



# PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 25, 2013

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Regional District Office Board Room, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT:

**Directors**

Chair Goodings  
Director Hiebert  
Director Johannson  
Director Nichols  
Director Caisley  
Director Fynn  
Director Jarvis

**Alternate Directors**

Alternate Director Houley  
Alternate Director Shuman

**Absent**

Director Christensen  
Director Schembri  
Director Bernier  
Director Hadland

**Staff**

Fred Banham, Chief Administrative Officer  
Shannon Anderson, General Manager of Environmental Services  
Jo-Anne Frank, Corporate Officer  
Bruce Simard, General Manager of Development Services  
Kim Frech, Chief Financial Officer  
Trish Morgan, Manager of Community Services  
Fran Haughian, Communications Manager / Commission Liaison  
Brenda Deliman, Secretary, Legislative Services

**Others**

Loretta Vause  
Mary Miller  
Les Semple  
Denis Dechief  
Hellmut Patzelt  
Irene Merrick  
Bert Veiner  
Anne Clayton  
Phil Haight  
Brian Derfler  
Darwin Wren, Tumbler Ridge  
Will Stodalka, Dawson Creek Daily News  
Al Hankins, Dawson Creek  
Ruth Skafte, Fort St. John  
Allan Schwarze, Fort St. John

Ken Vause  
John Miller  
Olaf and Diane Jorgensen  
Mike and Aspen Fraser  
Nick Parsons  
Ruth Veiner  
Joe Breti  
Dave Neal  
Chad Anderson  
Jill Earl  
Garry Loiselle, Dawson Creek  
Cheri Hankins, Dawson Creek  
Thor Skafte, Fort St. John  
Kurt Peats, Dawson Creek  
Andrea Dion, CJDC

**D-1**

Bert Veiner, South Peace Landowners Association

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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

2) Adoption of Agenda        CW/13/04/01 (25)  
MOVED by Director Nichols, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,  
that the Peace River Regional District agenda and handouts for the April 25, 2013  
Committee of the Whole meeting, be adopted:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Delegation**  
10:30 a.m.
  - 3.1 Bert Veiner, Director, South Peace Landowners Association  
Re: Attached Letter Regarding Farmers' Advocacy Office
4. **Business Items**
  - 4.1 Farmers' Advocacy Office
    - (a) Report from Fred Banham, CAO
    - (b) MOU – NEBC Farmers' Advocate
    - (c) Independent Land Information and Advocacy Office (Farmers' Advocate) Review 2012
    - (d) Request for Service (Invitation to Quote) Independent Land Information & Advocacy Office (Farmers' Advocate Office)
    - (e) Petition to Reinstate the Farmers' Advocacy Office
    - (f) Correspondence Received re Farmers' Advocacy Office  
*Handouts: Additional Correspondence (1)*
    - (g) Copy of Peace River Regional District response to letters
  - 4.2 Agricultural Land Commission Delegation Agreement  
Report from Bruce Simard, GM of Development Services
5. **Adjournment**

Director Jarvis entered the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

3) 4.1 (a)  
April 12, 2013 – Fred  
Banham, Chief  
Administrative Officer –  
Farmers' Advocacy  
Office Service Review

Fred Banham, Chief Administrative Officer, provided a summary of the 'Farmers' Advocacy Office Service Review' as outlined in his report to the Board dated April 12, 2013.

The complete report is available for viewing on the April 25, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda on the Regional District website:

<http://prrd.bc.ca/board/meetings/agenda/documents/AGENDA.pdf>

- 4) 3.1  
Bert Veiner – Director -  
South Peace  
Landowners  
Association
- The delegation thanked the Peace River Regional District for the opportunity to present the petition and for providing funding to the Farmers' Advocacy Office (FAO). He stressed that landowners and the community as a whole benefit from the FAO when it's in operation. Landowners are not opposed to industry and development but it's important that landowners have someplace to go for assistance, and can come up with an agreement that is fair and understood. The FAO provides valuable information, not just in terms of finance, but conditions that landowners must abide by. With 4-5 year contracts being negotiated for well-sites it is felt even more acutely that the FAO must be open in our area. The FAO needs to be maintained under the 2009 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and function properly. An office with a meet and greet system is not needed. New agreements have been written and thousands of dollars have been lost to the landowners in the area. The delegation asked for the speedy reinstatement of the FAO under the 2009 MOU.

A copy of the delegations' letter to the Regional Board is available for viewing on the April 25, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda on the Regional District website:

<http://prrd.bc.ca/board/meetings/agenda/documents/AGENDA.pdf>

- 5) Permission to Speak CW/13/04/02 (25)  
MOVED by Director Ackerman, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,  
that Anne Clayton, Aspen Grove Property Services and prior FAO service operator, be given permission to speak from the gallery.
- CARRIED.**

Anne Clayton shared her concerns regarding:

- the wording in the current Request for Service; and
- the FAO office becoming a meet and greet operation; and
- the vetting policies of the FAO Management Committee.

- 6) Discussion
- The following is the list of concerns, examples and recommendations brought forward during the discussion period:
- Memorandum of Understanding
  - Concerns that the FAO may become a meet and greet operation
  - Definition of "Advocacy"
  - Importance of FAO Service
  - Confidentiality agreements and terms of disclosure
  - Access to surface lease information.
  - Role of the Management Committee
  - FAO independence from government and the oil and gas industry
  - FAO obligations to the FAO Management Committee
  - Request for Service. The initial request for service was a call to contractors to create a model for service and the current request for service is a call to contractors to deliver that service.

6) Discussion CW/13/04/03 (25)  
(continued) MOVED by Director Johansson, SECONDED by Alternate Director Houley, that the Regional Board consider that the language describing the operational scope of work contained in the 2009 Farmers' Advocacy Office, Request for Service be incorporated into the 2013 Farmers' Advocacy Office, Request for Service.

**CARRIED.**

7) Adjournment CW/13/04/04 (25)  
MOVED by Director Ackerman, SECONDED by Director Nichols, that the meeting adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 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 April 25, 2013 in the Regional District Office Board Room, Dawson Creek, B.C.

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Karen Goodings, Chair

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Fred Banham, Chief Administrative Officer