

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING
(Committee of the Whole)

Thursday, March 10, 2016

PRESENT: Chair Rob MacDougall

Directors Taylor Bachrach
Eileen Benedict
Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Dwayne Lindstrom
Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Darcy Repen
Luke Strimbold
Gerry Thiessen

Directors Absent Shane Brienen, District of Houston
Thomas Liversidge, Village of Granisle

Alternate Director Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle – arrived at 9:46 a.m.

Staff Gail Chapman, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Hans Berndorff, Financial Administrator
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Other Daniella Oake, Planning Forester, Babine Forest Products

CALL TO ORDER

Chair MacDougall called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Lindstrom

F.C.2016-3-1

“That the Forestry Committee Meeting Agenda of March 10, 2016 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY
AGENDA

Moved by Director Repen
Seconded by Director Fisher

F.C.2016-3-2

“That the Supplementary Agenda be received and dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Forestry Committee Meeting
Minutes – February 11, 2016

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director Miller

F.C.2016-3-3

“That the Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2016 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION ITEM

Proposed 9 Axle Log Truck

Chair MacDougall reported that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has issued permits for 9 Axle Log Trucks on Highway 27 and the North Road a secondary road north of Fort St. James.

Director Miller spoke with Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MoFLNRO) regarding engagement during the investigation process in regard to the proposed 9 axle log truck configuration. He noted that there did not appear to be consultation. There has been numerous configuration changes in regard to log haul trailers in the past years. Some changes have impacted the ability for the trucks to maneuver around and through corners on Forest Service Roads.

Staff will contact Rob Phillips, Engineering Officer, Authorizations, Nadina, MoFLNRO, in regard to the impact of 9 axle log trucks on Forest Service Roads.

Director Lindstrom spoke of concerns in regard to the ability of the truck tractor being capable of pulling the loaded 9 axle log truck. Concerns were also brought forward in regard to the possible damage caused to the road systems and the cost to tax payers to repair the roads. Director Greenaway noted that Highway 27 was paved in the summer of 2015 and the edges of the road are already breaking away.

Log truck load sizes pre-mountain pine beetle were smaller due to the weight of green wood. As the mountain pine beetle wood become the focus, load sizes increased in volume to maintain the same weight on a load. Due to the impacts of the midterm timber supply and the removal of the mountain pine beetle wood there will be a return to pre-mountain pine beetle weights but with the increase to a 9 axle log truck the volume will not decrease. Concerns were discussed regarding the consequences of utilizing a 9 axle log truck.

Chair MacDougall intends to contact Jason Fisher, Director, Forest Sector Strategies, Competitiveness and Innovation Branch, MoFLNRO.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director Bachrach
Seconded by Director Petersen

F.C.2016-3-4

“That the Forestry Committee receive the following correspondence:

-Wildfire Symposium Follow Up – February 29, 2016;
- BC Government News – B.C. Increases Investments in Forest Stewardship.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)

Wildfire Symposium Follow Up – February 29, 2016

Director Miller provided an overview of the Wildfire Symposium Follow Up on February 29, 2016. He noted that there was very good discussion and that there is a commitment from all the stakeholders to move forward. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Wildfire Management Branch indicated budget considerations have been made to continue to move forward.

Discussion took place regarding the Forest Enhancement Society of BC and possible funding opportunities. Further information is required in regard to the society and a future meeting will be scheduled once information is obtained in regard to the Forest Enhancement Society of BC. A tentative meeting date has been scheduled for April 5, 2016.

Director Miller noted that there is a commitment from each organization to have one person be part of the working group at a staff level and that either Chair MacDougall or himself will provide a political connection.

BC Government News – B.C. Increases Investments in Forest Stewardship

Director Petersen noted that the FireSmart program for home owners is very beneficial but mentioned that many rural residents do not have the equipment or resources to fire smart their property.

Director Miller noted that there have been gaps identified in regard to rural residents accessing/utilizing equipment and or contractor to complete fire smart work.

Discussion took place regarding the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako including on its Business Directory web page a contractors list that can complete fire smart work for rural home owners.

Discussion took place regarding funding for private land hazard reduction. Staff will further investigate possible funding options.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Benedict

F.C.2016-3-5

“That the Forestry Committee receive the following correspondence:

- Northern Development Initiative Trust - Forest Innovation Fund will Provide Support for Small Business;
- Nechako Valley Regional Cattleman Association – Draft Resolution – Wood Ash as a Liming Agent and Low Level Fertilizer for Agricultural Land in British Columbia;
- Species at Risk Public Registry - Notifications of Updates;
- Canfor – CEO Don Kayne’s Blog - Changing the Way we Move Logs;
- Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – Fibre Recovery Tenures.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nechako Valley Regional Cattleman Association – Draft Resolution – Wood Ash as a Liming Agent and Low Level Fertilizer for Agricultural Land in British Columbia

Director Parker mentioned that he has been investigating options to streamline the process of utilizing wood ash as a liming agent and low level fertilizer for agricultural land in BC.

The Fraser Basin Council is meeting on March 18, 2016 to discuss the issue further. Discussion took place in regard to bringing forward a resolution to NCLGA and or UBCM in regard to the issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Newell

F.C.2016-3-6

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:14 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rob MacDougall, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant