



## HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

### “DRAFT” MINUTES

*Tuesday, December 2, 2008*  
5:00 p.m. – Four Winds Banquet Room  
High Level, Alberta

#### ATTENDANCE:

Jeremy Beal (CSA Coordinator)	John Thurston (Chairman)
Jayson Kofluk (FFP)	Marilee Toews (HBSWS)
Al Toews (Guest)	Walter Sarapuk (Mackenzie County)
Dave Sadowsky (ASRD)	Mike Alsterlund (Citizen at Large)
Ed Anderson (Tolko)	

Recording Secretary: Brenda St. Arnault

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm.

#### 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5.3 Future Survey Topics added to Agenda by Jeremy B.

Adopt Agenda with addition. **MOVED by: Walter Sarapuk**

**CARRIED**

#### 3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – November 4, 2008

Adopt Minutes as presented. **Moved by: Walter Sarapuk**

**CARRIED**

### 3.1 Review of action items

#### **Dave S. to inquire with SRD regarding will FFP eventually lose rights to the FMA if they continue not to exercise their rights?**

Dave S: There is no written rule stating timeframe variable. The Minister has the option to remove tenure from Footner Forest Products if FFP does not resume operations at the mill after 12 months according to the FMA agreement. Minister possibly reluctant to act as the current economic situation in Alberta is affecting several other mills and not just FFP.

Mike A: How long can aspen sit before it starts losing its value?

Jayson K: Between 3 to 5 years, FFP has used wood that is 3 years old.

Mike A: Is the value of the log decks that are currently in the bush about to expire?

Jayson K: This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Aspen decks sitting in the bush.

Mike A: Is FFP going to do anything with Log Decks?

Jayson K: The intention is to do something with the decked wood and not leave it there.

Mike A: Asked for contact information for senior management at SRD and Footner Forest Products Ltd. Dave S. stated that if there are any questions or concerns to forward letter to him and he will forward it to the appropriate person at SRD, and Jayson K. stated he is the contact person for FFP.

Mike requested verification of the amount of wood that is sitting in the Log Decks.

Jayson K: There is 490,000 m<sup>3</sup> of wood sitting in Log decks.

#### **Dave S. inquired with SRD regarding reduced stumpage rates for Footner Forest Products Ltd.**

The stumpage rate between the Government and Footner Forest Products base rate is \$0.53/m<sup>3</sup> and is a rate that currently applies Province wide.

The minutes from Nov. 4/08 needs to change to reflect the stumpage rate amount.

#### **New Action: Brenda to change Nov.4, 2008 minutes.**

Marilee T: Question in connection to comment made by Les House from Nov. 4/08 meeting. Les concerned that decked aspen at Paddle Prairie will not be worth anything and that Paddle Prairie will burden the cost of wood harvested and not utilized. The decked aspen at PPMS was to be delivered to FFP prior to the mill closing.

Marilee T: Does Paddle Prairie have Volume Supply Agreement with Footner Forest Products?

Jayson K: Yes.

Marilee T: Would Paddle Prairie have other options in regards to marketing the wood that is at their settlement?

Jayson K: Yes

Marilee T: I think there is a misunderstanding by Paddle Prairie and someone needs to explain to PPMS that they have the option to do what they want with wood that is located within their settlement.

Jayson K: Footner Forest Products has had numerous conversations in regards to the VSA with Paddle Prairie.

**Dave S. inquired with SRD regarding whether a penalty could be applied against FFP.**

Dave S: Each situation is looked at a case-by-case basis if companies will pay penalties. FFP will eventually pay dues on timber that harvested in the previous year.

Mike A: Has FFP paid stumpage fees on the decked aspen?

Dave S: Not yet, but they will eventually have to pay.

**Jeremy B. will provide glossary of abbreviations to committee.**

Jeremy provided a list of acronyms to committee as per request made from the November 4/08 meeting. John also mentioned that he had a book that has a wide range of acronyms that he will provide to Jeremy so additional acronyms will be included.

**Jeremy to provide response to committee regarding Plans for harvesting at Watt Mountain Natural Area.**

Ed A: Tolko has no plans to harvest in the WMNA in the near future, and when Tolko decides to include the WMNA in our harvesting plans all silviculture systems to be employed need to be something other than clearcut. Partial systems, including variable retention, strip-cut, etc. are systems that may be used.

**Jeremy will provide visitor package for PAC attendees.**

Jeremy provided visitor (handout) package for PAC attendees. Package contained pamphlet on sustainable forest management along with Terms of Reference for Public Advisory Committee.

John T. requested that a folder be available that includes items mentioned and the list of acronyms, Hotline card, and other information to capture the efforts of the PAC.

**Jeremy to provide response in regards to Tolko's bursary selection procedures.**

Tolko's selection committee is mainly Julie Clarke and may involve the Area Manager, and possibly the Controller at Tolko. For the last two years, no high school teacher from High Level Public was on the selection committee, and therefore there has not been a bias to HLPS graduates as mentioned in the last meeting. As of 2 years ago, an outside committee decided the selection of the recipient however due to some disagreements Tolko is now managing the bursary. Concerning only a High Level graduate receiving the award for the last 2 years, there in fact have only been HLPS applicants with none from LaCrete or Rocky Lane. Since the last PAC meeting Julie Clarke has been in contact with the Fort Vermilion School Division and has arranged for the School Division office to advise schools that all applications for the Tolko Bursary are to sent to the School Division office and then they will be sent to Tolko. The Tolko Bursary does consider whether an applicant is the son/daughter of a Tolko employee who will be attending post secondary education the following year. However, in a year when that is not the case outside candidates are evaluated on performance and need.

Marilee T. asked what the amount of the bursary is and whether Tolko is in partnership with NADC that will match the bursary amount.

**Action Item: Jeremy to confirm/recommend that Tolko is associated with NADC.**

**4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

Aspen decked logs

The topic of aspen-decked logs was discussed earlier in meeting. Mike inquired about the amount of wood decked by Footner Forest Products. A volume of 490,000 m<sup>3</sup> (decked aspen) is the amount listed in the General Development Plan and will not be changed until this outstanding obligation is resolved.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 Annual SFM Performance Review, Part B**

Jeremy presented the annual performance on six additional commitments for the 2007 – 2008 reporting period.

# 10 Compliance with Seed Zone

Marilee T. inquired about seeds that are removed from the FMA, and if they are not used are they planted elsewhere? In addition, why not six seedling requests granted?

Jeremy explained that seeds are restricted to Seed Zones that have been set up in the Province that guide where seedlings produced by this seed are to be planted. Tolko was granted 5 approvals and the 6 request was not granted because requested variance may have not met criteria set up by the Province.

Marilee asked if the unused seedlings could go to someone else in the Province?

Jeremy explained that no one else could use the seedlings (no transfer allowed). Either Tolko absorbs the costs of destroying the seedlings when there is no future area to plant them or they are held over at the nursery until following year when they can be planted.

**Dave S. mentioned that he would try to locate maps indicating the Seed Zones in the Province.**

#14 Salvage from natural disturbance

Need to clarify comment: 2003, 6082.1 ha burned (1693.3 ha productive) with **no salvage to date.**

Jeremy commented the statement refers that no salvage will occur due to several variables the companies consider.

**Action: Jeremy to change misleading wording in presentation.**

#20 Watercourse crossings

John T. questioned how we could state that no reclamation work was required when there is typically evidence of erosion near where access roads approach large rivers. Ed clarified that the commitment has to do with activity following seasonal removal of a crossing, which typically are snow or log fills. Very little disturbance occurs at these crossings therefore rework is seldom required.

#22 Area Identified as Being SR

Marilee T. inquired whether the first reforested sites in High Level are being studied to determine their stocking/growth.

**Action Item: Dave S. is to follow up and find out any information on how these sites are performing.**

Comment made by Mike A. on one of the slides in the presentation, that a title needs to be added to the top of the column to indicate NSR; it is too confusing to distinguish the SR values from the NSR.

#23 Forested Area on DFA

John T. asked about how the reforestation of three well sites in 2007 compare to previous reforestation; Jeremy responded that it is a typical year however; it is a very small percentage of the # of new sites being created.

## #28 Opportunities

Walter asked how could there be 79 Harvesting/Load and Haul contractors?

Jayson K: Target is to monitor contracts and not contractors, therefore a contractor may be provided multiple contracts.

## 5.2 Tolko CSA Audit, January 13 to 16, 2009

Jeremy reminded committee members of Tolko's 24 month CSA Audit, January 13 – 15, 2009. Fieldtrip to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> and if any members were interested in participating with the audit, they are more than welcome to attend. John T. indicated he would be available to attend. Jeremy to keep committee posted on any developments.

## 5.3 Future Survey Topics

Jeremy requested input from members as to what Topics would be of interest for future surveys hosted on [www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com). Current survey on this website has questions related to the PAC, therefore he is looking for other topics that could be used in future surveys.

Topics that were provided;

Sustainable Forest Management  
Public Advisory process;  
Guest speakers at PAC meetings; attraction and learning experience  
Log haul questions – Safety issues

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

Clipping Service (J. Beal)  
Jeremy B. distributed the latest news clippings to the PAC members.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE / REPORTS

No correspondence /reports.

## 8. AROUND THE TABLE

Marilee mentioned that she has been noticing FSC logo on her mail. Companies are on the right track with CSA certification however, she feels that FCS is the way we need to be heading. She also had a newspaper clipping of a Pharmaceutical company involving Forestry that may be of interest to members.

Historical Tidbit: Marilee commented on a newspaper article regarding the Lawrence Family from the Fort Vermilion area, and how Frank Lawrence, son of Jim and Florence Lawrence, made various patents related to the forest industry in BC.

9. **NEXT MEETING – January 6, 2009, 5:00 pm**  
**Four Winds Banquet Room**
10. **ADJOURNMENT – 8:00 pm**