HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 11, 2003 5:00 pm Fairview College High Level

Attendance:

John Thurston (Chair)Ted EdwardsAaron DoepelMarcel LecoureBradley AsmussenGail TuckerMarilee ToewsLorraine DonovanTed EdwardsRobert HallKim MortonJorden Johnston

Recording Secretary: Kori Doyle, Mackenzie Economic Development

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Lorraine Donovan

That the agenda be accepted as presented

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Marilee Toews

That the Minutes of January be accepted as presented

Carried

4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

➤ Wood lands owners supplying wood to the mills

A discussion was held concerning this issue:

- How many private land owners are supplying to the mills?
- Tolko says they haven't purchased wood in about a year

- Jorden made a suggestion to take 1 contractor out and replace with private land owners
- Biggest problem with private land owner's wood is it's too small
- Farmers don't have any say and the mills get it all
- Land owners prices are high and more money
- Would like to see "selective logging" be resolved
- Let the public know when the mills are purchasing wood
- Marcel says over the last year and a half Tolko has received 6 calls from private land owners
- 15 years ago prices were high, now prices are more reasonable
- Only so much wood is purchased over a period of time
- Mills may purchase more wood in the years to come

5. OLD BUSINESS

Road Signage

The cost of one sign is three hundred dollars. There will be one sign up for the public. The signs will be located at the edge of the cut block.

Tee Pee burner

Tolko maximized utilization waste. Tolko must have a Co-Generation plant in place between 2005 and 2008. This is a thirty million dollar investment. A proposal must be in place by the end of this year.

Since 1994 sample stations all over our community are being monitored weekly, two reports a year are available on data at the library.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Education/Speakers

PAC members would like to have different speakers come and do some presentations. Brad has made up a list of dates, topics and speakers which will circulate with the minutes. Next PAC meeting we will make a decision as to who we would like to come up and do presentations.

Forest Stewardship Council

PAC members were given a pamphlet along with a letter from Forest Stewardship Council of Canada –Alberta Region.

Both Tolko and Footner will be pursuing an internationally recognized certification system. Tolko has Forest Care, which is a provincially recognized certification system. Although we are pursuing other certification system,

Tolko intends to continue with Forest Care program for short-term. Since Tolko and Footner share the same land base, have overlapping tenures and the fact that neither has made a formal commitment with a specific certification standard, Tolko and Footner have been working together on the development of a "joint" Environmental Management System (EMS). This system will allow flexibility in the future when it comes to selecting a certification system that best suits each of our individual facilities. The EMS that their building aligns well with ISO system, but will also set both companies for additional system in the future.

Log Truck School Bus Incident

About a week and a half ago there was an incident where an empty log truck passed a school bus with the yellow lights flashing which means do not pass. It was around 8:00 am in the morning. This happened seven miles east of town. It was not known if the log truck was hauling short or long wood. After further investigation the driver admitted to passing the school bus and it was short wood he was hauling. The truck was suspended for 24 hours and the driver was suspended for 5 days. It was not his fault log truck driver says he was 500 meters away felt he was unable to stop in time and that's why he passed the bus. Also the school division was supposed to put up signs with blue dots to let people on the road know where the school buses stop. These issues need to be resolved and this kind of thing should not happen.

Kilometer Signs

We like to put up kilometer post signs as a company. Post markers North, South, East and West of High Level. It would be helpful for everyone. Safety is always an issue. With these post markings everyone will be able to communicate as to where their at. A letter will be written to Alberta Transportation and Utilities concerning this issue, also the PAC would like letters of support from Health Board, EMS, High Level Fire Department and the High Level Chamber of Commerce.

Motion:

Moved by Marilee Toews

That a letter be written to Alberta Transportation regarding kilometer markers in the High Level region.

Carried

General Development Plans

The General Development Plan is being sent to the government to have the issues and concerns amended. Once approved it will be brought back to the PAC meeting and will be done again with all the issues and concerns from May 1, 2001 until January 14, 2003.

7. AROUND THE TABLE

John Thurston (chair) has come to the PAC members with an idea. He would like to start a monthly advertisement in both The Pioneer and The Echo newspapers with a different question every month to Footner and Tolko once they have come up with an answer to the question. Will take both the question and the answer and have a monthly add in both of these papers, more information to come next PAC meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next PAC meeting is on March 11, 2003 at 5:00 pm at Fairview College. Supper will be served.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm.