

**Northwest Species at Risk Committee**

**Town of High Level Office  
High Level, AB**

**Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Lisa Wardley Chair, Deputy Reeve, Mackenzie County  
Crystal McAteer Vice Chair, Mayor, Town of High Level  
Terry Ungarian Councillor, County of Northern Lights  
Mike Morgan Councillor, Town of High Level  
Sunni-Jeanne Walker Mayor, Town of Manning  
Chris Mitchell Councillor, Town of Rainbow Lake

**REGRETS:** Jacquie Bateman Councillor, Mackenzie County  
Eric Jorgensen Councillor, Mackenzie County  
Peter Frixel Councillor, Clear Hills County  
Miron Croy Councillor, Clear Hills County  
Michelle Farris Mayor, Town of Rainbow Lake  
Linda Halabisky Councillor, County of Northern Lights  
Charlie Johnson Councillor, Clear Hills County  
Brenda Kerr Councillor, Town of Manning

**ADMINISTRATION:** Dan Fletcher CAO, Town of High Level  
Byron Peters Director of Planning and Development,  
Mackenzie County  
Hayley Gavin Planner/ Recording Secretary, Mackenzie  
County

**ALSO PRESENT:** Diana McQueen DMC Consulting (via teleconference)

**MOTION** 1. **Call to Order**

Lisa Wardley called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

**17-08-005** **MOVED** by Terry Ungarian

That the agenda be adopted with the addition of:

6. Terms of Reference

**CARRIED**

17-08-006

### **3. Adoption of the Minutes**

**MOVED** by Sunni-Jeanne Walker

That the minutes from the August 10, 2017 NWSAR Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

### **4. Committee Member Update: Round Table Discussion**

The NWSAR perspective is perhaps being perceived differently across the border in Northeastern BC.

Presentation by CPAWS and the AWA, at the NWSAR Open Houses, didn't seem to offer any flexibility in the approach for caribou recovery. The NWSAR needs to do more research on the disturbance factor end and obtain letters of support from the contacts we have made. Lots of people we have spoken to are supportive of our endeavour – let's see if they will endorse it.

We heard from the oil and gas industry at the NWSAR open houses that existing moratoriums do affect existing dispositions. Changing zones in sub-surface disturbance has been denied by the GOA – grandfathering existing industry tenure does not create certainty for industry.

The 1996 and 2006 resources for Caribou Mountains Wildland Park show the backstory to how the park was identified for its protective designation.

AWA were talking about the idea of ecotourism in Wildland Park; building visitor numbers in the area. AWA unable to invest financially in such parks.

Participants of the open houses still seem somewhat confused about the direction of the committee. We were not being discredited; they just want to know what's going on.

Future open houses perhaps we can do a panel type discussion instead of a presentation.

Ensure the local paper in Manning has the same content as the High Level local paper; make people more aware of what's going on and what the NWSAR is working on/towards.

Even though the AWA and CPAWS obtained some local

perspective from the NWSAR region they are still mandated to advocate for new parks and protected areas.

Forester's at the Manning Open House talked about forestry companies knocking down 15 foot trees in order to restore area's previously logged. This is ludicrous – creating more disturbances unnecessarily.

Ensure we add more emphasis on concerns raised at Open Houses in the final report.

Tri-fold Brochures to be sent to all NWSAR municipal partners.

Talked with PSAC this week; they're supportive of the report – they can perhaps gain some federal support for Orphan Well funding.

At the Mayors and Reeves meeting the Minister's comments came up in discussion. The NWSAR members defended themselves on this topic at the meeting.

Forestry companies are supportive of the NWSAR report despite the comments questioning the validity of our claims and economic values.

First Nations support is very important in the long run.

Could we get support letters from the industry associations – provincial and federal? We can also support their key messaging. Also, perhaps we need to receive endorsements letters from the larger local businesses?

Grand Assembly – opportunity for an NWSAR representative to speak with all four local Chiefs and discuss our report.

## **5. BC and NWT Presentations: Discussion**

Meet with BC and NWT after municipal elections?

Could we get on the agenda to present at AAMD&C and AMUA in November? An organized panel for discussion on what the NWSAR has been doing. Or a hospitality suite; providing short presentations and engaging with lots of people at both events.

September 25-29 Union of BC municipalities (rural and urban) in Vancouver convention – perhaps get on this agenda?

Meet with BC and NWT after the release of provincial draft Range Plans. Keep week commencing 6-10<sup>th</sup> November and the last week of November and the first week of December free for our travelling road show to BC and NWT. We could split the NWSAR members in half to visit both jurisdictions during the same week.

In the meantime, send them all (BC and NWT) our final report via email and explain that we will await the release of provincial Range Plans, and then attend to provide our presentation and our response to GOA Range Plans.

Talk with AAMD&C and AUMA about options for presentations for the NWSAR at November conventions.

## **6. Terms of Reference**

17-08-007

**MOVED** by Terry Ungarian

That administration revise the Terms of Reference *Structure* to:

Two councillors and/or Members at Large and an alternate appointed by each of the member municipalities.

## **CARRIED**

Send this information to all other member municipalities to draft their RFDs for all Councils.

In order to maintain continuity on the boreal caribou project, the NWSAR would like to continue with the same elected members, regardless of whether members are re-elected or not.

Lisa Wardley called a recess at 2:33 p.m. and reconvened the meeting 2:47 p.m.

## **7. Final Review of Final NWSAR Recommendations Report**

Chris Mitchell left the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

All administration edits were reviewed and further notes and edits were made to the report for administration to complete for final report release on Friday September 1, 2017.

Provide cover letters to preface the report to Ministers and Deputy Ministers, including their public comments RE quoting

their commitments and request that the grandfathering definition includes proven/established resources.

**17-08-008**

**MOVED** by Mike Morgan

To accept the final version of the NWSAR Recommendations Report with the discussed additions and edits.

**CARRIED**

**8. Next Meeting Dates**

- ❖ No new meeting dates were set.

**9. Adjournment**

**17-08-009**

**MOVED** by Crystal McAteer

That the Northwest Species at Risk Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

**CARRIED**

These minutes were adopted this \_\_\_\_\_

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Lisa Wardley, Chair