

BV Community Resource Board

Minutes May 19, 2025

Present:

- Directors: Anne Hetherington, Kevin Tyler, Ron Vanderstar
- Recording Secretary: Sue Brookes
- Public: Les Ellis, Skeena Cattlemen’s Association, Petra McDougall
- Regrets: Director; Ted Vander Wart, Nicolas Dormaar

- Introductions.
- Appointment of a Chair.
- Review of additional agenda items and approval of the agenda.
- Informal Discussions with Guests.

Acronyms:

- Action Items: AI
- Forestry Working Group: FWG
- Land Resource Management Plan: LRMP
- Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship: WLRS

Next Meeting: September 15, 2025 7pm, Smithers Council Chambers

Meeting convened at 7:05pm

Chair: Kevin Tyler

Everyone in the room introduced themselves.

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1. Treasurer's Report

Nothing new to report. New projects would need a fundraising campaign.

2. Referrals

Lands File Numbers: 6409512

Proponent: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BCH)

Tenure Type: Temporary Licence, Utility, Miscellaneous. Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) responded to our inquiry: "The proposed temporary license area parallels BCH's existing transmission line. Would you be interested in meeting with BCH to discuss their investigative plans?"

Action Item AI** Sue to respond yes we would like a presentation and ask about the hydrology specifically. Is it just a widening or a parallel line? We will have other questions prepared.

Action Item (AI)** Sue ...Look into the authorizations and see how we can improve referrals, for example one improvement would be to reference to LRMP map or management areas, perhaps using the Tantalus base more? Where is our master plan with maps?

3. Motions

1. Motion to approve the March 17, 2025 Minutes - deferred.
2. Motion to approve the April 21, 2025 Minutes - deferred, Anne has comments.
3. Motion "to reach out in a formalized way to past members to join the discussion." Ron made the motion, Anne seconded. All were in favour.
4. Motion to have an extra special meeting for the bear biologist if need be. Ron made the motion, all approved.
5. Motion to approve the appointment of Petra to the Board. Anne made the motion, Kevin seconded and all approved.

4. Correspondence

Draft letter to the District Manager of the Skeena Region is under consideration:

The Cattlemen Association like the Board's opening letter regarding conflict in Grizzly interfaces and mentioned that a hunt, though contentious, will likely be proposed by some. It was agreed we should invite the Provincial biologists with a specialty in bear populations. Action Item** Anne is to provide edits to the letter.

Discussion noted that conflict can be created by only one bear. It's possible in the Blunt that the conflict last year was the result of one bear. Experienced trackers, first hand accounts and experienced hunters could help determine this, find and the bear and/or family and target that bear specifically.

5. Recruiting

A motion was made to follow up on Jeff Anderson's suggestion to reach out for new members and connect with past members to see if we can establish continuity with the original CRB concept. We can use the FLP to make a new link. The problem is still how to get representation from developers and users with little incentive to participate.

Action Item** Sue draft wording outlining our approach and how we plan to engage in land use planning via workshops. Ask previous members to report on their experience of problematic and successful interpretation and implementation of the LRMP. Their experience will be documented. We are also looking for people to help with forest landscape planning by joining the FWG and First Nation consultation. If you had to prioritize a few issues what would they be? We also want a representation of a diversity of community values.

6. Canyon Creek Ski Area, LRMP planning Unit 6

In regard to the inquiry about development plans for Recreation site (REC 3562) **Canyon Creek Ski Area**, LRMP Planning Unit 6: Darrell Whelan, RPF Ministry of Forests, Babine replied "I've passed it along to our planning staff and they will be able to review and respond to your request." Darrell: [250] 845-6812, darrell.Whelelan@gov.bc.ca A brief background was provided.

7. The Forestry Working Group

Main points are:

- The municipalities (Houston, Granisle, and Smithers) are interested in participating in the FLP process as well. Ideally they are included in the discussions around FLP. Nick has been working with Tara Dunphy from the Ministry of Forests to connect the BVCRB and Municipal Governments. The aim will be to create a formal route for local government and local groups, such as the CRB, to provide feedback into the FLP process.

Anne met with the FWG and Nick on May 7 to discuss scope, objectives and logistics of Forest Landscape Planning outreach and workshops. Anne presented a summary of the discussion. She also stressed the importance of having operational and knowledgeable, viable solutions available for the planners.

8. Events

Next BVCRB Directors Meeting June 16.

Hudson Bay Mountain Public Forum May 27th, 6pm, Smithers Brewery

9. Review of Action Items

task	who
Draft for the Board a request of members to report on their experience of problematic and successful interpretation and implementation of the LRMP. Their experience will be documented.	Sue
Look into the authorizations and see how we can improve referrals, for example one improvement would be to reference to LRMP map or management areas, perhaps using the Tantalus base more? Where is our master plan with maps?	all
Draft a letter for Ron and Board to approve, in support of using the spatial modelling app: Patchworks in the Bulkley TSA. Add a blip about what happened with the Bulkley Valley integrated silviculture strategy - under Glen Buhr - this was supposed to have a spatial component what happened?	Anne
FLP Forestry Working Group (FWG) meetings, this is ongoing with Anne as the coordinator and Nic, a contributor and representing the Wet'suwet'en First Nation	Anne and Nic
Once we get approval on the final copy, send a letter to the District Manager (DM), Skeena Forests regarding the BC Cattlemen Association concerns with Grizzlies.	Sue
BC Environmental Office (EAO) - Ted will be the liaison	Ted
Drop a print copy of the agenda and relevant documents to Ron's house prior to the start of the next meeting.	Anne

Adjourned 9:00pm.