



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO  
RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 12, 2026**

Directors Present: Chair Michael Riis-Christianson  
Judy Greenaway  
Clint Lambert  
Mark Parker  
Stoney Stoltenberg  
Alternate Director Alex Kulchar

Directors Absent: Shirley Moon, Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof)  
Chris Newell, Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)

Staff: Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services  
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services - left at 12:48 p.m.  
Amy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Planning and Development Services - left at 12:48 p.m.  
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others: Martin Elphee, District of Fort St. James  
Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle  
Henry Wiebe, Village of Burns Lake

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Riis-Christianson called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m.

## **AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**March 12, 2026**

**2026-RSC-036**

Moved by Alternate Director Kulchar

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Rural Services Committee Meeting Agenda for March 12, 2026 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **MINUTES**

**Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes - February 12, 2026**

**2026-RSC-037**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes for February 12, 2026 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

**Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner - Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410396 - Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)**

**2026-RSC-038**

Moved by Director Parker

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's response to Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410396.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Rowan Nagel, GIS/Planning Technician - Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410400 - Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)**

**2026-RSC-039**

Moved by Director Parker

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application No. 7410400.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**REPORTS**

**Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Rural Resident Survey Proposal**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Alternate Director Kulchar

That the Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to bring back a draft Rural Resident Survey by May 2026 for consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place including the following in the Rural Resident Survey Proposal:

- Information regarding existing services
- Rural aspects
- Understanding of the Regional District
- Referencing information shared in the tax notice
- Gathering a level of operational information through 4-5 questions.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**BC Parks Foundation**

Director Lambert brought forward BC Parks Foundation purchasing land in the ALR and converting it to parklands.

The Following was discussed:

- Advocacy and potential resolution
- Purchase of a ranch in the Houston area
- Challenges for young ranchers/farmers to purchase available lands for agriculture
- BC Parks Foundation funds to purchase lands
- Inflation of value of farmland
- The need to maintain already existing parkland
- Crown land could be considered for parkland
- Potentially purchasing lands in Vanderhoof
- Nechako Valley Regional Cattlemen's Association has extended an invitation to attend a meeting
- RDBN invitation to attend a meeting as a delegation
- BC Park Foundations intentions for the purchase/use of the land.

**2026-RSC-040**

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Alternate Director Kulchar

That the Rural Services Committee recommend that the Board invite the BC Parks Foundation as a delegation to a future RDBN Committee of the Whole meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Telus and AST SpaceMobile Partner

Chair Riis-Christianson noted the recent announcement that Telus and AST SpaceMobile have partnered to provide space-based cellular broadband connectivity.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Parker

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the meeting be adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Michael Riis-Christianson, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services