



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BURNS LAKE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON Thursday, March 15, 2018 AT 6:00 PM

PRESENT

Mayor C. Beach
Councillor K. Holliday
Councillor C. Rensby
Councillor S. Schienbein
CAO S. Worthing
Deputy Corporate Officer R. Billard

GUESTS

Brent May – District Manager – Nadina District – Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

PUBLIC

11 members of the public

MEDIA

None

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor C. Beach called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded by Council

2018-03-20: 139

THAT the Agenda for this meeting be approved.

CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DELEGATIONS

Brent May – District Manager – Nadina District – Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

- Council discussed the pine beetle mitigation strategy and constraints.
- Council discussed values embedded in the LRMP, including VQO areas, old growth areas and wildlife connectivity areas.
- Council discussed Ministry support and their ability to be flexible with amendments.
- B. May discussed the previous community forest management plan.
- B. May discussed a previous AAC uplift set artificially high to allow for the harvest of mountain pine beetle.

- B. May said the uplift applied only as long as the community forest were staying out of connectivity corridors and VQO areas.
- B. May discussed community forest access to VQO areas and connectivity corridors.
- B. May said he has not seen the community forest's new management plan, so he could not make comment on it.
- Council discussed the Ministry's ability to amend VQO areas as the community forest has completed a lot of work to locate timber values.
- B. May discussed timelines for the approval process.
- B. May discussed timelines to amend old growth management area management plans.
- B. May said the Ministry is not in a position to do a blanket exemption for VQO areas.
- There was a discussion about fire risk and mitigation work.
- There was a discussion about feedback required from the ministry on three letters from the community forest.
- There was a discussion on the history of VQOs areas in the Lakes TSA.
- There was a discussion on the mountain pine beetle epidemic.
- B. May said the fire hazard is debatable as there is so much aspen around town.
- B May discussed the fire risks from slash and standing dead pine.
- B. May discussed social values.
- B. May discussed organizing a presentation to council about wildfire modelling.
- B. May discussed the economic feasibility of logging in VQO and wildlife connectivity areas.
- Council discussed economic sustainability.
- Council discussed red tape and decision-making.
- B. May discussed a TSR analysis and said it is interesting to see how little volume there is in the VQO and wildlife corridors.
- Council discussed the community forest's harvest for 2018 and 2019.
- F. Varga discussed finding common ground with the Ministry.
- B. May discussed the approval process.
- B. May said the Ministry would like to see the community forest be successful, however a lot of what is being requested is not simple straightforward issues.
- There was a discussion about the District Manager's power to amend.
- B May discussed Cabinet approval to change GAR orders.
- Council discussed the wildfire risk, VQOs and area based tenures.
- B. May discussed the VQO process and said changes require public consultation.
- Council discussed the Babine Mill rebuild.
- B. May discussed harvesting on slopes over 40 per cent in the Lakes TSA.

- B. May said a data package will be seen hopefully within three weeks and said the Ministry will come and do a presentation to Council as soon as it has been released.
- Council discussed holding regular monthly or bi-monthly breakfast meetings with the District Manager.
- There was a discussion about fireguards in towns in the Cariboo district.
- B. May discussed Granisle's plan to work on a on a 1 kilometre fire ring.
- Mayor Beach thanked Brent May for coming to the meeting and answering all Council's questions.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Miles Fuller – PO Box 114, Burns Lake.

- M. Fuller discussed the LRMP and pine beetle epidemic.
- M. Fuller discussed VQOs in the LRMP document.
- M. Fuller discussed retention polygons.
- M. Fuller said this rotation would take 600 years and trees do not live that long.

Richard Vossen – 5113 East François Lake Road.

- R. Vossen discussed the positive effects of harvesting dead pine.
- R. Vossen discussed the community forest's high level of certification.
- R. Vossen discussed declining timber values.
- R. Vossen discussed salvage.
- R. Vossen discussed the need for change.
- R. Vossen discussed wildfire mitigation and risk.

Miles Fuller – PO Box 114, Burns Lake.

- M. Fuller said not everyone in the area lives in Burns Lake.
- M. Fuller said the Lakes TSA has whole farms surrounded by 80 per cent dead pine augmas.
- M. Fuller said all the losses from a wildfire would be in rural areas.

Richard Vossen – 5113 East François Lake Road.

- R. Vossen discussed logging near Babine and said every twig is going to Babine Forest Products and Pinnacle Pellet and that it is a very clean operation.

Ken Neilson – 26271 Tatlerose Road.

- K. Neilson discussed cattle farm values.

Frank Varga – PO Box 553, Burns Lake.

- F. Varga discussed the TSR package for the district.
- F. Varga discussed the AAC for the community forest.
- F. Varga discussed the community forest's management plan.
- B. May said the Lakes TSA has the largest community forest in the province and none of that volume is included in the TSR and that it is all separate.

A member of Council indicated their support for the community forest's management plan.


AJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded by Council

2018-03-20: 140

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:49 pm.

CARRIED



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER

Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council for the Corporation of the Village of Burns Lake held on Thursday, March 15, 2018.