



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CHEAKAMUS COMMUNITY FOREST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, September 26, 2024 1:30 - 3:00 P.M.

Location: Google Meet

PRESENT:

Helena Edmonds, Lil'wat Nation, Chair
Molly Hudson, Nch'kay Development Corporation (for Squamish Nation)
Martin Pardoe, RMOW
Arthur DeJong, RMOW

Chair, Heather Beresford, Executive Director

REGRETS

Kathleen Edwards, Squamish Nation, President/Chair
Jordan Gabriel, Lil'wat Nation

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by M. Pardoe
Seconded by A DeJong

That Cheakamus Community Forest Board of Directors adopt the Cheakamus Community Forest Board of Directors regular meeting agenda of September 26, 2024.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by M. Pardoe
Seconded by A. DeJong

That Cheakamus Community Forest Board of Directors adopt the Cheakamus Community Forest Board meeting minutes of June 27, 2024.

Welcome to Molly Hudson who replaces Gary Muuren on the CCF Board. Molly started with Nch'kay Development Corporation recently after working for Mosaic Forest Management as its first female Chief Forester. Molly is managing the Squamish Nation's forestry operations.

1. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- Update was provided to Board on shared Google drive folder
- Highlights/key points shared:
 - Harvesting completed at P03, P04 and P05. CCF re has received \$195,000 from Ashlaur for log sales. Still approximately 500m³ of logs yet to be sold but market very low right now. BW series in Brandywine, approximately 75 hectares along Callaghan Creek FSR adjacent to past wildfire risk reduction projects
 - Planning underway for 2025
 - Community Outreach - coming up: public information session in Whistler in November, date/location TBD but similar to last year's session which was well received. CCF sponsored 2 trail nights with WORCA. Newsletters, Facebook and website posts over the summer.
 - Rhonda Millikin published her research on wildfire fuel reduction projects in Whistler and concluded that the work is increasing the risk of greater fire behaviour. There was an article in the Pique and she made a presentation to Council. Dr. Lori Daniels, UBC wildfire expert, will undertake research in Whistler in the next week to gather information to run through the wildfire behaviour models. She is confident that the work will reduce fire behaviour and is not detrimental to the second growth forests where the work is done.
 - Carbon audit verification underway. Some minor changes requested to model. Credits expected to be ready for sale by end of October. RMOW and WLNG waiting to make their scheduled purchases. Province will purchase its last portion of offsets as per the original agreement.
 - Climate Resiliency Planning - at the June CCF Board meeting, the Board agreed to adopt the climate resiliency planning process presented:
 - Planning Steps:
 1. Risk Assessment - Using LiDAR, terrestrial ecosystem mapping and fuel type/hazard information, prioritize areas for adaptation actions
 2. Operations Strategy - based on the results of the climate change risk assessment, an operational climate change strategy is developed for the community forest landbase. The operations strategy includes specific climate-based resistance, resilience, and realignment techniques, including identification of priority reserve areas, location of strategic landscape-level fuel breaks, descriptions of partial cutting techniques, and the development of fire and climate-adapted stocking standards
 3. Management Plan & AAC Scenarios - Determines how fast to adapt. A custom-built timber supply model is used to assess potential impacts of a suite of climate adaptation-based harvest scenarios

Board reviewed the approach and agreed that the CCF should begin planning in a similar way. The first step is to complete the risk assessment. Determine what can be done in 2024 with existing planning budget then budget for next steps in 2025.

Review showed that there wasn't excess budget in the approved 2024 planning budget to undertake the risk assessment phase. Since the June Board meeting though, western spruce budworm spread across the Whistler valley in significant areas of the CCF. As a result, the risk to the forest and community has increased.

H. Beresford reviewed the overall financial situation of the CCF with the Board and is confident that there are adequate funds available to undertake the risk assessment in 2024. It's important to get going on a plan for how to manage the budworm situation. It makes sense to include it into the overall risk assessment and to have it ready for spring 2025.

Request to Board to support a 2024 budget amendment of \$25,000 to undertake the risk assessment in Q3/4 2024 and Q1/Q2 2025.

Discussion:

Board wants to complete a longer term plan as soon as possible. Managing the forest responsibly to balance forest health and community safety is necessary. CCF needs to be strategic with harvesting and management plans to achieve those goals.

Moved by A DeJong

Seconded by M. Pardoe

That Cheakamus Community Forest Board of Directors approve a 2024 budget amendment of \$25,000 to develop the risk assessment phase of the climate resiliency plan.

CARRIED

2. NEW BUSINESS

- n/a

ADJOURN

Moved by A. DeJong

That the Cheakamus Community Forest Board adjourn the September 26, 2024 Board of Directors' regular meeting at 2:17 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: H. Edmonds

RECORDING SECRETARY: Heather Beresford