



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF MOUNT WADDINGTON  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

February 20, 2018

RDMW Office – 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, BC

---

**PRESENT:** Chair Andrew Hory; Directors Shirley Ackland, Jan Allen, Hank Bood, Dennis Buchanan, Cathy Denham, Dave Rushton, Heidi Soltau, and John Tidbury and Alternate Director Marnie Chase.

**REGRETS:** Jeff Long – Manager of Planning and Development Services

**STAFF:** Greg Fletcher – Administrator; Patrick Donaghy - Manager of Operations; Theresa Flynn - Treasurer; Pat English - Manager of Economic Development; Patrick Donaghy - Manager of Operations, Louisa Bates - Recording Secretary; Joli White (Tourism Coordinator)

**DELEGATIONS:** Clint Cadwallader, John Flintoff and Kindry Mercer, Western Forest Products; Calum Matthews, Tourism Vancouver Island; Ben McGibbon, 43K Wilderness Solutions

**MEDIA:** Kathy O'Reilly, The Eagle Newspaper; Hanna Petersen, The North Island Gazette Newspaper

**PUBLIC:** 2

---

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Hory called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- Adoption of February 20, 2018 Agenda.

*Request to Amend the February 20, 2018 agenda to reflect presentation from Calum Matthews, Tourism Vancouver Island to follow Manager of Economic Development report.*

Moved/Seconded/Carried  
THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

**B. DELEGATIONS**

1. Clint Cadwallader, John Flintoff and Kindry Mercer – Western Forest Products

*The delegates gave a presentation titled "WFP updates: North Island Road Safety Plan, Honouring the Englewood Train, North Island Log Flow, and the VIU Forest Fundamentals Program." The presentation was later circulated digitally; additional points noted below were in response to questions.*

*North Island Road Safety Assessments*

- *Assessment includes considerations of variabilities including the speed of traffic, traffic patterns, and identifying safety concerns and how these points of contact relate to safe operating procedures for logging truck drivers.*
- *Road conditions were not included as part of the scope of the assessment. Highest priority considered safety first, road maintenance was not considered as part of the safety assessment.*
- *Is not the deterioration of the road conditions based on the activity not a significant element of ongoing safety on the roads? At what point will there be an impact study*

024/2018  
AGENDA  
APPROVED

on the road conditions, therefore impacting road safety? A: To be addressed later in presentation.

#### *Driver safety protocols/Convoy Prevention/Driver Performance/Training*

- *Driver safety protocols will include using pull-outs when there is excessive traffic behind a truck (3 or more vehicles).*
- *The proposed development of a fatigue management system is on top of presently existing measures.*
- *Primary areas of focus were identified with WFP knowledge and feedback from the consultant used to prioritize areas, incorporate factors like speed & sightlines.*
- *WFP estimated that the daily volume of trucks is: Woss to Beaver Cove – 18 company trucks and equivalent in contractor volume averaging 2/ ½ loads a day, [equivalent to 90 runs, 1 way]; Jeune Landing – Holberg – Port McNeill – 17 highways trucks [equivalent to 42 runs, 1 way] and with removal of fat trucks from gravel roads, anticipate an increase to as high as 25 trucks for North Island operations [equivalent to 62 runs, 1 way]; Port Alice 7 trucks with Barge maintenance related issues adding 2 additional trucks for up to 9 [equivalent to 22 runs, 1 way]. Considerations included volume of traffic, density of traffic, etc. Hauling volumes will vary seasonally (lower in winter than spring/summer) number varies across the North Island, across dry land sorts and log flow. Will be up to 7 days per week.*
- *Expectation of success for the new training program will be less than 100% success but WFP has been working with employees to provide additional opportunities to make use of people and keeping local members involved in the industry.*
- *Dave Sutherland has been contracted to conduct 3<sup>rd</sup> party assessments, provide driver inspection and equipment inspections, and act as road safety officer to support the fleet and drivers. WFP receives driver abstracts annually.*
- *Does the procedures and safety protocols apply to the additional contractors as well? WFP works with its contractors, although they have their own safety protocols; Phase contractors follow WFP program and legalities around implementation for 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractors are complicated.*

#### *Logging Truck Identification & Signage*

- *ID placards will be required to be visible on headache rack and bumper (but there is no way to easily determine that they are WFP trucks).*
- *Members of the public can report infractions to the BC Forest Safety Council's 1-800 number. Reports should include the following information: vehicle identification, location where infraction occurred, description of unsafe activity/concern, and time.*
- *BCFSC will answer calls, not a WFP program. BC Forest Safety Council to address reports, bring concerns back to WFP operations, WFP to follow up.*
- *How will the public know where to report concerns and be aware of the program? MOT requirement to permit signage along the highway, not yet applied for highway information signs. WFP will look into updating its road Info facebook page and other options to raise awareness to members public, local and visitors.*
- *What is WFP's responsibility to address safety and maintenance concerns regarding the impact of the added truck traffic as trucks move to the public domain and how will WFP offset that impact? WFP is working to meet the industry standard across the province for moving fiber. To target highest priority safety concerns with change in practices, WFP is involving MOT in these discussions. WFP comprises approximately 60% of logging traffic on the highway, there are other industrial users, setting it to the provincial standards*

#### *Highest Priority Areas of focus, Pull outs*

- *Concerns were expressed regarding the infrequent number of pullouts between Port McNeill and Woss, in both directions and that the safety plan cannot be fully implemented until more pullouts are in place; that WFP operates at during the day when public traffic is high volume on the highways; winter conditions create safety concerns where public pass logging trucks to avoid debris kicked up by trucks leading to people passing because they can't see and there are no pullouts; there is large amount of rock buildup along existing pullouts with impacts on traffic, chips in windshields. Suggestion made to continue to use viable logging roads until the safety measures are in place.*
- *WFP is looking to supplement existing pull outs to improve traffic flow where required and improve conditions where required and to maintain pullouts to the public standard set by the MOTI. WFP to address costs later and is currently working with MOT to determine how to move ahead. No plans have been made to close the Beaver Cove log sort.*
- *To address concerns of industrial logging traffic increasing debris on the highway along gravel intersections WFP will address these sections and maintain to public standard set by the MOT. The discussion will also include options of changing speed limits as well as closure of inactive crossings that no longer meet standards.*
- *Timelines and completion dates are that hauling standards being done now, call ups and reporting by June 2018, no dates are yet set for fleet GPS, dash cams, fatigue management system, right now future concepts.*
- *WFP does not believe that there will be additional safety incidents as a result of highway log hauling but will continue to support local first responder services. It was noted that the eventual local government property tax impact from the loss of the Englewood railroad could be \$74,000 per year, part of which is used to fund volunteer fire departments services. The Province could lose another \$72,000 per year; these savings to WFP will be borne by other taxpayers.*

#### *Honouring the Englewood Train -*

- *No decision been made for the decommissioning of the rail line; there are 6 crossings required for use by WFP. VI Spine has expressed interest in a 50 km section for light traffic. No cost for decommission has been determined yet. The focus is presently on beginning the consultation process to determine a physical location for the train assets, with the rail line being a longer term process because of need to look at operations, legal liabilities, and assets.*
- *Recommendation to WFP: Bring together all representatives from the potential interest groups to gather input collectively, reduce potential for conflicting ideas, and develop a comprehensive solution. Response: This is the first formal opportunity for engagement. Meetings will be held to gather input from other interest groups.*
- *In response to concerns expressed about approaching groups individually, WFP committed to take steps to identify themes and commonalities in the interest expressed and will follow up with the interested groups including First Nations, public advisory groups, Woss residents, and other communities once the information has been synthesized. Vancouver Island North Tourism will be included in this process. Kindry Mercer, Manager of Regional Initiatives is responsible for this project and support is available through corporate office and operations for coordination of logistics and project management. Seeking recommendations for the physical location and if there are ideas for plans for development on that (Woss Heritage Site) and how WFP may further contribute to that initiative.*

- *Recommendation to WFP: Consider adjusting deadlines to avoid overlap with anniversary of the Woss accident, allow for more time before coming back to the communities with what is planned next. A: That is good feedback.*
- *They are two separate parts, the physical parts in honouring the rail way can happen in a fairly time efficient manner while de-commissioning the rail line will be a longer-term process*
- *The decision on the WFP train closure is final. Will continue the consultation process, extending out the timeframe slightly after April.*
- *WFP will work with the Regional District to identify an appropriate date that works for both Corporate representatives including Chief Forester Shannon Jansen and the RDMW Board of Directors.*

*Director Soltau left meeting, 3:35pm.*

#### *General Comments*

- *Observation that this is the first time to observe such a high level and uncomfortable animus between a major employer, and the Regional District. Appreciates what WFP is trying to accomplish, however in the big picture, it appears that WFP has lost the social license to operate in this area. It is the perception that the shareholder is the overriding factor in decisions, not the communities in which it operates. There is need to get to a different place, where the Regional District is proud of the biggest employer and wants to support that employer. There are some basic things that WFP is not doing that gives the region that the best interests of the region are not foremost in WFP's mind which is very unfortunate given the history of WFP's previous [positive] relationship with its NI communities. In the future as we move forward there is a need to focus on the big things. What's happening is there has been a major change in the perception that in the social license to operate. It is the responsibility of WFP to make decisions that show that they are thinking of the North Island. Restore the social license that WFP is acting in the best interest of the community.*
- *Observation: Members have worked to promote forest industry on the North Island and in the community. The TFL that WFP operates on is still a public resource. Community consultation should be done before major decisions are made, not after. Corporate representatives should be here, this is where the work is, the resource is. The communities are here because of the forestry industry. RD feeling run over, it is a public resource and the CEO should attend these meetings. Govt should be connecting the resources to the communities.*
- *WFP Response – Recognized that there are passionate people in the room. WFP will make efforts to see that senior leadership to comes to Regional District. WFP reiterated its commitment to the priority of safety of the public, employees, employment for the residents of the NI.*

#### *VINTAS Forestry Training Program*

- *VINTAS Logger training with VIU accepting applications until March 15<sup>th</sup>2018. Tuition is covered through Rural Dividend Fund and Western Forest Products for the course that is happening. Please share with any interested parties.*

*The Chair thanked delegates Clint Cadwallader, John Flintoff, and Kindry Mercer.*

#### **C. APPOINTMENTS**

None.

**D. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the Regional District of Mount Waddington Board Meeting held December 20, 2017.

025/2018  
ADOPTION OF  
MINUTES

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the minutes of the Regional District of Mount Waddington Board of Directors Meeting held January 16, 2018 be adopted.

**E. CORRESPONDENCE ON THE TABLE**

1. District of Port Hardy: Regular Council Meeting December 12, 2017 and January 9, 2018; Committee of the Whole December 12, 2017 and January 9, 2018; Village of Port Alice: Regular Council Meeting December 13, 2017; Special Regular Meetings November 27 and December 6, 2017; Village of Alert Bay: Regular Council Meetings November 27, 2017.

2. Cheque Register Report (January 16, 2018 – February 13, 2018)

026/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the correspondence on the table be received and filed.

**F. STAFF REPORTS**

- Administrator (February 14, 2018)

027/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the Regional District of Mount Waddington enter into an agreement with North Island Community Services to operate the MW Volunteer Transportation Network service in 2018 for \$28,000.

*Chair Hory and CAO met with Brad Smith, Ministry of Municipal and the Kwakiutl First Nation Council regarding concerns related to the proposed boundary changes and RD services; overall a positive meeting. Kwakiutl are hoping to provide a formal response by April in time to meet the recommended deadline by the Ministry to approve the boundary change.*

028/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the February 14, 2018 report from the Administrator be received and filed.

- a) 2018 General Elections & Policy (February 14, 2018)

029/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT pursuant to section 58 of the Local Government Act, Greg Fletcher is hereby appointed Chief Election Officer for conducting the 2018 general local elections and is authorized to appoint other election officials as required for the administration and conduct of the 2018 general local elections;

AND FURTHER THAT Jeff Long is hereby appointed Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 2018 general local elections.

AND FURTHER THAT Policy 3.3.4, Election Officials Remuneration, be rescinded and replaced by the new Policy 3.3.4, Election Officials Remuneration, as per the Policy Committee recommendation from February 9, 2018.

030/2018	<p>Moved/Seconded/Carried          THAT the February 14, 2018 2018 General Elections Report be received and filed.</p> <p>b) Travel Report (February 20, 2018) as amended.</p>
031/2018	<p>Moved/Seconded/Carried          THAT the February 20, 2018 Travel Report as amended be received and filed.</p> <p>3. Manager of Economic Development (February 13, 2018)</p> <p><i>A meeting is planned with Quatsino FN representatives on the Feb 27<sup>th</sup>.</i></p>
032/2018 Knotweed	<p>That the funding application to the Community Jobs Program for the 2018 Invasive Weed Eradication Program be approved subject to confirmation from the program partners of their financial participation in the program.</p>
033/2018	<p>Moved/Seconded/Carried          THAT the February 13, 2018 Manager of Economic Development be received and filed.</p> <p>Calum Matthews, Tourism Vancouver Island  <i>Presentation titled 'Exceptional Hiking Experiences, Rural Dividend Application and Tourism Vancouver Island.' An overview of Tourism Vancouver Island (TVI) and an introduction to the 'Hiking Tourism Master Plan,'</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>campaign aimed to identify and promote exceptional hiking experiences across Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast region</i></li> <li>• <i>Three phases: Phase I- Inventory of Vancouver Island trails of interest, completed; Phase II- Trails Task Force developed to compile a list of the top 50 hiking experiences on Vancouver Island, completed; Phase III- 'Vancouver Island Coast Exceptional Hiking Experience Network Initiative'</i></li> <li>• <i>Rural Dividend Application made; awaiting decision</i></li> <li>• <i>Phase III key expected outcomes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>development of a trail guide highlighting characteristics of the VI Coast Region;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>development of VI hiking experience campaign and online assets;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>ID of top 12 trail experiences in VI Coast Region;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>completion of detailed designs for NCT proposed huts;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>economic impact assessments of 4 trails.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Intent to determine scope of \$ value and economic benefits trails bring to local communities &amp; region, ID trailer user profile, determine how to enhance visitation and visitor expenditures.</i></li> </ul> <p>Ben McGibbon, 43K Wilderness Solutions  <i>Considerations of how TVI initiative relates to VI North trails, predominately Cape Scott and the NCT.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>NCT in 14<sup>th</sup> year of operations</i></li> <li>• <i>Usership increased significantly to an estimated 800 hikers annually (2016/2017), Cape Scott West, approximate 4000 visitors annually</i></li> <li>• <i>Concerns on upper limit capacity; not yet identified</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Proposed huts would likely increase NCT capacity, vary user experience and attract new user groups, increase potential for additional seasonal employment, extend length of operational season and expand opportunities for other business operators, shuttles, taxis etc.</i></p>

- *Opportunity to develop a brand name out for the hiking experiences offered by the region, raise awareness of VIN as a hiking tourism destination and of other products regionally available*
- *trail's greatest attribute is that it is wild*
- *Concerns expressed regarding the amount of public already on the trail and the footprint being left behind*
- *Timeline for TVI initiative is approximately 1 year; portions of the plan already underway, aspects funding contingent.*

*The Chair thanked Mr. Matthews and Mr. McGibbon for their presentation. Dir. Ackland left the meeting, 4:18 pm.*

a) Tourism Coordinator (January 8, 2018)

- *Timeline surrounding the MRDT renewal process for VIN rural communities 2015 to 2020, excludes Port Hardy.*
- *BC Marine Trail – paddler access points around the North Island and VI, worked with provincial Parks and Recreation Sites and Trails BC to ID locations for public use.*

b) Recommendations from VINTAC (January 29, 2018)

034/2018  
VINTAC

Moved/Seconded/Carried  
THAT the January 29, 2018 Recommendations from VINTAC be received and filed.

035/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried  
THAT the February 13, 2018 Tourism Coordinator report be received and filed.

- *Manager of Operations (February 13, 2018)*

*Director Dave Rushton left the meeting – 4:48pm.*

036/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried  
THAT the February 13, 2018 Manager of Operations report be received and filed.

- *Manager of Planning and Development Services (February 1, 2018)*

037/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried  
THAT the February 1, 2018 Manager of Planning and Development Services report be received and filed.

- *Finance Report (February 4, 2018)*

038/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried  
THAT MNP be appointed as auditor to complete the 2017 financial statements.  
*Request was made for newsletters to go out to 'Area C' residents regarding utilities as well as an information package from the Emergency Coordinator regarding recommended protocols for tsunami situations.*

039/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried  
THAT the February 4, 2018 Treasurer report be received and filed.

## a) Single Source Report (January 31, 2018)

040/2018

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the January 31, 2018 Single Source Awards report be received and filed.

**G. COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

- Policy Committee (February 20, 2018) –

041/2018  
POLICIES

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the Policy Manual Sections 1. Board Policies, 1.5 Board Benefits, 1.5.3 Expenses Outside Regional District, 1.5.4 Cell Phone Expenses, and Section 2. Administration Policies, 2.2 Financial Policies 2.1.1 Freedom of Information Requests, 2.1.2 External Requests for Letters of Support, 2.2.1 Accounts Receivable, 2.2.2. Purchasing and Authorization Policy, 2.2.3 Computer Purchasing Policy, 2.2.4 Disposal of Surplus Assets, 2.2.5 Finance Signing Authority, and 2.2.6 Liability Insurance Deductibles be adopted.

**H. BYLAWS AND PERMITS –**

- Bylaw No. 935, 2018 cited as “Regional District of Mount Waddington Election Bylaw No. 935, 2018” for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings.

042/2018  
GENERAL  
ELECTIONS  
BYLAW

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT Bylaw No. 935, 2018 cited as “Regional District of Mount Waddington Election Bylaw No. 935, 2018” be read for a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

2. Bylaw No. 935, for adoption.

043/2018  
GENERAL  
ELECTIONS  
BYLAW

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT Bylaw No. 935, 2018 cited as “Regional District of Mount Waddington Election Bylaw No. 935, 2018” be adopted and that RDMW staff and managers begin preparations to sign, seal, and file.

**I. CORRESPONDENCE –**

None.

**J. OTHER BUSINESS / DIRECTOR REPORTS / NEXT MEETING**

- Other Business: None
- Rural Updates:

Area “B” – Quatsino: Cathy Denham

- Progress made on Winter Harbour water well issue
- Met with VIHA agreed to take on treasurer role of group
- Movement on amount of water sampling to be done in off season.
- Move to change monthly to bimonthly. 5 year testing – Patrick – Multi-spectrum testing available with RD.
- Tsunami evacuation in Holberg was well done; Winter Harbour experienced challenges – phones not working, uncertainty of who was in community at the time.



- Meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am NIREPC to look into potential outcomes for Tsunami Warning.

Area "C" – Rupert:

- Cooperative meeting with Kwakiutl February 19, 2018. Confident that the EA boundary Process will go forward.
- Municipal Updates:

Village of Alert Bay

- Harbour– transport clean up – Coast Guard completed the removal of 4 at risk vessels, 2 remaining. Pumped off 10000 litres of hydraulic fluids.
- Tender for sewer project to go out February 21, 2018.
- Small Craft Harbour contract awarded.
- Tsunami warning challenges – some residents awoken & responded others not.
- High resolution imagery – no funds available to cover it asked to bring. RD initiative, should be covered by RD.

Village of Port Alice

- Byelection moving forward this weekend.

District of Port Hardy

- John Tidbury to receive the key to the city.
- Port Hardy emergency services also experienced challenges in response to the tsunami warning- hoping to be resolved at NIREPC meeting
- Memorial project to commemorate sea merchants at Tsulquate Park has begun - anchor donated by Keltic Seafoods.
- Hardy Bay Seawall lighting to be extended.

Public Questions: None.

Committee Meetings:

- Electoral Area & MRDT Budget Meeting- 12:00pm on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Finance Committee Meeting- 12:30pm on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- MWRHD Budget Meeting – To follow Finance Committee Meeting, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Public Budget Meeting- March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors: March 20, 2018 at 2:00 pm.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved  
THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Time: 5:10 p.m.

CORRECT

APPROVED

CHAIR

SECRETARY

044/2018  
ADJOURNMENT