

**Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes**

**Meeting Date: November 9, 2010. Meeting convened at 7:00 PM, Alpenhorn meeting room, Smithers, B. C.**

**Attendance:**

**Board Members:** Dave Stevens (Acting Chair), Don Goalder, Jack Hagen, Ben Heemskerk, Rob Maurer, Trish Oosterhoff, Taylor Bachrach, Barry Smith, Jill Dunbar (Executive Assistant)

**Regrets/absent:** Eugene Wittwer, Gerry Jameson, Jack Hooper

**Visitor:** Pierre Cote

Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By When
LRMP 101	<p><b>LRMP 101, continued from October 12, 2010 meeting:</b> Presentation by Ben Heemskerk.</p> <p><b>The referral process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When BVCRB receives a referral, there is usually a 30 day deadline for responding. This is difficult for the Board to achieve since it only meets once a month. However, Front Counter has always approved a request to extend the deadline.</li> <li>• It is often hard to tell where the application is located. The Board is looking for Core Ecosystems, Landscape Corridors, etc. Tools that are useful are:</li> </ul> <p><b>Valley Vision</b> website <a href="http://www.valleyvision.ca">www.valleyvision.ca</a> This contains more detailed information about all referrals, and links to other maps such as ecosystem inventory, critical stream reach inventory, etc. All planning processes are on the site. There is also a public comment section where comments on referrals can be viewed.</p> <p><b>IMAP</b> <a href="http://www.webmaps.gov.bc.ca">www.webmaps.gov.bc.ca</a> This website can be searched by map layer or category, e.g. land ownership. Core Ecosystems, the Ecosystem network, and other zonations can be highlighted.</p>	Distribute LRMP 101 presentation to Board members.	Ben Heemskerk	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing a referral letter: There is standard introductory and closing text that can be used. Response needs to be grounded in plans – LRMP and SRMP. When interpreting the plans all values should be represented. Draft letters ideally go to the relevant subcommittee, then to the whole Board for comment and approval.</li> <li>• Results of applications: If an application is approved despite Board objections, or vice versa, this is to be justified to the Board, as per BVCRB Terms of Reference. The Board could request this in referral response letters.</li> </ul> <p>Discussion: Barry Smith: The Board shouldn't be doing the research. The referral boiler plate could be redesigned with BVCRB information requirements in mind: For example, it could show which planning unit the application is located in. Dave Stevens: Other problems with referrals: Maps are unclear and purpose of the application is not detailed enough. For example, one recent referral states "as per Section 60" but does not state which legislation this pertains to. Taylor Bachrach: Applicants actually provide quite a bit more information on the application form than appears on the referral form.</p> <p><b>Summaries from Subcommittee Chairs of past/current /future issues</b></p> <p><b>Recreation</b> Taylor Bachrach: Issues that the Recreation Subcommittee has dealt with recently include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referrals: Mountain bike club trail projects, BV Backpackers trail and recreation site applications, Hudson Bay Mountain master plan. With regard to the master plan, subcommittee members met several times and worked with Terry Pratt, Manager, Major Projects, Resort Development Branch of MOTCA, as well as other agencies, and felt that their feedback was incorporated into</li> </ul>	<p><b>Prepare a suggested redesign of the referral form, which includes information needed by the Board when providing a response.</b></p>	<p><b>Taylor Bachrach</b></p>	

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	<p>the master plan.  RAMP: The Board met with ILMB representatives, and wrote letters to government, in order to promote completion of the RAMP. Recreation groups agreed on a Terms of Reference for the RAMP project. The subcommittee is currently seeking funding to continue. A funding request to the Real Estate Board was rejected. An application to the Mountain Equipment Coop will be prepared and submitted. The RAMP is complete for many areas but wasn't completed for the more contentious areas. Recreation should continue to be an active area for the Board since many groups are working on projects.</p> <p><b>Mining and Energy Development</b>  Rob Maurer: The Board was involved in the Blue Pearl application process. That company has one year to complete the Environmental Assessment. Rob will continue to provide updates on mining activity in the plan area.</p> <p><b>Forestry, Range and Agriculture</b>  Barry Smith: <b>Forestry:</b> Logging has recently moved to Eastern areas of the Region to focus on Mountain Pine Beetle. It is time to move back to this area, however, there are many restrictions in the LRMP. There would need to be approval to log in some of the LRMP areas and it will be hard to set up a payback. The cut level won't likely change so it will be hard to take cut away from local licensees and give to companies from the East.  Taylor: We don't get the same type of referrals for forestry activities as for others and so we are not as involved in forestry. The Community Forest just got a cut increase which we were not involved with. We need to be more proactive with forestry.  Barry: We will need to prioritize what we are involved with.  Taylor: The 2 big issues, managing MPB in ecosystem</p>			

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	<p>networks, and Telkwa caribou – have not been resolved.</p> <p><b>Range and Agriculture:</b> Some referrals have come before the Board.</p> <p>Barry: One problem in recent years is that animals have been “fenced out” - ranchers fence their properties to keep animals out rather than fencing them in. Jack Hagen – but fencing the open range could be detrimental to wildlife.</p> <p>Barry – MPB affects agriculture in that trees form a natural barrier to animals.</p> <p><b>LWBC Referrals and Land Tenures</b> Discussed under referral process, above.</p> <p><b>Water and Fish:</b> Don Goalder: The Blue Pearl application generated a lot of activity. Jeff Anderson (former Board member) showed us that there is little information on water levels in the Bulkley River. It is only measured at Quick. Chicken Creek is a different situation. Historic norms appear to be changing and don’t know how they will affect fish and aquatic life. We need to just look at the referrals as we get them.</p> <p><b>Monitoring and Land Use Plans</b> Dave Stevens: The Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust has done great work but doesn’t cover the whole area. They have examined whether current strategies will allow objectives to be met. Ben: We need to look at this info more. Some strategies might need to be changed e.g. road densities and grizzlies.</p> <p>Rob: Some monitoring of old mines is done by MEMPR (Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources) and some by MOE (Ministry of Environment). There may be some reports prepared by NWCC (Northwest Community College) that could be made available to the Board.</p>	<p><b>Look into availability of NWCC mining monitoring reports.</b></p>	<p><b>Rob Maurer</b></p>	

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	<p><b>Executive Assistant:</b> Jill Dunbar: In the past, Board members took turns taking minutes, distributing them and working on updating the website. ILMB provided funding which allowed the Board to hire Jill to cover this work. Additional communication work is restricted by current funding levels.</p>			
<p><b>Agenda review</b></p>	<p>Agenda for this meeting was reviewed. Additions to agenda: Minutes of September and October 2010 meetings are to be reviewed. As well, there is a new referral to review.</p>	<p><b>Accept agenda with additions.</b></p>	<p><b>Board Members</b></p>	<p><b>This meeting</b></p>
<p><b>Minutes of September 14, 2010</b></p>	<p>Minutes discussed and approved as presented.</p>	<p><b>Approve minutes of Sept 14, 2010.</b></p>	<p><b>Board Members</b></p>	<p><b>This meeting</b></p>
<p><b>Minutes of October 12, 2010</b></p>	<p>Minutes discussed and approved as presented.</p>	<p><b>Approve minutes of Oct 12, 2010.</b></p>	<p><b>Board Members</b></p>	<p><b>This meeting</b></p>
<p><b>Action items from the October 12, 2010 minutes</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Members confirm which subcommittees they are interested in.</i></li> <li>2. <i>Finalize and send Job Opportunities letter.</i></li> <li>3. <i>Continue to participate in planning for “Revisiting the Balance” workshop; provide feedback from Board to MoF.</i></li> <li>4. <i>Select Board Chair.</i></li> <li>5. <i>Investigate Vancouver Foundation as a source of funds for the BVCRB.</i></li> <li>6. <i>Check with Jane Lloyd-Smith, District Manager, Ministry of Forests, regarding possibility of other companies logging in the plan area.</i></li> <li>7. <i>Check with Jason Llewellyn at the Regional District for information about the subdivision advertised for the McKnight property.</i></li> <li>8. <i>Contact groups about supporting the “Revisiting the</i></li> </ol>	<p><b>Add Taylor Bachrach to Recreation Subcommittee.</b></p> <p><b>Discuss later this meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Discuss later this meeting.</b></p> <p><b>This meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Dave Stevens will contact Emily McGiffen, Town of Smithers, re: Funding sources.</b></p> <p><b>Ben will follow up with Jane Lloyd-Smith regarding other companies logging in the plan area.</b></p> <p><b>Dave will follow up with Jason Llewellyn about the subdivision advertised for the McKnight property.</b></p> <p><b>Discuss later this meeting.</b></p>		

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	<p><i>Balance” workshop in kind or financially.</i></p> <p><i>9. Contact David Dewit of the Office of the Wet’suwet’en about participation in the “Revisiting the Balance” workshop.</i></p> <p><i>10. Invite Rick Keim of Ministry of Environment to November BVCRB meeting to discuss the Telkwa Caribou Wildlife Habitat Area.</i></p> <p><i>11. Ask Taylor Bachrach if a referral is forthcoming for the Telkwa Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Consult with the village of Telkwa if further discussion is needed.</i></p> <p><i>12. Discuss Board membership with Gerry Jameson. Advise Board members by e-mail of process of filling vacant positions.</i></p> <p><i>13. Walk through the referral review process for new members, as part of LRMP 101.</i></p> <p><i>14. Subcommittee Chairs present summary of current issues facing subcommittees, as part of LRMP 101.</i></p> <p><i>15. Prepare a letter to ILMB requesting core funding support for the BVCRB.</i></p>	<p><b>Dave Stevens will follow up with contacting David Dewit.</b></p> <p><b>Discuss later this meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Discuss later this meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Gerry is not going to join the Board, membership will be discussed further, this meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Complete.</b></p> <p><b>Complete.</b></p> <p><b>Don Goalder has started this, Ben will assist.</b></p>		
<b>Chair selection</b>	<p>Dave Stevens is the only nominee for the Chair. Board members present agree that <b>Dave Stevens shall act as BVCRB Chair for 2010/2011.</b></p>			
<b>Subcommittee Reports/Issues/ Correspondence</b>	<p><b>1. Recreation</b> Discussed earlier in this meeting.</p> <p><b>2. Mining and Energy Development</b> Rob Maurer: In the years 2005 -2010 the industry was booming. Currently it has slowed down and it may be some time before there is renewed activity. Rob will stay in touch with Paul Wodjak at Mines for regular updates.</p>			

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	<p><b>3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture</b>  Taylor: Telkwa Community Wildfire Protection Plan: Several years ago it was recommended that communities prepare an interface fire plan. Funding is available through UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities). Protec Resources in Telkwa approached Council with a proposal to create a plan. The plan proceeded. Ray Chipeniuk raised some objections to the process (as a private citizen). Council hasn't seen the plan. It is unknown how the plan will be implemented. The Regional District rep Jason Llewellyn has avoided involvement in the plan, thinking that there could be complications and liability issues. Ian Meier, Manager, Northwest Fire Centre, and Tony Falcao, Fuel Management Specialist, should attend a Telkwa Council meeting. The Board may have a role in the plan if logging or clean-up is proposed for Core Ecosystems etc.</p> <p><b>4. LWBC Referrals and Land Tenures</b>  Motz referral 6408311: More information is needed on this application – e.g. management unit.</p> <p><b>5. Water and Fish:</b>  No update.</p> <p><b>6. Monitoring and Land Use Plans</b>  <b>“Revisiting the Balance” workshop:</b> Dave met with Glen Buhr and Jennifer Plummer of the MoF. Rick Trowbridge is not available to facilitate. Tom Chamberlain may be. Smithers Exploration Group (SEG) has been asked to support, and so may wish to participate. Issues are broader than forestry so representatives of other user groups may also want to attend. Glen is resisting this</p>	<p><b>Provide update on Telkwa Community Wildfire Protection Plan.</b></p> <p><b>Contact Tammy Anderson at Front Counter re additional info required for this application (6408311).</b></p>	<p><b>Taylor Bachrach</b></p> <p><b>Dave Stevens</b></p>	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>

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	<p>expansion. Barry: The MoF is not the responsible agency any more so a representative from the new Natural Resources Ministry should be invited as well. Not all agencies have an appetite for this workshop and for revisiting the LRMP so perhaps this should be a low key event.</p> <p>Dave sent an e-mail to SEG requesting support for the workshop, and will wait for their response.</p> <p>Rob asked NWCC for in-kind support but since the building is under construction they are not able to commit to anything at this time.</p> <p><b>Telkwa Caribou WHA Rationale and Order:</b> Barry reviewed the proposal and circulated his comments to the Board last week. The area proposed is quite large and includes parts of the Bulkley and Morice LRMP areas. Rick Keim of the Ministry of Environment is trying to establish legal, specific strategies for the whole area. With the Wildlife Habitat Area in place as proposed the Bulkley would go over the 10 % budget. PIR and the analyst are meeting tomorrow to discuss whether or not there is an impact. The analyst says there is no impact, however, there is already 30% young forest so logging may not happen and can't be shifted to another drainage, according to PIR. The next step after a WHA would be a Federal/Provincial Recovery Plan, which has further restrictions e.g. to recreation.</p>	<p><b>Contact Rick Keim for updates on the Telkwa Caribou WHA proposal.</b></p>	<p><b>Barry Smith</b></p>	
<p><b>Administration</b></p>	<p><b>Signing authority:</b> <b>The Board resolves that current BVCRB signing authorities are: Dave Stevens, Taylor Bachrach, and Rob Maurer. Greg Storie is to be removed as a signing authority.</b></p> <p><b>Membership:</b> Two or three Board member positions are available. Mike Murray and Gerry Jameson have stepped down and Jack Hooper may be intending to step down.</p>	<p><b>Update signing authorities at BVCU</b></p> <p><b>Contact Rosemary Fox, Hans Smit, Ray Carrier,</b></p>	<p><b>Dave Stevens, Taylor Bachrach, and Rob Maurer</b></p> <p><b>Dave Stevens</b></p>	

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	<p>The selection committee will need to reconvene and go back to applicants who weren't accepted, or solicit new applications, to fill vacancies.</p> <p><b>Core BVCRB funding:</b> Letter to ILMB requesting funding needs to be finalized.</p>	<p><b>and/or Peter Tweedie to establish a new selection committee.</b></p> <p><b>Finalize draft letter to government requesting core funding support.</b></p>	<p><b>Don Goalder Ben Heemskerk</b></p>	
<p><b>PICS Sustainable Community Development proposal</b></p>	<p>The BVCRB could have a role in engaging the public in this process. Some core funding for the BVCRB is built into the proposal. The Board has decided to support the proposal. Ben Heemskerk is the contact person on behalf of the Board.</p>			
<p><b>Meeting adjourned 10:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Next meeting: Dec 14, 2010, 7:00 PM, Alpenhorn Meeting Room.</b></p>	<p><b>The Board will continue to meet at the Alpenhorn.</b></p>		