

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING
(Committee of the Whole)

Thursday, April 28, 2016

PRESENT: Chair Mark Parker

Directors Taylor Bachrach
Eileen Benedict
Shane Brien
Tom Greenaway
Mark Fisher
Thomas Liversidge
Rob MacDougall
Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Jerry Petersen
Darcy Repen
Luke Strimbold
Gerry Thiessen

Director Absent Dwayne Lindstrom, Village of Fraser Lake

Staff Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Hans Berndorff, Financial Administrator
Corrine Swenson, Manager of Regional Economic Development
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Brien

AG.2016-4-1

"That the Agriculture Committee Meeting Agenda of April 28, 2016 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Agriculture Committee
Meeting Minutes
-March 24, 2016

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director MacDougall

AG.2016-4-2

"That the minutes of the Agriculture Committee meeting of March 24, 2016 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORT

RDBN Agriculture Presentation Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Director Greenaway

AG.2016-4-3 "That the Agriculture Committee receive the Manager of Administrative Services' April 19, 2016 memo titled "RDBN Agriculture Presentation."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Miller provided an overview of the RDBN Agriculture Presentation that Chair Parker, Director Fisher and he provided to the Northern Development Initiative Trust Board of Directors. The presentation was well received and NDI staff indicated support for agriculture throughout the region.

Director MacDougall mentioned that as a member of the NDI Board of Directors there was further discussion and there will be action moving forward.

CORRESPONDENCE

PIBC Webinar – Climate Action Initiative – Climate Change & BC Agriculture: Regional Adaptation Strategies Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Greenaway

AG.2016-4-4 "That the Agriculture Committee receive the correspondence titled "PIBC Webinar – Climate Action Initiative – Climate Change & BC Agriculture: Regional Adaptation Strategies" and examples "Cariboo Region" and "Peace Regions"."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Parker noted that there may be another opportunity in the future for funding for the RDBN to complete a study similar to the Cariboo and Peace Regions. Director MacDougall commented that there may be an opportunity for a collaborative approach with other industries such as forestry.

March 30, 2016 letter from Ministry of Environment -Water Sustainability Act Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Thiessen

AG.2016-4-5 "That the Agriculture Committee receive the March 30, 2016 letter from the Ministry of Environment titled "*Water Sustainability Act*."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Parker spoke of the letter from the Ministry of Environment indicating that they were going to hold teleconferences in regard to the *Water Sustainability Act* in April, 2016. He has contacted MoE to request a teleconference.

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)

Concerns were brought forward in regard to how and if the *Water Sustainability Act* regulations will be enforced. Discussion took place regarding the importance of regional residents receiving accurate information from the Province.

Staff are currently working on a report for the Regional Board in regard to the *Water Sustainability Act* and regulations.

Director MacDougall noted that it would be beneficial to have a *Water Sustainability Act* panel discussion at the North Central Local Government Association Convention or the Union of B.C. Municipalities Conference in September, 2016.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting with Frank Leonard,
Chair, Agriculture Land
Commission

Chair Parker reminded the Agriculture Committee that Frank Leonard, Chair, Agriculture Land Commission will be attending the RDBN Agriculture Committee Meeting May 26, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Brien

AG.2016-4-6

"That the meeting be adjourned at 2:36 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant