

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

RURAL DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 6, 2016

PRESENT: Chair Eileen Benedict

Directors Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen

Directors Mark Fisher, Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural)
Absent Tom Greenaway, Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural)

Alternate Directors Bob Hughes, Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural)
Stoney Stoltenberg, Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural)

Staff Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 3:09 p.m.
Roxanne Shepherd, Chief Financial Officer
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Benedict called the meeting to order at 2:53 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Alternate Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2016-9-1

"That the Rural Directors Committee Agenda for October 6, 2016 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Rural Directors Committee Meeting Minutes -September 8, 2016

Moved by Alternate Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Newell

RDC.2016-9-2

"That the minutes of the Rural Directors Committee meeting of September 8, 2016 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

REFERRALS

Land Referral File No. 7409869 YCS Holdings Ltd. Electoral Area "F"

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Alternate Director Stoltenberg

RDC. 2016-9-3

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Comment Sheet on Crown Land Referral 7409869 be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land application 7409869."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (CONT'D)

REFERRALS (CONT'D)

Land Referral File No. Moved by Director Newell
6408940 Lake Babine Fisheries Seconded by Director Miller
Electoral Area "G"

RDC. 2016-9-4 "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Comment Sheet on
Crown Land Referral 6408940 be provided to the Province as the
Regional District's comments on Crown Land application 6408940."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mine Referral File No. Moved by Alternate Director Hughes
522994 Robert Miller Seconded by Director Parker
Electoral Area "C"

RDC. 2016-9-5 "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Comment Sheet on Mine
Referral 522994 be provided to the Province as the Regional District's
comments on Mine application 522994."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION ITEM

Illegal Dumping

Alternate Director Stoltenberg provided a verbal report in regard to Director Fisher's comments regarding illegal dumping in Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural). He spoke of creating a partnership with the Conservation Officers Service (COS) to address illegal dumping. Director Fisher mentioned the use of local volunteer recreation groups to assist with illegal dumping cleanup. He noted that actions such as education, community clean-up events and creating an RDBN Policy to acknowledge and encourage action would assist in addressing illegal dumping.

The RCMP's ability to fine for littering was discussed along with the challenges associated with cleaning up illegal dump sites throughout the region. Discussion took place regarding the mechanisms and the need to follow through to fine individuals that dump garbage outside landfills and transfer stations.

Chair Benedict mentioned that the topic was discussed at the Electoral Area Directors Forum held at the UBCM Convention in Victoria in September, 2016. She commented that other regions in the province have agreements and contracts in place with the COS, RCMP, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) Compliance and Enforcement Officers to address illegal dumping. Director Parker noted that the COS provided direct contact information to the RDBN for future contact.

Discussion took place regarding contractors removing their garbage on logging blocks once they have completed the work. Director Miller commented that if a logging block is not cleaned of garbage when a BC Timber Sales wood lot is inspected the contractor will lose their deposit and/or not be allowed to bid on future timber sales.

Janine Dougall, Director of Environmental Services noted that when persons contact the RDBN to report an illegal dump site their information is forwarded to the COS and if the site is located close to a Regional District Landfill or Transfer Station, RDBN staff will assist and go through the garbage to attempt to determine who dumped it. In the Vanderhoof area, FLNRO staff survey the lands to find and clean-up illegal dump sites. FLNRO may connect it to a community clean-up day or Earth Day to promote community assistance and the RDBN will waive fees at its Landfills and Transfer Stations to assist with the clean-up. She spoke of the benefits of the program and that the program has operated for a number of years. Trail cams in sites known for illegal dump areas was discussed.

DISCUSSION ITEM (CONT'D)

Illegal Dumping (Cont'd)

Discussion took place regarding the cost implications to the RDBN in regard to illegal dump sites and the potential use, and use, of grant in aid to school groups to clean-up along roadways. Determining what is required for RCMP to prosecute an offender and having discussions with RCMP and COS regarding illegal dump sites was discussed.

Illegal Dumping

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2016-9-6

"That the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct Chair Benedict and staff to work with local RCMP and Conservation Officers Service in regard to illegal dumping to determine the requirements needed to prosecute an offender."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Rural Dividend Fund -Rural Connectivity Study

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Miller

RDC.2016-9-7

"That the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct staff to apply to the Rural Dividend Fund during its fall intake of October 3-31, 2016 for a Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural Connectivity Study for each of Electoral Areas "A" (Smithers Rural), "B" (Burns Lake Rural), "C" (Fort St. James Rural), "D" (Fraser Lake Rural), "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural), "F" (Vanderhoof Rural), and "G" (Houston Rural)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Alternate Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Newell

RDC.2016-9-8

"That the meeting be adjourned at 3:17 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Eileen Benedict, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant