

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

RURAL DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, April 6, 2017

PRESENT: Chair Eileen Benedict

Directors Mark Fisher – arrived at 10:06 a.m.
Tom Greenaway
Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen

Staff Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Roxanne Shepherd, Chief Financial Officer
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle
John Illes, Village of Burns Lake- arrived at 10:26 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Benedict called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2017-4-1 “That the Rural Directors Committee Agenda for April 6, 2017 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Rural Directors Committee Meeting Minutes -March 9, 2017 Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Newell

RDC.2017-4-2 “That the minutes of the Rural Directors Committee meeting of March 9, 2017 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

St. Luke’s on the Lake Society -Request for Grant in Aid -Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2017-4-3 “That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the St. Luke’s on the Lake Society be given \$5,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) for costs associated with improvements to its building.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Lakes District Folk Music Society-Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2017-4-4

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Lakes District Folk Music Society be given \$10,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) for costs associated with a summer music festival at the Grassy Plains fairgrounds.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Stuart Lake Outreach Group Society-Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural)

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2017-4-6

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Stuart Lake Outreach Group Society be given \$1,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) for costs associated with its Hot Lunch Program/Foodbank.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Vanderhoof Community Foundation- Request for Grant in Aid– Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural)

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2017-4-7

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Vanderhoof Community Foundation be given \$25,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) to assist in building the Endowment Fund.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nechako Valley Rodeo Association - Request for Grant in Aid– Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural)

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2017-4-8

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Nechako Valley Rodeo Association be given \$5,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) for costs associated with the 2017 BCRA Finals Rodeo.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)

REFERRALS

Land Referral File No.7404971 Moved by Director Petersen
Ministry of Transportation and Seconded by Director Greenaway
Infrastructure – Electoral Area “F”

RDC.2017-4-9

“That the comment sheet titled “Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Comment Sheet on Crown Land Referral No. 7404971 be provided to the Province as the Regional District’s comments on Crown Land Referral 7404971.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Land Referral File No. Moved by Director Petersen
7409919 – Tamara & Michael Seconded by Director Greenaway
Park - Electoral Area ‘F’

RDC.2017-4-10

“That the comment sheet titled “Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Comment Sheet on Crown Land Referral 7409919” be provided to the Province as the Regional District’s comments on Crown Land Referral 7409919.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Land Referral File No. Moved by Director Greenaway
6406353 – Maxine St. Amand Seconded by Director Miller
Electoral Area “C”

RDC.2017-4-11

“That the comment sheet titled “Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Comment Sheet on Crown Land Referral 6406353” be amended to include: “The RDBN requests that the Province ensures consultation takes place with the Yekooche First Nations”; and further, that the comment sheet as amended be provided to the Province as the Regional District’s comments on Crown Land Referral 6406353.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Burns Lake Community Forest Moved by Director Miller
Referral – Electoral Areas “B” Seconded by Director Parker
& “E”

RDC.2017-4-12

“That staff be directed to send a letter to the Burns Lake Community Forest Ltd. indicating that the RDBN has no comments regarding their 5 year plan.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Village of Granisle OCP Moved by Director Newell
Referral – Electoral Area “G” Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2017-4-13

“That staff be directed to send a letter to the Village of Granisle indicating that the RDBN has no land use concerns or comments regarding their Draft Official Community Plan.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION

Pipeline Referrals

Coastal GasLink Pipeline and Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Pipeline Report on Referrals and Future Development Issues

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2017-4-14

“That the Rural Directors Committee receive the Director of Planning’s report in regard to Coastal GasLink Pipeline and Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Pipeline Report on Referrals and Future Development Issues.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Parker spoke of the importance of the pipeline companies needing to consult with all landowners potentially impacted by the proposed pipeline. Director Miller mentioned that the expectation to consult with the companies should not be on the landowner and/or tax payer but the companies themselves.

Director Miller voiced concerns regarding the capacity required to address the number of referrals that are received by the RDBN with high level technical information. He also noted that First Nations communities have similar concerns.

Discussion took place regarding the need for a more transparent and user responsible process in regard to the land use process. Engaging the Union of B.C. Municipalities and North Central Local Government Association to lobby to change the process was discussed. The pipeline companies may have a negative impact in the region in regard to camps, road use, solid waste management, policing, etc. and with proper consultation and due process some of these issues may be mitigated.

Pipeline Referrals

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Fisher

RDC.2017-4-15

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct staff to:

- a) write a letter outlining concerns in regard to the consultation process;
- b) that the letter be sent to John Rustad, MLA Nechako Lakes and Doug Donaldson, MLA Stikine;
- c) that a press release be drafted and sent to regional newspapers providing information in regard to the Regional District’s concerns in regard to the consultation process; and further,
- d) that the Oil and Gas Commission be requested to attend a future Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board Meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place in regard to bringing the concerns forward at the North Central Local Government Association’s Rural Forum Roundtable discussion.

Pipeline Referrals (Cont'd)

Director Parker spoke to having clear direction to provide to area residents in regard to the consultation process. Discussion took place in regard to referring the landowner to pipeline companies if there are land use concerns. Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning noted that referrals related to work camps require Regional Board approval and are brought forward to the Regional Board for consideration. The RDBN has also provided the following statement to the OGC and TransCanada: "that a lack of response from the RDBN to referrals is not an indication that the RDBN supports, or has no objection to, the proposed activity". Discussion took place regarding the number of issues that the lack of consultation will cause moving forward.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

REPORTS

Permaculture Farm Festival Club-Request for Grant in Aid -Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural)

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Miller

RDC.2017-4-16

"That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Permaculture Farm Festival Club be given \$2,500 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural) for costs associated with the Bulkley Valley Food Security Initiative Forum May 19, 2017 in Smithers."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Southside Seniors Housing Society -Request for Grant in Aid -Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Miller

RDC.2017-4-17

"That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Southside Seniors Housing Society be given \$3,500 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) for costs associated with hiring M'akola Development Services to complete an Expression of Interest for the Provincial Investment in Affordable Housing to build a 6 unit housing project for seniors."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nechako Valley Exhibition Society- Request for Grant in Aid- Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2017-4-18

"That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Nechako Valley Exhibition Society be given \$10,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural) for upgrades to the kitchen in the indoor arena."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Internet Connectivity

Director Newell asked if the Rural Directors required assistance in reviewing the CRTC mapping of each Electoral Area and correcting missing information. Ms. de Weerd mentioned that the Regional District had received updated mapping from CityWest in regard to the areas surrounding Burns Lake, Vanderhoof and Fraser Lake. Letters of Support have been provided to CityWest and ABC Communications in regard to the Connect to Innovate Fund. Director Newell indicated that in some areas there is last mile but not backbone infrastructure. Director Newell commented that if Electoral Area Directors required help reviewing their maps he would be willing to provide assistance. Staff will forward maps to Electoral Area Directors for review and changes can be provided at the May 11, 2017 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2017-4-19

“That the meeting be adjourned 10:39 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Eileen Benedict, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant