

# **BV Community Resource Board – Final Minutes**

Feb 17, 2025

Present:

Directors: Ron Vanderstar, Anne Hetherington, Ted Vanderwart Secretary: Sue Brookes  
Guests: Nicolas Dormaar  
Public: Kevin Tyler, Jay Gilden (Stewardship Coalition), Eric Klasson (Forestry)  
Regrets: Director John Fisher

Next Meeting: March 17, 7pm, Smithers Council Chambers 2025

Meeting convened at 7:05pm

**Chair: Anne Hetherington**

**Everyone in the room introduced themselves.**

## **Agenda Items:**

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Forest Lndscape Planning
3. Appointment of a New Director
4. Interpretations of Old Growth
5. Discussion of the Canyon Creek Ski Area letter to the Honourable Ravi Parmar
6. Hudson Bay Mountain Smithers Mountain Bike Association
7. Correspondence
8. Other Discussions

## **Announcements**

The Bulkley-Morice Forest Landscape Planning open house in Smithers.

See dates for a Granisle and Houston open house and more at:

<https://planninginpartnership.ca/p/6758cee82522fa00393c2975/commenting>

## **1. Treasurer's Report**

There are no changes from November except for recent billing from the recording secretary. We have an operating budget of roughly \$5000.00.

Motions to adopt the Dec 2024 and Jan. 2025 minutes are deferred until further corrections and consensus.

## **2. Forest Lndscape Planning**

Nicolas reported there was a good turn-out at the Granisle open house. It seems those present wanted clarity on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act as it pertains to land use planning.

Anne attended the Wildlife for Tomorrow AGM and reported that Cattlemen raised the issue of predator control. Anne forwarded the Montana Fencing Guidelines website for reference. This led to

discussion on how to include cattlemen on the Board so we can more effectively address range issues.

**Action Item\*\***

- 1) Sue to draft a letter to Cattlemen suggesting methods for their involvement. Anne and Ted in favour of a draft letter.
- 2) Anne to contact the Kalum Public Implementation Committee (PIC) about contributing to the FLP Forestry Working Group

### 3. Appointment of a New Director

Kevin Tyler. Kevin's nomination form has been received and reviewed. Based on earlier consent by the oversight committee regarding the appointment of Directors, there was a majority vote to endorse his application. Welcome Kevin. There has been no recent return mail from our oversight committee.

Further discussion about invitations to the cattlemen and some Quick ranchers ensued. There was acknowledgement we need to continue recruiting Directors from a diverse representation of the community.

**Action Item\*\*** Sue to respond to the lady from the Cattlemen and the Quick Folks from our last meeting Greg Young, Jesse Sheffield.

### 4. Interpretations of Old Growth

**Action Item\*\*** Invite Cam, Bentley (Bulkely Cassiar District Manager and FLP lead), and Tara Dunphy (FLP contact) to review and discuss.

- a) Operational old-growth interpretations and direction need to be clarified. Age only, without consideration of structure and composition, are not in keeping with the LRMP's intent. Wider, science-based review is needed.
- b) The documents used for ecosystem and seral stage definitions for LRMP were: *Field Manual for Describing Terrestrial Ecosystems 1<sup>st</sup> Edition. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Land Management Handbook, 2010 25, joint publication form B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range and B.C. Ministry of Environment (2010) ISBN 978-0-7726-6357-3 (PDF) or -6 (print version)*. The footnote says age-criteria in determining old-growth is a starting point, but more important is the composition and structure of the stand. There are also questions around old-seral representation and the status of deferred old-growth areas.

### 5. Discussion of the Canyon Creek Ski Area letter to the Honourable Ravi Parmar

**The Canyon Creek Ski Association** is looking for protection of Rec. Site 3562, in McKendrick Pass. The society is asking for designation under Section 169 of the BC Forest Act and endorsement of their authority and other societies to make their own determination concerning forest harvest by a licensee in BC and road building impacts.

The Canyon Cr (McKendrick Pass) ski area is a different location than the Thye Mountain WHMA and likely too high an elevation for goshawk. It was noted that logging in a ski area is possible so long as people work together, respect values and have a plan.

Questions:

- what is the Total Chance Plan (spatial, multi-rotational)?
- what is the plan for Old Growth in this area?

Recommendations from the Board:

- write to Brandy Hughs, BC Rec. Sites and Trails, Daryl Whelan, BCTS cc Mike Wylie
- how is their plan meeting the intent of the LRMP?
- how will the integrity of the area be met over time so recreational use and investment are maintained?

#### **Action Item\*\***

Sue to draft a letter from the Board to and get Ted's input. This needs consensus by email or in meeting before being mailed. Anne to communicate with Ron regarding the draft.

### **6. Hudson Bay Mountain Smithers Mountain Bike Association**

Comments:

- The old hiking trail needs to be included in the recreational area development plan
- this is an opportunity to show leadership for the BVCRB Board
- we should invite HBM and other parties to sit down and map it spatially
- we are all seeking better outcomes
- this is not constant with the LRMP
- how do you deal with vested interests?

### **7. Correspondence**

**1)** response to the letter to Glen Buhr (MOF) re: Review of Land Use Designation for Area FID #79 dated Nov. 15, 2024.

Directors heard we may have over reached but we did get better communication within Provincial departments as a result. It's generally accepted among Directors we cannot keep carving up the land and we need to think more holistically when it comes to landscape planning.

- wildlife trails are found on the flat land above riparian gulleys, not on the steep slopes - is this considered in spatial planning?
- what consideration is there for landslides and erosion? what about slope-stability is there a spatial reference map?
- the Board encourages more fieldwork

**2)** Letter by email from the Terrace Community Forest Project, signed by Robert Hart.

Comments:

- Community Forests are doing good work using small Swedish harvesters – forwarders. Single cutting permits enable creative logging solutions.
- learning and sharing information between the Kalum Public Implementation Committee and the Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board, and Community Forests is encouraged.

### **8. Other Discussions**

Ganoque Creek - a historical review.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.