



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: August 25, 2016

PLACE: Regional District Office Boardroom, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT:

Directors

Chair McPherson, District of Tumbler Ridge
Vice-Chair Sperling, Electoral Area 'C'
Director Ackerman, City of Fort St. John
Director Bumstead, City of Dawson Creek
Director Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'
Director Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D'
Director Johansson, District of Hudson's Hope
Director Nichols, District of Chetwynd
Director Stewart, City of Fort St. John

Alternate Directors

Alternate Director Houley, Electoral Area 'E'
Alternate Director Michetti, Village of Pouce Coupe
Alternate Director Ponto, District of Taylor

Absent

Director Fraser, District of Taylor
Director Lavoie, Village of Pouce Coupe
Director Rose, Electoral Area 'E'

Staff

Chris Cvik, Chief Administrative Officer
Shannon Anderson, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Paulo Eichelberger, General Manager of Environmental Services
Bruce Simard, General Manager of Development Services
Fran Haughian, Communications Manager / Commission Liaison
Bryna Casey, Parks and Rural Recreation Coordinator
Aden Fulford, GIS Coordinator
Kole Casey, South Peace Land Use Planner
Brenda Deliman, Recording Secretary

Presenter

Dr. Gilles Wendling, GW Solutions Inc.

Call to Order The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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CW/16/08/01

MOVED Director Nichols, SECONDED Director Stewart,

That the Peace River Regional District Board agenda for the August 25, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting, including additional items for the agenda, be adopted as amended:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Presentation**

10:00 a.m.

- 3.1 GW Solutions Inc.
Re: Water Quality Baseline Project Update
Dr. Gilles Wendling

4. **Report**

Handout:

- 4.1 August 25, 2016 - Recommendations from the Water Stewardship Committee

5. **Adjournment**

CARRIED.

PRESENTATION:

3.1

GW Solutions Inc. –
Dr. Gilles Wendling

WATER QUALITY BASELINE PROJECT UPDATE

GW Solutions Inc. provided an update on its Water Quality Baseline Project. Topics included:

1. Water Quality Baseline
 - Data and Tools (data sources, stations and samples)
 - Comparison to Guidelines (federal and provincial)
 - Water Quality Index (spatial visualization, comparison, trend analysis)
 - Detailed Analysis / Results (Scatter, Piper, Mekko plots)
 - Surface Water / Groundwater Interaction
 - Regional Context – Human Activities
 - Barium in Groundwater (concentration trends)
 - Conclusions and Recommendations
2. Physical Hydrogeology
 - Approach
 - 3D model and aquifer mapping
 - Groundwater levels

PRESENTATION: (continued)

3.1 (continued)

WATER QUALITY BASELINE PROJECT UPDATE (continued)

A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- Seasonal effects
- Geoscience BC aerial survey data / other data sources
- Concentration of barium
- Natural fractures
- Suitable water sources for communities / water treatment
- Artesian wells
- Monitoring wells

REPORT:

4.1 (Handout)
August 25, 2016 -
Recommendations
from the Water
Stewardship
Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WATER STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

CW/16/08/02

MOVED Director Sperling, SECONDED Director Ackerman,
That the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Regional Board:

1. That the Board acknowledges and affirms that it is the Province who is ultimately the steward and regulator for water in the Province of BC, and that the Province recognizes that the quantity and quality of our water supply is essential to public health and sustainable communities, and that, the PRRD has received the report regarding the studies done on watersheds in the Peace, which will be posted for public use; and
2. That the newly developed data base be presented to appropriate regulators and provincial decision makers and request that, in collaboration with the PRRD, a review of all updated information be completed biannually in order to continue with trend analysis; and
3. That the Province be encouraged to share with the public, all new water information in a timely manner; and
4. That the Province, through the North East Water Strategy Working Group (a working group that includes input of local knowledge on water initiatives), determines at risk watersheds or parts of watersheds and conducts further assessment to identify causes and create mitigation strategies; and
5. That the BC Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations be requested to create regulations to characterize and monitor the movement of fluids in the intermediate zone between the depths of 500 meters and 2,000 meters; and
6. That the Province be requested to implement monitoring programs to continue to define water baselines both for quantity and quality in areas of the region that are poorly defined or monitored; and

REPORT: (continued)

4.1 (continued) RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WATER STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
(continued)

CW/16/08/02 (continued)

7. That the PRRD host three public meetings to communicate these recommendations and any advancements on them.

CARRIED.

Recess The meeting recessed at 11:40 a.m.

Reconvene The meeting reconvened at 11:50 a.m.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

CERTIFIED a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regional Board of the Peace River Regional District from a Committee of the Whole meeting held on August 25, 2016 in the Regional District Office Board Room, Dawson Creek, BC.

Don McPherson, Chair

Chris Cvik, Chief Administrative Officer