

**Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes, June 10, 2014.** Meeting convened at 7:10 PM, following annual Board dinner, Alpenhorn meeting room, Smithers, B. C. Board members in attendance: **Jeffrey Anderson (Chair), Mathias Westphal (Vice chair), Paddy Hirshfield (Treasurer), Bob Mitchell, Tim Penninga, Michael Sawyer, Jack Hagen, Karen Price.** Absent, with notice: **Eric Becker,** without notice: **Trish Oosterhoff, Harold Kerr.** Executive assistant: **Jill Dunbar**

Item	Discussion	Action
<b>Agenda</b>	No additions	<b>Agenda accepted as presented.</b>
<b>Minutes, May 13, 2014</b>	Debbie Wellwood resigned from BVCRB effective April 8, 2014, so minutes of April and May meetings should not show her as a member. Reason given for resignation: Debbie felt that there might be conflict of interest between her work on the BVCRB and her membership with the APB (Association of Professional Biologists). Members present accept the minutes with revisions.	<b>Minutes accepted with revisions.</b>
<b>Financial report</b>	Funds in the operating account have dropped by the amount of costs of the May and June meetings. There is a rainy day fund of \$1,263.00.	
<b>TransCanada letter</b>	<p>A draft response to the TransCanada presentation of May 13, 2014 has been prepared and circulated to the Board. Discussion and Board comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consensus has not been reached on the draft. The working model for this group is complete consensus so it is important that members in disagreement present their objections. At issue is a paragraph asking if the company will commit to transporting LNG only, not converting to oil at some point. Some of the members who would like the paragraph removed are not present to discuss this issue so their rationale is unknown.</li> <li>• There would be a review process to convert.</li> <li>• It's a rubber stamp to convert, once the pipe is in the ground.</li> <li>• To allow this development in the first place is the bigger issue.</li> <li>• There is a limited window of time to respond.</li> <li>• Options are to follow the resolution process in the Board Terms of Reference, or have all members agree to delete the paragraph.</li> <li>• The conversion to oil is a community concern, and if the Board is to reflect community values then we need to reflect that.</li> <li>• Oil and gas are not bound by the LRMP. This is a social license discussion. The HLPO's don't apply to oil and gas.</li> <li>• We still want the company to recognize LRMP values. We can object to the project itself or ask for adjustments.</li> <li>• An option would be to work with TransCanada to replace the Core Ecosystem in the pipeline area with another area with equal values.</li> <li>• The LRMP does not give any legal authority.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Jeff Anderson will contact absent members for their comments on the letter.</b></p> <p><b>Bob Mitchell will edit the draft letter and circulate.</b></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• But it is the best current summary of public values.</li> <li>• We don't have to concern ourselves with legal authority, so we look at what best reflects our values. Our best advice would be that there really shouldn't be a pipeline.</li> <li>• This project is for a buried pipeline, which would be rehabilitated. Impacts won't be that strong if they carry out mitigation measures that do not allow access. Impacts will be time limited. A Core Ecosystem is not a park.</li> <li>• We can work with TransCanada, or make a public submission to BCEAO. Submissions to BCEAO must be addressed.</li> <li>• What if we do both?</li> <li>• They wouldn't have time to deal with both.</li> <li>• They won't move the pipeline.</li> <li>• Going through the CE will impact the values. If there is no better route then they don't build it. We don't have to tell them where else they could go but we do need to uphold the values.</li> <li>• There was historic mineral exploration in the area so there is access to French Peak already. However, this new development would allow access into the Kispiox. Gates are working for access control here (some aren't e.g. Babine Mountains). Motorized access can be stopped, except for snow machines. Eventually the vegetation will be large enough to stop snow machines.</li> <li>• The request for GIS data in the letter shows that people want transparency, and it should be public.</li> <li>• There is no scientific rigour if no one else has the data. The company has to prove that they can develop public land in the public interest and this can't be proven if they don't have the data.</li> <li>• Another company could take that data.</li> <li>• Letter should go to EAO</li> <li>• And to the Interior News.</li> <li>• Another concern is that Board focuses on environmental issues.</li> <li>• Canadians are concerned about exports of raw logs, unrefined oil.</li> <li>• The public is concerned about the convert.</li> <li>• Environmental awareness has increased over the last 50 years.</li> <li>• It would be good to see more social and economic information in Board letters.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Telkwa Wildlife Habitat Area</b>	Len Vanderstar would like to present the new version for Board review. Deadline for comments would be June 16. It may be that the Telkwa caribou are not Federally protected. Other Board members may get involved in the review if timing works.	<b>Jeff Anderson will circulate the new version and talk to Len Vanderstar about the deadline.</b>
<b>Coordinated review of pipelines</b>	Letter will be revised.	<b>Karen Price will revise the draft letter and circulate for review.</b>
<b>Board mandate, relationship with government</b>	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board does not have a relationship with government. This is core to the BVCRB mission. We need to change this or revisit the mission.</li> <li>• Board mandate is set in stone – it is the stewardship of 12 values. Government sees the worth but would like the mandate to increase so that BVCRB can be strategic across broader issues.</li> <li>• Government is struggling with some big issues – mountain pine beetle, cumulative effects, pipeline developments – and would like BVCRB to take on some of it. We must be balanced to be taken seriously. Assertions that we are an environmental activist group are serious. We will only ever be an advisory group. Government must be independent from us. We could be sought after if we remain balanced and effective.</li> <li>• Two external conversations about the mandate are going on: One with government reps, one with former Board members.</li> <li>• Government is working on oil and gas, and doesn't mesh with BVCRB values.</li> <li>• We must stay independent and decide what we want to be. We can say what government can't.</li> <li>• Aren't we still the voice of the public?</li> <li>• Yes but we need a target.</li> <li>• We don't really have a terms of reference, but we can have an MOU with government.</li> <li>• We need a new LRMP, which includes consideration of cumulative effects.</li> <li>• There will never be a new LRMP but there will be an MOU.</li> <li>• Perhaps we should create a society, and raise funds.</li> <li>• The regulatory environment is changing. LRMP values should be kept. Different developments are coming in.</li> <li>• The Board will only get \$3 – 5,000.00 per year.</li> <li>• Would the Board ever take legal action against government for breach of trust? (related to cutting resource management professionals and oil and gas</li> </ul>	<b>Jeff Anderson will summarize discussions from external meetings and circulate. He will stay on BVCRB email list. He will chair the September BVCRB meeting.</b>

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	<p>sellout).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If so the Board would have to put this out to the public and ensure that we had their support.</li> <li>• We couldn't pay for it.</li> <li>• We're not there yet but we could be.</li> <li>• West Coast Environmental Law gives funding to groups for legal review of issues. Perhaps the Board should approach them to review the legal context to see if we can use the law as a tool.</li> <li>• Complaints can go to the Forest Practices Board. Oil and gas sellout is different issue from LRMP implementation.</li> <li>• Would be worthwhile to hire a lawyer to check this out for us.</li> <li>• Maybe if CEs and LCs are losing their integrity it is an issue.</li> <li>• There is a meeting with the group of former Board members on Friday.</li> <li>• That is an important discussion. Why is only one Board member involved?</li> <li>• There should be a meaningful way of communicating with government.</li> <li>• The intent is to have annual assignments. Tony Pesklevits is willing to address the Board in September.</li> <li>• A mandate in September from government might be a good thing.</li> <li>• This should be continued but is destabilizing.</li> <li>• We won't get to an MOU unless we work with government. We can give input when we see a proposal.</li> <li>• Chair will summarize external meetings and send to the Board. He requests to stay on the Board email list.</li> <li>• Board should take all issues off the agenda and concentrate on BVCRB mandate in the fall. Jeff Anderson should chair the first 3 meetings or have rotating chairs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Summer field trip</b>	A one-day field trip to pipeline and camp location in the Babines will be set up. Would be good to include the new members.	<b>Tim Penninga will set up a field trip for September or October.</b>
<b>Action Items from May</b>	<p><b>Summer field trip: Discussed, see notes above.</b>  <b>Bulkley AAC determination: Carried forward.</b>  <b>Interior News update: Carried forward.</b>  <b>Board member bios: Carried forward.</b>  <b>Registration with EA office for project updates: Carried forward.</b>  <b>Letter to government requesting a coordinated review of regional pipeline projects: Discussed, see above.</b>  <b>Presentation on the Federal recovery plan for Telkwa caribou for the June meeting: Discussed, see above.</b></p>	

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	<p><b>Letter to government requesting core funding for BVCRB activities: Carried forward.</b></p> <p><b>Summer RAMP final report: Carried forward.</b></p> <p><b>TFL discussion: Carried forward.</b></p> <p><b>EA process summary: Carried forward.</b></p> <p><b>Invite FLNRO staff liaison person to September BVCRB meeting: Chair.</b></p> <p><b>Change meeting location to FLNRO District office in September: Bob Mitchell.</b></p> <p><b>The Chair will initiate signing authority changes at BVCU once the Board has accepted these minutes: Carried forward.</b></p> <p><b>Jeff Anderson will renew MOU with BVRC: On-going. MOU will be presented to Board in September.</b></p> <p><b>Jeff Anderson will contact Selection Committee to start the process of filling vacancies. Discussed below.</b></p> <p><b>Bob Mitchell will prepare a draft response to TransCanada, and circulate to all members for review and comment: Discussed above.</b></p>	
<b>Membership</b>	Board member positions of Mathias Westphal, Debbie Wellwood, Harold Kerr, Jeff Anderson, and Trish Oosterhoff will need to be filled for September 2014.	<b>Jeff Anderson will contact Selection Committee to start the process of filling vacancies over the summer.</b>
<b>Meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM. Next meeting September 9, 2014; 7:00 PM; Skeena-Stikine District office.</b>		