

PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MEETING

A G E N D A

for the meeting to be held on Thursday, November 27, 2014 in the
Regional District Office Boardroom, 1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC
commencing at 9:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order: Director Goodings to Chair the meeting
2. Adoption of Agenda:
3. Reports:
 - R-1 November 24, 2014 - Chris Cvik, Chief Administrative Officer, regarding Project Update #2 - Sub-regional Water Function and Sub-regional Septage Handling Function
4. Adjournment:



Peace River Regional District REPORT

To: Electoral Area Directors

Date: November 24, 2014

From: Chris Cvik, CAO

Subject: Project Update #2: Sub-Regional Water Function and Sub-Regional Septage Handling Function

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based on the outcome of a conference call with all four Electoral Area Directors on November 24, 2014, Administration was directed to bring forward a report with the following recommendations:

1. That the three readings on October 9, 2014 of "Potable Water Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2167, 2014", be rescinded.
2. That the three readings on October 9, 2014 of "Domestic Sewage and Septage Receiving Facility Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2168, 2014", be rescinded.
3. That the three readings on October 9, 2014 of "Potable Water Facilities Construction Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 2169, 2014", be rescinded
4. That the three readings on October 9, 2014 of "Domestic Sewage and Septage Receiving Facility Construction Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 2170, 2014", be rescinded.
5. That the following Board Resolution No. RD/14/07/36(24) be rescinded:

"That the Regional Board support the use of the Alternative Approval Process (AAP) for the creation of a sub-regional water function and sub-regional sewage function."
6. That Administration prepares a report for the Boards consideration on holding a separate referendum for each Electoral Area to allow each Electoral Area to vote on whether or not they support the establishment of a proposed Potable Water Service and a proposed Domestic Sewage Service.

November 27, 2014

Staff Initials:

Dept. Head:

CAO:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Cvik".

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BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

At the PRRD Board Meeting on July 24, 2014, the Board approved three recommendations that were brought forward from EADC. The recommendations were in support of creating new sub-regional water and sewer functions that include all four electoral areas as a benefiting area. The recommendations are shown below:

<p>R-12</p> <p>July 17, 2014 – Karen Goodings, Chair, Electoral Area Directors’ Committee – Recommendations from the July 17, 2014 Electoral Area Directors’ Committee Meeting.</p>	<p>SUB-REGIONAL WATER FUNCTION AND SUB-REGIONAL SEWAGE HANDLING FUNCTION</p> <p>RD/14/07/34 (24)</p> <p>MOVED by Director Jarvis, SECONDED by Director Bumstead,</p> <p>That the Regional Board support the creation of a sub-regional water function that includes all four electoral areas within the service area. CARRIED.</p>
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<p>Recommendation No 2</p>	<p>RD/14/07/35 (24)</p> <p>MOVED by Director Bumstead, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,</p> <p>That the Regional Board support the creation of a sub-regional sewage function that includes all four electoral areas within the service area. CARRIED.</p>
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<p>Recommendation No 3</p>	<p>RD/14/07/36 (24)</p> <p>MOVED by Director Jarvis, SECONDED by Director Plowright,</p> <p>That the Regional Board support the use of the Alternative Approval Process (AAP) for the creation of a sub-regional water function and sub-regional sewage function. CARRIED.</p>
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Further to the above, at the PRRD Board Meeting in Chetwynd on October 9, 2014, the Board approved \$50,000 Feasibility Funds for advertising and public meetings on the proposed new services:

R-17 October 3, 2014 – Feasibility Study	FEASIBILITY FUNDS – PROPOSED ELECTORAL AREA WATER AND SEWER SERVICES RD/14/10/19 MOVED by Alternate Director Shuman, SECONDED by Director Johannson, That the Regional Board approves \$50,000 Feasibility Funds for the advertising, promotion, cost of holding public meetings and other ancillary costs associated with the proposed “Domestic Sewage and Septage Receiving Facility Service” and the proposed “Potable Water Service”. CARRIED.
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The Feasibility Funding was based on the following project timeline:

October 2014

- October 9 – PRRD Board Meeting. Present draft service establishment bylaws to the Board for three readings to create the new services. Present the required Loan Authorization Bylaws for three readings also. Bylaws submitted for ministry approval.
- October 16 – Present a draft presentation to the EADC on the Community Conversations presentations that will be used to let residents know about the proposed new services.
- October 20 – November 30 – Conduct approximately fourteen (14) Community Conversation Meetings.

December 2-14

- December 1 – December 12 – Run required statutory public notices for two consecutive weeks in local newspapers and additional advertising as appropriate.
- December 15 – January 14, 2015 – The thirty (30) day Alternative Approval Process (AAP) period for receiving elector responses is in effect.

February 2015

- February 12, 2015 – PRRD Board Meeting. If AAP is successful, present the service establishment and loan authorization bylaws to the Board for consideration of adoption.
- February 13 – 23 – 10 day period for notice of application to court to quash loan authorization bylaw

March 2015

- March 12, 2015 – PRRD Board Meeting. Award tender for Sewage Facility for Charlie Lake.
- March 26, 2015 – Alternate date to award tender for Sewage Facility for Charlie Lake.

Since the meeting on October 9th, Administration completed a total of fifteen (15) - Public Information Meetings. A total of 357 rural residents attended the meetings.

November 27, 2014

Feedback from the Public Information Meetings.

Feedback from the 15 meetings is best grouped together under three (3) main themes:

1. Dislike of the Alternative Approval Process (AAP). Rural residents felt that a Referendum Process should be used to look at the proposed services.
2. Dislike of including Land as part of the taxable assessment upon which rural residents would be taxed. Rural residents felt that any tax should be on Improvements only.
3. Dislike of the idea of paying for water and sewer services by residents who are already self-sufficient in either or both of the proposed services. Rural residents felt that residents who require the proposed services should be the ones that pay and not residents across all four rural electoral areas.

There was also concern from some residents above the total cost of the loans – twenty millions dollars which would be repaid over a ten-year period.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

The introduction of a sub-regional potable water and/or sewage function was not identified when the Strategic Plan was approved but has become a priority item due to the decision of the City of Fort St. John to close the Wastewater transfer station.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):