

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Thursday, November 9, 2023

PRESENT: Chair Mark Parker

Directors Gladys Atrill – via Zoom
Shane Brienen
Leroy Dekens
Martin Elphee
Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire – via Zoom
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Chris Newell
Michael Riis-Christianson
Stoney Stoltenberg
Sarrah Storey – arrived at 11:04 a.m.
Henry Wiebe

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development
– left at 11:04
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Media Saddman Zaman, LD News

CALL TO ORDER Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AGENDA Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Dekens

C.W.2023-8-1 “That the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting of
November 9, 2023 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Committee of the Whole
Minutes – October 12, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2023-8-2

“That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2023 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STAFF INTRODUCTION

Chair Parker introduced Anusha Rai, Human Resources Advisor.

REPORTS

UBCM Community Emergency
Preparedness Fund
-Indigenous Cultural Safety
Application

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

C.W.2023-8-3

“That the Committee recommend that the Board approve the RDBN’s application to UBCM’s Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Indigenous Cultural Safety Program for a Cultural Competence in Emergency Response project and agree to provide overall grant management for the project.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Summary of Timber Supply
Area Apportionment Decisions
in the Regional District

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Lambert

C.W.2023-8-4

“That the Committee receive the Chief Financial Officer’s Summary of Timber Supply Area Apportionment Decision in the Regional District.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Process began in 2019 with finalization in 2023 and is no longer accurate
 - o A number of fires have taken place since the start of the TSA apportionment decisions
- Map from Cheslatta Carrier Nation – identifying impact to Electoral Area E
 - o Second hardest hit area in the province since 2013

REPORTS (CONT'D)

- Electoral Areas C, D and E are in the top 10 areas hit by fire in the province
 - o Hectares burned in the Regional District 2010 to 2023
- Need to reassess inventory
- Cheslatta Carrier Nations Chief Forester estimates billions of cubic metres of fibre loss due to fire in Electoral Area E
- Attempting to determine next steps
- Long-term impact to sawmills, communities and the economy is significant
- Needs to be a greater priority
- Advocating the Province for better inventory
- Loss of planted tree seedlings due to drought and weather
- Manufacturing and utilization of burnt timber
- Ministry of Forests delegation January 2024
- Requested new Allowable Annual Cut for the RDBN from the Honourable Anne Kang, Minister of Municipal Affairs
 - o Indicated Ministry of Forests will follow-up
- Fort St. James Community Forest utilized the 2018 Shovel Lake Wildfire burnt timber
- Shelf-life of burnt timber
- Processing of aspen trees
 - o Companies unable to process unless lands are replanted with aspen seedlings
 - o Option when clearing land is to burn aspen trees
- Lakes and Morice woodlot volumes
- Challenges for companies to utilize slash due to constraints – having to burn slash piles
- Importance of a Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA) agreement to support northern communities
- Utilizing past perimeters from burnt areas of forest to protect new growth areas
- Timeline to replant trees after a wildfire.

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director McGuire

C.W.2023-8-5

“That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1)(c) of the *Community Charter* for the Board to deal with matters relating to the following: Labour Relations.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2023-8-6

"That the meeting be adjourned at 11:28 a.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
Corporate Services