



**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 02 SEPTEMBER 2009**

SUBJECT: METCHOSIN SHEEP KILL COMPENSATION APRIL 2009

BACKGROUND:

On April 18, 2009, Wallace Helgesen contacted the Capital Regional District (CRD) Bylaw and Animal Care Services to report that there had been a livestock attack on his property. An animal control officer attended the same day and witnessed that one sheep was dead and four others were injured. The sheep had been mauled and bite marks similar to other sheep killed by dogs were evident around the front of the neck. Mr. Helgesen had, in days before the sheep kill, witnessed a medium sized brown and black dog on his property. The animal control officer did a thorough investigation but was unable to locate a witness or determine which dog was responsible.

On April 22, 2009, Mr. Helgesen found one dead and one reinjured sheep on his property. An animal control officer attended and confirmed that the bite marks of the same kind were found on the neck. Again the officer did a thorough investigation and no witnesses or dog(s) were located.

CRD Bylaw No. 1465, sections 19-23, has provisions to pay compensation to the owners of livestock killed or injured by any dog over the age of four (4) months, the owner which is unknown, and after diligent enquiry cannot be found, the lesser of; 75% of the decrease in market value of the animal as a result of death or injury, or, \$750.

The authority for a Board to pass this provision in a bylaw is found in Section 703. (6) of the *Local Government Act*.

In this case the request by the owner for compensation is consistent with past practice. The value of the lambs and ewe stated by the owner is fair market value.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve payment of \$750 which is the maximum that can be paid for compensation. Total compensation requested is \$1380, 75% = \$1035, maximum allowed is \$750.
2. Do not approve payment.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Total cost of \$750.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS:

Mr. Helgesen stated in his compensation claim eight lambs and one ewe were killed and that the incidents were on April 18, 20 and 22, 2009. Reports to the CRD were made on

April 18 and 22, 2009. In the compensation claim, it is stated that the cost per lamb and ewe at fair market value would be \$160/lamb and \$100/ewe.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Electoral Area Services committee authorizes the payment of compensation to the claimant in the amount of \$750.



Don Brown
Chief Bylaw Officer



Robert Lapham, General Manager
Planning and Protective Services
Concurrence

Kelly Daniels
Chief Administrative Officer
Concurrence