

**Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes, December 15, 2015.** 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, Christoph Dietzfelbinger, Cor van der Meulen, Karen Price.** Executive Assistant: **Jill Dunbar**

**Absent with notice: Ruth Lloyd**

**Absent without notice: Joey Welch**

Item	Discussion
<b>Agenda review</b>	<b>Agenda approved as presented.</b>
<b>Review of minutes, Nov 17, 2015 meeting</b>	<p><b>Minutes:</b>            New Business, Land sale in Quick area: Action is that Paddy will discuss with FLNRO and will report back to the BVCRB.            New business, Summer RAMP: Len Vanderstar will attend the December meeting to discuss this. This statement is deleted.</p> <p>Administration, Credit Union Account:            BVCRB signing authority changes have been taken care of. This statement is amended to:</p> <p>Moved by Paddy Hirshfield: Jack Hagen and Jeff Anderson are no longer approved as BVCRB signing authorities. Signing authorities for the Board are to be revised so that Bob Mitchell, Paddy Hirshfield, Karen Price and Eric Becker hold BVCRB signing authority.            Seconded by: Karen Price.            All in favour.</p> <p>Action: Jeff Anderson, Bob Mitchell, Paddy Hirshfield, Karen Price and Eric Becker must visit the BVCU to sign necessary paperwork.</p> <p>The November minutes are approved with the above changes.</p>
<b>Action items from the minutes</b>	<p><b>1. NewPro Pellet Plant Proposal:</b> <i>Paddy will request further clarification from the DDM, based in Kamloops, on the scalability of the permit.</i></p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> The permit can be scaled by up to 10% of the new permit. The permit has not yet been approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emissions are self-reported and not monitored at the stack. The air quality monitoring station is in town, near St. Joe's school. It is difficult to tell if changes in emissions are due to one facility or not. Ministry of Environment is able to check at the stack but must give advance notice to the company.</li> <li>• The Board could request monitoring. We should decide if this is something that we want to take on. It needs to be within our mandate.</li> </ul>

Item	Discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We generally look at issues outside the town boundaries. There are many other effects that aren't monitored as well.</li> <li>• It is fair to say that we are concerned. They might be able to detect a trend.</li> <li>• Who monitors and who pays for it?</li> <li>• The company might be OK with monitoring. They have said that emissions will be much lower under the new permit.</li> </ul> <p>Action: The BV Airshed Society will be invited to the January meeting, to describe their activities and discuss potential synergies. The pellet plant proposal will be discussed.</p> <p>Action: Follow-up with FLNRO will depend on response from the BV Airshed Society. The Board may want to find out what monitoring is being conducted and how it is being done. The Board may want to ask what monitoring is being done at other facilities and if plans are being successfully followed.</p> <p>Action: Karen will follow up with Ruth regarding coarse woody debris impacts/changes that may result from the proposal. Paddy will work with Karen and Ruth on this.</p> <p><b>2. Firewood Cutting:</b> <i>Bob Mitchell will check with Karen Price regarding status of the letter.</i></p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board should follow up with FLNRO that there should be adequate firewood collection areas. Ideally people are directed to places where they can get firewood and be in compliance.</li> <li>• This is a legitimate use of forest land, but there are concerns.</li> <li>• It can reduce integrity of certain zones.</li> <li>• Some of this is commercial firewood cutting.</li> <li>• There are no objections to the draft letter, which is at a strategic level, and deals more with ecosystem integrity.</li> <li>• Hopefully we can follow up with FLNRO about the firewood cutting issue specifically.</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Website:</b> <i>Jill will ask Spark Design for a quote for adding a search function.</i></p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> Quote has been circulated to members. Action: Jill will check with Spark re: details of search capability.</p> <p><b>4. Telkwa Wildlife Habitat Area:</b> The order hasn't been signed yet. Information is available in the November minutes for members who were absent from that meeting.</p> <p><b>5. VRAMG process:</b> Update: Facilitator is consolidating members into 6 "value" groups. There won't be much action taken to protect the caribou until this group reaches consensus.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> Access is within the mandate of the BVCRB. We are involved to an extent since two Board members are</p>

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
	<p>at the VRAMG table. Is this an adequate level of involvement?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If that group can reach consensus it is OK with us.</li> <li>• There is a suggestion that all access be by permit. This has been tried in the past with varying levels of success.</li> <li>• Enforcement is a part of any solution.</li> <li>• We could act as arbitrator – we have RAMP history and are concerned with the outcome.</li> <li>• We could invite the facilitator at a later date, once some progress has been made, and then decide if we want to change our involvement.</li> </ul>
<b>Old business</b>	<b>Membership:</b> There is a need to be clearer about what values we are looking for in member recruitment. Having specific projects will help in recruitment, and a resource person could assist with this as well.
<b>Administration</b>	<p><b>Resource person:</b> Are members in favour of hiring an employee to assist with letter writing, raising the BVCRB profile, liaison with government, and planning events? Perhaps in partnership with the BV Research Centre?</p> <p>Action: Paddy will draft a job description for Board member review.</p>
<b>Items for next meeting</b>	<b>VRAMG update, BV Airshed Society, Summer RAMP update</b>
<b>Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM. Next meeting January 19, 2016, Skeena-Stikine District office, 7 PM.</b>	