



HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 01, 2005
5:00 p.m. @ NAIT College

Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

John Thurston, Chair
Mary Klassen
Lorraine Donovan
Susan McNeil

Walter Sarapuk
Will Horbal
Bradley Asmussen
Henry Friesen

Marcel Lecoure
Leo MacNamara

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Moved By Leo MacNamara

That the agenda be accepted with an addition of;
5.2 Public involvement
5.3 Terms of reference

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – February 01, 2005

MOTION

Moved By Lorraine Donovan

That the High Level Forests PAC meeting minutes of January 11, 2005 be accepted as presented

CARRIED

4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Susan McNeil got a phone call from a woman who wanted to let the public know that as the owner of a few log trucks they have always been able to find Canadian drivers through HRE's web site. She wanted the public to be aware of this service.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Issues and Concerns Tracking Sheet

Nothing new to add

5.2 Public Involvement

There was some discussion about possibly combining the PEG and the PAC into one meeting. There are some members that belong to both committees and it would save these people from attending two meetings. Some of the issues are intermingled while others are not, this might make it easier to clarify what is a PAC issue and what is a PEG issue. Members at the meeting had a short discussion and agreed that it would not hurt to try it for awhile. Marcel will put together a presentation outlining how it would work for the April meeting. It was also pointed out that the terms of reference would have to be changed which should not be a huge issue.

5.3 Terms of Reference

John suggested that in order to familiarize ourselves with the term of reference perhaps they should become a revolving document distributed at each meeting or at least have them available for the people that wish to see them. Mary will make copies to distribute at the April meeting.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Question of the Month

Kendra Thomas could not join us to collect her prize we will contact her for the April meeting.

Susan will make a trip out to visit the horse loggers as she was not available when the rest of the group went. She will write an article for the Echo and out of that will make up a question for the "question of the month".

6.2 Clipping Service (handouts)

Colin handed out copies of newspaper clippings

6.3 Salvage

Tabled until April's meeting as Gail Tucker was not available to speak to this issue.

6.4 Annual Performance Report

Tolko and Footner recently received their certification statue from the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) following their audits in November 2004. Copies were distributed (CD)

The committee congratulated both companies for this huge accomplishment and commended them for their hard work

6.5 Update On Highway Safety

A short discussion on the integrity of the tach cards took place. A actual card was passed around as well as copies of the card with a hauling record. Will explained in detail how the card works and how a driver's driving habits can be tracked from the time he leaves the mill with his clean card to the time he comes back in with his load. Eventually Tolko may opt to switch to a GPS system which is what the Footner mill is currently using, the main difference being the transfer of paper as it is a digital wireless system.

Although a logging truck accident on the front page of the Echo, along with the RCMP stating on the radio that they will be cracking down on speeding log trucks has given the companies some bad publicity this last week, Will reiterated that speeding trucks has not been a problem for them this year. The tracking system (Tach cards) that they are using is effective.

Will and Mike are still planning on using a radar gun and an unmarked vehicle to radar trucks at random to see if they are in fact speeding.

7. CORRESPONDANCE

7.1 Northern Lights Forest Education Society

The combined field trip with the NLFES and the public was a huge success, the turn out was just right and the weather was perfect. Committee members thanked the companies and Friesen's Logging for taking the time to organize such a valuable event.

A short discussion took place on the assessment of horse logging. Tolko is committing to continue with horse logging, the plan is to eventually have them in more sensitive areas

After a short discussion on the PAC's annual AGM it was decide to have it alongside with the NLFES's AGM on May 04th like last year.

7.2 Letter From Ken Smith

A letter from Ken Smith the Divisional Operations Superintendent cam to the PAC thanking us for our letter of support, thanks to all the support they received they have been given permission to go ahead with the 20 meter wide road. Road is already in use and some Oil and Gas companies have asked to use it to move their big equipment out.

Signs and gates have been put up to help deal with the caribou issue.

8 AROUND THE TABLE

Marcel – Tolko was recently awarded the Corporal Forest Management Practice Award.

Marcel and Barry Gladders have been having discussions about having a sharing session at a PAC meeting to discuss topic that keep coming up time and time again. This might be a good way to find some resolutions to some old issues that can't seem to be resolved.

Marcel presented John Thurston a plaque in recognition of his participation in the companies receiving their CSA certification.

Tracy – apologized for having to table the salvage issue once again but Gail was just not able to make the meeting.

Will – Tolko is hosting their annual Trucker Appreciation Day on March 04th

Susan – Wanted to point out that Little Red River Cree won the Alberta Chamber of Commerce award of Outstanding Aboriginal Business in Alberta

If anyone has any suggestions for articles that she can write on Forest Fire Prevention week please contact her

Leo- Happy to be back after a short leave

John- James Ahannsay would like to get together with Colin or Will to GPS the Herring nests sometime in the spring

NEXT MEETING – April 05, 2005 @ 5:00 pm at the Fairview College

9 ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned @ 6:30 pm