

Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resources Research and Management
Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
Sept 14, 2011

Present: Laurence Turney (Chair), Brian Edmison, Irene Ronalds, Don Morgan, Rick Budhwa (RPM), Tony Pesklevits, Greg Knox, Alison Beale.

Absent: Sybille Hauessler, Andrea Kosalko, Phil Burton, Paul Wodjak, Debbie Cichowski, Kirsteen Laing.

1) Acceptance of Agenda

- *Brian moved to accept; Laurence seconded. Approved.*

2 Approval of June 8 Minutes – just an update, no quorum. (*Actually, we did have a full meeting, need to accept minutes at next meeting.*)

3) Operations Update

Cumulative Effects Conference Update (Laurence)

Emily McGiffin's conceptual outline is coming together. Once completed this can be taken to potential funders. Timing of conference now Fall or Winter 2012. Potential Federal government funding looks good. Other potential funders are in the wings. Board members on the steering committee will need to take ownership of it as we are taking the financial risk and political risk.

Budget Update (Rick)

Mining conference projections for 2011 will no longer be applicable. Rick is looking into whether any of the potential mining conference funds can be secured for planning the conference.

Moore Foundation (Don) Cumulative Effects – Skeena Watershed

Making progress, getting government involvement, up to \$155,000 per year for 2 years; one component may be this cumulative effects conference. Conference would also be a forum for presenting information. So funding may be available for conference organizing as well. Greg noted that Skeena Wild Conservation Trust also funded by Moore Foundation. Question is how to coordinate monitoring.

BioBlitz (Laurence)

The weekend was a success; attendance was about 100 people. Patrick Williston is putting together a summary.

HCTF Meeting (Alison)

Alison discussed how HCTF vision is a good model for BVRC in that it has a strong clear vision.

One Sky – Community Resilience workshop – early September (Don, Rick)

Objective was to create conversation regarding climate change, community resilience, and community assets. This is linked to Don's livelihood assessment. Don is meeting with Gail to write 4 narratives for the community, based on different climate change scenarios (ie., 1, 5 degree warming), to be used as means of engaging community in livelihood assessment.

RAMP

Facilitator position advertized, \$25,000. BVRC is present on evaluation committee. Three applications have been received.

BVRC Fall Social – delayed.

BVRC Marketing and Communications Plan / Strategic Visioning (Rick, Don Deb)

Don and Tony summarized the discussion to date:

The BV Centre needs a strong vision to drive centre activities and that can engage people (like HCTF has). Organization of BVRC Program areas was a start. Centre has been shifting away from relying on contract administration funds to conference hosting, providing administration support to other non-profits, and pursuing Foundation funding as sources of base funding. What are we marketing? We tend to have an Individual researcher driven agenda, which is reactive. We need to ask ourselves what do we offer that is of value to other people, and to potential funders, and to the broader society of NW BC? Where do we focus our efforts, given limited resources?

Science and information in the public interest versus science in the private interest has come out as major theme.

We bring consultants together on an ad hoc basis at present as opportunities arise, but how do we proactively search out projects for consultants? For example, does Red Chris know what the problem is or do they need to be told what the problem is and how we are going to solve it? We need to create an environment of trust within the community – those who want development and those who do not. We need to engage the 70% middle ground.

A focusing session is required to complete the Strategic Visioning for the centre. Tony is suggesting one full day – late October early November. Tony is willing to act as sponsor.

Action: Tony to meet with Rick and possibly Amanda to organize focusing session.

4) Board discussion and decisions required

a. Extension of James Schwab report (Brian, Tony)

The peer review is complete. Report is ready for release.

Action: Rick to prepare and manage Press Release, in consultation with Greg, Jim, Tony. Considerations include presentation to Enbridge Joint Review Panel. Jim Schwab could be called as an expert witness for the JRP.

Action: Brian made a motion to adopt “Science in the Public Interest” as our product moto, and to use this in releasing Jim Schwab’s report. Don seconded. Approved.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting scheduled for October, 15:30 BV Centre.

Minutes taken by Irene Ronalds