



**PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: February 20, 2014
TIME: 10 a.m.
PLACE: Regional District Office Boardroom, Dawson Creek, BC
PRESENT:

Directors: Karen Goodings, Electoral Area 'B' and Meeting Chair
Arthur Hadland, Electoral Area 'C'
Leonard Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D'
Jerrilyn Schembri, Electoral Area 'E'

Staff: Shannon Anderson, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jo-Anne Frank, Corporate Officer
Fran Haughian, Communications Manager / Commission Liaison
Kim Frech, Chief Financial Officer
Barb Coburn, Recording Secretary

1) Call to Order Chair Goodings called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

2) January 16, 2014
Agenda

MOVED by Director Hadland SECONDED by Director Hiebert
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee agenda for the February 20, 2014 meeting,
including additional items, be adopted:
Call to Order: Director Goodings to Chair the meeting
Director's Notice of New Business:
Adoption of Agenda:
Minutes:
M-1 Electoral Area Directors' Committee Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2014
Business Arising from the Minutes:
Delegations:
Correspondence:
Reports:
R-1 February 4, 2014 Report from Fran Haughian, Communications Manager / Commission Liaison
regarding 2014 Communications Plan
New Business:
NB-1 Farmer's Advocate office
NB-2 Cost of Propane
Diary:
Adjournment:

CARRIED.

MINUTES:

3) M-1
EADC meeting minutes of
January 16, 2014

MOVED by Director Hiebert, SECONDED by Director Schembri,
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee Meeting minutes of January 16, 2014 be adopted.
CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING:

4) BA-1
re: Electoral Area Directors Meetings (C-1 Jan. 16/14) and Local Government Leadership Academy Meeting (C-2 Jan 16/14)

Director Hadland gave an update on the Electoral Area Directors meetings held in Richmond on February 4 and 5, 2014. They were well attended by electoral area directors throughout the province. The first meeting was regarding concerns directors had about municipalities expanding city boundaries. The second part was regarding the local government leadership academy. They were both well worth attending. He recommended that any electoral area director that has the chance should definitely attend these meetings in the future.

5) BA-2
re: Doctor Shortages and Assisted Living (NB-1 Jan 16/14)

The Directors were asked for direction regarding the logistics of holding community meetings to discuss options for retaining medical professionals. It was suggested that one or two local doctors be invited to provide their success stories as well as representatives from Northern Health to discuss options to address the shortage of doctors in the area.

It was further suggested that representatives from Save Our Northern Seniors (SONS) be invited to meet with the Board. Also representative from a few private assisted-living facilities such as Surerus Place in Chetwynd, the facilities in Le Crete, Alberta, and the one in Prespatou for input on their successes and the processes that are used at those facilities. Staff advised that a draft workshop proposal would be produced for the Directors' review and comment.

6) BA-3
re: BC Hydro outages (NB-3 Jan 16/14)

In response to a query regarding inviting BC Hydro representatives to a Regional Board meeting, the directors were advised that Administration is in the process of contacting the proper representatives. The issue of the availability of BC Hydro generators as back-up power supply in case of lengthy outages in the north was discussed. It was mentioned that BC Hydro had written a letter to Tim Caton, retired Electoral Area 'E' director, advising him that it was not Hydro's responsibility to provide alternate emergency power to the residents of BC. Chair Goodings requested that a copy of the letter be available for when the representatives are at the meeting (in order to be prepared but not part of the agenda).

REPORTS:

7) R-1
2014 Communications Plan

Fran Haughian, Communications Manager / Commission Liaison discussed the proposed 2014 Communication Plan with the Directors. She presented various ideas and requested input from the Directors.

This year will be the last time the Regional District will be allowed at tradeshow in as the organizers are restricting participants to business ventures only; however, there could be a Regional District presence at some of the local fairs. It was suggested that a display unit of some sort could be created to exhibit at the various venues.

The Regional District has an excellent relationship with the media in the region. They have been cooperative and have offered to provide free spots throughout the year for the directors to provide updates on activities in their areas.

The directors suggested the following:

- find an alternate phrase for 'community conversations';
- hold one or two meetings in various communities of each electoral area per year;
- do newsletters for each electoral area to place as an insert in local newspapers for distribution to the residents; and
- for consistency, have the first contact for media queries be the Communications Manager. If necessary, a draft response and/or speaker notes would be prepared for the Directors.

NEW BUSINESS:

8) NB-1
re: Farmer's Advocate
office

MOVED by Director Hadland, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,
That the Electoral Area Directors Committee recommend to the Regional Board that the
provincial government be requested to commit to funding toward the farmer's advocate office for
a term of three years.

CARRIED

9) NB-2
re: Increased Propane
Costs

After a lengthy discussion, by consensus, the Directors requested that Chair Goodings draft a
North Central Local Government Association resolution and present to the Regional Board on
Thursday, February 27, 2014 regarding the recent rapid cost increases for propane; for ultimate
forwarding to Union of BC Municipalities as it is causing quite a hardship in this area, especially
for seniors who are already struggling with the cost of living.

10) Adjournment

MOVED by Director Hiebert, SECONDED by Director Hadland,
That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Karen Goodings, Chair

Barb Coburn, Recording Secretary