



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, December 7, 2009

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Regional District offices, Fort St. John, BC

PRESENT: Director Tim Caton, Electoral Area 'E', Committee Chair
 Director Bruce Lantz, City of Fort St. John
 Director Evan Saugstad, District of Chetwynd
 Director Karen Goodings, Electoral Area 'B', 10:15 a.m.
 Shannon Anderson, General Manager of Environmental Services
 Jeff Rahn, Manager of Solid Waste Services
 Kim Frech, Chief Financial Officer
 Suzanne Garrett, Corporate Services Coordinator

Guests

Director Arthur Hadland, Electoral Area 'C'
 Dr. Tony Sperling, Sperling Hansen Associates
 Owen Carney, Carney's Waste Systems

- 1) Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda: MOVED by Director Saugstad, SECONDED by Director Lantz, that the Solid Waste Committee Meeting agenda for the December 7, 2009 meeting, including Directors' New Business and Additional Items for the agenda, be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

Minutes:

M-1 Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2009

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Delegations:

- D-1 Director Hadland regarding Vancouver Sun newspaper article entitled "Follow the money, not the trash pile, in solving solid waste management mess."
- D-2 Dr. Tony Sperling, Sperling Hansen Associates regarding an update on the Solid Waste System Review.

Reports:

- R-1 October 28, 2009 report from Ellen Calliou, Economic Development Officer, District of Chetwynd, regarding Clean Up Trails for Tomorrow.
- R-2 November 24, 2009 report from Kim Frech, Chief Financial Officer regarding Clean Up coupon program.
- R-3 November 24, 2009 report from Kim Frech, Chief Financial Officer regarding Financial Report for the Solid Waste Management function.
- R-4 November 26, 2009 report from Jeff Rahn, Manager of Solid Waste Services regarding an update on the Fort St. John Landfill
- R-5 November 30, 2009 report from Jeff Rahn, Manager of Solid Waste Services regarding Versus Goliath proposal for landfill gas assessment and collection at the Fort St. John Landfill.
- R-6 November 26, 2009 report from Jeff Rahn, Manager of Solid Waste Services regarding Materials Recycling Task Force - Terms of Reference.

2) Adoption of the
Agenda
(continued)

New Business:

NB-1 Solid Waste Committee meeting schedule

Diary:

MINUTES:

3) M-1
SWC Mtg. Min.
of Sept. 15, 2009

MOVED by Director Saugstad, SECONDED by Director Lantz,
that Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2008
be adopted.

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

4) D-1
re: RSWMP
article

Director Hadland expressed concern that following a review of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan that the Regional District was not being proactive enough within the scope of the Plan. There are many innovations that could be investigated, i.e. waste to energy. There is a need to look to the future for the benefit of the whole of the region.

It was noted that a number of options have been investigated over the years. Some innovations are expensive to implement and cost recovery takes time. The focus in Phase I of the Plan is investigation of options, costs to the taxpayer, etc.

5) D-2
re: update on the
SW system review.

Dr. Tony Sperling, P. Eng., Sperling Hansen Associates was in attendance to provide members with an update on the Solid Waste System Review.

Tasks to be undertaken include data and budget review, facility profile and financial model, benchmark survey, facility inspections, review of Regional District operations - how do operations compare to rest of the Province.

The scope of work was changed to include exploring the feasibility of a joint Regional District - Industry waste to energy facility. The second change is the presentation of the draft report and final report to the Solid Waste Committee.

Director Goodings noted that the Regional District needs to find a better system for the disposal of bale wrap. Producers burn the plastic in the spring.

6) Recess

The meeting recessed for coffee at 11:30 a.m.

7) Reconvene

The meeting reconvened at 11:40 p.m.

MOVED by Director Lantz, SECONDED by Director Saugstad,
that the Solid Waste Committee recommend to the Regional Board that the Solid Waste System Review budget be increased by \$6,821.33 to allow for the addition of an investigation of a Regional waste-to-energy facility and presentations of the report by Sperling Hansen Associates to the Solid Waste Committee.

CARRIED.

REPORTS:

8) R-1
re: Clean Up
Trails for
Tomorrow

Ms. Ellen Calliou, Economic Development Officer, District of Chetwynd forwarded the final report for the Clean Up Trails for Tomorrow program. Job opportunities were created under this program for those affected by the economic and social impacts being faced by the forestry industry. A crew of 20 members conducted maintenance and re-establishment of local trail systems, clean up of garbage that was dumped in several areas and assisted in the clean up of creeks. Projects completed included Old Baldy, Project Greenspace, Project R2, Project Stream Keepers and Project Cleanup. The Regional Board had authorized waiving of tipping fees up to \$1,500.00 toward the Clean Up Trails for Tomorrow Program.

9) R-2
re: Clean up
Campaign
voucher system

Discussions have taken place regarding the implementation of a “voucher system” to replace the Spring and Fall Clean up campaigns.

