Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes

Meeting Date: January 13, 2009. Meeting convened at 7:00 PM, Alpenhorn meeting room, Smithers, BC

Board Members Present: Greg Storie (Chair), Don Goalder, Dave Stevens, Jeff Anderson, Anne Harfenist, Rob Boyce, Taylor Bachrach, Peter

Tweedie, Ben Heemskerk, Jill Dunbar (Executive Assistant)

Regrets/absent: Wayne Tofsrud, Jack Hagen, Max Starr

Presenter: Liz Williamson **Visitors**: Gary Quanstrom

Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By When
Agenda review	Agenda discussed. Add: Zobnick Road referral.	Accept agenda as revised.	Board Members	This meeting
Review of minutes of Dec 9, 2008	Minutes discussed.	Minutes accepted as presented.	Board Members	This meeting
Presentation on: Extensive Agriculture Applications: Eligibility and Process Liz Williamson, Senior Land Officer, Agriculture and Lands, Smithers	"Extensive Agriculture Applications" refers mainly to hayfield applications. Eligibility factors: Applicant must be an existing farmer and owner of private farm land; the application must be within 15 km of the existing farm base; and 50% of the arable area of the private farm land must be in active cultivated production. There are exceptions, which are evaluated by Lands. Process: A PAg should be hired to prepare a development plan. The application is then sent to referral agencies. Responses are compiled, and a field inspection is done. The LRMP is consulted. Features such as riparian areas and access are looked at. If approved, the new parcel is bound to the existing farm and they would have to be sold together. Parcels are available for lease or sale. Purchase price is current market value. Timber on the parcel is priced at estimated market value. The holder can apply to purchase the land as long as 25% of the arable land is under cultivation. Sometimes covenants are placed on the land if protection of specific features is needed. Legal surveys are sometimes required if areas must be set aside, e.g. for wildlife habitat. Surveys are costly and alternative methods are being looked at.			

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Action items, Dec 9, 2008 minutes	1. Incorporate comments and restructure draft response to Blue Pearl waste water discharge application.	Letter sent.		
	2. Prepare draft submission re: BC Trails Strategy; circulate.	Discuss later this meeting.		
	3. Finalize RAMP user groups letter and send out.	Discuss later this meeting.		
	4. Investigate Rogers tower circumstances.	Discuss later this meeting.		
	5. Prepare draft response re Trail to Town parking for Board comment.	Discuss later this meeting.		
	6. Letter to IAMC: Follow up in January if no response received by then.	Discuss response from ILMB later this meeting.		
	7. Get background information and ask for a brief (half hour) presentation from Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust on the monitoring framework.	Contact the BWMT	Greg	Next meeting
	8. Submit comments on draft BVCRB brochure to Taylor.	Discuss later this meeting.		
Subcommittee Reports/Issues/Corresponde nce	1. Mining and Energy Development Thompson Creek Metals Davidson project: Rob: Mining has slowed down. The Davidson project EA application is on hold. Individuals/agencies that provided input may or may not get responses. The Big Onion project is shelved. Dome – some small-scale work is going on. Lone Pine – shelved as well.			

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	2. Recreation Letter to user groups re: RAMP: Distributed today. BC Trails Strategy: Dave presented draft response. Discussion: BVCRB would like to participate as pilot study. Much of the required groundwork has already been done. Gary Q: Vold report should be mentioned – it presents a case for RAMP completion. Letter should be cc'd to Bruce Fraser, Chair of the Forest Practices Board.	Circulate draft.	Dave	ASAP
	3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture Greg: Harvesting in the Community Forest has begun. PIR is logging beetle-attacked wood and some small salvage patches.			
	4. LWBC Referrals and Land Tenures The Rogers communications tower: Was there a referral process? It is located within the Controlled Recreation Area and therefore handled by Terry Pratt in Kamloops. Community Plan letter: Len Vanderstar copied his comments on the Smithers Draft Official Community Plan	Contact Terry Pratt for background on this issue	Peter	Next meeting
	to the BVCRB, for interest only. Zobnick Road referral: The Trail to Town is now open and parking at the bottom of the run must be provided. Dave explained the situation and how it might affect residents in the area, particularly with respect to water quality. A well and a spring in close proximity to the proposed parking area would be in jeopardy of being polluted. BVCRB response to this issue is needed.	Circulate draft response.	Dave	ASAP
	5. Water and Fish: No new business.			
	6. Monitoring and Land Use Plans Letter to SRMC (Skeena Regional Management Committee) regarding LRMP monitoring: Response was received from ILMB. SRMC reports to IAMC	Invite Tom Bell, Chair of the SMRC, to discuss at a	Greg	Next meeting

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	(Interagency Management Committee). A direct response from IAMC is needed. BVCRB should write directly to IAMC or request a meeting, to discuss how agencies plan to uphold LRMP monitoring commitments. Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust: This group wishes to make a presentation to the Board regarding their monitoring framework. They plan to implement the framework and prepare an annual monitoring report for their area of interest.	meeting. Contact the BWMT	Greg	
Administration	Funding: There is no news on funding availability for the BVCRB from ILMB. Website: Statistics regarding level of use are available for	Send link to statistics	Jill	
	Board review.	info to Board		
Other business	Membership: Members likely to retire from the BVCRB are Peter, Max. Members leaving could try to recruit replacements.	Absent members to advise Greg of their intentions and recruit replacements.	Board Members	Next meeting
	Brochure: Comments have been received and work on brochure is progressing. Nametags: Nametags are ready for use at public meetings and presentations.	Finalize brochure and circulate for Board approval.	Taylor	Next meeting
	Kelly Giesbrecht's thesis: In 2003, Kelly wrote her thesis titled <i>Public Participation in Resource Management: The Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board.</i> Discussion: Perhaps Kelly should be invited to a meeting to present her conclusions and recommendations.	Contact Tom Bell first re: LRMP monitoring, then consider inviting Kelly to a meeting.	Greg	
Meeting adjourned 8:40 PM Next Meeting	February 9, 2009 7:00 PM, Alpenhorn Meeting Room.			