

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING
(Committee of the Whole)

Thursday, March 20, 2014

PRESENT: Chairperson Gerry Thiessen

Directors Taylor Bachrach
Stephen Freeman
Carman Graf
Tom Greenaway
Bill Holmberg
Dwayne Lindstrom
Thomas Liversidge
Rob MacDougall
Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Jerry Petersen
Ralph Roy
Stoney Stoltenberg
Luke Strimbold – arrived at 1:10 p.m.

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

Others Josh Pressey, District Manager, Nadina, Ministry of Forests,
Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Mike Watson, Woolands Manager, Burns Lake, Ministry of
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 12:56 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director MacDougall

F.C.2014-2-1

“That the Forestry Committee Meeting Agenda of March 20, 2014 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Forestry Committee Meeting
Minutes – March 5, 2014

Moved by Director Graf
Seconded by Director Roy

F.C.2014-2-2

“That the Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2014 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES (CONT'D)

Regional District of Bulkley-
Nechako (RDBN)/Ministry of
Forests, Lands and Natural
Resource Operations (FLNRO)/
Forest Industry Representatives
Meeting Minutes – March 5, 2014

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Miller

F.C.2014-2-3

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)/Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO)/Forest Industry Representatives Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2014 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Forestry Committee Meeting
Minutes – November 7, 2013

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

F.C.2014-2-4

“That the Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2013 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Permission to Partake
In the Forestry Committee
Discussion

Moved by Director Freeman
Seconded by Director Greenaway

F.C.2014-2-5

“That the Forestry Committee authorize Josh Pressey, District Manager, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to partake in the RDBN Forestry Committee discussion.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION

Land Resource Management Plans (LRMPs)

- Components of the LRMPs have been legislated:
 - o Mainly Biodiversity Objectives and Visual Quality Objectives (VQO);
 - o Legal orders in the forest stewardship plans;
- The remainder of the LRMP is used for guidance;

Steps to modify

- Monitoring regime:
 - o Are the objectives being met;
 - o Are they not being met, if not:
 - How to better achieve objectives;
 - Require public consultation;
 - Require First Nations consultation;
 - o Signed by Mr. Pressey or the Regional Assistant Deputy Minister.

The LRMP's are still in place as there has not been new documentation to replace them. Most LRMPs have timeframes of renewal and some have a timeframe of ten years. It has been identified that a LRMP monitoring and review process is needed. LRMPs are a valuable resource and are meant to be a living document.

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Followup – Motions as
Suggested by Mr. Al Gorley

Moved by Director Holmberg
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

F.C.2014-2-6

“That Recommendations 1 and 2 be recommended to the Regional Board of the RDBN for approval as written and submission to the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations:

Recommendation 1:

“The RDBN understands that there is not a consensus to re-open Land Use Plans, therefore, the Province is unlikely to do so. However, the RDBN believes there is a need to monitor the effectiveness of current plans, and ensure that implementation takes into account changes that have occurred since the plans were adopted. The RDBN encourages the Province to establish and lead a monitoring program that will inform stakeholders and improve operation decisions.”

Recommendation 2:

“The RDBN recognizes that the Ministry is contemplating an analysis of the impacts of existing visual quality objectives on wildfire risk in the region. The RDBN understands the analysis could lead to recommendations to change the legal objectives in land use plans, possibly, enabling the mitigation of hazardous fuel build-up by salvaging dead timber and reforestation. Based upon this understanding, the RDBN supports the analysis and requests that it be consulted further before any decisions are made to change legal objectives.”

Moved by Director Bachrach
Seconded by Director Holmberg

F.C.2014-2-7

“That Motion F.C.2014-26 **Recommendation 1** be amended as follows:

“The RDBN understands that there is not a consensus to re-open Land Use Plans, therefore, the Province is unlikely to do so. However, the RDBN believes there is a need to monitor the effectiveness of current plans, and ensure that implementation takes into account changes that have occurred since the plans were adopted. The RDBN encourages the Province, in partnership with Plan Implementation Monitoring Committees, to establish and lead a monitoring program that will inform stakeholders and improve operation decisions.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

“The question was called on Motion F.C.2014-2-6 as amended.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS (CONT'D)

BC Oil & Gas Commission

Moved by Director Holmberg
Seconded by Director MacDougall

F.C.2014-2-8

“That the Forestry Committee receive the Chief Administrative Officer’s March 13, 2014 memo titled “BC Oil & Gas Commission.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Concerns were brought forward regarding the lack of a BC Oil & Gas Commission office/representative in northwest B.C. Mr. Pressey mentioned that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) is engaged at a local level with the Environmental Assessment Office regarding potential pipelines and has input into the allocation of timber from right of way clearance.

Discussion took place regarding the removal and utilization of timber being the cost of doing business for the construction of pipelines and right of way clearance. Mr. Pressey mentioned that FLNRO provides technical support in the environmental assessment process. The permitting process is completed by the BC Oil & Gas Commission. The importance of monitoring and tracking timber removal during pipeline construction, and the possibility of developing a long term license associated with right of way clearance was discussed. It is imperative to know the amount and the value of timber removed during construction from the timber harvest land base and the reforestation being completed. Discussion took place regarding the socio economic impact of pipeline construction on the forest industry and the need to understand the cumulative effects that will occur in moving forward.

Mr. Pressey noted that pipelines are a relatively new resource infrastructure for northwest B.C. Mr. Pressey requested that questions from the Forestry Committee may be forwarded to him and he will request the presence of the appropriate personnel to attend a future RDBN Forestry Committee to provide further details regarding the collaboration of BC Oil & Gas Commission and FLNRO.

Invitation to FLNRO
Resource Manager

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director MacDougall

F.C.2014-2-9

“That the Forestry Committee invite Josh Pressey, District Manager, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to extend an invitation to Maureen Tait, Resource Manager, Fort St. James, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations; and further, that Mr. Pressey include in the invitation FLNRO personnel that would be able to provide information to the RDBN Forestry Committee regarding the environmental assessment process for pipeline construction and right of way clearance.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Petersen

F.C.2014-2-10

“That the Forestry Committee receive the following correspondence:

-Omineca Beetle Action Coalition B C Timber Sales Effectiveness Review Discussion Background;
- Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Presentation to OBAC – Mountain Pine Beetle and BC’s Forests;
-Truck Logger BC – Fall 2013 – Area Based Tenure: Its History and Its Future in BC;
-Wildfire Management Branch – The 2014 Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative Program Guides.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Open Discussion with Forestry Committee Delegations

The Forestry Committee discussed the benefit of providing the ability for delegates to partake in open discussion during Forestry Committee Meetings. It is important to continue the dialogue that has been started and work together in the future.

Thank You

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Pressey for attending the meeting.

SPECIAL IN-CAMERA MEETING MOTION

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

F.C.2014-2-11

“In accordance with Section 90 (1)(c) and 2 (b) of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako that matters pertaining to labour relations or other employee relations (hiring forestry professional) and (OBAC confidential documentation), including communications necessary for that purpose must be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director MacDougall

F.C.2014-2-12

“That the meeting be adjourned at 1:25 p.m.”

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant