

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes, Sept 17, 2014. Meeting convened at 7:10 PM, Skeena-Stikine District office, Smithers, B. C. Board members in attendance: **Michael Sawyer (Chair for this meeting), Paddy Hirshfield (Treasurer), Bob Mitchell, Tim Penninga, Jack Hagen, Karen Price, Eric Becker.** Executive assistant: **Jill Dunbar**

Item	Discussion	Action
Financial report	Operational funds have been amalgamated with BV Research Centre “rainy day” funds; balance is about \$350.00. The Real Estate Foundation of B.C. and the Town of Smithers grant writer have been contacted; their advice is that it is easier to get project funds than operational funds. Wetzin’kwa Community Forest grant applications will not be accepted until next May. But some operational funding might be available. A fundraising committee and funding plan is needed. Funding from PIR might be available but conflicts of interest must be avoided.	Paddy Hirshfield will contact Jevan Hanshard regarding government funding for BVCRB day-to-day operations. Paddy Hirshfield will contact chair of Wetzin’kwa Community Forest Board – Gary Hanson – concerning operational funding opportunities. Paddy and Mike Sawyer will meet before the next Board meeting to discuss funding and to prepare a plan for Board approval. Jill Dunbar will prepare a budget for her services with core and enhanced levels included.
Government representation on the Board	Terry Sullivan has offered to have a District staff member attend Board meetings. Their role would need to be clearly defined.	Paddy Hirshfield will contact Jevan Hanshard about having a District staff person attend Board meetings and act as a resource person.
Executive	Mike Sawyer will chair this meeting. Executive selection will need to wait until there are more members.	
Membership	Five new members are needed at this time. Current members should invite likely candidates to apply.	Mike Sawyer will follow up with Jeff Anderson regarding progress of selection committee and member recruitment.
Agenda	No additions	Agenda accepted as presented.
Action items from June 10 2014 meeting	1. Bulkley AAC determination: Carried forward 2. Interior News update: Carried forward 3. Board member bios: Carried forward	

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	<p>4. Registration with EA office for project updates: Carried forward</p> <p>5. Letter to government requesting core funding for BVCRB activities: Discussed above.</p> <p>6. TransCanada letter: Letter has gone out, no response to date.</p> <p>7. Telkwa WHA: There have been developments. A presentation at the next meeting might be useful. Alternatively, PIR could give an update on broad issues including the Telkwa caribou. Hearing how PIR is working with LRMP objectives and what is driving decisions would be of value. No official feedback on the Morrison Connector has been received. The Connector has been built and rationale will be sent to Board members.</p> <p>8. Summer RAMP final report: Report has been submitted. Some back and forth Q & A is on-going between Jeff Anderson and the Real Estate Foundation. Ben Heemskerk from Recreation Sites & Trails could give a presentation on Summer RAMP implementation at the November meeting.</p> <p>9. TFL discussion: Additional TFLs are no longer under consideration.</p> <p>10. EA process summary: Carried forward</p> <p>11. Coordinated review of pipelines: A draft was prepared. Letter needs to be finalized.</p> <p>12. Board mandate, relationship with government: Perhaps an extra meeting should be planned, to discuss administrative challenges. Government representatives could be invited. Jeff Anderson should be contacted to find out status of discussions with government. Feedback from government is that BVCRB Terms of Reference cannot include obligations on the part of government. There was one initial meeting with government but scheduling didn't allow for a follow-up. The question is – what is the Board's purpose? And how relevant is the LRMP in light of new projects? Government wants BVCRB feedback on issues, but is not offering support. Discussion of cumulative effects is worthwhile but must be very focused. Planning is given little focus but plans that are in place carry a lot of weight. To maintain credibility with government, the Board must respond quickly. Decisions won't be held back to wait for Board response. The Board must deal with things that it can influence, and pass on others.</p> <p>In the next 4 months, priorities for the Board are: Leadership, relationship with government, finances and membership. These are all encompassed by the Terms of Reference. What if government won't sign the Terms of Reference? The Board should be proud of what was accomplished last year. Government</p>	<p>Paddy Hirshfield will contact Len Vanderstar to give an update on the Telkwa WHA at the October 21 meeting.</p> <p>PIR will be invited to give an update at the October 21 Board meeting.</p> <p>Tim Penninga will ensure that the Morrison Connector rationale is circulated to Board members.</p> <p>Bob Mitchell will check on room availability for extra Board meeting for November 4.</p> <p>Tim Penninga will prepare a draft MOU with government based on Section 15 of the draft BVCRB Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Karen Price will review, and then circulate to Board for comment.</p> <p>Mike Sawyer will follow up with Jeff Anderson regarding status of discussions with government.</p> <p>Board members will be invited to any meetings that arise pertaining to these discussions.</p>

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	<p>may be fluid and hard to pin down. Perhaps the Board should approve its own Terms of Reference and then deal with government later. And the Board should raise its own funds. It is the LRMP that gives this Board its authority, but it can't be brought up to date. If the Board does not have a good relationship with government and is not advisory, then it is an advocacy group. Isn't it a sounding board to the community? The Board has to make sure it is anchored to the LRMP, which is becoming dated, but the values are still relevant. The Board can chase new issues but remain true to the LRMP values. That is what was done with the new pipeline proposals. There are groups throughout the province, including this region, pulling the values out of plans since they are the best current values. This Board is seen as a model and has existed for over 20 years. The Board should be a bridge between public and government but needs a public engagement plan.</p> <p>Plans for upcoming meetings: October 21, finances and membership; PIR and possibly Telkwa WHA updates. Extra meeting November 4, administrative issues – leadership, relationship with government, Terms of Reference. November 18, regular meeting, possible update from Ben Heemskerk. 13. Field trip: Possible sites could be First Nations Trails, Morrison Connector, logging and second growth, monitoring, riparian practices, and proposed LNG route. 14. Change meeting location to FLNRO District office in September. Done. 15. Initiate signing authority changes at BVCU once the Board has accepted May minutes. 16. Renew MOU with BVRC. 17. Membership. Discussed above.</p>	<p>Tim Penninga will circulate a proposed field trip plan to Board members and invited government representatives.</p> <p>Paddy Hirshfield will contact Rick Budhwa regarding renewal of MOU with BVRC.</p>
Other business	VRAM group for Telkwa Caribou Recovery Area: Eric Becker is involved. Ben Heemskerk has suggested that the BVCRB have representation on this group.	
Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM. Next meeting October 21, 2014; 7:00 PM; Skeena-Stikine District office.		