



***HIGH LEVEL FORESTS
PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Annual General Meeting***

Tuesday, June 7, 2007
5:00 p.m. @ NAIT College

'draft' Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

John Thurston, Chair
Marilee Toews
Lacey Reid
Caleen Warren
David Berg
Tim Vinge (presenter)

Chris Smith
Glen Greening
Jeremy Beal
Daryl Young
Bruce Avery

Susan McNeil
Ed Anderson
Robert Popowich
Marcel LeCoure
Mark Stevens

Jeremy Beal – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Thurston, Chair of the High Level Forests PAC called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

Introductions

Chair requested that members and guests introduce themselves.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Moved By Marilee Toews

That the agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES from last AGM: May 3, 2006

MOTION

Moved By Marilee Toews

That the High Level Forests PAC AGM minutes of May 3, 2006 be accepted as presented

CARRIED

4. Election of Executive

Chair: John Thurston
Vice Chair: Marilee Toews

5. REVIEW OF ISSUES AND CONCERNS DOCUMENT

Rachel Kidder and John Thurston updated the Issues and Concerns document over last few months which will be reviewed at the July 3rd meeting (document was not available for all attendees)

6. SPECIAL SPEAKER

6.1 Reminder of VOIT framework and relation to E.M.E.N.D project

Jeremy Beal gave a brief summary of how the Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets which the PAC is helping to complete for the 2008 submission of the Detail Forest Management Plan are related to the E.M.E.N.D project that is occurring NW of Peace River. Hand out provided during meeting was used as guide.

6.2 Tim Vinge, “EMEND: Ecosystem Management Emulating Natural Disturbance”

Tim gave an introduction and provided a background of his experiences. He identified a relationship between people, industry, communities and forests.

Proceeded with slide presentation that was available for all attendees and will be posted on www.highlevelwoodlands.com

Concepts to grasp:

- Ecosystems can humble everyone
- Requirement for research that can be applied
- Managing the forests but with respectful ignorance
- There is a need for persons on the ground driving the need for research that is applicable
- Fire has been a major driver in Northern Alberta
- Fire has produced a diversity on the landscape, “stand types”, now there is introduction of insects that will create its own disturbance
- Range of disturbances from mankind created to natural variables
- Planning on a diverse landscape is a very complicated task

EMEND study:

- Covered the objectives
- Treatments applied: matrix / replicates
- Post harvest results
- Broadcast burning replicates
- Need for trying to understand a very complicated landscape
- Currently, research papers are being assembled in order to apply a multitude of findings on the ground

- Practitioners Challenge: harvesting, legislation, education, and applying this all on a complicated landscape
- Understanding ecological processes would assist management
- Results:
 - Relationship between corrabib beetles and balsam fir shows the possible importance of leaving these stands for biodiversity purposes
 - Best to locate retention area in difficult silviculture areas
 - Leaving trees behind to maintain biodiversity
 - BE SMART about where to leave retention

Questions?

- MT: importance of protecting retention?
- TV: Great to leave retention, not important to have exceptional management of these lifeboats. There is a general movement of species to and from retention stands.

- JB: cost implications of harvesting and retention?
- TV/CS: limited additional cost.

- MT: is there research available to be practiced?
- TV: Yes and No. There are difficulties in research being interpreted for the practitioner so it can be used.

7. OPEN DISCUSSION: No further comments

8. NEXT MEETING – July 3, 2007 @ 5:00 pm at NAIT

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 7:30pm