

STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2016

PRESENT: Chairperson Jerry Petersen

Directors Eileen Benedict
Tom Greenaway
Dwayne Lindstrom
Bill Miller
Mark Parker
Luke Strimbold

Directors Thomas Liversidge, Village of Granisle
Absent Rob MacDougall, District of Fort St. James
Gerry Thiessen, District of Vanderhoof

Alternate Brenda Gouglas, District of Fort St. James
Directors Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle

Staff Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Hans Berndorff, Treasurer
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Taylor Bachrach, Mayor, Town of Smithers – arrived at 10:30 a.m.
April Hughes, Health Services Administrator, Omineca Lakes, Northern Health – Via Teleconference – 10:04 a.m. to 10:29 a.m.
Christine Kinnie, Beyond the Market – arrived at 10:30 a.m.
Michael McMillan, Chief Operating Officer, Northern Health– Via Teleconference – 10:04 a.m. to 10:29 a.m.
Rob Newell, Director, Electoral Area “G” (Houston Rural) – arrived at 10:30 a.m.
Dawn Potvin, Councillor, District of Houston
Darcy Repen, Mayor, Village of Telkwa – arrived at 10:30 a.m.

Media Flavio Nienow, LD News – arrived at 10:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Petersen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

OATH OF OFFICE

Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services administered the Oath of Office to Brenda Gouglas, Alternate Director, District of Fort St. James.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Greenaway

SNRHD.2016-6-1

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda of June 9, 2016 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

NORTHERN HEALTH – Michael McMillan, Chief Operating Officer and April Hughes, Health Services Administrator, Omineca Lakes – RE: Fort St. James Clinic – Via Teleconference

Chair Petersen welcomed Michael McMillan, Chief Operating Officer and April Hughes, Health Services Administrator, Omineca Lakes Northern Health.

Mr. McMillan mentioned that the concept plans for the Fort St. James Hospital Replacement including the Primary Care Clinic have been submitted to the Provincial government. The approximate cost for the replacement of the Fort St. James Hospital and Primary Care Clinic is \$56 million. Northern Health has completed the planning to the level in which permitted by the provincial government until formal approval is provided. It is unclear when the provincial government will move the project forward to its capital plan. Northern Health continues to communicate with government that this is a very important project for Northern Health, the community of Fort St. James and the north. The project is very high on Northern Health's list of priorities. Mr. McMillan referenced the advocacy of the SNRHD in regard to the Burns Lake Hospital Replacement Project and the benefits that the advocacy of the SNRHD could have in regard to the Fort St. James Hospital Replacement and Primary Care Clinic Project.

Northern Health has designed the Hospital and Primary Care Clinic as two separate buildings. Specifically because the site is larger and separating the two buildings lowers the cost of building. Building a hospital must conform to the highest hospital building code standard and the clinic can be built to an office building code standard.

Mr. McMillan noted that Northern Health is working with the Fort St. James Primary Care Society to investigate a creative way in which to move forward with the primary care space prior to building the Fort St. James Hospital to address the critical immediate needs of the physicians, staff and community members. Being able to separate the two buildings will hopefully allow the Primary Care Clinic to be built in the near future. The concept plans allow for the buildings to be connected once the Fort St. James Hospital Replacement Project moves forward. Northern Health, in its work with the society is investigating the option to subdivide the property and lease it to the society to move forward with building the clinic. The society will undertake the borrowing and or fundraising to create and build a primary care facility similar to a primary care clinic created in Chetwynd, B.C.

The dollar value for the Primary Care Clinic is approximately \$11 million using a quantity surveyor estimate that is +/- 20%. Northern Health is working to determine a clearer cost estimate and determine a pay structure for the space that will be utilized by Northern Health and support health services.

Mr. McMillan spoke to the space and accessibility challenges that the Fort St. James Medical Clinic is currently experiencing. The space is inadequate for the six physicians and nurse practitioner and a solution needs to be found.

Mr. McMillan mentioned that Northern Health may be coming to the SNRHD to find creative solutions to fund the healthcare needs of the Fort St. James community.

Chair Petersen spoke of the SNRHD's support regarding the Fort St. James Hospital Replacement Project including a Primary Care Clinic. Discussion took place regarding the need for advocacy by the SNRHD Board of Directors when meeting with the province. Mr. McMillan mentioned that Northern Health will assist in developing an information file that can be utilized to advocate for the need to replace the Fort St. James Hospital and build a Primary Care Clinic.

Discussion took place regarding the potential cost savings of building the Primary Care Clinic first and separate from the Fort St. James Hospital Replacement. Mr. McMillan provided an estimate but will have staff complete an analysis to determine the potential cost savings. The timelines for building the Primary Care Clinic and the Fort St. James Hospital Replacement were discussed. There is a desire to start building the primary care clinic by the spring of 2017 and the Fort St. James Hospital potentially in 5 years' time. Historically, the longer it takes to build the facilities, the higher the costs will be.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

NORTHERN HEALTH – Michael McMillan, Chief Operating Officer and April Hughes, Health Services Administrator, Omineca Lakes – RE: Fort St. James Clinic – Via Teleconference

Discussion took place regarding the province being willing to listen to options in regard to the funding contribution amount from the SNRHD.

Alternate Director Gouglas requested information in regard to the MOU between Northern Health and the Primary Care Clinic Society. Mr. McMillan noted that the MOU is in its final approvals by the parties and will be finalized in the near future. He also noted that there has been a verbal commitment by Northern Health to work with the society to determine a lease agreement.

Mr. McMillan stated that Northern Health is one hundred percent behind creating a better space for physicians, Northern Health staff, patients and the citizens of Fort St. James.

Chair Petersen thanked Mr. McMillan and Ms. Hughes for attending the meeting.

VERBAL REPORTS

Consultation RE: Seniors Needs

Chair Petersen, Directors Thiessen, MacDougall, and Lindstrom met with stakeholders and April Hughes, Health Services Administrator, Northern Health on June 7, 2016 in Vanderhoof to determine what is available and what is needed in regard to seniors care in Vanderhoof.

Burns Lake Hospital Opening Ceremony – June 27, 2016

Chair Petersen mentioned that the Burns Lake Hospital Opening Ceremony will take place on June 27, 2016. Staff will contact Northern Health for information regarding the event.

Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Parker

SNRHD.2016-6-2

“That the verbal reports of the various Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Board of Directors be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Alternate Director McGuire

SNRHD.2016-6-3

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:33 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jerry Petersen, Chairperson

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant