PINE BEETLE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, April 12, 2007

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Pine Beetle Committee held in the Board Room, Fourth Floor, 465 Victoria Street, Kamloops, B.C. on Thursday, April 12, 2007 commencing at 10:04 a.m.

PRESENT:

Chair S. Watson  Electoral Area “E” (Bonaparte Plateau)
Director J. Post  Electoral Area “M”
Director H. Graham  Electoral Area “N”
Director E. Brown  District of Logan Lake

GUEST:

Director R. Elliott  Electoral Area “J” (Copper Desert Country)

STAFF:

Mr. A. Swetlishoff  Director of Development Services
Ms. J. Lewis  Steno II Development Services / Recording Secretary

1. MINUTES:

(a)  Meeting of February 22, 2007

Moved by Director Brown
Seconded by Director Graham

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 22, 2007 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Unanimously

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

(a)  Ministry of Environment – March 9, 2007
Re: Tunkwa Lake Provincial Park

Director Brown contacted Tod Haughton from Ministry of Environment as Director Brown’s perspective of their earlier meeting did not jive with the comments Mr. Haughton had made in the email. Discussions regarding Tunkwa Lake included:
• Director Brown did not agree that a professional forester should be hired;
• The Province already has maps outlining the fire risk for Tunkwa Lake. The risk is likely extreme, as the District of Logan Lake is rated extreme;
• TNRD applied for grant funding from the Province and no word has been received as to the status of that possible funding;
• An Archaeological Impact Assessment may have already been conducted on Tunkwa Lake Provincial Park;
• Pursuing the idea of an interpretive park concept;
• Need to include local First Nations and keep them informed of the situation, as perhaps they might like to get involved;
• Park is unacceptable in its present state;
• District of Logan Lake wants to expand its trail system from their community into the Park;
• Possible logging and burning of Pine Beetle infested trees in strategic areas, but leave some trees to stay standing;
• Director Post noted that during the Okanagan-Shuswap LRMP process – range users were against granting park status;
• Ranching community is now upset about the Park and all the dead trees;
• Director Brown noted that the Tunkwa Lake Management Plan as adopted, dealt with a healthy forest – Plan is no longer valid, as the area is at high fire risk and is unsafe; and
• The Chair noted that Minister Penner had no comment to CBC Radio in regards to Tunkwa Lake Park.

Moved by Director Brown  
Seconded by Director Graham

That the Pine Beetle Committee take a tour of Tunkwa Lake Provincial Park with representatives from Ministry of Environment and the BC Cattlemen’s Association.

That Ministry of Environment staff attending the tour be asked to provide management plans for other Provincial Parks in our region for discussion.

Further, during the tour, this committee review the remedial work that has been conducted at Lac Le Jeune Provincial Park.

CARRIED Unanimously

It was noted that once the meeting and tour have been completed, that the First Nations Bands in the surrounding area of Tunkwa Lake Provincial Park be invited for a meeting with the Pine Beetle Committee to keep them apprised of the Provincial government and TNRD’s efforts to deal with the park’s issues.
3. **NEW BUSINESS:**

(a) **Status Report on the Southern Interior Communities Mountain Pine Beetle Working Group Meeting (SICMPBWG)**

Chair Watson outlined the items discussed during her attendance at the SICMPBWG meeting held in Revelstoke on March 25 and 26, 2007, including:

- Community consultation is part of Phase 2;
- Currently drafting the work plan;
- Discussing the tools necessary to get more funds; and
- The role of the SICMPBWG and whether the role of the Pine Beetle Committee should overlap with that of the SICMPBWG.

Moved by Director Brown  
Seconded by Director Post

That the Pine Beetle Committee recommends that the TNRD send Chair Milobar and Director Watson to meet with Minister Lund to discuss the TNRD’s letters sent 8-10 months ago, as no response has been received to date.

**CARRIED Unanimously**

(b) **Brochure for Home Owners Affected by Pine Beetle Tree Damage**

The Director of Development Services passed around a brochure designed by Ray Visser of LA West, Landscape Architects, intended for home owners of smaller urban residential lots, the brochure provided suggestions to landowners wishing to replace the pine beetle damaged trees that have been removed from their property. Mr. Visser offered the brochure to the City of Kamloops at no charge, and the City modified the brochure to include their logo and other information. Mr. Visser has also offered the TNRD to utilize the brochure and modify it if needed.

The Director of Development Services stated that due to a summer student position not being filled this year, funds would be available for printing if needed.

Moved by Director Graham  
Seconded by Director Post
That staff be authorized to amend the Brochure for Home Owners Affected by Pine Beetle Tree Damage to include the TNRD logo and other information deemed helpful to TNRD landowners. Once the amendments have been made, the brochure will be presented at a future Pine Beetle Committee meeting for approval then placed on the TNRD website and be printed and distributed to affected areas of the region via Director’s, area libraries, etc.

CARRIED Unanimously

Discussion for possible amendments to the brochure included:

- Inclusion of climatic zones;
- Fire safety points (possibly from the Fire Smart manual);
- How to get rid of infested trees once fallen; and
- Brochure needs to address owners of larger properties as well.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

__________________________
Chair

Minutes Reviewed By:

__________________________
Director of Development Services