

STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2018

PRESENT: Chairperson Jerry Petersen

Directors Chris Beach
Eileen Benedict
Tom Greenaway
Dwayne Lindstrom
Rob MacDougall
Bill Miller
Mark Parker
Gerry Thiessen

Director Absent Thomas Liversidge, Village of Granisle

Staff Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Corrine Swenson, Manager of Regional Economic Development
– arrived at 10:32 a.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Petersen called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Beach

SNRHD.2018-3-1

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda of February 22, 2018 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

MINUTES

Stuart-Nechako Regional
Hospital District Meeting
Minutes January 25, 2018

Moved by Director Beach
Seconded by Director Greenaway

SNRHD.2018-3-2

“That the minutes of the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District meeting of January 25, 2018 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

REPORT

2018 Budget for 3rd Reading
and Adoption

Moved by Director Thiessen
Seconded by Director Parker

SNRHD.2018-3-3

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Board of Directors receive the Treasurer’s February 7, 2018 memo titled “2018 Budget 3rd Reading and Adoption”; and further, that the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital Board of Directors consider giving Bylaw 65 3rd Reading and Adoption further in the agenda.”

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Miller

SNRHD.2018-3-4

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Board of Directors receive the following correspondence:

- The Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health - Letter to John Rustad, MLA, Nechako Lakes re: Stuart Lake Hospital Replacement;
- The Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health - Letter to Mayor Rob MacDougall, District of Fort St. James, Chief Alec McKinnon, Nak’azdli Whut’en, and Director Tom Greenaway, RDBN re: Stuart Lake Hospital Replacement;
- Northern Health – Bylaw 64 – St. John Hospital and Southside Phone Systems;
- BC Emergency Health Services – Community Paramedicine Initiative – Northern Health;
- Northern Health – Media Bulletin – St. John Hospital Remains Open; Some Services Impacted by Flooding;
- Northern Health – News Release – Bulkley Valley District Hospital Celebrates Improved access to Breast Cancer Screening;
- Northwest Regional Hospital District Minutes-January 26, 2018.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Thiessen provided an update concerning the flooding that occurred at St. John Hospital. St. John Hospital is currently in the abatement process and Colleen Nyce, Chair, Northern Health has indicated that it may take approximately 4-6 weeks to repair the damage. Director Thiessen commented that the operating room sustained damage and needs to be repaired as soon as possible. They are working to continue some procedures but it is of high importance to have the operating room fully functional.

BYLAW

Bylaw for Third Reading and Adoption

No. 65 – SNRHD Annual Budget Bylaw

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Beach

SNRDH.2018-3-5

“That “Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Annual Budget Bylaw No. 65, 2018” be given third reading and adoption this 22nd day of February, 2018.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS

Stuart Lake Hospital Replacement Project Conceptual Plans

Director Greenaway attended the February 9, 2018 meeting with Northern Health. They indicated they have submitted concept plans to the Ministry of Health for the Stuart Lake Hospital Replacement Project and the Ministry has had further questions.

Thank You Dinner for Dr. Caira in Burns Lake

Director Beach commented that he will be attending a “Thank You” dinner for Dr. Caira in Burns Lake. Dr. Caira came to Burns Lake with Los Angeles, US emergency room experience and was in the community for five years. He was in the community when the Babine Forest Products mill exploded and was a great help during that time. He will be missed.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Diversion at Fraser Lake Medical Clinic

Director Lindstrom mentioned that he has spoken with Northern Health representatives in regard to concerns from the community about the Fraser Lake Medical Clinic being put on Diversion. Northern Health indicated that the Fraser Lake Medical Clinic has been on diversion only twice in the past year, once was due to an accident that required medical professionals to be away from the clinic and once due to a locum being unable to work. There are medical services available in Fraser Lake.

Meeting in Vanderhoof -February 13, 2018 in RE: Senior Care and Pilot Project

Director Thiessen attended a meeting February 13, 2018 in Vanderhoof in regard to a Seniors Care housing pilot project. The project is intended to alleviate the utilization of acute care beds in St. John Hospital. The project will have 8 units but the hope is there will be 12 units.

Burns Lake Doctor Receives Canadian Citizenship

Director Thiessen mentioned that a physician residing and practicing in Burns Lake, that completed his new physician to Canada orientation in Vanderhoof in the Summer of 2017, has recently received his permanent Canadian residency.

Air Ambulance Service -Burns Lake Airport

Director Miller noted that there has been another incident at the Burns Lake Airport where an Air Ambulance would not land to transport a heart attack patient to a higher level of care facility. He voiced concerns in regard to service providers not providing adequate provision levels. Director Miller also raised concerns in regard to the lack of air ambulance service at the Burns Lake Airport when taxpayers have contributed tax dollars to ensure the airport can have air ambulances land.

Discussion took place in regard to BC Emergency Health Services, when presenting to the SNRHD Board of Directors in November, 2017, indicating it wanted to see an increase in air ambulance service in Northwest B.C. similar to the air ambulance service in Northeast B.C.

Director Lindstrom spoke of the limited period where a heart attack patient can receive care and restrictions for callouts of medical professionals.

Director Beach raised concerns in regard to statistics that identify the response times and survival rates in northern B.C. being considerably lower in comparison to southern B.C. He spoke of the need to develop a high level care facility in central B.C. similar to facilities in the lower mainland.

Director Parker brought forward concerns regarding poor road conditions and the safety issues for emergency personnel and patients when transporting patients via BC Ambulance by road.

Adequate Air Ambulance Provisions

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Beach

SNRHD.2018-3-

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Board of Directors write a letter to BC Emergency Health Services expressing concerns in regard to Air Ambulance service provider contractors not providing adequate air ambulance service to rural airports, cost and impacts to tax payers, and risk to citizens and emergency personnel due to road conditions when having to transport patients by road or to a regional airport to access a higher level of care; and further, that the letter be copied to the Federal and Provincial Ministers of Health, and Regional Hospital Districts.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Northern Health Board Meeting -February 9, 2018 Chair Petersen, along with Directors Greenaway, Thiessen and Lindstrom and John Illes, SNRHD Treasurer, and Melany de Weerd, CAO attended the February 9, 2018 Northern Health Board Meeting. Chair Petersen mentioned that discussion took place in regard to the Fort St. James Hospital replacement and Director Thiessen spoke of the Seniors care pilot project proposed for Vanderhoof. Chair Petersen commented that continued lobbying efforts for the Fort St. James Hospital replacement project are important. SNRHD members in attendance noted that it was a good meeting.

Medical Clinic – Nechako Valley Secondary School Chair Petersen reported that physicians from the Vanderhoof Medical Clinic have taken the initiative and are providing a walk-in or by appointment medical clinic once a week at Nechako Valley Secondary School.

Northern Health Connections Bus Consultation Committee Director Thiessen has been asked to sit on a consultation committee regarding the Northern Health Connections Bus. He will attend the meeting and provide information back to the SNRHD Board of Directors. Discussion took place in regard to having one transit system.

Receipt of Verbal Reports Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Miller

SNRHD-2018-3-6 “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 Director Miller

SNRHD.2018-3-7 “That the meeting be adjourned at 10:33 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jerry Petersen, Chairperson

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant