

HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP

Approved MINUTES

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

5:00 pm – Town of High Level office, Room 110
High Level, Alberta

ATTENDANCE:

Jeremy Beal (CSA Coordinator)	Boyd Langford (TRL)
Rod Chalifoux (THL)	Walter Sarapuk (MacKenzie County)
Richard Martens (Taqa North)	Darren Carnell (LRRF)
George Friesen (Friesen Industries)	Lindee Dumas (LRRCN)

REGRETS:

John Thurston (Member of the public)	Joy Friesen (HBSWS)
Don Warman (High Level Chamber)	Paul Catt (WMWS)
Randy Hellwig (Beaver First Nation)	Veronica Tallcree (LRR)
Mark Andrews (Cenovus)	Aaron Doepel (LCSM)
Pat Cabezas (N'Deh)	Steve Beson
Teresa Griffiths (Flow North Paddling Co.)	Steven Butler (WMWS)
Marilee Cranna Toews (HBSWS)	

Recording Secretary: Jeremy Beal

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:25 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

One change: Jeremy requested that 2012 CSA Surveillance Audit results be added as 4.4

Moved by Walter Sarapuk

Seconded by Boyd Langford

Carried

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (February 14, 2012)

Moved by Boyd Langford

Seconded by Richard Martens

Carried

(Break for meal)

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Economics in the region. Focus on forestry sector.

- Jeremy provided a presentation of the economics in the region, with information provided by Lindsay Thompson at REDI.
- The presentation will be made available on www.highlevelwoodlands.com along with these minutes.
- The main purpose for the information was to cover off 3 remaining CSA mandatory discussion items that included:
 1. *Benefits for local communities and aboriginal peoples*
 2. *Fair distribution of benefits and costs*
 3. *Proportion of goods and services sourced from local communities*
- Economic Factors in the Mackenzie Region that were covered off
 1. Alberta's Economy (comparison)
 2. Employment
 3. Economic Indicators
 4. Businesses
 5. Labour Force
 6. Aboriginal Component
 7. Forestry in Mackenzie Region
 8. Indicator comparison (new CSA Standard vs current indicators in SFM Plan)
- Please refer to presentation for complete information covered

4.2 Recap of mandatory discussion items covered in past meetings

- Jeremy reviewed progress in covering mandatory discussion items required by the 2008 CSA Standard. The few slides will be posted to www.highlevelwoodlands.com along with these minutes.
 1. There was agreement in past meetings that the silviculture related discussion items were covered off in a prior PAG meeting.
 2. September 16, 2011, John Stadt (SRD, Provincial Forest Ecologist) covered off many of the discussion items related to biological diversity, disturbances, genetics, etc.
 3. October 18, 2011, Dana Williams (SRD) reviewed management and protection of biological resources and cultural resources.
 4. November 1, 2011, Kayedon Wilcox (SRD, F&W, Senior Fisheries Biologist) provided an overview of watersheds and management practices for water quality and fisheries habitat.

5. November 15, 2011, Marty O'Byrne (SRD) reviewed the topic of soils in relation to seasons of operations and site rehabilitation in areas of severe soil disturbance.
6. February 14, 2012, Randy Hellwig (Band Manager, BFN) discussed development of working relationships with willing Aboriginal communities, and the benefits for Aboriginal Peoples of the working forest.
7. February 14, 2012, Jeremy Beal led discussion on the Carbon Emissions paper provided through the Sustainable Forest Management Network.
8. April 10, 2012, economic mandatory discussion items were covered off by Jeremy Beal (initial presentation created by Lindsay Thompson)
9. Outstanding Items to be covered off at future meeting(s):
 - Climate change impacts and adaption
 - Proportion of naturally disturbed area that is not salvage harvested
 - Biomass utilization

4.3 Next steps in process to revise SFM Plan

- Roddy Resources Inc (Sask) has been hired to complete the writing portion of the new SFM Plan
 1. Very informed about the CSA Standard and providing good input
 2. Objective is to have a new SFM Plan in place for November 1, 2012
- Next meeting to review changes to the Terms of Reference required to meet new CSA Standard
- PAG meeting and open house planned for September to ensure the indicators are available for public to provide feedback on. Format for open house is still being thought out.

4.4 Results of CSA Surveillance Audit

- Audit was completed by QMI-SAI Global on January 24-26, 2012
- Nate Ryant was the Lead Auditor
- Successful outcome that we were recommended to continued certification to the CSA Z809:2002 standard
- Members of the public, SRD and the PAG Facilitator were interviewed by the Auditor
- Both positive and negative comments were recorded and relayed to Tolko
- No non-conformances to the standard
- 3 Areas of Concern were noted:
 1. Ensure all suppliers (fuel and mechanics) are trained as per the company's training requirements. The audit found suppliers at 2 harvest operations not in the training records.

2. Ensure the Block Status Tracker is used as per the company staff responsibilities which require inspection non-conformities and non-compliances to be added to the tracker. The audit found this area of the tracker not completed.
 3. (a) Indicator 8 – Ensure harvest operations are compliant with the Ungulate Winter Range timing restrictions and that if amendments are necessary approvals are on file.
(b) Indicator19 - Ensure streams are properly classified when the ground conditions allow for their proper classification.
- 3 Opportunities for Improvement were noted:
 1. Consider communicating the fact that contractors can print online documents for their operators.
 2. Consider requiring timely emergency response drills by the contractors for safety, fire and spills.
 3. Consider requiring the timely completion of the Accident/Incident Investigation Forms (AIIF) by company field personnel and providing the contractors with the final version of the incident investigations.
 - The AOCs and OFIs have been entered in Tolko's EMS system and will be acted upon.
 - Next audit is scheduled January 7-10, 2013 and it will be a Registration Audit to the 2008 CSA Forestry Standard, CSA Z809:2008.

5. CLIPPING SERVICE

No handouts provided, however website address was provided to access latest Forestry News, www.canadian-forests.com/news.html . If anyone wants paper copies that can be arranged. The clipping service will return next meeting.

6. AROUND THE TABLE

7. NEXT MEETING – May 8, 2012

8. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting Adjourned, 8:10pm