

# BV Community Resource Board – Final Minutes

Mar 21, 23

Present: John, Eric, Jeff, Bob, Sue, Matt, Ron

Guests: Anne, David

Regrets: Ted, Christoph

Chair: Jeff

Recording: Sue

Next Meeting: Apr 17, 7pm, Smithers Council Chambers, 2023

Meeting convened at 7:05pm

## Organizational

Review of minutes.

A **motion** to approve the February minutes was made: All were in favour.

David Hooper was present and gave a brief introduction and history of his involvement with the BVCRB in the past. He wants to be involved in future conversations - he is most concerned about wildlife habitat.

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)

## 1. Correspondance:

Email: A crown land application File Number 6409405 arrived in Mar 2023.

### Summary:

Satutory Right-of-Way. Intended Land Use/background context: Application is for an electric power line statutory right-of-way to service 5183 Whistler Road, Smithers. Application area is approximately 12 meters wide by 50 meters. A power line is existing, no new construction is planned other than routine maintenance.

> Size (Area) in ha. (approx.): 0.06

Our comment back is:

- it doesn't look like it would have a big impact, it sounds fine

### Details:

- This property is owned by Helen Hanson.

- It's interesting that the parcel was sold via the Real Estate branch of the Province. It was Crown Land, bordering the RDBN, but we would expect to have other designations existing on this parcel (like on the Woodmere Property mentioned later).

- We need a map to reference this parcel fully.

## Action Items\*\*\*

1. Jeff will get a BCeID from Ben Heemskerk.

2. Jeff will also relay our verbal acknowledgement and comment of the File 6409405.
3. Sue will also relay our verbal acknowledgement and comment of the File 6409405 through the email contact though without a BCeID.
4. Jeff will also try to find a map at the office and circulate to Directors.

## 2. **Treasurer Report**

About \$10 000 in the bank, web hosting fees are due shortly.

Jeff's personal email and the [info@bvcrb.ca](mailto:info@bvcrb.ca) address can be used for accounts like BC Web.

### **Discussion:**

Previous funders include Hellen Hanson of the Cassandra Foundation, Wetzinkwa Community Forest, the Real Estate Foundation and other donors. There are no current fundraising efforts!

## 3. **Review of Action Items**

### **Open:**

1. The BV CRB should consider making an official request for recognition in all Landscape Planning initiatives.

### **Discussion:**

1. Ag lands are on private property so those section 16 and 17's designations were not cancelled.
2. WHMA's, fish and wildlife habitats and other conservation lands were cancelled. They are all part of AAC.
3. There are about 12 or 13 known landscape plans in the Valley with more announced recently.

## 4. **Discussion Topics**

### 1. **Project Monitoring Panel**

- This was brought to the attention of Board Members please refer to your email.
- It concerns Tenas Coal and discussion will be by email or deferred to the next private Board meeting.

### 2. **Deception Lake Rd. (Woodmere)**

Discussion of the private property mentioned in Cam's Feb. 2023 presentation:

- This lot refers to Gary Hanson's polygons, this was within the old growth deferral Technical Advisory Panel.

- Wildfire risk reduction plans do not apply to private land. This is a gap. These lands are undergoing pruning and/or being parkified.
- David, our guest knows this parcel.
- Directors would like a field trip.
- The owner is Dean Ellmore and is willing to share his lessons learned.
- The pellet plant wouldn't take the wood because the owner wouldn't guarantee certain replant or silviculture terms adhered to by the pellet industry.

### **Action Items\*\*\***

1. Jeff to try to plan a field trip or make contact with David and the owner. Perhaps May? Also perhaps we can tie it into a report on the effectiveness of the LRMP?

### **3. Recruiting Members**

- Whom are we missing? Agricultural considerations, motorized vehicle use? Should we send out an email direct to these individuals?
- West Fraser has been commendable supporting the Board and the intent of the LRMP.

### **Action Items\*\*\***

1. Sue to update and post the nomination form.
2. Keep recruiting by word of mouth.
3. Matt to breach the topic with a member of Quad Riders.

### **4. Guest Presentations**

What about Witters and inviting Eugene for a guest presentation? He has a reputation as someone who actively works with natural ecosystems.

### **Action Items\*\*\***

1. Jeff to invite Eugene for a future presentation and make it topic specific.

### **5. Guest David's concerns**

- David is looking into the links between private land and crown land in aide of maintaining winter ungulate habitat. We are losing habitat so fast that we are losing ungulate food sources. David is considering land tax breaks for managing for wildlife. He has forwarded these ideas to RDBN Director Area A. He also wants to see the planting of Dogwood. As a founder of Wildlife for Tomorrow he is also using this group to incent private land owners though criteria is still being established.
- We are asked for an edorsement of this application. Is this an action Item?
- A Director volunteered to know what he knows about planting Dogwood. Expect a 90% failure.

- This relates to a Jeff Anderson project about flood plain river reductions. Jeff did an assessment of the social values and value of environmental service. IE Flood mitigation and wildlife habitat combined add value to the provision of service. Landowners should be recognized economically.

## 6. Discussion about the effectiveness of managing landscape corridors.

- Fail: what was envisioned for the first Land Use Plans has not materialized on the land.
- Border lands and other sections are managed as patchy clearcuts and not coordinated as strategic landscape corridors.
- The 30% removal concept was taken advantage of, there was no monitoring and no consequences for harvesting in excess of this amount.
- There are 6 pillars of biodiversity in first pass and the ..discussion was ???
- Land use plans in future should look at those original 6 pillars.
- There has never been an increase in biodiversity ratios despite models allowing for increased timber supply.  
ie growth/yield analysis, forest inventories always increase
- There is never credit for lowering the timber supply impact, timber is present but it is not significant. The math has never been impartial, this analysis is always performed by the Province.
- Using existing net downs are generally considered volume reductions that impact AAC. They are not credited nor utilized as opportunities for selective cuts or other management models.

## 5. News

Bob submitted 2 project ideas to the BV Research centre.

1. Look at the demo forest and gauge/measure success of maintaining certain values.
2. Look at wild fire risk reduction strategies, overlap with other designations the old growth and how does a remaining stand remain as old growth?

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next Meeting Date: April 17, 2023