



HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 30th, 2017
5pm, High Level Seniors Center

PRESENT:

Tiffany Olsen (Norbord)	Marissa Green (Norbord)
Boyd Langford (Member of Public)	Mike Alsterlund (Member of the Public)
John Thurston (Hungry Bend Sandhills Society)	Walter Sarapuk (MacKenzie County)
Jenna Gardner (Member of the Public)	Evan Gardner (Peace River Constituency)
Dave West (Tolko)	Allen Plantinga (Tolko)
Melanie Plantinga (Tolko)	Mike Morgan (Town of High Level)
Trevor LaFreniere (Tolko)	Paul Ebert (Agriculture & Forestry)
Michaela Jenkins (Tolko)	Hilary Wait (Tolko)

INFORMATION SENT:

Baptiste Metchooyeah (Dene Tha')	Exact Harvesting
Bernie Doerksen (LaCrete Polar Cats)	Fort Vermilion Heritage Center
Clifford Starr (Peerless Trout First Nation)	Christine Malhmann (Agriculture & Forestry)
Carol Gabriel (Mackenzie County)	Fred Radersma (Norbord)
Barry Toker (Watt Mountain Wanderers)	Keith Badger (Netaskinan Development)
Jon McQuinn (Norbord)	Kieran Broderick (Beaver First Nation)
Claude Duval (Watt Mnt Wanderers)	Lindee Dumas (LRRCN)
Connie Martel (Dene Tha')	Terry Jessiman (Agriculture & Forestry)
Cory Ferguson (Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement)	Marilee Cranna Toews (Hungry Bend Sandhills Society)
Chris Mitchell (Town of Rainbow Lake)	Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement
Dan Coombs (Agriculture & Forestry)	Sugu Thuraisamy (LRRF)
Harvey Sewpagaham (LRRCN)	Treetech
Terry Batt (Trapper's Association)	Tracey Laboucan (Lubicon Lake Nation)
Brent Holick (LaCrete Polar Cats)	Crystal McAteer (Town of High Level)
Mike Cardinal (Tallcree First Nation)	Tristina Macek (N'Deh Ltd. Partnership)
Margaret Carrol (High Level & District Chamber of Commerce)	Cheryl Ernst (High Level & District Chamber of Commerce)
Matt Marcone (Echo Pioneer)	Fred Didzena (Dene Tha')
Aaron Doepel (LaCrete Sawmills)	

1. WELCOME – INTRODUCTIONS

2. AROUND THE TABLE

2.1. Mike Alsterlund –

- Has there been a chemical analysis done on the hog fuel?
- Can we have a report on the potential carcinogens produced by the burner?
- What percentage of FMA is affected by the proposed Caribou protection area. Approximately 47% of the FMA is in Caribou range.

2.2. Melanie Plantinga –

- Has received an e-mail, forwarded from Paul Ebert, from Paul Lemay. Mr. Lemay is past president of the Association of Alberta Forest Public Advisory Committees (AAFPAC). He is trying to form a list of all Alberta Forest Public Advisory Committees. They are also planning a session and field trip to EMEND. Melanie has responded to Paul Lemays e-mail and will inform the HLFAC of further developments.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Presentations

- Environmental Management System (EMS) Certification – Tolko – Moving in a new direction – Hilary Wait

If Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) was built on the US system of timber holding, and CSA was built on the Canadian or crown timber holding, why choose a standard designed for big business? There is a Canadian contingent, it is not exclusively American. The standard has changed to meet the needs of Canadian businesses. Canadian groups and members of the public have influenced changes to the SFI standard.

Is it possible to get copies of this presentation? Yes, Hilary will provide copies for distribution.

Will the HLFAC have to discuss and approve Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets (VOIT)'s again? Not for SFI certification. The Forest Management Plan still has VOITs.

If Canadian companies are being certified to the same standard through SFI as American why should the softwood lumber dispute be continuing? Should some of the grounds for dispute be null? Good question. This is something that the company representatives have not considered before.

After Tolko is SFI certified they will move away from CSA. What are the implications for the plans aligning with the planning standard? The companies will still be obligated to meet the planning standard.

We haven't heard of SFI, but have heard of CSA. SFI is starting to do more marketing. They are marketing to children. They are having to consider what the needs of the Canadian producers are. Brand recognition through schools,

donations, charity groups, volunteering. Marketing through traditional TV may not get delivered. People getting media through internet.

They have an interesting Smart phone Application which can track where a buyers product came from. The purchaser scans the product wrap and the app will tell them where the source fiber was harvested.

What if you are required (have a legal obligation) to do something but it doesn't fit with SFI? It will still be done but it might not be reported with the SFI reporting.

- EMS – High Level Norbord becoming SFI certified – Tiffeny Olson

Norbord has a multisite SFI certification. They are adding High Level to this certification. They had to cut some wood before they could be audited and certified. They are scheduled to be audited in February.

During an audit problems or shortcomings can fall into three categories. There can be Major Non-Conformances, Minor Non-Conformances and Opportunities for Improvement. Major non-conformances if not addressed will result in a company losing certification.

The end customer often drives the certification that companies get. Different markets look for different types of certification.

- General Development Plan (GDP) for High Level 2017-18 – Trevor LaFreniere

Outstanding obligations are reported in the GDP.

The Fire control plan is part of the GDP.

Integration of activities of the multiple forestry companies is one of the primary goals of the GDP. This reduces wildlife disturbance.

Dave West – North West Alberta Collaboration Project

- A goal is to maintain access to fiber and balance different values on the landscape.
- Pursue a new relationship with First Nations.
- John T is being questioned by first nation community members who want to know what is going on. Efforts are being made to get information out to communities.
- Tolko wants to hear from community members. There is a legal obligation to consult with whomever the band selects as their representatives. We are trying to get into the communities talk to more people.
- **Questions –**
 - o Are there carcinogens in the ash from the burner?
 - o Are chemicals leaching from hog fuel? Tiffeny Olson, has seen recently seen research on this topic. She will forward this to the PAC for distribution.
- Mike has seen division over the caribou protection issue. There are people who say caribou protection will be a disaster for the economy. Or continued economic development will be a disaster for the environment. Perhaps the PACs role is to help protect both.

- People need to know. What is being done to balance multiple objectives? Dave West mentions a researcher, Tom Nudds who is working on this question of how to balance economic and conservation values on the landscape. Trying to find the spot between the two values where much of both objectives is met.
- The burner is a very short term solution. There is work being done to find long term solutions. The variance for the burner expires September 22nd. Will the pile be gone? It is expected to be.

4. NEXT MEETING – July 11, 2017

5. MEETING ADJORNED