It was noted that currently refuse is dumped at transfer bin sites and is constantly picked up. Will the Regional District see any improvement if a voucher system is implemented, or will people just continue to dump their large bulky items at the bin sites.

There are a number of rural areas that are against the proposed voucher system. However, spring and fall clean up costs approximately \$240,000 annually and costs keep escalating. Concern was expressed that more garbage will be found along roadways, need to ensure that loads are tarped. Cost to implement voucher system would be approximately \$50,000.

MOVED by Director Lantz, SECONDED by Director Saugstad,
that the Solid Waste Committee recommend to the Regional Board:

- a) that the Regional District undertake one typical clean up campaign, in the spring of 2010; and
- b) that a pilot “voucher system” be operated for 2010, in conjunction with the typical clean up campaign, for the disposal of bulky waste items; and
- c) that an evaluation report on the pilot project be prepared at the end of 2010 for review by the Solid Waste Committee.

CARRIED.

10) R-4
re: update on FSJ
landfill

- in 2004 it had been estimated that there was enough pitting space to continue landfilling for 5 years;
- after that five year period landfilling could continue above ground in different areas of the site for a further 11 years, but only if sufficient cover material was readily available from off-site;
- slope stability concerns relative to steep slopes adjacent to the landfill, and landfill elevations that an adjacent property owner had identified were impacting his viewscape. Slope stability has been monitored through bi-annual readings of geotechnical instruments installed in the ground. Observations have revealed no movements associated with the upland slope. As well landfill elevations were investigated through modeling of final contours associated with the 5 and 16 year fill plans along with digital photos showing the appearance of final elevations as viewed from an adjacent resident.

Reports: (continued)

- 10) R-4
(continued)
- It was determined that final elevations would be approximately one-half the height of a tree line buffer separating the two properties. remaining air space, there are substantial portions of the landfill that can still be utilized that would significantly extend its life, subject to the availability of cover material.
- Given the costs, complexities and difficulties of establishing a replacement landfill for the Fort St. John are, staff are recommending that the Regional District fully utilizes the remaining capacity of the site, this time line affords an opportunity to investigate and utilize alternate means of disposal i.e. waste-to-energy.
- MOVED by Director Saugstad , SECONDED by Director Lantz, that the Solid Waste Committee recommend to the Regional Board:
- a) that the Fort St. John landfill continue to operate at its present location until its remaining fill capacity has been fully utilized; and
 - b) that staff be authorized to investigate expansion opportunities for the existing landfill; and
 - c) that staff be authorized to issue an Expression of Interest for the long term supply of soil cover material for the Fort St. John landfill.
- CARRIED.
- 11) R-5
re: gas collection
- Versus Goliath Project Solutions Inc. have expressed an interest in conducting a landfill gas assessment at the Fort St. John Landfill to determine if the site is economically viable.
- MOVED by Director Lantz, SECONDED by Director Saugstad, that the Solid Waste Committee recommend to the Regional Board that staff be authorized to investigate a gas rights agreement at the Fort St. John landfill with Versus Goliath Project Solutions Inc. for consideration by the Regional Board.
- CARRIED.
- 12) R-6
re: Terms of Reference
- Staff have been participating on a Materials Recycling Task Force organized by Recycle Plus, Grande Prairie, Alberta for the purpose of developing long term, sustainable and effective collection and processing of recycling strategy for northern Alberta and British Columbia. The Task Force has recently finalized its Terms of Reference. This is a worthwhile undertaking that could result in a more efficient and cost-effective system of recycling within the Regional District.
- MOVED by Director Saugstad, SECONDED by Director Lantz, that the Solid Waste Committee recommend to the Regional Board that staff be authorized to continue participating on the Materials Recycling Task Force.
- CARRIED.
- NEW BUSINESS:**
- 13) NB-1
Meeting schedule
- Discussion ensued regarding the establishment of a meeting schedule for the Committee. Members felt that meetings should be scheduled on an as needed basis.

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New Business: (continued)

- 14) NB-2
Clean Fill pilot project
Director Goodings inquired on the status of the final report on the clean fill pilot project that was undertaken at the closed Dawson Creek landfill.
Mr. Anderson advised that the report would be on the next agenda.
- 15) NB-3
Budget meetings
Mrs. Frech asked members for a suitable meeting date to discuss the Regional Solid Waste Management budget. A meeting date of January 28, 2010 was agreed upon.
- 16) Committee Report
MOVED by Director Lantz, SECONDED by Director Saugstad, that the recommendations from the Solid Waste Committee Meeting of December 7, 2009 be recommended to the Regional Board for approval.
CARRIED.
- 17) Adjournment
BY CONSENSUS,
that the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Tim Caton, Chair

S. Garrett, Corporate Services Coordinator

January 14, 2010