



HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

REGIONAL BOARD

Community and Recreation Grants

The Board approved the following requests for Community and Recreation Grants:

- Ness Lake Firefighters Association for coveralls and jackets.
- Nadsilnich Lake Community Association for fitness equipment and playground maintenance.
- Bendixon Road Community Sewer Management Committee for the community sewer project.
- McBride & District Public Library for a TV/DVD unit for the Library and Museum.
- Miworth Community Association for recreation programs.
- Tabor Lake Recreation Commission for picnic tables.
- Reid Lake Community Association for surveying and legal costs.

Public Awareness and Education Display

The Board received a report that highlighted the Regional District's participation at this year's PG Exhibition. The RDFFG's public awareness and education display at the Prince George Exhibition and was awarded "Best Display" at this year's event. It was a very positive experience for all involved. With a record number of people visiting the Exhibition, staff answered a variety of questions relating to community facilities, parks, solid waste disposal, recycling, public safety and fire services. Promotion of our region's heritage and cultural attractions was also emphasized.

Summit Lake Community Sewer Project

The Board gave three readings to both the Adams Road and Tallus Road Community Sewer Establishment Bylaws for a proposed new sewage system at Summit Lake. The new system is to include pump and haul from holding tanks on Tallus Road and an in ground septic tank effluent pumping system on Adams Road, with both systems sharing a common lagoon disposal. Support for the combined system was evident through the petitions circulated to both areas. Tallus Road property owners were 76% in favour of the proposed system, while Adams Road property owners were 59% in support.

The Summit Lake Sewage Steering Committee has been working with Regional District Staff to evaluate the feasibility of a community sewer collection and treatment system for these two areas. At its November 2005 meeting, the Board authorized staff to prepare a formal petition for signature by the affected property owners of the Summit Lake Community.

The next step is to apply to the new Canada/BC Infrastructure Fund Program for funding assistance. The final approval of the system hinges on receiving two thirds capital funding assistance from senior government, with the remaining capital and operating costs being covered by local property owners.

Salmon Valley Volunteer Fire Department – New Pumper Fire Truck

The Board awarded the contract to American La France for the purchase of a new Fire/Rescue Pumper Truck for the Salmon Valley Volunteer Fire Department.

9-1-1 Service to the Bulkley Nechako Regional District Area

The Board authorized RDFFG staff to complete a feasibility study on the potential for the RDFFG to provide of 9-1-1 Services to the Bulkley Nechako Regional District.

McBride District Fire Protection

The Board adopted Bylaw No. 2292, 2006 which expands the McBride District Fire Protection Service area to include properties along the northwest boundary of the service protection area along Highway 16.

Building Statistics – August 2006

The Board received a report that highlighted that a total of 314 permits, valued at \$14,893,350 have been issued to the end of August 2006. Sixty-six single-family dwelling permits valued at \$11,422,500 have been issued, compared to 44 dwellings last year.

ALR Inclusion – Peterson – West of Tete Jaune Near Eustice Creek

The Board recommended approval for the Agricultural Land Commission to include property into the ALR. The property is located near Eustice Creek in the Robson Valley. John and Kathryn Peterson have applied to purchase the land from the Crown for agricultural purposes.

ALR Inclusion – Dagleish – Chief Lake Road

The Board will forward a recommendation of approval to the Agricultural Land Commission to include property at the east end of Murtle Lake into the ALR. Raymond Dagleish has applied to purchase the land from the Crown for agricultural purposes.

ALR Subdivision – Johnson – Dome Creek

The Board, acting in their delegated capacity as the Agricultural Land Commission, approved an application by Donald and Naomi Johnson to subdivide their property in the ALR into 4 parcels, approximately 10 acres, 13 acres, 16 acres and 30 acres in size in the Dome Creek area.

Zoning Amendment – Proposed New Beaverley Firehall

The Board gave third reading to a zoning amendment to allow a subdivision of an 8 acre parcel along Yellowhead Highway 16 West for construction of a new Beaverley Firehall. The site is immediately across the highway from the present firehall.

