfer Station. Director Greenaway mentioned the challenges associated with products that are damaged and determined to be hazardous waste and can't be recycled and need to be landfilled.

Director Repen spoke of the SWMP being a plan that can be used to provide information to residents in regard to the cost to taxpayers in landfilling products that can and should be recycled. Director Miller commented that landfill costs have increased with the landfill requirements and regulations mandated by the province. Discussion took place in regard to the RDBN completing the SWMP process rather than a consultant. Director McGuire spoke of the time commitment that may be required to a member of the advisory committee. She commented, to determine possible outcomes, it may be necessary to determine specific action items with a specific time frame. Alternate Director McGuire also noted the importance of public education for all residents in the region.

Chair Fisher encouraged the Waste Management Committee to research ideas that will work for their respective communities that can be provided to the new Director of Environmental Services.

5. Update on Solid Waste Management Plan RFP (Cont'd)

Director Thiessen mentioned that as community leaders there are initiatives that community members and businesses can be encouraged to undertake to help reduce products being brought to the transfer stations and landfills to assist in reducing the waste management budget. Director Thiessen spoke of initiatives in the current SWMP that are not being implemented such as tipping fees.

Director Newell spoke to the importance of considering rural areas of the region in the development of a new SWMP as there is no curbside collection.

Discussion took place regarding the industrial tax base that contributes to the waste management budget and diverting products from the landfills may not always be inexpensive in the north due to increase in transportation costs, etc.

6. Salvaging

Chair Fisher mentioned that a process for a safe and efficient solution to allow salvaging of metal and wood at RDBN Transfer Stations and Landfills has been identified. Director Repen commented that wood and metal salvaging are separate items as the metal is a revenue source for the RDBN through a contract for removal and compensation. He mentioned that if the safety issues can be addressed and there can be a solution found for the drop off and salvaging of metal and wood there wouldn't be a need to wait for the SWMP to be complete. Discussion took place regarding the possibility to provide wood salvaging but there are concerns in regard to commercial salvaging of the metal at the transfer stations and landfills.

Wood and Metal Salvaging

Moved by Director Repen
Seconded by Director Newell

WMC.2017-1-5

"That the Waste Management Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that pending resolution of safety concerns the RDBN provide metal and wood salvaging at RDBN Transfer Stations."

Director Thiessen brought forward concerns regarding metal salvaging and commercial salvagers stripping the high grade metal from the metal piles at the transfer stations. He spoke of allowing the salvage of wood and small scale salvage of metal and mentioned the need to have policies in place. He voiced concerns regarding liability.

Moved by Director Thiessen
Seconded by Director Illes

WMC.2017-1-6

"That the Waste Management Committee defer Motion WMC.2017-1-5 and further, that staff be directed to prepare a report in regard to wood and metal salvaging options to be brought forward at a future Waste Management Committee Meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Product Stewardship: An Overview of Recycling in B.C.

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Illes

WMC.2017-1-7

“That the Waste Management Committee receive the correspondence from Product Stewardship RE: An Overview of Recycling in B.C.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

REPORTS

2017 Backyard Composting Program

Moved by Alternate Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Illes

WMC.2017-1-8

“That the Waste Management Committee receive the Environmental Services Assistant’s March 30, 2017 memo titled “2017 Backyard Composting Program.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Miller spoke of the importance of providing education in regard to diverting compost from the solid waste management facilities and the Backyard Composting Program provides the opportunity for education. Director Parker commented that he is attending the Fraser Lake Tradeshow in the near future and would be willing to have a composter at the booth to assist in further education.

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Parker

WMC.2017-1-8

“That the Waste Management Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors provide Director Parker, Electoral Area “D” (Fraser Lake Rural) a Backyard Composter for the Fraser Lake Tradeshow April 22, 2017.

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Alternate Director McGuire spoke of the number of Single Family Households outlined in the memo titled “2017 Backyard Composting Program”. Staff will review the Single Family Households numbers.

Director Thiessen recommended the use of the tumbler composters. Janette Derksen, Environmental Services Coordinator mentioned that the composter rebate program is being introduced for the purposes of allowing residents a choice in the type of composter they purchase.

pNEW BUSINESS

**Cardboard Ban and
Recycling of Cardboard**

Director Bachrach mentioned that there has been some concerns in regard to cardboard being dumped on the tipping floor of the Smithers/Telkwa Transfer Station. Mr. McKenzie mentioned that there has been a noticeable decrease in the amount of cardboard being dumped on the tipping floors of all RDBN Transfer Stations. He noted that at times when attendants are busy residents put cardboard on the tipping floor because not all residents have accepted the cardboard ban.

Alternate Director McGuire asked if a cardboard bin could be placed near the Granisle Fire Department. Staff suggested that the Village of Granisle contact Waste Management to determine if that is a possibility.

Director Thiessen mentioned that Vanderhoof has seen a reduction in cardboard due to out of town businesses no longer bringing cardboard to the Vanderhoof Transfer Station and the Nechako Waste Initiative building a business plan and collecting household cardboard.

**SPECIAL IN-CAMERA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MOTION**

Moved by Director Illes
Seconded by Alternate Director McGuire

WMC.2017-1-9

“In accordance with Section 90(1)(c) of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to labour relations or other employee relations be held in confidence, and therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Illes

WMC.2017-1-10

“That the meeting be adjourned at 1:48 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Fisher, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant