

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING
(Committee of the Whole)

Thursday, October 8, 2015

PRESENT: Chair Rob MacDougall

Directors Eileen Benedict
Shane Brien
Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Dwayne Lindstrom
Thomas Liversidge
Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen

Directors Absent Taylor Bachrach, Town of Smithers
Darcy Repen, Village of Telkwa
Luke Strimbold, Village of Burns Lake
Gerry Thiessen, District of Vanderhoof

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair MacDougall called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Greenaway

F.C.2015-7-1

"That the Forestry Committee Meeting Agenda of October 8, 2015 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Forestry Committee Meeting
Minutes –August 20, 2015

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Brien

F.C.2015-7-2

"That the Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2015 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair MacDougall asked that Director Lindstrom, in meeting with the Community Forest Association, speak to them regarding the burning of waste wood.

REPORT

RDBN Forestry Forum
(Wildfire Workshop)
October 13th, 2015

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Greenaway

F.C.2015-7-3

“That the Forestry Committee receive the Chief Administrative Officer’s September 30, 2015 memo titled “RDBN Forestry Forum (Wildfire Workshop) October 13th, 2015.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Miller spoke of the positive feedback he has received from Tim Sheldan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regarding the RDBN facilitating the Wildfire Workshop. Doug Routledge, Vice President, Council of Forest Industries (COFI) also noted that opportunities such as the Wildfire Workshop provide communities the ability to communicate with stakeholders.

Gail Chapman, CAO, noted that the invitation has been forwarded to First Nations communities, the Regional District of Fraser Fort-George, New Gold, and a representative from COFI is also planning to attend.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Benedict

F.C.2015-7-4

“That the Forestry Committee receive the following correspondence:

- B.C. News – Wildfire Prevention Funding Increased, New Approaches to Forest Enhancement;
- Forest Practices Board – 2014/15 Annual Report.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Miller mentioned the positive impacts of the wildfire management conversations at the RDBN Regional Board table and other local governments across B.C.

Chair MacDougall spoke of the possibility of determining the needs for the region in regard to wildfire mitigation and the potential to collaborate sub-regionally in an application for wildfire mitigation funding. Chair MacDougall mentioned that BC Timber Sales will auction the harvest opportunities and this may provide jobs and opportunities for small scale salvagers.

Director Miller spoke with the temporary District Manager for Nadina regarding the funding proposed by the province and the possible strategies that could be developed.

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)

Director Miller commented that he spoke with the Chair of the Forest Practices Board and he offered to speak to the Regional Board in the future if that is the wish of the Board.

Chair MacDougall noted the challenges in regard to the reporting program for reporting to the Forest Practices Board and the audit process.

NEW BUSINESS

Slash Piles

Director Newell asked what the process for burning slash piles in the VanJam Forest District was and if there was a policy in place that if the slash was within a certain distance of a pellet plant it had to be sent to that location to be utilized. Chair MacDougall noted that it is an option to have the material chipped and brought to a facility.

Director Newell noted that slash piles are being burned in close proximity to the pellet plant in Houston and he felt the slash could be better utilized at the pellet plant.

Director Miller mentioned that he is aware of changes within legislature and the Forest Tenures Branch that will make fibre such as slash piles much more accessible for alternate fibre usages.

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning commented that TransCanada had referred its timber salvage strategy document to the RDBN and has requested the RDBN to review the document and provide comment in regard to its timber salvage strategy if it desires to do so. Director Newell brought forward concerns regarding TransCanada's current timber salvaging strategy and that it does not appear to align with the Regional Board's direction regarding the utilization of fibre.

The Forestry Committee will review the document and provide comments to staff to bring forward at a future Regional Board Meeting.

Discussion took place regarding the larger amount of wood waste wood produced by short logging. Changes have been made in Fraser Lake to move to short log hauling.

Director Miller noted the opportunity to bring forward the utilization of fibre on pipeline corridors in legacy discussions.

Director Newell reported that Pacific Trails Pipelines has cleared approximately 40 kms of right of way but he is unaware of information from them as to the utilization of the fibre being removed.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Newell

F.C.2015-7-5

“That the meeting be adjourned at 1:27 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rob MacDougall, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant