

Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resources Research and Management
Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
November 21, 2012

Present: Sybille Haeussler (Chair), Don Morgan, Phil Burton (phone), Brian Edmison, Greg Knox, Laurence Turney, Regina Saimoto, Alison Beale, Adrian de Groot (minutes), Rick Budhwa (RPM),

1. Acceptance of Agenda

Regina moved to accept, Brian seconded, approved.

2. Approval of June 27 Minutes

Phil moved to accept edited minutes, Laurence seconded, approved.

3. Approval of Sept 19 Minutes

Laurence moved to accept minutes as edited by Sybille, Regina seconded, approved.

4. Major Project Update

a. Conference debriefing (Rick)

The Adding It All up conference last week was very well received by the attendees and he is getting lots of positive feedback on all aspects of the conference – venue, food, speakers. He will meet with conference organizer Jill Dunbar to follow-up and go over the next steps. This includes preparing the conference proceedings and an announcement of next steps. The conference, however, will not make money but the accounting is not complete.

Discussion followed about keeping up the momentum from the conference on the topic of cumulative impact monitoring, and the role the BVRC can play in this. Facilitating the storage and access to data is one role that is being actively explored. Also, thanks from the board go out to all staff involved in organizing such a successful event. Other positives noted were the 5 minute forums, respectful conversations between groups, good networking and good attendance to all sessions. One area to work on was to better engage industry and come up with strategies to mix different interest groups.

Action: *Rick will make a presentation to the board next meeting on the conference.*

b. Apache – Office of the Wet’suwet’en - BVRC project

The BVRC is managing a project for the Office of the Wet’suwet’en that is funded by Apache. The aquatics portion project is confirmed, with fish and country foods components still being negotiated. A discussion followed about the BVRC process of awarding contracts for projects being managed, and the need for transparency.

Action: *Rick will write a document on the methods used to award contracts for discussion by the board for the next meeting.*

c. Morice Watershed Monitoring

Rick is working with Richard Overstall to set up a trust for an endowment that may be forthcoming to fund monitoring of the Morice River.

5. Strategic Plan Review and Amendment

Sybille presented a proposed amendment to the 5-year Strategic Plan based on discussions at the previous two board meetings. The amendment consists of adding a 5th goal to better reflect some of the work the BVRC is already undertaking. The goal will be regarding “enhanced trust and capacity for sustainable resource management”. Discussion about the amendment with edits proposed.

Action: *Sybille will edit the proposed amendment and present at the next board meeting.*

Action: *The board asked Rick to provide at the next meeting an outline of what it will take to begin to build a comprehensive data gathering, storage, monitoring and access program over 5 years, with achievable and incremental deliverables from now until 2017-18. It should also be noted that the project should be, at the least, revenue neutral.*

6. Board Member Replacement

Richard Overstall will likely have time starting in January to join the board. There is a need to start looking at possible changes in board membership for the next AGM.

Action: *Sybille and Adrian will start planning for board membership changes in time for the AGM, and approach Richard Overstall.*

7. BVRC 10-year Anniversary

Discussion was held about the significance of the 10-year anniversary. It was felt that we need to promote this event in the community so people are aware of the BVRC and what it does. Highlight projects the BVRC has done and the people that have done them.

Action: *BVRC staff will organize the 10th anniversary AGM with direction from the board.*

8. Meeting with Northwest Community College President

A lunch meeting with Denise Henning, NWCC president is set for Dec 4th. Ways the BVRC and NWCC can work together on applied projects is one avenue that will be explored.

Sybille proposed to adjourn meeting, Adrian seconded, approved.

Next meeting: Monday December 17th 2012, 3:30 to 5:30 pm