

**Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resources Research and Management**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**October 19, 2009**

**Present:** Anne Harfenist (Chair), Phil Burton, Sybille Haeussler, Jim McCormack, Don Morgan, Irene Ronalds, Laurence Turney, Rick Budhwa (RPM), Kirsteen Laing (AM)

**Absent:** Debbie Cichowski Brian Edmison, Rosemary Fox, Brian Fuhr, Bob Mitchell

Note: monthly information update was circulated prior to the meeting

- 1) Acceptance of Agenda with addition of Wetzin'kwa Community Forest and Membership Survey
  - *Irene moved to accept; Laurence seconded. Approved.*
- 2) Approval of September 23 Edited Minutes (circulated by Irene Oct. 19)
  - *Phil moved to adopt minutes; Jim seconded. Approved.*
- 3) Action Items from Previous Meeting(s)
  - a) Research Quality Assurance document
    - *Laurence moved to adopt June '09 version; Phil seconded. Approved.*
  - b) Scholarship: proposed recipient has been contacted but no word back yet
    - **Kirsteen will continue to attempt to contact recipient**
  - c) New website outstanding section rewrites: completed
  - d) Publishing seminars on website: seminar coordinator will request PowerPoint presentation from each speaker
  - e) Carbon offset: MoF system is not available to public; Don has asked whether it could be made available
    - **Rick to ask Sheldon to work on finding a publically available system to use**
- 4) Salmon Habitat Conference follow-up workshop
  - Don and Brian F. are involved in organizing
  - tentatively scheduled for late November
  - objective to move forward with collaborative model of research and management
  - focus on habitat questions rather than on fish populations
  - also will define role of BVRC
- 5) Introduce new staff
  - Sheldon Haftner and Ingrid Granlin introduced
  - Sheldon was hired through CFD Nadina program and has been assisting with operations such as conference
  - Ingrid will be taking over from Breann in Wetzin'kwa community outreach position and seminar coordinator time
- 6) Wetzin'kwa Community Forest
  - board members and staff attended informal lunch with Wetzin'kwa board
  - plan to formalize relationship between 2 organisations using sub-committees of the boards
  - Sybille and Phil will be (part of) BVRC sub-committee;
  - **Sybille to prepare a notice to general membership about this opportunity to solicit non-board members for sub-committee**
  - W. is interested in research, resource management, value-added, marketing their goods and services
  - one idea from BVRC is to have scientific advisory board to look at annual harvesting plan and suggest refinements that could be used to provide useful information (~ a research forest)
  - Regina Saimoto of NWCC discussed the opportunity for mutually beneficial collaborations between the college and researchers in Wetzin'kwa – students could gain experience in the field and researchers could benefit from a pool of volunteer labour.
  - need to shop around BV combination of land-base, researchers, CRB, BVRC, college, expertise as new model of sustainable resource management
  - **Phil to check out New North Foundation**
- 7) Membership survey
  - summary of results distributed at meeting
  - **Kirsteen to send out more detailed summary to board**
  - results to be discussed at next meeting if desired; also inform strategic plan rewrite
  - one result suggests that scholarship not of major importance to many members

- 8) Planning for next year (to remain a standing agenda item for near future)
  - BVRC year corresponds to calendar year but much of our funding uses Mar 31 as year-end so lots of uncertainty heading into ~ spring
  - initial scenarios have been run and will be tweaked as updated information becomes available
  - operating budget could be as low as 1/3 present level
  - hard decisions (e.g. re office space) may be required by December; 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter figures will be available and additional scenarios will be run for Dec. board meeting
  
- 9) New sources of funding (standing agenda item)
  - suggestion that Rick check with Pat Moss NW Institute re fish- and water- related foundations
  - foundations often looking for some form of advocacy
  - BVRC approach is to offer sound science, a credible information source
  - Need to quantify the impact that BVRC has in terms of “research uptake”
  
- 10) New business
  - a) women in science program at Smithers Secondary School contacted Sybille looking for interested participants among research community
    - **interested board members to contact Sybille; let others in research community know**
  
  - b) Need to highlight “research uptake” on our website – how our research has made a difference
    - may be best to have brainstorming session about this; one e.g. suggested was secondary structure studies leading to changes in Forest policy guidelines for structural retention
  
  - c) second complexity workshop being planned; to discuss at November meeting

**Next Meeting – Monday November 16 at BVC office @ 15:30; Anne to chair**

**Meeting Adjourned**

Minutes taken by Irene Ronalds and Anne Harfenist