



HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 10, 2006
5:00 p.m. @ NAIT College

Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

John Thurston, Chair
Lorraine Donovan
Christopher Cottell
Henry Friesen
Walter Sarapuk
Robert Popowich
Bradley Asmussen

Marcel Lecoure
Peter Nicholson
Marilee Toews
Alex Bless
George Friesen
Daryl Young

Mary Klassen - Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Thurston, Chair of the High Level Forests PAC called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Moved By Lorraine Donovan

That the agenda be accepted as presented

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – December 06, 2005

MOTION

Moved By Lorraine Donovan

That the High Level Forests PAC meeting minutes of December 06, 2005 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

A PAC member had just returned from the MD council meeting and it had been brought to his attention that Tolko was not using the winter road that the PAC had been in support of.

Tolko representative indicated that although they used portions of the winter road last season, deliveries for the 2005-06 harvest seasons are less concentrated in the west than last year. Tolko will continue to evaluate the use of the winter haul road on an annual basis incorporating safety, costs, and the concentration of harvesting activity.

PAC member indicated that the concern has been resolved and will take the explanation back to council. He did however have one more concern; on his way to the PAC meeting tonight a log truck passed him and was clearly speeding. This is the second time that a log truck has passed him at a speed that was definitely over the speed limit.

Footner responded by saying that they would pull GPS files and have a look. PAC member also mentioned that he had spotted a short log on the road.

John gave Marcel the location on the bird nest that still needs to be GPSed.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Km rate for PAC members

As discussed at the December PAC meeting and a follow-up to an Opportunity For Improvement (OFI) identified during the November CSA Surveillance audit, the companies (TOR) document.

The suggestion for the change is not to avoid any additional costs of administering the PAC but to ensure that input received from the PAC in the development, implementation, or monitoring of forest management plans remains transparent and cannot be perceived as being a "paid PAC". The kilometer rate will remain in the TOR if members choose to access that reimbursement if required.

The group agreed to make the change and Marcel will provide the group with a revised copy of the TOR document at the February meeting.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Clipping Service

Marcel handed out copies of recent newspaper clippings

6.2 Salvage – TDA Calculations

A PowerPoint presentation was given by A SRD representative on Timber Damage Assessment. Hard copies were also passed out; Robert stressed that if anyone ever had any questions or concerns that his door is always open.

Tolko representative indicated that they have an internal policy for dealing with the various components of compensation received from O&G sector. Since the impacts associated with the O&G sector revolve around loss of productive area and because the area of the FMA remains predominately fixed over time,

Compensation for this lost area can be made up through stand enhancement (thinning), reforestation of well sites, seismic lines, etc. or for projects to replace timberlands (ex. private purchase, tree improvement programs).

Projects that meet the criteria must be above and beyond the regulatory reforestation requirements for the company so things like tree planting or regeneration surveys are not eligible since they are a provincial requirement.

The companies must maintain accurate records of all compensation received and spent which is auditable by the province to ensure transparency.

6.3 Disparity of Treatment of O & G & Timber Companies

Tabled until the February meeting

6. CORRESPONDANCE / REPORTS

None

7 AROUND THE TABLE

John – Would like to see a winter field trip for the PAC. Tolko suggested we tour a harvest site that is not too far from town, they will look into it and bring back information at the next meeting

George – Just commented that this logging season has been a little different with not having a lot of snow early on. He said so far he has only seen one log on the road, which is not bad at all.

Marcel – distributed a filtered down version of the draft Alberta Forest Management Planning Standard for the group to review before the February meeting. Marcel reiterated to the group that the document remains draft at this time and the group may have to make minor revisions with some of the targets depending on what the final version of the document looks like.

The document outlines the required Values, Objectives, Indicators, and Targets (VOIT's) that are required in the next Detailed Forest Management Plan of which the PAC will be providing input.

A presentation on the Planning Standard as well as some preliminary discussions on the planning process will take place during the February meeting.

Marilee – Asked for Jordan's contact information as she was not present at the last meeting. Marcel passed information on to her.

8 NEXT MEETING – February 07, 2006 @ 5:00 pm at the NAIT College

9 ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned @ 6:10 pm