

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes, December 20, 2016. Meeting convened at 7:05 PM, Skeena-Stikine District Office, Smithers, BC

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

Recorders: Melissa Sawatsky (BVRC), Joanne Sear (BVRC)

Absent with notice: Karen Price

Guests: Ted Vanderwart (Geologist), Bryan Swansburg

Item	Discussion
Agenda review/welcome	Introductions and welcome to guests. Agenda approved as is.
Review of minutes from November 15, 2016 meeting	Minutes approved.
New Business	<p>Referral associated with intensive use agriculture from Marc Bekar Discussed whether or not the referral was reviewed by ecosystems, but key contacts have not seen it. The deadline for comments was December 14th, but there may still be time to provide feedback. The land is considered moose habitat, but not designated as a protected area. As long as potential issues surrounding First Nations interests and impacts on the landscape corridor and wildlife habitat have been addressed, the CRB should have no issues with the proposal.</p> <p>Action: Paddy will email Jen and let her know the referral has been discussed and the CRB has no issues with it.</p> <p>Feedback received from Dan Bings re: air quality letter The response from Dan didn't adequately answer all of CRB's questions about the new permit NEWPRO is seeking to convert to a pellet manufacturing plant, although our concerns were validated. He'd be willing to coordinate a tour of the NEWPRO facility. The proposal claims the plant will produce just 10% of current air pollution. Annual sampling is inadequate with regards to getting accurate results. What are the <i>actual</i> emissions? Suggestion from Bryan: Would drone monitoring work? Christoph has looked into this and technology that may be able to read particulate matter is being developed.</p> <p>Action: Eric will send a short note to Ben Weinstein about a desire for more frequent monitoring.</p>

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	<p>Integrated silviculture strategy meeting update The November 16th meeting focused on future projections of cause and effect on silviculture/wildlife/water based on current harvesting mechanisms. Climate change and assisted migration were addressed, but the meeting was primarily centred on silviculture and failed to focus on other values. Integration means looking at all the resources, not just timber supply/products. The act of planning is valuable on its own, although information gaps (e.g. regional variance) are problematic.</p> <p>The role of the CRB moving forward (parting thoughts from Paddy Hirshfield) The CRB was originally intended to serve as a steward of the Land and Resource Management Plan. Board is not as close to the district and land use decisions as it once was, so strengthening relationships with the district might be a good goal. We need to re-establish our relationship with government and to receive a refresher on the LRMP. The pressures of the day have shifted towards climate change, cumulative effects, and First Nations land rights. Over time, there has been a desire to become more of a strategic board, but we must be mindful not to overlook the basics and the original mission of the CRB. Any request for an information exchange with the district needs to be specific and targeted. <i>Paddy is willing to consult with the CRB on this engagement effort.</i></p>
Old Business	<p>Public Engagement The board needs to gather information about the cost and logistics of running a booth at the Trade Show and Fall Fair. The CRB could pair with another group to share costs (e.g. Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corp; Smithers Exploration Group, Lorie Farrell)</p> <p>Action: Christoph will look into requirements for organizing a booth at the Fall Fair. Action: Cor will connect with the Town about securing a booth at the Trade Show. Action: Eric will gather information about marketing/display materials that could be used at these booths.</p> <p>Approve content within the UREP letter Motion to approve the UREP letter with the removal of the third paragraph. It should also be signed by Eric as Acting Chair. Seconded and carried.</p> <p>Action: Eric will finalize and send the letter to Ben Heemskerck.</p>
Administration	<p>Support for the CRB Administrative needs for the CRB include taking meeting minutes, support to ensure action items are done on time, and website updates (including archiving minutes). The Bulkley Valley Research Centre (via Joanne Sear</p>

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	<p>with support from Melissa Sawatsky) is willing to serve this purpose. The board will assign minute-taking and website updates/archiving to the BVRC, but retains control over Facebook page updates.</p> <p>Action: The BVRC will follow-up with needs for training in these tasks.</p> <p>Outcome of member recruitment ads in the Interior News Ads have run for four of the last five weeks. No (complete) applications have been submitted thus far. Word-of-mouth is usually the most effective form of recruitment. The BVRC (Melissa) will assist with promoting new member recruitment again in the new year.</p> <p>Identify who will receive referral information on behalf of the CRB Eric offered to be the point person for referral information. Paddy will send along all the information required to set this up.</p> <p>Board signing authorities Signing authorities need to be updated at the BV Credit Union. The CRB will be <i>removing</i> Paddy Hirshfield, and Bob Mitchell as signing authorities and <i>adding</i> Ron Vanderstar and Cor van der Meulen. The new signing authorities will be: Eric Becker (Acting Chair), Ron Vanderstar (Treasurer) , Cor van der Meulen.</p> <p>Paddy Hirshfield's term on the board is finished as of this meeting. Mathias Westphal and Bob Mitchell both formally resigned from the board. Farewell to all and thank you!</p> <p>Meeting space The Driftwood Room is not approved for use by the CRB at this time. Discussed utilizing the BVRC office, or booking a board room with the Town.</p> <p>Action: Joanne will ask Rick Budhwa if the BVRC office could be used by the CRB going forward.</p>
Items for next meeting	Presentation from Smithers Exploration Group; proposed budget from Ron; public engagement mechanism
Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM. Next meeting January 17, 2017, (location TBD), 7:00 PM	