

FORT FRASER LOCAL COMMUNITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Friday, June 27, 2025

Via Zoom

Present Commissioner Frederick Webster, Chair
Commissioner Don Webster
Commissioner Linda Cochran
Commissioner Steve Cochran
Area "D" Director Mark Parker
Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor, RDBN
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services, RDBN

Call To Order Fred Webster called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Agenda

FFLCC 25-03-1 Moved by Don Webster/Seconded by Linda Cochran

That the Agenda for the meeting of June 27, 2025 be approved.

Carried Unanimously

Minutes

FFLCC 25-03-2 Moved by Steve Cochran/Seconded by Don Webster

That the minutes of April 17, 2025 be approved.

Carried Unanimously

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

Reports

FFLCC 25-03-3

Moved by Linda Cochran/Seconded by Don Webster

That the 2025 2nd Quarter Actuals report from John Illes, Chief Financial Officer, be received.

Carried Unanimously

John Illes reported that water and sewer bills were sent out on Wednesday, June 25th. He added that staff will be looking at changes to water and sewer billing for next year. He added that staff are looking for feedback on penalty billings (5%) if people don't pay on time.

It was suggested that penalties be imposed to those who haven't paid, but that discounts not be offered for those paying early.

John Illes indicated that staff will look into the legality of penalties.

Discussion took place that there is no incentive to pay on time because the penalty imposed by the Province is minimal. This penalty does not come back to the Regional District; the Province keeps it. Further discussion took place regarding turning off services if people don't pay. The bylaw allows for this.

Environmental Services Update

Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor, provided the following update:

- Monthly samples for drinking water – sometimes residents are not home when they go to sample
 - Northern Health requires 4 samples per month
 - Proposing to establish another sample location due to absences – will work with Northern Health to establish
- The emergency response plan requires review and updates which is being planned for later this year
- Working with Inland Divers to schedule a date for reservoir inspection and cleaning
- Working with a new company, Envirojet, to schedule sewer line flushing

- Last fall did chemical samples for the drinking water system for Northern Health
 - Positive sample for biologicals in backup well, so the well was isolated
 - working with Mayfair to upgrade well
 - requested quote to update pump to 20 hp
 - may need to line well with new piping
 - If new piping is required, it will be a big budget item – possibly \$100,000 that was not included in the budget
- SCADA system
 - in progress to go out to RFP
 - will help monitor the system better – change levels, monitor alarms, data tracking remotely
- Alex Eriksen is working on renewing certification for the water and sewer systems as the operators are behind on their Continuing Education Units (CEUs) which are required under the Environmental Operators Certification Program.
- Completed hydrant line flushing – Northern Health required shocking the system with chlorine
 - will continue running chlorine on a low dose as required under the *Drinking Water Protection Regulation*
 - Steve Cochran mentioned that they have received complaints
 - It was requested that complaints be directed to the Regional District
- Northern Health wants a second layer of protection – SCADA will alarm and the issue can be addressed immediately
- Envirojet will be doing manhole repairs this summer
- Working with True to manage RFP for high priority sewer collection pipe replacement
 - Will be looking at sewer lagoons
 - Manholes with corroded isolation valves

Don Webster questioned if it is better to increase the size of the pump or drill a new well for the test well due to the size of the pipes.

Janette Derksen advised that they are working with a pump specialist. She added that there are pumps that will fit into the well without re-drilling it. It is a 20 hp pump that will provide a minimum of 150 gallons per minute.

Don Webster asked about the status of the pump in the other well.

Janette Derksen indicated that due to increasing costs, they will evaluate replacing the pump in 2026.

Don Webster asked if Envirojet is familiar with our system.

Janette Derksen advised that they are not, but staff will be guiding through the sensitive areas. Advertising will take place in advance.

FFLCC 25-03-4 Moved by Don Webster/Seconded by Linda McGuire

That the Environmental Services Update be received.

Carried Unanimously

Area D Director

Mark Parker reported that the RDBN Board adopted a Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw which enables fines and enforcement of bylaw notices in the region. He provided an example of residents increasing water pressure in service lines without permission or adding connections could be fined.

He added that there have been concerns around the speed limit in Fort Fraser. He indicated that he has spoken with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit, but it is challenging to change speed limits. He noted that the Ministry is working on it.

Mark Parker advised that Fort Fraser School is scheduled to be demolished and the property will revert back to the Province.

Steve Cochran asked for an update on the house that burned down beside the highway.

Mark Parker advised that approval has been given to demolish it and a contractor will be hired to proceed.

New Business

Steve Cochran asked if a Bluetooth lock has been installed on the sewer gate. He expressed concerns about the number of loads and the amount of money being recovered.

Janette Derksen replied that a Bluetooth lock has been discussed but has not been installed. She added that the liquid waste bylaw allows the RDBN to collect \$1,000 per year from users. She added that the users submit monthly reports regarding the number of loads they have brought in.

FFLCC 25-03-5 **Moved by Steve Cochran/Seconded by Don Webster**

That staff present a budget amendment to the Board for the additional costs associated with the new pump.

Carried Unanimously

Don Webster asked if we could get an estimate for the cost of a new well.

Janette Derksen advised that she can ask for an approximate cost.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 7th.

ADJOURNMENT

FFLCC 25-03-6 **Moved by Don /Seconded by Linda**

That the meeting be adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Carried Unanimously

Fred Webster, Chair
FFLCC

Cheryl Anderson
Director of Corporate Services