

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

RURAL/AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, June 8, 2023

PRESENT: Chair Clint Lambert

Directors Judy Greenaway
Shirley Moon
Chris Newell
Mark Parker
Michael Riis-Christianson
Stoney Stoltenberg

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Deneve Vanderwolf, Regional Transit Coordinator/Planning
Technician – left at 2:30 p.m.

Others Linda McGuire, Village of Gransile
Kevin Moutray, District of Vanderhoof – left at 2:39 p.m.
Elijah Newell, Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)
Lindsay Taylor, Manager, Government Relations, BC Transit – left at
2:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Lambert called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m.

AGENDA Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2023-4-1 “That the Rural/Agriculture Committee Agenda for June 8, 2023 be approved.”

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

MINUTES

Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
-April 6, 2023 Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2023-4-2 “That the minutes of the Rural/Agriculture Committee meeting of April 6, 2023 be approved.”

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Land Referral

Crown Land Application
Referral No. 7410293
Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof
Rural)

Moved by Director Moon
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2023-4-3

"That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application No. 7410293."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REGIONAL TRANSIT

Electoral Area Participation
in the Transit Service

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2023-4-4

"That the Committee receive the Director of Planning's Electoral Area Participation in the Transit Service memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding the following:

- Bylaw amendment process for each Electoral Area Director wanting to participate in the RDBN Regional Public Transit and Para-Transit (Highway 16) Service
 - o 2/3 majority vote of participants
 - o Bylaw sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for consideration
 - o Timeline
- Elector Assent and Alternative Approval process
- Require cost certainty from the Provincial and Federal Government
- First Nations funding and Federal Government funding
- Scenarios based on participation of Electoral Areas and potential impacts to municipalities
 - o Electoral Areas not wanting to move forward - provide information to staff
- Electoral Areas ability to join the service at any time
- Ridership numbers

REGIONAL TRANSIT

- Funding the Service
 - o COVID-19 Funding utilized to continue service in 2023
 - o Past support of service through grant in aid
 - o Provincial grants at the start of the service have expired
 - o The potential increased costs for the continuation of the service
 - o Bus stops capital infrastructure funded by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
 - o Funding ratio for municipalities/electoral areas
 - o Review funding once participation of electoral areas is determined
- Tax rates based on:
 - o Population
 - o Land and improvements
 - o Improvements only
- Service was started to address the missing and murdered indigenous people along Highway 16
- Lobbying the Province.

NEW BUSINESS

Cattle Liner Rollover – Morice Forest Service Road Chair Lambert mentioned that a cattle liner rolled over on the Morice Forest Service Road recently. Some of the livestock perished. BC Cattlemen’s Association is exploring acquiring emergency response trailers.

Agricultural Land Commission -Compliance and Enforcement Director Moon noted that the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) recently had their Compliance and Enforcement Officials visit throughout the region. They visited some properties within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) in Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural). The ALC Compliance and Enforcement Officials also met with RDBN staff.

The following was discussed:

- The Agricultural Land Commission possibly attending a future meeting
- Awareness of the ALC Compliance and Enforcement Officials visit through the region.

IN-CAMERA MEETING MOTION

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2023-4-5

“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:

- Legacy Funding.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2023-4-5

"That the meeting be adjourned at 2:39 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Clint Lambert, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
Corporate Services