

**Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes, May 17, 2016.** Meeting convened at 7:00 PM, Skeena-Stikine District office, Smithers, B. C.

Board members in attendance: Paddy Hirshfield (Acting Chair and Treasurer), Bob Mitchell, Cor van der Meulen, Mathias Westphal, Eric Becker (Vice Chair) (by telephone), Christoph Dietzfelbinger

Absent: Karen Price, Ron Vanderstar, Ruth Lloyd

Presenter: Anne Hetherington

| Item   | Discussion   |
|--|--|
| <b>Agenda review</b>                             | <b>Agenda approved.</b>  |
| <b>Review of minutes, April 19, 2016 meeting</b> | <b>Minutes approved.</b>   |
| <b>Action items from the minutes</b>             | <p><b>Action item #8 from April</b><br/> <i>Public involvement: The Board will continue discussion of ways to get public input such as an open house. Eric Becker will prepare notes on how best to get feedback at an event such as the Fall Fair. Subcommittee of Ruth, Eric and Paddy will meet prior to next general Board meeting.</i></p> <p>Update: Eric circulated notes on getting feedback. The format that he presented is flexible and could be used as a poster or at the Fall Fair and the time needed is also flexible. Board Terms of Reference states that we must consult with the public.<br/>           ACTION: This issue will be discussed further at the subcommittee level.</p> <p><b>Additional action items will be discussed later this meeting, following the presentation.</b></p>  |
| <b>Presentation, Anne Hetherington</b>           | <p><b>Anne Hetherington, Ecosystem Biologist, Smithers: Lands Branch files update</b><br/>           Lands Branch looks after sales, tenures etc. for Crown Lands and can put land aside for various purposes. Land Act Section 15 designations are the firmest. Section 16 provides exclusive use, e.g. gravel pits and some Fish and Wildlife management areas. Section 17 sets areas aside for one main interest but areas can be used for other compatible uses. For example a Wildlife Habitat Area can be used for other activities. Notations of Interest are the least firm. A list of parcels has built up over time and needs updating. Some have been sold or changed in other ways. List is currently being reviewed with staff and outside agencies. Of primary interest is UREPS. <i>See excerpt from Land Act below.</i><br/>           Question from the Board: Are all UREPS managed by FLNRO?<br/>           AH: No, they are under various Ministries.<br/>           There are about 300 in this Region. Many aren't posted or mapped. Information on UREPS (reserve for Use, Recreation and Enjoyment of the Public) is being mapped. They were set aside with the assumption that a more specific designation would be made in future. Risk is that they could be lost if not recorded/mapped properly. Anne has been focusing on the ecosystem and fish and wildlife-related areas and is correcting the errors. Areas adjacent to these set-asides can affect access to them as well. It is a tedious process and sometimes the old paper files must be retrieved. Local knowledge is important in updating the files.</p> |

| Item | Discussion   |
|------|--|
|      | <p>Question from the Board: If they come up for sale, is it public knowledge that it is a protected area?</p> <p>AH: Public would not always know. But sales of Crown land have slowed down following the Tsilhqot'in case. UREPs were meant to be temporary until the LRMP looked at them but the LRMP did not look at all of them.</p> <p>Board member: You wouldn't know they were there unless you had local knowledge.</p> <p>AH: Access to lakes, rivers, and Crown land must be maintained every 400 metres. But they aren't all posted in this region. In other Regional Districts they are posted and they are used.</p> <p>Board member: An agency or person could go to court and get them back if they were lost/sold.</p> <p>Board member: Resources are needed. It is a loss to communities to lose some of these.</p> <p>Board member: Ministries need to be coordinated. Having one contact person would help.</p> <p>AH: Designations can be changed at two times: 1) when parcels come up for sale, 2) when rezoning occurs.</p> <p>Board member: It is important that the Board looks at this.</p> <p>Question from Board member: Is spatial designation mainly for viewing Lands notification?</p> <p>AH: Could be – it is a live map.</p> <p>Board member: It would be good to have something created for public reference purposes. The BVCRB could help create awareness.</p> <p>Board member: The files don't necessarily state what the attributes of the parcels are or why they are the shape they are.</p> <p>Board member: That would be part of the project.</p> <p>Board member: It would be good to have a map at an Open house or the Fall Fair.</p> <p>AH: There is concern about some of them. Wildlife Habitat Areas or other areas that aren't well protected should not be openly promoted.</p> <p>Board member: Who would be the contact person for Board involvement?</p> <p>Board member: Past Boards have stated that they wish to act strategically.</p> <p>Board member: Difficult to be strategic if you don't know what's going on.</p> <p>Board member: We have a right to access in Canada. In Europe – you can walk almost anywhere, as long as you don't intend to do damage.</p> <p>Board member: It would be good for the community to be involved before anything is changed. The Board could help with crafting a review process, to act at a strategic level.</p> <p>ACTION: Christoph Dietzfelbinger will draft a letter and circulate for comment, including the following summary points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The BVCRB is aware of the project and would like to be involved at a strategic level.</li> <li>• Values are important to communities.</li> <li>• Infrastructure could be lost.</li> <li>• Consolidation is needed since UREPs are administered by various ministries.</li> <li>• A spatial mapping tool for public use is needed.</li> <li>• Board has a history of being involved in recreation projects.</li> </ul> |

| Item   | Discussion   |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Action items from the minutes, continued</b></p> | <p><b>Action item 7.</b><br/> <i>Ecosystem Network Integrity: Ryan Holmes (FLNRO) responded to some of the questions raised at the March meeting. Paddy will follow up with Ryan on outstanding items.</i></p> <p>Discussion: Board member: Some values are at high risk already. We need to know what the ministry will do about them and we need to know what else is at risk. We should ask for a risk assessment.<br/> ACTION: Bob Mitchell and Karen Price will draft a response to the letter from Ryan Holmes.</p> <p><b>Action items 1, 2 and 3:</b><br/> 1. <i>Brandy Hughes will contact C &amp; E staff regarding motorized traffic in Harold Price area.</i><br/> 2. <i>BVCRB and District Recreation will develop a work plan for completing outstanding Summer RAMP items.</i><br/> 3. <i>BVCRB and District Recreation will discuss a Winter RAMP process in October.</i></p> <p>ACTION: Paddy will discuss these items with Brandy Hughes, District Recreation Officer.</p> <p><b>Action item 4.</b><br/> <i>NewPro: Paddy will contact Ruth Lloyd about her availability to prepare the CWD letter.</i></p> <p>ACTION: Paddy will check with Ruth.</p> <p><b>Action item 5.</b><br/> <i>Paddy will schedule a presentation to the TRAM group.</i></p> <p>Done. Board is sponsoring meals and some admin work for TRAM.<br/> ACTION: Jill will ask Jocelyn Campbell what the role of the BVCRB in reviewing the package to government might look like.</p> <p><b>Action item 6.</b><br/> <i>Board members should review the BWMT reports and determine which are priority issues.</i></p> <p>On-going.</p> |
| <p><b>Old business</b></p>                             | <p><b>Air quality</b></p> <p>Discussion of response from Dan Bings regarding NewPro permit:<br/> Board member: Public concern must be taken into account. Things can't slide until there is public pressure.</p>   |

| Item   | Discussion   |
|--|--|
|  | <p>Board member: There is no decision on the permit yet.</p> <p>Board member: It is problematic that due diligence is not being done on permits as they age. Permits are currently structured as a way to pollute. There is no source monitoring. We don't know what is coming out at the stack. Most jurisdictions have the technology to monitor at the stack but B.C. does not. Source monitoring should be introduced and the data made available to the public.</p> <p>ACTION: Christoph Dietzfelbinger will circulate report on mortality due to local pollution to Board members.</p> <p>ACTION: Christoph will prepare a draft letter for discussion at next meeting.</p> <p>Board member: We need to discuss this when more members are present. We want to encourage industry but do not want to add more pollutants to the airshed.</p> |
| <b>Items for next meeting</b>  | Approving minutes by email – particularly June minutes.  |
| <b>Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM. Next meeting June 21, 2016, Skeena-Stikine District office, 7 PM.</b> |  |

## BC Land Act

### Reserves

- 15 (1) In this section and section 16, "government body" means the Provincial government, a government corporation as defined in paragraphs (b) and (c) of the definition of "government corporation" in the *Financial Administration Act*, the federal government or a prescribed organization.
- (2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by order, reserve Crown land from disposition under this Act for any purpose that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers advisable in the public interest, including for the use of a government body.
- (3) An order under subsection (2) may authorize a government body to place, construct, maintain or operate any works, structures or other improvements on the reserved land.
- (4) An order under subsection (2) may be subject to any terms and conditions the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary or advisable.
- (5) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may amend or cancel all or part of a reserve established under this or a former Act.
- (6) An order under subsection (2) does not prevent the minister from issuing to an applicant a licence to occupy the Crown land reserved by the order for any of the following:
- (a) a period not longer than 2 years to conduct appraisals, inspections, analyses, inventories, surveys or other investigations of the land or of its natural resources;
  - (b) a period not longer than 2 years for any purpose authorized under this Act;
  - (c) construction of a road, non-commercial airstrip, bridge or trail over the land.
- Withdrawal from disposition

16 (1) The minister may temporarily withdraw Crown land from disposition under this Act for any purpose the minister considers advisable in the public interest, including for the use of a government body.

(2) The minister may authorize a government body to place, construct, maintain or operate any works, structures or other improvements on the land withdrawn under subsection (1).

(3) The minister may impose any terms and conditions the minister considers necessary or advisable on the use of land temporarily withdrawn under subsection (1).

(4) The minister may amend or cancel a withdrawal under subsection (1).

Conditional withdrawal

17 (1) The minister may, if the minister considers it advisable in the public interest, designate a portion of Crown land for a particular use or for the conservation of natural or heritage resources.

(1.1) The minister may impose any terms and conditions the minister considers necessary or advisable on the use of land designated under subsection (1).

(2) A portion of Crown land designated under subsection (1) is withdrawn from disposition under this Act for any purpose that is not, in the opinion of the minister, compatible with the purpose for which the land has been designated.

(3) The minister may amend or cancel a designation made under subsection (1).