



# PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING** **MINUTES**

DATE: January 23, 2020

PLACE: Regional District Office Boardroom, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT:

**Directors**

Chair Sperling, Electoral Area 'C'  
Vice-Chair Rose, Electoral Area 'E'  
Director Bumstead, City of Dawson Creek  
Director Courtoreille, District of Chetwynd  
Director Fraser, District of Taylor  
Director Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D'  
Director Michetti, Village of Pouce Coupe  
Director Zabinsky, City of Fort St. John

**Alternate Directors**

Alternate Director Hansen, City of Fort St. John  
Alternate Director Kirby, District of Tumbler Ridge  
Alternate Director Miller, District of Hudson's Hope

**Absent**

Director Ackerman, City of Fort St. John  
Director Bertrand, District of Tumbler Ridge  
Director Heiberg, District of Hudson's Hope

**Staff**

Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer  
Lyle Smith, Chief Financial Officer  
Kelsey Bates, Deputy Corporate Officer  
Paulo Eichelberger, General Manager of Environmental Services  
Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community Services  
Kevan Sumner, General Manager of Development Services  
Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager  
Gerritt Lacey, Solid Waste Services Manager  
Trevor Ouellette, IT Manager  
Loryn Day, Solid Waste Coordinator  
Jennifer Baddeley, NDIIT Intern  
Brenda Deliman, Recording Secretary

**Delegations**

4.1 Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
Dale Morgan and Tara Forest

4.2 Morrison Hershfield  
Veronica Bartlett

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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

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CW/20/01/01

MOVED Director Hiebert, SECONDED Director Goodings,  
That the Peace River Regional District Board agenda for the January 23, 2020  
Committee of the Whole meeting, including additional items for the agenda,  
be adopted as amended:

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Adoption of Agenda**
- 3. Gallery Comments or Questions**
- 4. Presentations**
  - 4.1 Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
Re: Land Transfers Update: Blueberry River and Sauleau First Nations  
Dale Morgan, Regional Manager  
Tara Forest, Regional Negotiator
  - 4.2 Morrison Hershfield  
Re: Regional Solid Waste Management Plan – Waste Diversion Options  
Veronica Bartlett, Solid Waste Manager
- 5. Reports**
  - 5.1 January 23, 2020 – Paulo Eichelberger, General Manager of Environmental Services – 2019 Recycling Services Contract Financial Report
  - 5.2 January 14, 2020 – Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager – Resource Industries in Northeast BC
  - 5.3 January 13, 2020 – Lyle Smith, Chief Financial Officer – 2020 Economic Development Grant Requests
  - 5.4 January 16, 2020 – Kevan Sumner, General Manager of Development Services – Temporary Use Permit Alternatives
- 6. New Business**
- 7. Media Questions**
- 8. Adjournment**

**CARRIED.**

**GALLERY COMMENTS / QUESTIONS:**

**MINISTRY OF INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION – LAND TRANSFERS: BLUEBERRY RIVER FIRST NATIONS**

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- GC-1 Graham O’Day spoke to Item 4.1 (Land Transfers Update), specifically regarding the proposed Red Creek land transfers to the Blueberry River First Nations. Mr. O’Day questioned why the Red Creek parcels were being proposed as they were not of cultural significance, and advised that letters of concern and a petition with 1,800 signatures had been forwarded to the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation with no response.
- GC-3 Joy Smith provided further comment on the proposed Red Creek land transfers to the Blueberry River First Nations. Ms. Smith requested that Ministry meetings and open houses regarding the proposed land transfers be postponed until further information had been made available to the public. She also shared concerns that the proposed parcels were not of significance to the Blueberry River First Nations.
- GC-3 Clarence Apsassin introduced himself as a Blueberry River First Nations band member and elder. Mr. Apsassin affirmed that the proposed Red Creek parcels were not traditional lands of the Blueberry River First Nations and requested that a proper consultation be held with all voting band members. Mr. Apsassin advised that a consultation would show that the majority of band members did not want the Red Creek parcels.
- GC-4 Ross Bannerman voiced his opposition to the proposed transfer of Charlie Lake lands to the Blueberry River First Nations. Mr. Bannerman shared his concerns that the land transfer would lift environmental protections currently placed on the parcels by the Province for the protection of the watershed, which could open the door to development and adversely impact the lake and its residents.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

- 4.1 **BLUEBERRY RIVER AND SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS LAND TRANSFERS**  
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation – Dale Morgan, Regional Manager, and Tara Forest, Regional Negotiator
- The Committee of the Whole was provided with an overview of Blueberry River First Nations Land Transfers from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. Topics included:
- Types of land transfers (Treaty Land Entitlement, Site C Land Agreements)
  - Land transfer process
  - Stakeholder engagement process
  - Blueberry River First Nations parcels (Charlie Lake, Red Creek)

**PRESENTATIONS: (continued)**

4.1  
(continued)

**BLUEBERRY RIVER AND SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS LAND TRANSFERS  
(continued)**

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A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- Legal risk and obligation
- Process to purchase land
- Process to make local government whole
- Shortfall vs additional lands
- Additions to Reserve
- Stakeholder engagement (proposed dates for open houses)
- Statutory decision making
- Joint claims
- Watershed reserve (environmental certificate)
- Environmental site assessments

CW/20/01/02

MOVED Director Fraser, SECONDED Director Zabinsky,  
That the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Regional Board invite Dale Morgan, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, to attend a Committee of the Whole meeting to present on the Blueberry River and Saulteau First Nations proposed land transfer parcels.

**AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING**

Motion to Amend

CW/20/01/03

MOVED Director Fraser, SECONDED Director Zabinsky,  
That the motion be amended by:

- adding 'schedule an additional Committee of the Whole meeting on February 13, 2020, and' following 'Regional Board'
- removing 'to attend a Committee of the Whole meeting'.

**CARRIED.**

Motion as Amended

The Chair Called the Question to the Motion as Amended:

“That the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Regional Board schedule an additional Committee of the Whole meeting on February 13, 2020, and invite Dale Morgan, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, to present on the Blueberry River and Saulteau First Nations proposed land transfer parcels.”

**CARRIED.**

**PRESENTATIONS: (continued)**

- 4.2 REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN – WASTE DIVERSION OPTIONS  
Morrison Hershfield  
- Veronica Bartlett,  
Solid Waste  
Manager
- The Committee of the Whole received a presentation from Morrison Hershfield on potential waste diversion options to consider for inclusion in the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. Topics included:
- Waste diversion (reduce, reuse, recycle and compost)
  - Proposed guiding principles
  - Waste diversion strategies (reduce / reuse, improve recycling and organics diversion)
  - Reduction and reuse strategies (lobby for reduced single-use packaging, public outreach campaigns, clothing donation bins, reuse and repair events, green procurement policy)
  - Recycling strategies (Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs, public education on recycling, Industrial, Commercial & Institutional (ICI) waste diversion, collection/drop-off of hazardous waste, recycling of agricultural plastics and construction / demolition waste and mattresses)
  - Organics diversion strategies (processing, curbside collection)
- A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:
- Peace Region Makerspace Society
  - Reducing use of single-use plastics (corporate swag)
  - Types of single-use plastics (bread, freezer and garbage bags)
  - Agricultural plastics
  - Waste-to-Energy
  - Food waste diversion
- Recess  
The Chair recessed the meeting for luncheon and the Regional District Board meeting at 12:00 p.m.
- Reconvene  
The Chair reconvened the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

**REPORTS:**

**REPORTS FOR DEFERRAL**

CW/20/01/04

MOVED Director Fraser, SECONDED Alternate Director Hansen,  
That consideration of the following reports be deferred to the February 13,  
2020 Committee of the Whole meeting:

- Item 5.1 (2019 Recycling Services Contract Final Report)
- Item 5.2 (Resource Industries in Northern BC)
- Item 5.4 (Temporary Use Permit Alternatives)

**CARRIED.**

5.3

January 13, 2020 –  
Lyle Smith, Chief  
Financial Officer –

**2020 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT REQUESTS**

The Committee of the Whole considered Item 5.3 (2020 Economic  
Development Grant Requests) and discussed economic development for  
2020. Topics included:

- Participation in projects (levels of financial participation)
- Municipal council input
- Use of PRRD logo
- Health professional recruitment initiatives

By consensus, the Committee of the Whole agreed to continue the economic  
development discussion at a future meeting to provide the Municipal  
Directors with time to discuss grant requests with their Councils.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.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 January 23, 2020 in the Regional District Office Board Room, Dawson Creek, BC.

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Brad Sperling, Chair

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Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer