



## ***HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE***

Tuesday, January 16, 2007  
5:00 p.m. @ NAIT Campus

### **ATTENDANCE:**

John Thurston, Chair  
Joy B. Friesen  
Walter Sarapuk  
Mike Alsterlund  
Scott Miller  
Chris Smith  
Lorraine Donovan

Marilee Toews  
Scott McNeil  
Lacey Reid  
Dave Sadowsky  
Jeremy Beal  
Lori Friesen  
Liza Perolino

Ashley Beaulieu-Zatko- MEDC  
Tony Walker- MEDC

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meal catered by B & B, prior to meeting.

John Thurston, Chair of High Level Forest PAC called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

### **2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION  
That the agenda be accepted as presented.

Moved by: Walter Sarapuk

*CARRIED*

### **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

The adoption of the December 5, 2006 Minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

### **4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

- Jeremy Beal handed out some revised Minutes for the December 05, 2006 meeting. Items 5.1 and 5.2 had a little more detail regarding John Stadts' presentation on Ecology 101- Biodiversity. These will be incorporated into the Minutes taken by the Recording Secretary.
- Marilee Toews asked the Recording Secretary if she could have the minutes faxed to her. This will be done.
- Scott McNeil stated that they were unable to find out what truck was in the ditch, (as mentioned in the previous meeting minutes) also, that there was no record of what had occurred. If anyone had any additional information it would be helpful to narrow down the search. John Thurston said that there were a few people behind him that go to the same school and that he would ask around.
- Jeremy Beal mentioned the mail out cards to be mailed out to the community in regards to the phone number and information regarding logging trucks on the highways. They will cost about \$1800.00 - \$2000.00. Unfortunately will have to post-pone the mail outs until possibly next year. Tolko has run ads in the High Level Echo and will continue to do so. Jeremy mentioned the sign down by the Shell gas station and unfortunately the sign is actually broken and will not be fixed until the spring or summer, and it will cost about \$1000.00. Tolko will also put the hotline number in The Echo.
- Scott McNeil provided the PAC members with Joint FMA GDP maps, which were passed around the room for the PAC members to have. In regards to the conversions that were asked about last meeting by Mike Alsterlund, Scott has talked to Jayson and informed Mike that it would be just as easy for him to go in and talk to Jayson and that he does not mind.
- Various PAC members were asking about the emission reports and burner, Scott wanted to inform everyone that their burner has not actually been operating since the end of October. FFP has an action plan that will address current issues with stands and potential re-entry to the fuel system. The mill is currently working on this plan.
- A few questions were posed as follows:
  - Question- Who is the best person to contact about the burner?
  - Answer- FFP- The best person to contact would be Sherry Fiolo or Lori Friesen.
  - Question- What is happening with the waste presently and what kind of chemicals are in it?

Answer- The waste is sitting right where it is and we are going to re-enter it into the system, we are trying to recover all the waste, we do not want any waste at all.

Question- Is the waste sitting outside and tented?

Answer- Yes, it is.

Question- Who are the people that test the soil?

Answer- Yes we do have environmental testing, we meet government objectives by hiring whoever the government suggests.

Question- What does FFP think about horse logging?

Answer- Right now Footner is all about efficiency and low cost. If a horse logger can do it cheaper than a feller buncher, then we would entertain it. Right now there is no cost savings to Footer to harvest that way, we do not need to access any additional timber so it is not a method we are employing.

Jeremy Beal has the omissions reports for Tolko burner for November and December. It indicates where certain stations are located and their results. For October it was 6.77% below allowable limit, basically the temperature was low for October. In the end of November when we got all the cold weather the burner was down 42.31% below the approval limit. A question was posed referring to the burner.

Question- A Pac member noticed a lot of residue (ash) on the ground and is assuming that it is coming from the burner. The member also mentioned that the burner might be freezing at the top and he noticed a lot of smoke coming from the top of the burner. Is there a problem that Tolko is having with the burner?

Answer- Not sure what exactly happened, but it is burning now, Jeremy Beal will find out more about the size of the particles coming out.

Question- What happens to the incidental deciduous?

Answer- Tolko was given approval from Alberta government to go ahead and harvest the conifer. The deciduous that is left is either left standing or is knocked down.

Question- The incidental deciduous trees that are left standing, who are the ones that pay the stumpage?

Answer- DMI has agreed to pay dues.

Question- This is referring to grazing lease, and how they pay .52 cents per cubic meter to cut it, process it and skid it. Why not just deck it and leave it?

Answer- We are not sure what the agreements are within a grazing lease. And as far as dues, the forest company is ultimately responsible for anything that we cut, we have to have it come in at some point. That is what the crown says.

Question- If a deck is sitting there, is it free for anyone to take?

Answer- Wood that has been decked means that the company has got 2 years to get it across the scale. In terms of going in and cutting off a load of firewood, which would be up to the disposition holder, you would have to contact the person in charge of that contract.

Question- Does Footner do any audits on Trucks?

Answer- Yes, we do. There are GPS units on most of the trucks, there are people that monitor the speed limits. Silvacom is the manager of our truck based program.

Marilee Toews pointed out a concern about safety. We are hearing more and more about incidents with lack of safety, it should be addressed in an educational way by the companies to the employees, and just because a truck is not on shift does not mean that they should be allowed to speed. They are a reflection on the company at all times and that the lumber companies should be concerned about it.

Answer- At the end of the day, there are enforcement agencies out there. If it is that much of a concern, dial 911 or phone the R.C.M.P. and take appropriate steps to get someone out there. If it is not on GPS we can not do anything about it. Raising awareness for truckers is done every year, radio, newspaper ads.

Question- Who's responsibility do you think it is for safety awareness?

Answers- You can't change behaviors it is all about reminders.

Mike Alsterlund- Mr. Alsterlund was on his way into town and was behind a logging truck (882) and was doing between 95-100, and wanted to just give a compliment to the driver for sticking to the rules.

A few questions arose from Lacey Reid from the High Level Echo.

Question- A co-worker of Lacey's heard that the logging trucks are only running single shifts? Has this been all year?

Answer- That would depend on the truck and the company, most times the guys would run two shifts on a truck, but it is quite possible that an owner/ operator has only got himself a single shift. How many trucks I couldn't tell you. There are a lot of trucks that do run a double shift.

Question- Also is it true that Footner was closed for Christmas and was this the first time ever?

Answer- Yes, We were closed from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of

January. It was to help with an inventory build up. To get rid of all the inventory in the warehouse. Production was shut down, log haul was scheduled to shut down for the length of time regardless of what was going on. Log haul shut down was from December 22<sup>nd</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>, also all the employees were paid fully.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **5.1 CSA Re-Certification (Jeremy Beal)**

Jeremy Beal presented the PAC members with a Power Point presentation regarding the CSA Recertification Audit that took place between January 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> for Footner and January 9<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> for Tolko. The auditor for Footner was Nate Ryant QMI Contractor from British Columbia and for Tolko was Rod Seabrook QMI Contractor from Ontario. The Auditors had some office time prior to arriving on site. There was also 3 PAC members that were interviewed, 2 by phone and 1 in person. The purpose was to evaluate the suitability and adequacy and effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system. The next audit will be January 8<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of 2008. Tolko and Footner did retain their CSA Certification.

Some of the audit findings were as follows:

- Well organized and tidy camps
- Contractors use of field books was good
- Excellent Website
- Resource people at PAC
- No non-conformances
- Problems with engaging PAC members
- Improve some target indicators for some VOIT's
- Aboriginal Treaty Rights
- Internal Audit
- Rights and Responsibilities – legislation
- Documentation
- Review Calibration

What now? Address weaknesses. Consider opportunities for improvement.

Lisa indicated that Tolko is CSA and ISO41000 certified.

Marilee asked for the contact number for Nate, the auditor.

## **5.2 Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets - Comparing current VOIT's in SFM Plan with proposed framework in 2007 Detailed Forest Management Plan. (Jeremy Beal)**

Jeremy Beal did a Power Point presentation about the VOIT's. He gave the members a brief overview of the plan development meeting (for the upcoming Detailed Forest Management Plan) which took place in Edmonton. Marcel presented the VOIT's at a previous meeting and now it is time to compare the current VOIT's to the proposed VOIT framework. A few questions arose and are as follows:

Q- Every company is looking for the easiest and fastest way to get the nicest logs out for the sustainability and economics. Can this be part of the VOIT's?

A- We can look at that, and see where it can fit, as well as, "are we meeting our spatial harvesting sequence", that is already being reported on an annual basis.

Q- Noxious weeds does it apply to private land?

A- There is a noxious weed plan being developed for the DFA.

Q- How do you want to go through the VOIT's?

A- It would be great to provide a table that would be easy to look at.

Q- What is the timeline or is there a deadline?

A- The deadline for the DFMP to be submitted is in September.

(It was suggested by Marilee Toews to hold a separate workshop day strictly for VOIT's, to compare those to what we already have.)

## **5.3 Work Plan (Jeremy Beal)**

Jeremy will compile a list to identify the goals and objectives for the upcoming year, as well as a list of items that will need to be focused on. Jeremy will provide this list for the next meeting.

## **6. OLD BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Clipping Service (Jeremy Beal)**

Jeremy handed out copies of newspaper clippings.

### **6.2 Horse Logging**

Joy B. Friesen had attended the PAC Meeting on behalf of the horse loggers. Joy. B. Friesen handed out copies of the concerns and issues the horse loggers have with their agreement with Tolko. On behalf of Tolko Jeremy Beal had informed Joy B. Friesen that he is not part of the horse

logging and he will leave it to someone else who had more knowledge about the subject. Jeremy Beal had mentioned that she is free to contact Randy Lynch to address the concerns that are expressed in the horse logging area.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE / REPORTS**

There are none at the present time.

## **8. AROUND THE TABLE**

Mike Alsterlund had posed a question.

Question- How, when, where, how often do you go out and see exactly what is being left behind in respect to logging?

Answer- It would depend on a number of factors, is the block a little patch of aspen, even larger patches, erosion, slopes, based on risk assessment of the operator as well as the disposition holder.

Mike Alsterlund also announced that the Rocky Lane Agriculture Society is putting on its Annual Cross Country Ski Loppit, the idea is to complete the race of 10K, 20K, 3K, or 5K, have your choice, and rewards at the end for everyone. Please let Mike know in the 2<sup>nd</sup> last weekend in March or the last weekend in March. The entry fee is \$5.00; you can also rent ski's and is asking for donations.

Marilee Toews has purchased books on behalf of the PAC members and the books will be distributed to various libraries in the area.

## **9. NEXT MEETING- FEBRUARY 6, 2007**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT- 8.30 p.m.**