

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**

**MEETING NO. 2 (VIRTUAL)**

**Thursday, February 25, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill  
Shane Brienen  
Mark Fisher  
Dolores Funk  
Tom Greenaway  
Clint Lambert  
Brad Layton – arrived at 10:32 a.m., left at 10:50 a.m., returned at 11:20 a.m., left at 12:35 p.m. returned at 12:54 p.m., left at 2:22 p.m.  
Linda McGuire  
Bob Motion  
Chris Newell  
Mark Parker  
Jerry Petersen  
Michael Riis-Christianson  
Sarrah Storey

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services  
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development  
Steve Davis, Building Inspector - arrived at 11:45 p.m., left at 12:00 p.m.  
Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor – left at 11:35 a.m.  
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – left at 11:27 a.m.  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning  
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services  
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Carly Fraser, Special Projects Coordinator, Cleanfarms – left at 11:20 a.m.  
Shane Hedderson, Operations Manager, Cleanfarms – left at 11:20 a.m.  
David Keough, Deputy Assessor, Northern BC Region, BC Assessment – left at 10:35 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

**AGENDA &  
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-2-1

“That the Board Meeting Agenda of February 25, 2021 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **MINUTES**

### **Board Meeting Minutes January 28, 2021**

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-2-2

“That the Board Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2021 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Committee Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-2-3

“That the Board receive the following Committee Meeting Minutes:

- Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
  - February 11, 2021
- Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
  - February 11, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **BC ASSESSMENT – David Keough, Deputy Assessor, Northern BC Region RE: 2021 Assessment Roll and Year End Assessment Roll Report Follow up**

Chair Thiessen welcomed David Keough, Deputy Assessor, Northern BC Region, BC Assessment.

Mr. Keough provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

- About BC Assessment
- Assessment Roll
- Classification
- Assessment cycle & Key dates
- 2021 Assessment Roll
- RDBN
  - o Actual Values
  - o General Values
  - o Market Change
  - o Non-Market Change (NMC)
- Work Camps in RDBN
  - o Assessed Value Totals
- Pipelines in RDBN
- RDBN Value Distribution by Property Class
- RDBN – Average Value – Single Family Dwelling
- Northern BC – Median Assessment Single Family Dwellings
- Provincial – Median Assessment Single Family Dwellings
- Website.

## **DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

### **BC ASSESSMENT – David Keough, Deputy Assessor, Northern BC Region RE: 2021 Assessment Roll and Year End Assessment Roll Report Follow up (Cont'd)**

Discussion took place regarding:

- Jurisdictions appealing Class 1 and Class 6 classification
  - o Mr. Keough will provide information to staff
- Pipeline infrastructure
  - o Improvements outside the scope of the actual pipeline
  - o BC Oil and Gas Commission provides updated information to BC Assessment in regard to improvements
  - o BC Assessment can also send staff to assess
- Different areas and values
- Dramatic shifts in lake front property and rural acreage properties in the north
- Housing stock in the north is low and demand is high – increases values.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Keough for attending the meeting.

## **DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

### **CLEANFARMS – Carly Fraser, Special Projects Coordinator, Shane Hedderson, Operations Manager RE: Agriculture Plastics**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Carly Fraser, Special Projects Coordinator and Shane Hedderson, Operations Manager, Cleanfarms.

Ms. Fraser provided a PowerPoint Presentation

#### **Ag Plastics**

- Cleanfarms Who We Are
  - o Vision
  - o Approach
- How is Cleanfarms Funded?
  - o Primary
  - o Supplementary
- Building a Zero-Waste Strategy for Agriculture
  - o Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program (CASPP)
- Pilot Program Objectives
- CASPP Pilot Projects
- Plastic Materials
- Pilots Test Phase
- Collection Bag Operations
- Collection sites
- Asks of RDBN
- Summary.

The following was discussed:

- End markets
  - o Each material has a different end market
  - o Test market in Quebec
  - o Silage wrap – Arkansa, USA
  - o Alberta – grain bags and potentially silage and bunkers in the future
  - o Looking for end markets closer to the Regional District
- Alternative grant funding options
  - o Northern Development Initiative Trust

## **DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)**

### **CLEANFARMS – Carly Fraser, Special Projects Coordinator, Shane Hedderson, Operations Manager RE: Agriculture Plastics (Cont'd)**

- End goal for agriculture plastics
  - o Potential option for EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) Program
  - o Sustainable funding model
  - o Continued program in the long term
- Cleanfarms is open to developing relationships with local recyclers and have more end markets for products
  - o Local process
    - Once material collected - Cleanfarms owns that material and responsible for end market processing
    - Won't send without program in planning phase or in place
    - Cleanfarms is willing to support and work with individuals/businesses wanting to develop end markets for products
    - Economic development grant available but not in scope of the CASPP funding
  - o Consensus building is actively taking place as part of the overall funding – all stakeholders will be meeting in B.C. in the next month and again in 2023
  - o Fortis initiative/PNG – Cleanfarms to discuss further with Director Fisher
- Money for material
  - o Depending on material
  - o Some material is cost neutral
  - o Some material has a cost recovery
- Deposit mechanism for incentive for recovery
- Addressing contamination
  - o What is currently taking place?
  - o How can Cleanfarms address and what mechanisms can be utilized to reduce contamination?
  - o Engaged farmers to provide feedback
  - o Best practices developed
  - o Communication and information sharing
- Shipping costs and concerns
- Collection rates
- Challenges
- Pilot project
- Feedback to Directors currently – there is not a desire for additional fees/taxes
- Future potential end market
- Different levels of government implementing plastic bans
- Getting ahead of regulations and determining what people want and potential solutions.

Chair Thiessen thanked Ms. Fraser and Mr. Hedderson for attending the meeting.

**ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)**

**Bylaw for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Rezoning Application Moved by Director Fisher  
RZ A-03-20 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Seconded by Director McGuire  
Rezoning Bylaw No. 1938, 2021  
Electoral Area "A"

2021-2-4

1. "That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1938, 2021 be given first and second reading this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.

2. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1938, 2021 be delegated to the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area A."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Fisher asked if the applicant could alter the Nuisance Easement after the public hearing had closed. Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning answered that the nuisance easement option is discussed in the staff report, and that if the offer is discussed at the public hearing the application could move forward with the nuisance easement without holding another public hearing.

Rezoning Application Moved by Director Petersen  
RZ F-01-21 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Seconded by Director Greenaway  
Rezoning Bylaw No. 1939, 2021  
Electoral Area "F"

2021-2-5

1. "That the Board receive the Advisory Planning Commission Minutes for Rezoning Application RZ F-01-21 on the Supplementary Agenda.

2. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1939, 2021 be given first and second reading this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.

3. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1939, 2021 be delegated to the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area F."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Bylaw for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

Rezoning Application  
RZ A-02-20 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading  
Rezoning Bylaw No. 1937, 2021  
Electoral Area "A"

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-2-6

1. "That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1937, 2021 on the Supplementary Agenda.

2. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1937, 2021 be given third reading this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Development Variance Permit Application**

Development Variance  
Permit DVP A-01-21  
- Electoral Area "A"

Chair Thiessen called for written submissions. There are no written submissions.

2021-2-7

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Atrill

"That the Board approve Development Variance Permit DVP A-01-21 for the property located at 294 Prairie Road to vary Section 15.0.4 (1) of "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw 1800, 2020" by reducing the setbacks from parcel lines from 7.5 m to 4 m to allow the construction of 2 small single family dwellings."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)**

**ALR Application**

ALR Non-Farm Use Application  
1228 - Electoral Area "F"

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-2-8

"That the Board receive the Advisory Planning Commission Minutes for ALR Application 1228 on the Supplementary Agenda.

That Subdivision Application No. 1228 be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission with a recommendation that the application be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Addition to Reserve Referral**

Addition to Takla Landing  
Reserve Referral  
Electoral Area "C"

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2021-2-9

"That the Board direct staff to respond to the referral from the Takla Nation stating that the Regional District is in support of the proposed addition to the Takla Landing Reserve to accommodate future housing needs."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place in regard to road access. Staff will include in the Board's response that engagement take place with adjacent property owners and any concerns be considered.

