

**Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB)** Minutes, February 16, 2016. Meeting convened at 7:00 PM, Skeena-Stikine District office, Smithers, B. C.

Board members in attendance: Paddy Hirshfield (Acting Chair and Treasurer), Eric Becker (Vice Chair), Bob Mitchell, Cor van der Meulen, Karen Price, Mathias Westphal.

Executive Assistant: Jill Dunbar

Absent with notice: Ruth Lloyd, Joey Welch, Christoph Dietzfelbinger, Ron Vanderstar

Item	Discussion
<b>Agenda review</b>	<b>Additions: Quick land sale, collaborative stewardship opportunities. Agenda approved with revisions.</b>
<b>Review of minutes, Jan 19, 2016 meeting</b>	Minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum. Approval will be sought via email.
<b>Action items from the minutes</b>	<p>1. BVCU signing authorities: Paddy will remind Jeff Anderson to sign the documents. <i>Done.</i></p> <p>2. Karen will follow up with Ruth regarding coarse woody debris impacts/changes that may result from the NewPro proposal. Paddy will work with Karen and Ruth on this. <i>Carried forward; members will work on this as their schedules allow.</i></p> <p>3. Jill will check with Spark Design re: details of search capability for website. Jill will check broken links and Board member bios. <i>Spark has been asked to create a search function for website. Jill has begun to fix broken links. Spark will be asked to fix items that are not working. Paddy will remind members to submit bios for the website.</i></p> <p>4. NewPro project: Paddy will prepare and circulate a draft email to the DDM stating that we have concerns about the monitoring of emissions, and that we would like to know what is planned. <i>Paddy will ask for final comments from Board members, finalize the draft, send out, and copy to the BV Airshed Society. None of the Board members present at this meeting have objections to sending out the email. Paddy will follow up with Jevan Hanshard regarding attending a BVCRB meeting to discuss the status of core ecosystems and landscape corridors, and ecosystem integrity in general.</i></p>
<b>Old business</b>	<p><b>TRAMG – Telkwa Recreational Access Management group</b> Jill will be helping out with this project. The BVCRB will not contribute financially this fiscal year but may need to in the coming fiscal year. BVCRB role is as a sponsoring partner. ACTION: Paddy will contact Jocelyn Campbell regarding speaking to the TRAM group about BVCRB goals. Recreational access is clearly part of BVCRB work.</p> <p>Signs and gate issue. Signs have been posted on Coalmine Road protesting the TRAM process, and the gate on the Howson Bridge has been cut away. Discussion: People are being proactive in their opposition to the process rather</p>

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	<p>than reactive. Not everyone thinks that restrictions will work. Some people think that the TRAM process is not sufficient. There is not much potential for groups to fight with each other, people are just really trying to get their opinions out. BVCRB role is more strategic. There is nothing the Board can do other than support the process and encourage people to deal with the issue.</p> <p><b>BV Airshed Society</b> The society is not working on the NewPro issue, but is interested in what the outcome is. Representatives could be invited to a BVCRB meeting to discuss other issues that we could work together on. ACTION: Paddy will forward relevant correspondence to the Airshed Society.</p> <p><b>Summer RAMP update</b> ACTION: Brandy Hughes will be invited to the next meeting to present an update on Summer RAMP implementation.</p>
<b>New Business</b>	<p><b>Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust (BWMT)</b> Karen Price: This science-based group has an annual budget and carries out monitoring projects in the Babine Watershed. Ideally results are communicated to the BVCRB, which, as a values-based group, communicates with government to recommend implementation of changes. Recent projects have looked at biodiversity, wilderness values perspectives, grizzly bear monitoring, water quality, riparian buffers. Some strategies are working and some are being mitigated by companies. However some LRMP values are not being achieved. Where values are not being achieved, the BVCRB should present a case to government for improvement. There is potential for close collaboration between the two groups and the trust would like a stronger relationship with the BVCRB.</p> <p>Discussion: The Board will be asking the District Manager for an update on the state of core ecosystems and landscape corridors. Members would like to know what the priorities are. There are risks to the core ecosystems such as pipelines and firewood cutting. Do we want a risk assessment for the LRMP? And then focus on what is most at risk? If some particular value is at risk, we as public representatives need to do something. The risk assessment for the Babine is somewhat applicable to the whole TSA. The priorities for the Babine could be looked at by the Board using local knowledge and then deciding which ones to focus on. ACTION: Karen will forward BWMT project summaries to the BVCRB for review and further discussion.</p> <p><b>Collaborative Stewardship Opportunities</b> Anne Hetherington, guest: 1. Quick land sale: Some parcels haven't been well tracked on the Lands database. As well, the policy to not sell parcels in landscape corridors was changed. Hence this piece came up for sale. The Lands Officer for the area is reviewing this case. Board: Could this happen to other parcels? It is not in keeping with the LRMP.</p>

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	<p>Response: Yes, it could happen elsewhere. There needs to be education for landowners about how to maintain biodiversity since there may not be a difference between what happens inside and outside a landscape corridor.</p> <p>2. Lands Branch Notations of Interest: e.g. UREPs. There are many of these small parcels in the TSA, established as map notations at the time of the original surveys. Many of them haven't been looked at for years, although the notations were intended to be temporary set-asides until decisions on their use could be made. Over time public access has been blocked to some of them, and some are redundant. Lands is undertaking a review of these parcels. Does the Board wish to look at them?</p> <p>Discussion: The Board should ask Lands what the policy is when dealing with landscape corridors. There seems to be a push to get into landscape corridors as a source of timber. BCTS is trying partial cutting in landscape corridors. Perhaps the Board should plan a field trip to look at this. Stream surveys show where buffers are needed – DNA of tailed frogs is found in the water, and habitat for the frogs requires stream buffers. Goshawk surveys are showing a big decline in nests with chicks. Nests need to be surrounded by 100 ha of mature/old forest. Another theory is that earlier hatch of black flies is disturbing the chicks when they are most vulnerable. Agencies need to work together to manage on-the-ground activities.</p> <p>ACTION: Policy regarding management of parcels adjacent to, or overlapping, landscape corridors will be requested from Lands.</p> <p>The Board will look at the list of UREPs and decide if further involvement is needed. This would be a good Open House topic. This will be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.</p>
<b>Administration</b>	<p>Approved minutes will be sent to an email group. List will include: BV Airshed Society, Town of Smithers, Regional District, Village of Telkwa, and government representatives – Jevan Hanshard, Ryan Holmes, Jocelyn Campbell, Tony Pesklevits, Ben Heemskerk. Letters will include a request for issues that the BVCRB could be looking at.</p>
<b>Items for next meeting</b>	<p>Review of map notations – UREPs.</p>
<b>Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM. Next meeting March 15, 2016, Skeena-Stikine District office, 7 PM.</b>	