

Meeting Minutes
Governance Committee

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

1:30 PM

6th Floor Boardroom

PRESENT:

Directors: J. Ranns (Chair), D. Blackwell, A. Finall, D. Howe, W. McIntyre, C. Plant, S. Price, G. Young, B. Desjardins (Board Chair, ex-officio)
Staff: R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer; S. Bagh, Acting General Manager, Planning and Protective Services; S. Santarossa, Manager Legislative & Corporate Initiatives; P. Perna, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

ABSENT:

Director(s): M. Alto (Vice Chair)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Directors/Alternate Directors: J. Brownoff, C. Day, V. Derman, C. Hamilton, M. Hicks, L. Hundleby, B. Isitt, R. Kasper, V. Sanders, D. Screech, K. Williams

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

On the motion, a question arose as to how item 5.1 came to be added to the agenda. The Chair clarified that a motion was made at the previous Governance Committee meeting and Board meeting to invite Dr. Best to make a presentation.

**MOVED by Director Finall, SECONDED by Director Price,
That the agenda for the May 4, 2016 Governance Committee meeting be approved.
CARRIED**

2. Adoption of Minutes

2.1. [16-571](#) Minutes of the April 6, 2016 Governance Committee Meeting

**MOVED by Director Plant, SECONDED by Board Chair Desjardins,
That the minutes of the April 6, 2016 Governance Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED**

3. Chair's Remarks

The chair provided an introduction and background on the presenters for the "Governing Greater Victoria: The Role of Elected Officials and Shared Services" paper.

4. Presentations/Delegations

None.

5. Committee Business

5.1. [16-589](#)

Governing Greater Victoria: The Role of Elected Officials and Shared Services - Discussion with Dr. Robert Bish, Dr. Jim McDavid and Brian Walisser

Dr. Robert Bish spoke via telephone on the topic of shared services, which ties into the Governance Committee's agenda of service reviews.

Also present to speak on the topic was Dr. Jim McDavid and Mr. Brian Walisser.

Dr. Bish spoke to the following:

- * the BC Regional District model is the most functional
- * CRD has the most integrated area of services in Canada making it difficult to evaluate services
- * CRD has a diverse geography and economics of scale
- * upon a survey of metropolitan governments in the 1960's, it was discovered that many local governments were no longer producing their own services
- * the focus is not on amalgamation.
- * most noticeable is that transit systems and arterial motorways are not properly integrated
- * the need to address homelessness and housing
- * political legitimacy - need to some way raise political visibility of the CRD

Dr. McDavid addressed the following:

- * one area of focus was to look for efficiencies in services; an issue for all municipalities in the region
- * taxes will increase and they will stay up meaning that taxpayers will be looking at service costs more closely
- * what needs to be looked at is value for the money

Mr. Walisser added the following:

- * need to look at service efficiencies
- * there are examples of other regional districts that have addressed this topic
- * being good at providing services is not necessarily enough in this area
- * regional district service delivery needs evolutionary change to address issues arising in larger metropolitan areas

Director Hicks left at 2:05.

Discussion ensued on the following

- * structure of the provincial study currently underway
- * a separately elected CRD chair to improve impartiality and accountability to the region
- * addressing land use and land use settlements with competing municipalities
- * difficulty in determining and comparing cost of municipal services
- * if go through a review, ensure come out knowing what government issues need to be fixed

Director Howe left at 2:36; Board Chair Desjardins left at 2:44; Directors Brownoff, Kasper and Williams left at 2:47.

5.2. [16-591](#)

Discussion: Term of CRHC Board of Directors

Director Screech advised that the term of office of the Capital Region Housing Corporation (CRHC) Board of Directors was discussed at a recent CRHC meeting and it was recommended to bring this subject forward to the Governance Committee and the Board for consideration of a two-year term rather than a one-year term.

R. Lapham advised that the CRHC Articles of Incorporation would need to be amended.

**MOVED by Director Finall, SECONDED by Director Plant,
That staff bring back a report to the Governance Committee on the implications to amend the Capital Region Housing Corporation Board of Directors term of office to two years and that staff review the terms of office for other Boards and Committees.
CARRIED**

6. New Business

6.1. Invitation to Speak to the Governance Committee - District of Saanich, Chief Administrative Officer

Director Screech left at 2:58.

The committee was advised that the Chief Administrative Officer, District of Saanich, will speak at the next Governance Committee meeting on June 1, 2016. Staff was also directed to invite a representative from the Ministry to provide an update on any changes to the *Local Government Act* regarding Regional Districts.

6.2. Conflict of Interest Regulation

**MOVED by Director Plant, SECONDED by Director Finall,
That staff prepare a report to the Capital Regional District Board regarding the recent conflict of interest regulation and the implications of this regulation for CRD Board members.
CARRIED**

7. Adjournment

**MOVED by Director Blackwell, SECONDED by Director Young,
That the May 4, 2016 Governance Committee meeting be adjourned 2:59 pm.
CARRIED**

Chair

Recorder