

# BV Community Resource Board - Final Minutes

Nov. 20, 23

Present: Ted, John, Eric, Sue, Bob and Matt

Regrets: Christoph

Guests: Kalum PIC joined members by Zoom and the following joined in person:

Anne Hetherington	anneehetherington@gmail.com
Dave Hooper	babinedave@yahoo.ca
David Belford	ravendgb@yahoo.ca
Debbie Wellwood	deb@ravenecological.com
Jay Gilden	J.gilden2@gmail.com
Kevin Tyler	
Kyle Kurulan	<a href="mailto:snowmobile.smithers@gmail.com">snowmobile.smithers@gmail.com</a>
Mitch Flower	<a href="mailto:mitchflowers@gmail.com">mitchflowers@gmail.com</a>
Norbert Klassen	goughck.3@gmail.com
Russ Boyd	<a href="mailto:snowmobile.smithers@gmail.com">snowmobile.smithers@gmail.com</a>
Stefan Schub	
Zack Bernard	zach12bernard@gmail.com

Next Meeting: Dec. 18, 7pm, Smithers Council Chambers, 2023

December agenda items as they are now are at the end of this document.

Meeting convened at 7:05pm

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)

Everyone in the room introduced themselves and expressed an interest in talking about the Conservation Land Cancellations. The Board began the meeting with a Financial Report.

## Financial Report:

We are recruiting a Treasurer but Ron will stand for now.

We have roughly \$9000 in the bank, enough to cover operating fees for the upcoming year.

Ron gave a brief spiel on finding funding possibilities but they are mostly tied to projects and involve small amounts of money. If we were to undertake some major land use planning or mapping exercise we would have to source the funding.

## Guest Presentation:

### Debbie Wellwood

Deb gave her commendations on the good work of the Boards historically. She shared personal experience in land use management and proposed some ideas as to how the board should engage in land use planning moving forward.

Deb mentions at a high level there is transformation especially in local and regional transportation. It's going to take the best to transform the Provincial culture, recruit the young and new to community land use planning.

### **Comments from the Public:**

1. Nobody wants to take existing knowledge of a scientific or first hand experience to heart and actually make informed change.
2. Community Land Use planning needs to bridge the general public and First Nations. A government to government relationship with First Nations fails to provide for a fully informed or inclusive process.
3. We can be more effective with improved networking, gathering a common voice.

### **Referral:**

Alexis Jorgensen MSc., Ecologist, Shifting Mosaics Consulting M: (431) 335.0554, [shiftingmosaics.com](http://shiftingmosaics.com)

Alexis is asking about land values on the Provincial ID's, SKE\_16\_589, SKE\_16\_412, and SKE\_16\_644. The company has been hired by BCWS to do some prescribed fire planning in the Telkwa area (working with Adam Burdett).

**Action Item\*\*\*** Ted will volunteer to help cross reference these lands. There should be site specific values and connectivity issues. Directors thought the parcels are probably an 02 or 03 ecosystem. Sue and Ted will refer her to the LRMP and other Deep Creek references.

### **WHMA Cancellations:**

Directors read and tried to review a joint letter circulated to the board for Minister Cullen and DMO Lori Halls. It was difficult to get Board approval with the feedback from the public so some revisions were discussed and discussion will ensure through email.

Ron provided us background on the letter. It is in response to a letter addressed to Greg Knox of the Skeena Wild Trust, from Lori Hall's office.

In that May 19 letter, Ms. Lori Halls states

"the Skeena Region of WLRS is currently undertaking a strategic overview of its Conservation Lands program, and a priority element of this is seeking to reinstate temporary Land Act designations over areas of conservation interest. Applications for reinstatement will be submitted to a statutory decision maker under the Land Act in the Ministry of Forests, requesting 5 year terms for Section 16s or 17s, or permanent Notations of Interest, depending on the land parcel. This is an interim measure that will allow Skeena WLRS staff the time to undertake applications for designations such as Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Government Action Regulations (GAR) or other legislative tools to best match the management intent for a particular area."

The public also gave background on the original planning process and details involved. Generally it seems the audience agrees with the sentiment that there was a plan but there is no adherence or forward

traction on protection of these values. There is a lack of political interest in learning the details of many of these plans and protection measures.

Others present also have letters going to the same office noting the Province is specifically cherrypicking language. Transferring these lands to a Wildlife Management Area is a possible solution. WMA's are definitive in term and would appear on status checks.

Other proposals for these land designations include:

- Asking for the one shape file in particular that has refined boundaries.
- Asking for section 16's be moved under 4.2.1 and we demand and review a draft management plan.
- We need is a spatial plan. Patchworks is a software that works plotting clearcuts and partial cuts so you can see how the landscape will look in future. The Board may be able to piggy back on the work of the Goshawk group and use this software to quantify land use impacts. It's highly visible.
- Inviting House Chief's to attend a Patchworks workshop may bring the discussion around.
- Opening communication with the Office of the Wetsuwet'en around the land cancellations may also allow for collaboration.

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

Sue to make some minor changes to the letter and recirculate it to the undersigned.

### **Other Discussions:**

Q: What is the FLP process and status? There is a pilot Bulkley Morice FLP.

The Board has been in contact with the Province about participation.

There is an expression of frustration with the exclusion of the Board in planning processes.

Q: Is there a new reorganization of the ministries? What is the organizational change?

No clear answers.

Q: How do we become an organization that has clout? Serious fundraising and determining what people want.

Q: FSP, the Forest Stewardship Plan shouldn't it be the FDP, the Forest Development Plan?

Money and profit are big drivers in any office or government agency. These rewards can sideline even the best plans.

The diversity of the Members and Directors of the CRB allow for open minded, non biased frank discussions.

### **Motions Discussed**

Motion 1: Deferred to the December meeting. The appointment of Anne as a board member. Her bio was circulated in email.

Motion 2: Deferred to December's meeting. The consensus of the Board as an undersigned on the letter of Nov. 22, 2023 on the subject of: Skeena and Bulkley Cancellation of Conservation Lands.

Motion 3: Approval of the Sept. 18, 23 minutes. All were in favour.

**Next meeting: Dec. 18, 23**

- 1) Guest Dean Daly on the land use designation for FID79 as an area for potential future agricultural development. Dean Daly, RPF, Woodlot 1481, [deanrdaly@gmail.com](mailto:deanrdaly@gmail.com)
- 2) Cam Bentley and Marisa, on WRR success and long term planning. 10 minutes approximately and q&a (10 min.)
- 3) Tara and Cam would like to be added to the agenda to talk about the BMo FLP process that has officially been kicked off. 20 minutes. <Cam.Bentley@gov.bc.ca>
- 4) Election of new Directors.

**Action Item\*\*\*** Sue to confirm with Cam's office and Dean that these presentations would be welcome.

Action Items: See the next page for the full list.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm.

<b>task</b>	<b>who</b>	<b>date</b>
A letter to FN's to help maintain a biodiversity plan to help maintain something functional in Old Growth	need volunteer	May 2023
Invitation to Sybille Haeussler to speak on weather it would be appropriate to continue research on Phase 2 and 3 in the Babine or select another watershed, based on work originally done for the Babine landscape Unit	Bob suggested	Dec 4, 2023
Referral A values at risk assessment stated that the potential burn area overlaps with the following features from the Buckly Land and Resource Management Plan (Legal feature Provincial ID): *SKE_16_589,SKE_16_412 ,SKE_16_644	Ted and Sue	Nov 18, 2023, <a href="mailto:alexis@shiftingmosaics.com">alexis@shiftingmosaics.com</a>
Invited for Dec. 18th: Sarah Campbell, Licensed Authorizations Officer to present on WRR success and long term planning. Also address private property proximities.	open	Jun 2023, <a href="mailto:sarah.1.Campbell@gov.bc.ca">sarah.1.Campbell@gov.bc.ca</a>
Invitation to Curtis Paul: re Tyee Mountain WHMA, breeding area for predicted Goshawk Territory, also an Old Growth Habitat designation - there seems to be 3 unresolved layers.	Jeff	2023
Breach recruitment topic with a member of Quad Riders.	Matt	Mar/April 2023
Keep recruiting by word of mouth.	All	Mar/April 2023
Larry Marsden, Gitxsan Hereditary Chief, Fireweed Wilp?, responded to letter - sue connect him and Eric.	All	March 23
Scan for funding pockets for alternative solutions to burning. <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/services/science/innovation/funding.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/services/science/innovation/funding.html</a>	Sue	Dec 2022
Summer RAMP	all	