Housekeeping Zoning Amendment

The Board gave second and third readings to a housekeeping zoning amendment bylaw for the purpose of improving and cleaning up various sections of Zoning Bylaw No. 833 affecting text and general provisions in the host bylaw.

Pineview Official Community Plan Bylaw

The Board gave second reading to the Pineview Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2302, 2006 and approved a public hearing to be held. This bylaw is designed to replace the current Tabor Lake-Stone Creek Official Community Plan that applies to the Pineview area.

Robson Valley-Canoe Upstream Official Community Plan Bylaw

The Board gave second reading to the new Community Plan Bylaw and approved a public hearing to be held. This bylaw is to replace the current Official Community Plan that applies to the Robson Valley-Canoe Upstream area from Tete Jaune Cache to Albreda.

Development Variance Permit – Homme – Highway 16 East

The Board denied the application by Douglas Homme for a Development Variance Permit to allow reduced set backs for new sign placements on the northeast corner of Highway 16 East and Geddes Road.

Property Use Agreement – Tabor Lake Cleanup Society

The Board gave second and third readings to a proposed 5 year renewal agreement for the disposal of aquatic weeds from the Tabor Lake Cleanup Society's weed harvesting program.

Homme, Golinski – Illegal Billboard Structures – Highway 16 East

The Board declared the billboard sign structures on two properties, one located at the intersection of Highway 16 East and Geddes Road and the other property located at Highway 16 East near Stewart Road to be in contravention of Zoning Bylaw 833, 1986. The property owners, have been granted 30 days to remedy the zoning bylaw contravention. Should the situation not be remedied, the Regional District will seek legal action for correction of the illegal billboard sign structure setbacks.

Bylaw Enforcement – Cruikshank – Unsightly Premises

The Board declared the property owned by Ross Cruikshank at 6215 Johnson Road to be unsightly pursuant to Bylaw No. 1247, 1991. The property contains an accumulation of automobile bodies, parts, debris, waste, abandoned and damaged materials. The property owner has been granted 30 days to remedy the contravention. Should the situation not be remedied the Regional District will take action to remedy the unsightly condition of the property.

Caretaker Services – Regional Transfer Stations

The Board approved the renewal of a caretaker contract for the period of 1 year with Mr. Claypool. This contract covers caretaker services at Bear Lake, Summit Lake and McLeod Lake Regional Transfer Stations.

Vehicle Purchases

The Board approved tenders be issued for the purchase of a ½ ton 4x4 truck and a 4x4 hybrid vehicle.

Solid Waste Hauling Services

The Board approved a tender be issued for solid waste hauling services for the McBride and Valemount Regional Transfer Stations. The service involves transporting solid waste collected at these transfer stations and transporting the solid waste to the Foothills Landfill facility in Prince George.

Ness Lake Regional Park

The Board approved making application to the Province requesting an amendment to the Crown Lease for Ness Lake Regional Park. The purpose of the amendment is to remove approximately 0.4 hectares of property from the Regional Park so that it can be used by the Ness Lake Volunteer Fire Department for fire department purposes.

Cultural Contracts

The Board authorized the signing of Cultural Contracts with six Culture and Heritage agencies within the Regional District. The Cultural Contracts represent the Board's commitment to the long-term growth and sustainability of Culture and Heritage within our region. The contracts provide a five year funding commitment to the annual operating budgets for the agencies and are consistent with the objectives as defined in the RDFFG Cultural Plan, approved by the Board in February 2006.

The contracts are premised on performance measures and ensure long term consistency in financial reporting and strategic planning for each of the funded agencies.

The six Cultural Contracts were signed with the following agencies:

- Fraser-Fort George Museum Society;
- Mackenzie and District Museum Society;
- Prince George Regional Art Gallery Association;
- Valemount and Area Museum & Archives Society;
- Valley Museum and Archives Association; and
- Whistle Stop Gallery.

For more information please contact 960-4400.