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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning, Transportation and Protective Services Committee
Held February 22, 2012 in the Board Room, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC**

- Present:** Directors: J. Ranns (Chair), D. Blackwell, J. Brownoff (arr. 2:30 pm), A. Bryson, J. Cullington (for C. Hamilton), V. Derman, T. Daly, D. Fortin (arr. 2:30 pm), G. Hill, G. Young (ex officio)
Staff: K. Daniels, Chief Administrative Officer, R. Lapham, General Manager, Planning and Protective Services, M. Misek-Evans, Senior Manager, Regional and Strategic Planning, S. Santarossa, Corporate Officer, H. Raines (recorder)
- Absent:** Directors: M. Alto, L. Cross

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

1. Approval of Agenda

It was requested that the agenda be amended to include the additional requests to speak.

MOVED by Director Derman, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Cullington,
That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Adoption of Minutes

MOVED by Director Hill, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,
That the minutes of the October 19, 2011 meeting be adopted as previously circulated.

CARRIED

3. Chair's Remarks - There were no remarks.

4. Presentations/Delegations

- 1) Wendy Fox, Saanich Peninsula Farmers re. item 5 – emphasized the damage the deer are doing to crops, and the impact that damage has on local farmers and food security. She indicated that fencing is expensive and not always completely effective. She encouraged the CRD to implement a deer management strategy quickly. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
- 2) Liz White, Animal Alliance/Environment Voters re. item 5 – supported development of deer management, but stated that it needs to be transparent, fair, and that there should be an equal representation of pro and anti-deer people. She recommended that the Board clarify that the role of staff is to provide an unbiased opinion. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
- 3) Jordan Reichert, DeerSafe Victoria re. item 5 – spoke about the need to manage the deer through population control rather than a cull and felt that there should be a balanced membership of pro and anti-deer on the citizens group. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
- 4) Val Boswell re. item 5 – supports the farmers concerns but felt that farmers should lobby for fencing funding instead of a cull.
- 5) Anthony Rose re. item 5 – did not advocate proceeding with committee formation. He felt the current deer information is incomplete, and that there should be concrete

- numbers on deer population. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
- 6) Kelly Carson, re. item 5 – addressed the issue of the psychological trauma a deer cull could have on the young or sensitive population. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
 - 7) Nabhraj Spogliarich, re. item 5 – spoke about the impact a deer cull would have on the tourism industry, and on Canada's presence on the world stage. He felt that we need to set an example with deer management and not have a cull as our legacy.
 - 8) Dale Lovell re. item 5 – supports the farmers concerns. He suggested changes to the language in the Terms of Reference for the deer management strategy. The language in the Terms of Reference unintentionally suggests that deer are a major issue, and not just a nuisance. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
 - 9) Sheenagh Rose, re. item 5 – felt that there needs to be a realistic approach, with practical solutions, once of which is better signage and the removal of distractions for drivers. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
 - 10) Larry Wartel, Wartel Planning Consulting re. item 5 – felt that the farmers should be subsidized for their crop loss.
 - 11) Mrs. Graham, re. item 5 – advised that agricultural issues should be dealt with separately, and that there should be different strategies for urban and rural areas. She felt that the current committee membership needs to be balanced with pro and anti-deer members. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.

Directors Brownoff and Fortin entered the meeting at 2:30 pm.

- 12) Katrina Andres, Environmental Law Clinic re. item 9 – spoke to the Regional Sustainability Strategy and the incorporation of a carbon assessment framework, green infrastructure, protection of ecological health and biodiversity and a regional food system. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
- 13) Edith Roslee re. item 5 – voiced the need for the humane management of deer, and emphasized the need to control deer damage for commercial farmers through a fence subsidy.
- 14) Marion Cumming re. item 5 – recommended that a citizens group look at natural area and parks which could be engineered as corridors for deer. She spoke to the need for more signage at road crossings as well as First Nation consultation for the Terms of Reference for the citizens' group. A copy of the speaking notes/presentation is on file in the Legislative Services office.
- 15) Ryan Vantreight, Vantreight Farms re. item 5 – spoke about the difference between urban and rural deer issues. He urged the CRD to take action on deer management and help the farmers.
- 16) Terry Michell, Michell Farms re. item 5 – requested that the citizens' group have representatives from the farming community to provide a balanced opinion. He indicated that farmers already chase deer from crops, monitor and move deer almost 24 hours a day and that there needs to be something done to ensure food/crop safety.

- 17) Ray Galey, Galey Farms re. item 5 – spoke on behalf of farmers in the region. He indicated that the deer create extensive damage to crops, and that fencing is expensive, unsightly and not always effective. He urged the CRD to take action of deer management, to support local food production and security.