### **Other**

#### **Coastal GasLink Pipeline Socio-economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP)**

The following concerns were discussed:

- Healthcare impacts
  - o Community health and mental health
- Wet'sut'wen Healing centre
- CAO Helgesen discussed bringing forward discussions in regard to the healing centre at the Core Advisory Group table.

Coastal GasLink Pipeline  
Socio-economic Effects  
Management Plan (SEEMP)

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-2-10

"That staff invite Coastal Gaslink to a future Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako meeting to discuss the implementation of the Socio-economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **BUILDING INSPECTION (All Directors)**

Section 57 Notice on Title  
20251 McKenzie Road  
Electoral Area "A"

The Board did not receive any input or submission from the property owner.

2021-2-11

Moved by Director Fisher.  
Seconded by Director McGuire

That the Corporate Officer be directed to file a Notice in the Land Title Office stating that a resolution has been made under Section 57 of the *Community Charter* relating to land legally described as District Lot 7918, Range 5, Coast District (20251 McKenzie Road)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BUILDING INSPECTION (All Directors) (CONT'D)**

Section 57 Notice on Title  
10214 Old Babine Lake Road  
Electoral Area "A"

The Board did not receive any input or submission from the property owner.

2021-2-12

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

"That the Corporate Officer be directed to file a Notice in the Land Title Office stating that a resolution has been made under Section 57 of the *Community Charter* relating to land legally described as: The South 1/2 of Section 11, Township 2A, Range 5, Coast District, except thereout a strip of land being the most easterly 20 meters in parallel width thereof. (10214 Old Babine Lake Road)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Section 57 Notice on Title  
3054 Highway 16 West  
Electoral Area "D"

The Board did not receive any input or submission from the property owner.

2021-2-13

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Storey

That the Corporate Officer be directed to file a Notice in the Land Title Office stating that a resolution has been made under Section 57 of the *Community Charter* relating to land legally described as: Lot 3, District Lot 3832, Range 5, Coast District, Plan 4613 (13054 Highway 16 West)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Break for lunch at 12:00 p.m.**

**Reconvened at 12:35 p.m.**

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

Committee Meeting  
Recommendations  
-February 11, 2021

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Parker

2021-2-14

"That the Board approve Recommendations 1 through 4 as written:

**Committee of the Whole Meeting – February 11, 2021**

**Recommendation 1: Re: Stuart-Nechako Economic Development Service**

"That staff be directed to repeal Bylaw No. 1460 and that the remaining funds in the service be distributed to the participating areas."



## **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

### **Committee of the Whole Meeting – February 11, 2021 (Cont'd)**

#### **Recommendation 2: Re: Provincial COVID-19 Relief Funds**

“That the Board allocate \$218,574 of the COVID Safe Restart Grants for Local Governments to 2021 identified projects and incorporate these amounts into the 2021 budget, and to allocate \$132,047 based on population to each Electoral Area, and the remaining \$132,007 to the Electoral Areas to be allocated later in 2021.”

#### **Recommendation 3: Re: Revised Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs – A Guide for BC First Nations and Local Authorities**

“That the Board direct staff to prepare and submit a response letter regarding the Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs – A Guide for BC First Nations and Local Authorities (Financial Guidelines) prior to the comment period deadline of February 28, 2021; and, that the RDBN Board direct staff to invite member municipalities to send a letter of support regarding feedback from the RDBN.”

### **Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting – February 11, 2021**

#### **Recommendation 4: Re: Grant in Aid Allocation**

1. “That the Area A - "Smithers and Electoral Area A Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1927, 2020" be allocated \$4,184.30 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) for costs associated with the purchase of Trout Creek.
2. That the Area A - "Smithers and Electoral Area A Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1927, 2020" be allocated \$3,025.15 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) for costs associated with the Cycle 16 (Smithers – Telkwa) Commuter Trail.
3. That the Areas B and E – “Burns Lake, Electoral Area B, Electoral Area E Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1929, 2020” be allocated \$2,210.87 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural) for costs associated with the acquisition of Imerson’s Beach.
4. That the Areas B and E – “Burns Lake, Electoral Area B, Electoral Area E Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1929, 2020” be allocated \$3,817.87 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Rural) for costs associated with the acquisition of Hospital Point.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

### **Impacts of Market and Non-Market Changes - 2021**

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-2-15

“That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer’s Impacts of Market and Non-Market Changes – 2021 memo.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Discussion took place regarding opportunities for new revenue from the pipeline project and building RDBN capacity to meet the Board’s strategic objectives. Tax rate per \$1,000 and the average increase for Electoral Area A and the Regional District was discussed.

### **Budget Update**

The following was discussed:

- Year to year comparisons challenging due to the 2020 implementation of the Accounting or Administrative Overhead Policy
- Scenario 1 and 2
- Additional budget options can be considered
- Regional Districts unlike municipalities are unable to adjust tax rates
- Requesting a change to the tax multipliers
- Some areas of the region experienced higher increases in property assessments
- Timeline for a plan moving forward concerning new revenue from the pipeline project
- Short term and Long term pipeline infrastructure revenue
- Budget adoption timeline
- RDBN Capacity building
  - o Human Resources
  - o First Nations
  - o Communication
- Northern Development Initiative Trust Northern Healthy Communities Fund Capacity Building Stream – First Nations Engagement Capacity Building Pilot Project
  - o Coastal GasLink potentially provide a letter of support
- Tax increases/decrease – zero taxation.

### **Budget Update**

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2021-2-16

“That the minor service budgets be included in the 2021 budget. That the Board have staff proceed with Scenario 2 and bring back the budget for two readings on March 11<sup>th</sup>.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) - Appointment of Regional Representative and Alternate Representative**

Moved by Director Brienon  
Seconded by Director Storey

2021-2-17

“That the Board appoint Director Funk as its regional representative to the NCLGA Executive for 2021/22. That the Board appoint Director Newell as the alternate representative to the NCLGA Executive for 2021/22.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

RDBN Appointments - 2021

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Brienen

2021-2-18

“That the Board ratify the 2021 RDBN Board appointments.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Refuse Disposal Service  
Amendment Bylaw No. 1909,  
2020

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Brienen

2021-2-19

“That Refuse Disposal Service Amendment Bylaw No. 1909,  
2020 be adopted this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.”

Opposed: Director Fisher

CARRIED

(All/Directors/Majority)

Parks and Trails Service  
Establishment Bylaws

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Storey

2021-2-20

“That Smithers and Electoral Area A Parks and Trails Service  
Establishment Bylaw No. 1927, 2020 be adopted this 25<sup>th</sup> day of  
February, 2021.

That Houston, Granisle, Electoral Area G Parks and Trails  
Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1928, 2020 be adopted this  
25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

That Burns Lake, Electoral Area “B”, Electoral Area E Parks and  
Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1929, 2020 be adopted  
this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

That Fort St. James and Electoral Area C Parks and Trails  
Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1930, 2020 be adopted this  
25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Stuart-Nechako Economic  
Development Service

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Petersen

2021-2-21

“That Stuart-Nechako Economic Development Service  
Establishment Repeal Bylaw No. 1940, 2021 be given first,  
second and third reading this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021;

And further, that the surplus in this service be distributed as  
follows:

- Fraser Lake \$731
- Vanderhoof \$2,807
- Fort St. James \$1,089
- Electoral Area “C” \$878
- Electoral Area “D” \$913
- Electoral Area “F” \$2,274.

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

RDBN Terms of Reference  
and Committee Operating  
Guidelines

Moved by Director Funk  
Seconded by Director Storey

2021-2-22

“That the RDBN Terms of Reference for the various committees be approved, and further, that the Committee Operating Guidelines be accepted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fraser Basin Council  
RE: Consultation Process:  
Investigations in Support of  
Flood Strategy Development  
in BC

Moved by Director Layton  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-2-23

“That the Board direct staff to send the February 25, 2021 letter to Fraser Basin Council regarding Consultation Process: Investigations in Support of Flood Strategy Development in BC and the February 25, 2021 letter to the Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development regarding Limited Response Time for Input.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chinook Comfor Limited  
Appointment of Directors  
and AGM

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-2-24

“That the Board of the Regional District, a shareholder of Chinook Comfor Limited, appoint Mr. Miles Fuller and Ms. Cindy Shelford to the Chinook Comfor Limited Board of Directors.

And that the Director for Electoral Area E and Electoral Area B be designated proxies to attend the Annual General Meetings of Chinook Comfor Limited and Chinook Comfor Limited Partnership.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Back Country Horsemen  
Society of BC Northwest  
Chapter NDIT Application  
-Recreation Infrastructure  
Program

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-2-25

“That the Board supports the Back-Country Horsemen Society of BC – Northwest Chapter’s application to Northern Development Initiative Trust – Recreation Infrastructure stream for their Coalmine Camp Upgrades and Trail Development project.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT (CONT'D)**

Federal Gas Tax – Area “A”  
(Smithers Rural) Bulkley  
Aquatic Center – Main Boiler  
and Water Fountains

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-2-26

1) “That the Board authorize contributing up to \$63,553 of Electoral Area ‘A’ (Smithers Rural) Federal Gas Tax allocation monies to a Recreation Infrastructure Project at the Bulkley Valley Aquatic Center, and further,

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$63,553 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.”

(Participants/Weighted/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bulkley Valley Cross Country  
Ski Club – NDIT Application  
-Recreation Infrastructure  
Program

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-2-27

“That the Board supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust for the Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club for the Construction of the Track-setter Garage Project.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RDBN NDIT Application  
-Northern Healthy Communities  
Fund

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-2-28

“That the Board supports the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako’s application to Northern Development Initiative Trust - Northern Healthy Communities Fund for the First Nations Engagement Capacity Building Pilot Project.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Round Lake Rural Fire  
Protection Agreement  
-January 1, 2021 to  
December 31, 2025

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-2-29

“That the Board authorize the Board Chair and the Chief Administrative Officer to sign the Round Lake Rural Fire Protection Agreement for a 5-year term.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORT (CONT'D)**

Union of BC Municipalities  
Community Emergency  
Preparedness Fund  
-Emergency Operations Centre

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-2-30

“That the Board supports the submission of a regional application to Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre for the 2021 funding.

That the Board supports the submission of the application, and understands that if the grant is approved, the RDBN will receive and manage the grant funding, and commits to any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Union of BC Municipalities  
Community Emergency  
Preparedness Fund  
-Emergency Support Services  
Application

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Fisher

2021-2-31

“That the Board supports the submission of a regional application to Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Support Services for the 2021 funding on behalf of the RDBN, District of Fort St James, Village of Burns Lake, Village of Granisle, and District of Houston.

That the Board supports the submission of the application, and understands that if the grant is approved, the RDBN will receive and manage the grant funding, and commits to any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Items to be brought forward  
to the public agenda from  
In-Camera Meeting

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-2-32

“That the Board receive the Executive Assistant’s Items to be brought forward to the public agenda from the In-Camera Meeting of January 28, 2021 as follows:

### **Recommendation 1:**

### **RE: Letter to Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

“That the Board write a letter to the Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development concerning consultation regarding the Lakes and Prince George Timber Supply Area Apportionment.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORT (CONT'D)**

### Administration Reports

Moved by Director Storey  
Seconded by Director Funk

### 2021-2-33

That the Board receive the following Administration Reports:

- Financial Controller's
  - Investment Report for Savings Held Outside the General Operating Account for the year ending December 31, 2020
  - Funds Held in Reserve for Designated Capital and Operating Expenditures at December 31, 2020
- Director Riis-Christianson's
  - BC Natural Resource Forum report
  - UBCM Electoral Area Directors Forum report."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **VERBAL REPORTS**

### Logging Truck Traffic -Fort St. James Area

Director Greenaway spoke of safety concerns in regard to driving practices of logging truck traffic on Highway 27.

### Northern Development Initiative Trust Meeting

Director Parker attended a Northern Development Initiative Trust Meeting February 24, 2021. He commented on the applications being submitted to NDIT for grant funding.

### Local Government Association Virtual Leadership Forum February 3-4, 2021

Director Parker attended the Local Government Association Virtual Leadership Forum on February 3-4, 2021 and mentioned the forum was a good virtual event.

### Village of Fraser Lake -Provincial Grant Funding

Director Storey mentioned that the Village of Fraser Lake has received Provincial funding from its Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program's (CERIP) Community Economic Resilience stream for upgrades for the Fraser Lake curling rink to a more user friendly Community Hall.

### Accident near Fraser Lake

Director Lambert reported that an accident near Fraser Lake involved his employee. He spoke of concern for thier injuries. He also brought forward safety concerns regarding driving practices of logging truck traffic on the highway.

### Regional Connectivity Knowledge Network Meeting

Director Riis-Christianson attended a virtual Regional Connectivity Knowledge Network meeting. He spoke of a project completed in Eastern Ontario and he will provide an update at a future meeting. Director Riis-Christianson indicated he volunteered to participate on the organization's steering committee.

### Lakes Timber Supply Area Apportionment

Director Funk mentioned that she has been working on the Lakes Timber Supply Area Apportionment information and spoke of the First Nations and local government consultation process in terms of the Minister of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development meeting She spoke of the potential implications to the community of Burns Lake and surrounding area.

## **VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)**

<u>Burns Lake-Provincial Grant Funding</u>	Director Funk commented that Burns Lake's St. John's Heritage Church received Provincial CERIP Unique Heritage Infrastructure stream funding to move ahead with the revitalization of the Church.
<u>Forest Service Roads-Electoral Area "G" (Houston Rural)</u>	Director Newell noted that he has received inquiries from residents in Electoral Area "G" (Houston Rural) in regard to private property located on Forest Service Roads (FSRs) and impacts to access due to modifications to the FSRs.
<u>Starlink Satellite Internet</u>	Director Newell spoke of the Starlink satellite system providing internet services to rural areas and anticipates further information in regard to potential service.
<u>Village of Granisle - Provincial Grant Funding</u>	Director McGuire announced that the Village of Granisle also received Provincial CERIP - Community Economic Resilience stream funding to upgrade its curling rink, which includes the Granisle Post Office and a small restaurant.
<u>Real estate in Granisle</u>	Director McGuire noted that 6 homes have recently sold in the community over the last couple of weeks.
<u>Teleconference Meeting with Minister of Municipal Affairs Josie Osborne</u>	Director McGuire mentioned that on the teleconference call with the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs it was discussed that approvals for the Federal/Provincial Joint Infrastructure Grant applications that were submitted in February 2020 would be forthcoming. The Village of Grainsle has applied for funding to twin its water lines to its water tower.
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Vaccinations for Individuals Over 80</u>	Director McGuire commented that the 2 <sup>nd</sup> vaccinations for individuals over 80 took place on February 24 <sup>th</sup> .
<u>Village of Granisle Budget Process</u>	Director McGuire mentioned that the Village of Granisle is in the midst of its Budget process.
<u>Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA)</u>	Director Brienens provided a brief update in regard to the RBA. The RBA requested a meeting with the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the meeting was denied due to Minister Osborne needing to be briefed on the RBA. RBA Chairs are requesting a meeting with Premier Horgan.
<u>Tribute to Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural) Resident</u>	Director Fisher paid tribute to Eugene Beker a resident of Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural) who recently passed away. He spoke of his passion for rural residents.
<u>Town of Smithers receives Provincial Grant Funding</u>	Director Atrill mentioned that the Town of Smithers received Provincial CERIP Community Economic Resilience stream Funding for its arena ice plants consolidation and heat recovery's phase 1 upgrades. The Smithers Mountain Biking Association received as well as the Smithers Central Park Building Society received funding for exterior work on the heritage building that houses the Smithers Art Gallery and Bulkley Valley Museum.



## **VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)**

### Town of Smithers Budget Process

Director Atrill commented that the Town of Smithers budget process indicates the preliminary tax increase required may be significant. She noted they are working to mitigate the increase in taxation for 2021.

### COVID-19 Pandemic Video Messaging – Stay the Course

Director Atrill participated in COVID-19 Pandemic video messaging with local healthcare workers in regard to “Stay the Course” messaging.

### Town of Smithers CAO Resigns

Director Atrill announced that the Town of Smithers CAO has provided his resignation and will be leaving at the end of April.

### Vanderhoof Dementia Care Unit and Senior Housing Unit

Chair Thiessen noted that final funding has been awarded through BC Housing for a Dementia Care and Senior Housing Unit in Vanderhoof. He commented that it has been a lengthy process.

### Meeting with Roger Harris, Consultant – Consultation Process Re: First Nations Agreements

Chair Thiessen, Vice Chair Parker, CAO Helgesen and the Town of Smithers CAO, met with Roger Harris, Consultant for the Province to discuss the consultation process for First Nations agreements. Chair Thiessen spoke of the importance of local government engagement. Chair Thiessen noted the value of having CAO Helgesen participate on the Core Advisory Committee.

### Meeting with Coastal GasLink

Chair Thiessen spoke of participating in the meeting with Coastal GasLink in regard to COVID-19 guidelines for the pipelines return to work strategy.

### School District No. 91 -Nechako Lakes

Chair Thiessen participated in School District No. 91 - Nechako Lakes Open Forum on Diversity.

### Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Storey  
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-2-34

“That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE**

### Administration Correspondence

Moved by Director Storey  
Seconded by Director Layton

2021-2-35

“That the Board receive the following Administration Correspondence:

- Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General – Response to RDBN Letter re Revised Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs
- Northern Development
  - o 2021 Economic Development Capacity Building
  - o 2021 Grant Writing Support
  - o 2021 Business Façade Improvement Program.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Policing/RCMP Contract

Director Fisher mentioned that the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) sent an e-mail regarding RCMP Contract. He noted the importance of monitoring works being conducted by the Union of B.C. Municipalities and NCLGA in regard to the potential impacts to the RDBN. Director Fisher spoke of participating on the UBCM RCMP Contract Management Committee and volunteered to be appointed to the committee to represent local governments with populations under 5,000 whom the Province provides policing services.

Director Storey noted that the NCLGA has been working on the issue for a number of months. Concerns were brought forward in regard to potential impacts to small municipalities and Regional Districts. Director Atrill mentioned the challenges the Town of Smithers experiences with the increase to policing costs and impacts to budgets due to the community having a population over 5,000 and having to pay for a percentage of policing.

### RDBN Appointment to UBCM RCMP Contract Committee

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-2-36

“That the Board nominate Director Mark Fisher to the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) RCMP Contract Committee.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### Letter to Sawmills in the Region RE: Driving Practices And Safety Concerns RE: Logging Trucks

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-2-37

“That the Board write a letter to all major sawmills in the region requesting that conversation take place with logging truck drivers concerning driving practices and safety concerns; and further that the Board write a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure expressing the importance of expanding Highways 16, 27 (Fort St. James) and 118 (Granisle) to double lane from Prince George to Prince Rupert to accommodate the additional heavy industrial traffic on the highways.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director McGuire commented that she spoke with Hampton Forest Products and Canfor in regard to safety concerns with logging trucks on Highway 118 and she noted a substantial improvement.

**IN-CAMERA MOTION**

Moved by Director Storey  
Seconded by Director McGuire

2020-1-38

“In accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Sections 90(1)(c) – labour relations or other employee relations, and 90(2)(b) – the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party (First Nations Relations/Connectivity), 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 Lambert  
Seconded by Director Storey

2021-2-39

“That the meeting be adjourned at 2:35 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Gerry Thiessen, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant