



HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015
5pm, High Level Seniors Center

PRESENT:

Tim Gauthier (CSA Coordinator)
Dan Coombs (AESRD)
Aaron Doepel (LCSM)
Tim Heemskerk (Northern Lights
Forest Education Society)
Allan Bell (Tolko)
Taylor Anderson (Norbord)
Sean Ellens (Tolko)
Adam Marshall (Silvacom)

John Thurston (Member of Public)
Daniel Walton (NPTC)
Michael Morgan (Town of High Level)
Boyd Langford (Town of Rainbow
Lake)
Melanie Plantinga (Tolko)
Paul Hewitt (Tolko)
Trevor Lafreniere (Tolko)

INFORMATION SENT:

Fort Vermilion Heritage Center
Carol Gabriel (Mackenzie County)
Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement
Conroy Sewepagaham (LRRCN)
Keith Badger (Netaskinan
Development)
Crystal McAteer (Town of High Level)
Baptiste Metchooyeah (Dene Tha')
Connie Martel (Dene Tha')
Wayne Auger (Lubicon Lake Nation)
Exact Harvesting
Walter Sarapuk (MacKenzie County)
Cheryl Ernst (High Level & District
Chamber of Commerce)
Dave Beck (Norbord)
David Driedger (FTC)
Paul Ebert (AESRD)
Vil Driedger (Driedger Construction)

Mark Andrews (Cenovus)
Harvey Sewpagaham (LRRCN)
Lindee Dumas (LRRCN)
Pat Cabezas (N'Deh Ltd. Partnership)
Margaret Carroll (High Level & District
Chamber of Commerce)
Kieran Broderick (Beaver First Nation)
Mike Cardinal (Tallcree First Nation)
Fred Radersma (Norbord)
Timberbound Construction
Treetech
Matt Marcone (The Echo)
Marilee Cranna Toews (Hungry Bend
Sandhills Society)
Christine Mahlmann (AESRD)
Jon McQuinn (LRRF)
Sugu Thuraisamy (LRRF)

1. CALL TO ORDER 5:35pm

2. OLD BUSINESS

2.1. Woody Debris at Cardlock

John Thurston stopped at one of the cardlocks and took some photographs of debris left at the cardlock. He spoke with the cardlock Manager who has to have the area cleaned by bobcat weekly during the haul. The manager asks if someone can check that the debris is removed from the trucks on the Tolko yard. Mike Morgan states that there is an area set aside for this and that most truckers do clean their trucks. Perhaps this could be addressed during the trucker orientation. The concern will be passed to the Harvesting Superintendents at Tolko.

2.2 Watt Mountain Trail Identification

John Thurston will meet with Mike Morgan and indicate where the trail is located. Tolko will then have it GPSed and entered into the landbase. John has some people interested in cleaning up the trail a little.

2.3 “Blue Dot Program”

Aaron provides some background information about the program. Aaron has purchased the materials that the School Division needs to set up the signs. The FVSD is expected to send someone to pick up the signs etc. and have the signs set up prior to the next school year. Thank you Aaron for taking this project to this point. Should the PAG put something in the paper to educate the public about the signs? Aaron thinks that FVSD will do this. Perhaps if they don't the HLFPG may want to advertise the program. The mills will need to include information about the program in their trucker orientation.

2.4 High Level Woodlands Website Update

Melanie Plantinga has begun brining the webpage up to date. Most items on the webpage have been brought up to date. Melanie will have the Stewardship Report moved to a more visible place. (It is currently stored with the meeting minutes.)

2.5 Terms of Reference (TOR)

The TOR were sent home last meeting for review. Were there any questions or comments? Does anyone have any more changes to propose? Then we will accept the changes proposed as of today's date. The final copy of the Terms of Reference will be e-mailed to everyone.

2.6 Hog Pile Handling

What is the Tolko's plan to deal with the pile if the hog starts to accumulate? Tolko is moving the pile with a cat to ensure that it doesn't compost, heat and become a fire hazard. When the rail line is built there may be less hog on site.

3. ROUND TABLE:

John Thurston –

Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) is proceeding at Tolko. There is one student who participated this year. He is now a full time Tolko employee and a welding apprentice. The program will hopefully continue to be a success.

Dan Coombs

Update on current fire situation in the High Level area.

Tim Heemsker

DMI is chipping in the area.

AESRD and Tolko had a field day to discuss riparian areas and proper buffers.

There appears to be agreement on most issues.

Northern Lights Forest Education Society – has Allan Spellram as president.

They are working to develop and maintain the trails at Footner Lake. The Junior Forest Rangers will be helping with some trail maintenance.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1. Annual Report

- Hilary Wait has completed the 2013-14 Annual Report. We are distributing copies for review. It will be posted to the website and e-mailed to all HLFPAAG members. Please contact Melanie or Tim if you have questions or comments.

4.2. Detailed Forest Management Plan (DFMP) Review

- Adam Marshall presented a power point presentation about the DFMP process. How the 2016 plan is linked to the 2003 plan.
- Tim Heemskerk asks, If a target is not met, what is the companies response? The companies try to address these deficiencies. Some targets are long term and will be met later in the process.
- The PSP (Permanent Sample Plot) VOIT is not in the 2016 Plan. PSP information can be shared by region. Information is captured during the required Growth and Yield Program process.
- Historical Surveys are not included in the plan. They are a legislated requirement and don't need to be spelled out in the DFMP.
- There will be a table created linking the old VOITs with the new.
- Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) – there is some balancing being done to enable all mills to receive the timber they need.
- Questions – if you have any please contact Tim Gauthier. He is available by e-mail at Tim.Gauthier@tolko.com.

4.3 General Development Plan (GDP)

- Trevor gave a presentation about the GDP progress. He is considering presenting the plan be at the municipal council meetings next year. The First Nations Consultation is nearly complete. The only concern presented was about the possibility of herbicide being applied near a traditional plant picking area. The nation concerned will GSP the area and it will be avoided during the spraying program.
- The GDP will be posted to the website after it has been approved by the government.

5. CLIPPING SERVICE – Unavailable, Melanie will provide next meeting.

6. NEXT MEETING – Tentatively August.

7. ADJOURNMENT - 7:00pm