5. Regional Deer Management

MOVED by Director Bryson, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,
That it be recommended to the Capital Regional District Board that:

1. Staff be directed to finalize the Terms of Reference appended to Report No. PPS/RP 2012-01 for a Regional Deer Management Strategy (RDMS) in accordance with the following:
 - a. that a citizens' group-based approach be used, supported by an expert working group and regional staff;
 - b. that the citizen advisory group be composed as described in Attachment 1 of the staff report;
 - c. that the RDMS includes consideration of the management options and measures as set out in Attachment 1;
 - d. that the Communications and Consultation strategy consist of an online campaign as described in Attachment 1, followed by the option of a statistical survey after the citizen advisory group's recommendations are reported to the Board; and
 - e. that the additional costs associated with the development of the RDMS be budgeted at \$40,000, with \$20,000 allocated to the online campaign and provision for an additional \$20,000 at the option of the Board for the statistical survey.
2. Support of a single supplementary requisition for the Regional Planning 2012 budget of \$40,000 be approved.

Discussion on the motion included:

- Inclusion of the agriculture community on the citizen advisory group
- Use of fencing for deterring deer
- Urban deer issues vs. deer issues in agricultural areas

MOVED by Director Derman, **SECONDED** by Director Daly,
That the Terms of Reference be amended to include two citizen advisory groups, one to deal with rural deer issues and a separate group to deal with urban deer management.

Discussion on the amendment included:

- Membership on the citizen advisory group
- Timeline for deer management in agricultural areas

The question on the amendment was called.

DEFEATED

Discussion on the main motion continued, and included the recommendation that a deer management strategy for agricultural areas be established as a priority for the advisory group.

MOVED by Director Daly, **SECONDED** by Director Hill,

That the motion be amended to include the following:

f. That the deer management for agricultural areas be addressed first.

CARRIED

Discussion on the main motion continued, and it was recommended that the citizen advisory group include three commercial farmers.

MOVED by Director Bryson, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,

That the motion be amended to include:

g. That the citizen advisory group include in its membership a minimum of three commercial farmer representatives.

CARRIED

Discussion on the main motion continued. A director spoke against the main motion, stating that the CRD has greater issues to deal with at this time, including homelessness, the regional sustainability strategy and transportation. Discussion on the voting structure and governance of the citizen advisory group ensued. Staff will clarify the language on the voting structure before going to the Board for approval.

Alternate Director Cullington left the meeting at 3:41 pm.

The question on the motion, as amended was called:

That it be recommended to the Capital Regional District Board that:

1. Staff be directed to finalize the Terms of Reference appended to Report No. PPS/RP 2012-01 for a Regional Deer Management Strategy (RDMS) in accordance with the following:
 - a. that a citizens' group-based approach be used, supported by an expert working group and regional staff;
 - b. that the citizen advisory group be composed as described in Attachment 1 of the staff report;
 - c. that the RDMS includes consideration of the management options and measures as set out in Attachment 1;
 - d. that the Communications and Consultation strategy consist of an online campaign as described in Attachment 1, followed by the option of a statistical survey after the citizen advisory group's recommendations are reported to the Board; and
 - e. that the additional costs associated with the development of the RDMS be budgeted at \$40,000, with \$20,000 allocated to the online campaign and provision for an additional \$20,000 at the option of the Board for the statistical survey.
 - f. That the deer management for agricultural areas be addressed first.
 - g. That the citizen advisory group include in its membership a minimum of three commercial farmer representatives.
2. Support of a single supplementary requisition for the Regional Planning 2012 budget of \$40,000 be approved.

CARRIED
Fortin **OPPOSED**

Director Fortin left the meeting at 3:42 pm.

A director brought forward a resolution from Central Saanich to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC), in support of reinstating the partial funding for deer fencing for farmers.

MOVED by Director Bryson, **SECONDED** by Director Hill,
That the Board support the resolution brought forward from Central Saanich to the AVICC that the provincial government be urged to reinstate funding to farms for perimeter deer fencing as part of the Environmental Farm Plan.

CARRIED

6. Canadian Rental Housing Coalition Charter

MOVED by Director Blackwell, **SECONDED** by Director Derman,
That the CRD Board fully endorse the Canadian Rental Housing Coalition Charter.

CARRIED

Items 7 and 8 were considered at the same time.

7. Regional Transportation Planning Initiatives

8. CRD 2011 Origin Destination Household Travel Survey

R. Lapham gave a presentation on regional transportation plan and the CRD 2011 origin destination household travel survey.

Discussion ensued, with an emphasis on the outcomes for the region as a whole, intergovernmental consultation, transportation corridors and the longevity of plans and investments.

MOVED by Director Bryson, **SECONDED** by Director Derman,
That the Committee receive the Regional Transportation Planning Initiatives and CRD 2011 Origin Destination Household Travel Survey reports for information.

CARRIED

9. Regional Sustainability Strategy

10. Verbal Update on Electoral Area Referral Process.

MOVED by Director Derman, **SECONDED** by Director Hill,
That agenda items 9 and 10 be deferred until the next meeting.

CARRIED

11. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Hill, **SECONDED** by Director Bryson,
That the meeting be adjourned at 4:00 pm.

CARRIED

Chair