

# BV Community Resource Board - Final Minutes

Feb 19, 2024

Present:

Directors: Ted, Eric, Ron, Sue, Anne

Public: Irena Wieland, Deb Wellwood

Regrets: Dave, John

Next Meeting: Mar 18, 7pm, Smithers Council Chambers, 2024

Meeting convened at 7:05pm

For a full list of acronyms please check the link:

[https://bvcrb.ca/images/uploads/documents/bvcrb\\_acro.pdf](https://bvcrb.ca/images/uploads/documents/bvcrb_acro.pdf)

Everyone in the room introduced themselves. This is Irena's first meeting, she has a background in geomanagement, an interest in water management and the backcountry.

Ron volunteered to chair.

Motion to approve the Jan 15th minutes - Anne and Eric approved.

Motion to approve the Dec 18th minutes - Ted and Eric approved.

## **Financial Report:**

\$8500 in the account. There are no outstanding accounts other than Sue's billing. In the past year we spent about \$3500.00. /year. We've had no funding since and are not actively seeking funding.

## **Organizational**

Bob Henderson withdraws his application as a Director. He regrets he doesn't have the time just now.

## **Updates to Action Items: (Table on last page)**

1) Deb Wellwood

Deb wants to poll the former and current CRB Directors to identify past process implementation challenges and short-comings, to improve effectiveness in achieving Higher Level Plan objectives and foster social support through transparent and accountable processes.

After discussion among the Board it was thought specific questions and recording methods should be reviewed by the Board. There is also potential to workshop the completion of this worksheet with human resource values and knowledge rather than a survey.

**Comments from the Board:** Let's define scope. Is this forest based or just corridors? Since corridors are not well managed, how can we rectify that? What should we be doing differently? How much do we need to change? Our FLP needs to achieve this

objective. AAC's, the valuation standards and the silviculture system - 3 ideas for leadership. Be clear on why the Board is asking for this information from members and Directors.

Sue - give Deb the membership list for review and consideration - done

2) Claire Thornton's invitation to the Stakeholder Review and Input Group (SRIG). We have agreed the 9th of April works best for us, as many as can attend on the Board will. FYI this is a Forest Plan versus a Landscape Plan - though there will be some overlap.

3) Len gave an update on our letter to Nathan's office. It is under review, and we should hopefully soon hear back.

**Comments:** Frank Doyle: all protected Goshawk habitat is habitat. BC Timber Sales have no response to Goshawk habitat inquiries and appear not committed to species at risk management. They are clearly not meeting the habitat objective of the LRMP. They are going forward with the sales on the blocks on Tyhee Mountain despite Anne's corrections to Lori Halls impressions and SRMP policy. The Ministry is quoting the SRMP section 3.2.1 incorrectly and they are not stating what their wildlife habitat conservation objectives are. They dropped the word conservation, trying to make it a straight resource management issue, not a WHMA. These are delay tactics.

4) Ted, Sue

Extend an invitation of membership to BV Quad Riders.

**Comments from the Board:** They have good ethical riding standards - they have a voice about access and should comment on it. Directors are afraid the Board's bent toward conservation and protection precludes their input but without their participation we can't hear them!

Sue is to invite them to present at a meeting, what are their needs?

#### **Other action Items:**

AI\*\* Sue remind Matt Sear about Zack from West Fraser.

Sue post Len's response to the plan mentioned below.

Anne will bring in a couple examples of total cost accounting to the next meeting.

#### **Referrals:**

none today

#### **Correspondance:**

#### **Draft BC Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework.**

Link to the plan: [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/biodiversity-habitat-management/draft\\_biodiversity\\_and\\_ecosystem\\_health\\_framework.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/biodiversity-habitat-management/draft_biodiversity_and_ecosystem_health_framework.pdf)

## Summary by Len:

- The government is NOT universally on board.
- The playing field is not changed, in order to make the paradigm shift you need to make some major changes, it has to do with who are the actual stewards of the lands, and lobby power is unequal.
- No mention of species of risk.
- We need to be conscious of carbon accounting and minimize logging and slash.
- Some comments on the website are quite good.
- Full cost accounting is not mentioned.
- Awareness and education would help people understand we are not in different camps. We want to see management, maintenance and restoration, we need to bring the masses along and work together so its transparent.
- It would be helpful to get an example of true cost accounting over longer periods - like watershed, tourism, ecosystem and hunting and fishing values, timber and jobs. This regime will have this number of jobs for this number of years.
- There's a Science Alliance endorsement for a proposal Len and others are working on. This being a scoping exercise of the Wetzin'kwa Water Basin and using PATCH-WORKS. How would ecosystem management look? Experts for assumptions, run the models, show the economic benefit impact statements. What kind of assumptions do we make, whose endorsements do we need? The Board, the OW. How do we envision responsible forest management versus the status quo? Use proper modelling on growth and yield.

## Land Act Cancellation Orders:

Take a look at the Skeena Wild website links.

- <https://skeenawild.org/conservation-land-cancelled/>
- 1.35 million acres within the Skeena Region (approx. 55000 hectares)

## Serb Watershed:

### Discussion:

- According to the LRMP this is a low intensity, low use area and special management Zone 2.
- It's thought BC Timber Sales wants to log.
- It's high value early winter moose habitat, habitat for wolverines, and more.
- It's high value fishing re: steelhead and bull char spawning, at least in the lower reaches.
- It is 1 of 2 remaining old growth areas remaining in the valley with pristine watersheds. The second is Upper Passby Creek. It's really important to maintain.
- Can we define what low intensity and low recreation use is? What does BC Timber Sales think this is? It's too ambiguous and needs definition. Ask Dave Duncan for his position.
- How can forestry be exempt from environmental assessment?
- There is a Molly deposit in the area.

We want to protect the intent of the LRMP, make sure it's not misinterpreted or manipulated like in other cases. We can honour the SMZ 2 with logging and recreation opportunity but what does low intensity and low use mean? Its one of the last remnants of fibre and BC Timber Sales are going after it.

**AI\*\*** Sue make sure Dave invites his replacement or another office member for the sake of corporate memory. This request was sent during the meeting.

**HIGH PEAK FLOW SENSITIVITY**, high value water value. What is the real geomorphological data? What about the fire risk assessment? We need all these assessments.

No permanent bridges are supposed to be over class 1 rivers. The middle span of the Serb's bridge is removable but was no longer removed when Provincial management changed. One bridge not removed impacted the goat population on Caribou Mountain and there is no more allowances for hunting due to this oversight. The consequences of leaving the Serb's bridge operational could be significant.

### **Other Discussions:**

Raising awareness and engaging the community at large:

- Forestry or land-use seminar series
- Letters to the editor, Interior News
- using low literacy language

Look at Len's instagram postings for the Science Alliance Forestry Transformation.

<https://www.saftforestry.com/>

There are 26 posts a year. Give Len feedback.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Open Action Items:

<b>task</b>	<b>who</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>status</b>
Invite the BVQuadders to present at a meeting, what are their needs?	Sue	Feb 2024	open
Invite Jon Penninga to the Board cc and invite Lori Halls as well.	Sue	Feb 2024	open
Start a spreadsheet of tangible examples for FLP improvements. Networking with former members, foresters and other groups will help nail these values down. Scope - forest based, corridors - how can we improve management.	Anne	Jan 2024	open
A letter to FN's to help maintain a biodiversity plan to maintain something functional in Old Growth...draft copy found here: <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M1SkBk2zfxGb-WOBRJtR4OLBIkg8oMpLie5Rh47stk5Q/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M1SkBk2zfxGb-WOBRJtR4OLBIkg8oMpLie5Rh47stk5Q/edit</a>	All	May 2023 Jan 2024	open
Ask the OW does the government still have a freeze on these ADA's? Are they active on this issue? Leanne, no idea call front courtner, they send me here: <a href="https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/resources/land-use-planning/">https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/resources/land-use-planning/</a>	Sue	Jan 2024	open
Invite Chris Schell to present on where are we with the WHMA land implementation proposal file E: Jan27 n/answer,Mar15( sickleave March15)	Sue	Jan 2024	open
Look at the terms of reference, section 6, e and f and consider proposing an update to this with relation to hunting and trapping and interspecies reliance	Dave	Jan 2024	open
Invitation to Sybille Haeussler invitation for April 15,24 "Forest landscape management eg how to maintain ecological balance in the changing landscape units of the Bulkley LRMP"	Bob/Sue	Mar 15, 2024	open
Breach recruitment topic with a member of Quad Riders. Ted will ask Rob Mauer possibly, Chad	Ted	Mar/April 2023	open
Keep recruiting by word of mouth.	All	Mar/April 2023	open