



HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 7, 2006
5:00 p.m. @ NAIT Campus

Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

John Thurston, Chair
Marcel LeCoure (Tolko)
Walter Sarapuk
Michael Alsterlund
Chris Smith (FFP)

Scott McNeil (FFP)
Jeremy Beal (Tolko)
Marilee Toews
Lacey Reid (Echo)
Darryl Young (FFP)

AshleyBeaulieu-Zatko- Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meal catered by B&B, committee had meal prior to meeting.

John Thurston, Chair of High Level Forests PAC called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

That the agenda be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

Moved By: Walter Sarapuk

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

ADDITIONS

5.3 Private Wood Sales

- M. Alsterlund left meeting.

6.4 Review of GTKYN

- J. Thurston and Scott McNeil were at the High Level Get to Know You Night.

- G. Friesen was at the La Crete Get to Know You Night.
- There was an effort made to deliver the PAC display to Rainbow Lake for their GTKYN however that was not possible and the display was made available in Fort Vermilion.

8. Around the Table

- G. Friesen had made some important comments regarding the Economics at the current time.
- C. Dakin provided some guidance as to how ASRD could assist the PAC with special speakers to review topics within the VOIT's in the DFMP planning framework.

MOTION

Moved by: Marilee Toews

4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Q- When does the hauling begin?

A- Tolko- Not until the weekend of December 4, 2006, the earliest would be November 28, 2006.

FFP- Hauling right now.

Q- Most of the traffic will be from the west?

A- Tolko- West & North, 8 or 9 % from the east. Also from the South but not much.

FFP- South, off highway roads.

Q- Are trucks on the clock all the time?

A- FFP- Only Monday to Friday.

M. Alsterlund- Concerning the Private Wood Sales-

- States that after the last meeting, 2 days later had a productive meeting discussions, did resolve some concerns.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Annual Performance Review of SFM Plan, presentation Part 2 of 3. (Jeremy Beal) (PowerPoint)

Jeremy provided the 2nd of 3 presentations on Tolko and FFP's performance in accordance to the SFM Plan for the reporting period of May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006. Some questions were posed during the presentation (as noted below), and Jeremy plans to complete the last presentation to the PAC on December 5, 2006, with the Annual Report to be available to the PAC and the interested public in February 2007.

Q- How do you go about meeting the CFSA standard?

A- Internal Surveillance, the idea is a continual improvement.

Q- Where are the swans's located?

A- The 2 swans were seen at Hutch Lake & 1 was seen on the salt flats on the way to Zama City.

Q- What is rutting?

A- Rutting is the compaction and displacement of upper soil and organic layers which limits soil porosity and permeability is limited thereby having the potential to reduce future plant growth.

Q- If rutting does occur what do you do to reclaim?

A- Most likely go in and end up planting.

5.2 New Softwood Trade Deal between CAN and US- (Marcel LeCoure) (PowerPoint)

Marcel LeCoure provided an overview of the new softwood trade deal between Canada and the US, and in particular provided information on how this may impact industry within Alberta. The following are some key points from the presentation and questions/answers that were discussed.

- New Softwood Trade Deal did come into affect on October 01, 2006.
- Frame work was formed in April 2006.
- July 01, 2006- Trade Minister and American counterpart signed deal.
- September 12, 2006- The agreement was formally signed and came into play on October 01, 2006.
- Term is 7years with clauses that allow a 2 year extension.

Q- How much does Tolko ship to the United States?

A- About 78%.

Q- The tax goes to?

A- The American Government.

Q- What is the US Government doing with the money?

A- It is going towards a trust.

Q- What about the tariffs that are coming back to forest companies to Canada?

A- The forest companies across the country paid 5.4 Billion during the last 4+ years and they will be receiving more than 80%.

Q- Are the companies in Alberta protected in amount as to how much they send over the border?

A- No, they are not.

Q- How do they go about figuring out formulas?

A- Historic data.

Q- How much play did the stumpage rates have?

A- If the stumpage goes up then the price of lumber must be going up.

5.3 Final Portion Annual Operating Plan (Handout) (PowerPoint) (Scott McNeil)

Scott provided an overview of the Annual Operating Plan that showed: list of companies (Tolko, FFP and embedded quota holders), compartments in FMA that will be active, timing of operations, and generalized table of planned harvest activities & volume to be harvested. Scott fielded questions from the PAC which are listed below.

Q- Why are you taking lumber from PLP?

A- It is a business arrangement between themselves.

Q- Does it come down the highway?

A- Zama comes down the Highway 58, thru Zama Ridge.

Q- What quantity and age will be taken?

A- Merchantable coniferous, small timber and if it merchantable.
If it is immature it will be left standing.

Q- Does FFP have a patch retention policy?

A- Yes we both do, Tolko and Footner.

Q- Do you use antiquated system?

A- We do use the antiquated system; found that this is the accepted methodology of doing that.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Clipping Service- (handouts)

Jeremy Beal handed out copies of newspaper clippings.

6.2 Update to Terms of Reference. (Changes made)

Jeremy involved the committee in updating the ToR to better reflect the groups/organizations that are either active in the PAC and/or still organized. In addition the position of Treasurer was removed from the ToR and the reference to a communication committee was removed. These ToR will be updated on www.highlevelwwodlands.com, and the document will be reviews each year to reflect any changes.

6.3 DFMP VOIT's: Guide for Speaker Topics (Jeremy Beal) (Handout)

Jeremy Beal will follow up with John Stadt from ASRD to come and speak to HLPAC.

7. CORRESPONDANCE / REPORTS

There is none at this present time.

8. AROUND THE TABLE

Q- What is Tolko's plan for the burner and does this involve cogeneration?

A- Alternate energy source.

Next gasification in 2007/ 2008.

M. Alsterlund-

-Went on Mixed wood Management Field Trip- had excellent information, excellent lead up to what was involved, found that they did an excellent job.

M. Toews-

- Was very disappointed did not get to go.

- Misinterpretations did occur.

S. McNeil-

- The tour went very well, would of liked to see more HLPAC members There.

9. NEXT MEETING – December 05, 2006 @ 5:00 pm at the N.A.I.T. Campus.

10. ADJOURNMENT- 8:20 p.m.