



Making a difference...together

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Planning, Transportation and Protective Services Committee

Held September 5, 2012, in the Board Room, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC

Present: Directors: J. Ranns (Chair), V. Derman (Vice Chair), M. Alto, D. Blackwell, J. Brownoff, A. Bryson, J. Cullington (for C. Hamilton), T. Daly, L. Helps (for D. Fortin), G. Hill, M. Loveless (for L. Cross), 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; J. Weightman, Planning Analyst, Regional and Strategic Planning; A. Orr, Senior Manager, Corporate Communications; S. Norton, Corporate Assistant, Legislative Services; N. More, Committee Clerk (recorder)

Also Present: J. Skrlac, Chair, B. Moody, Vice-Chair, G. Jim, L. Kadonaga, S. Kinnis (2:35 pm), T. Mitchell, P. O'Rourke, Citizens Advisory Group

Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Hill, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Cullington,
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

- 2. Chair's Remarks**—The Chair introduced the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Citizens Advisory Group (CAG), and another four members who were present were introduced by J. Skrlac. The Chair thanked the CAG for their work. He remarked that the Committee must ensure that options for the deer management strategy that go to the Board are viable and not speculative, in regard to Provincial regulations and municipal bylaws. The Chair advised that staff recommend the CAG recommendations be sent back to staff for further study. He expressed the wish for a strategy to be in place at least for the agricultural area before the 2013 growing season.

3. Presentation of the Regional Deer Management Strategy Recommendations by Jocelyn Skrlac, Chair, and Bob Moody, Vice Chair, Citizens Advisory Group

J. Skrlac introduced the presentation and outlined the chronology of the advisory group, the management options and criteria for evaluation. She demonstrated the management options evaluation worksheet for agricultural geography as an example.

B. Moody continued with the presentation and outlined the immediate/short term and medium term recommendations for agricultural, rural and urban geography and for deer-vehicle collision mitigation. He also drew the attention of the Committee to a section of the CAG report outlining five over-arching long term recommendations for the entire region.

Committee discussion ensued on topics that included population reduction methods that have legal barriers, such as those related to the use of wild meat for food and municipal hunting safety regulations, the difficulty of establishing the current number of deer in the region or of defining a natural population level, deer as a food source, the multi-jurisdictional

nature of deer management, deer migration across geographic boundaries, urban deer versus deer in the wild, the loss of natural habitat and the need for public education.

The Committee expressed gratitude to the CAG for their work and for the concise report.

4. Regional Deer Management Strategy Report

The Chair requested R. Lapham to enlarge on the recommendation to receive the CAG report and refer it back to staff for consultation with other agencies. R. Lapham explained that staff will convene a meeting with representatives from provincial and federal agencies, municipalities and First Nations and get feedback on the options and determine the level of support, the jurisdictional roles, and the potential for amending regulations.

MOVED by Director Derman, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,

- 1) That the Citizens Advisory Group and the Expert Resource Working Group be thanked for their dedicated effort and voluntary time spent preparing the Regional Deer Management Strategy; and
- 2) That the Regional Deer Management Strategy be received for information and that Regional Planning staff be directed to convene staff representatives from CRD municipalities, electoral areas, the Provincial and Federal governments and First Nations to determine how to partner on implementing the recommended management options; and
- 3) That Regional Planning staff report back to Committee this fall.

Discussion ensued on the next steps. Chair Ranns advised that the Committee will receive information from the meeting with other agencies before making recommendations to the Board.

The Committee discussed the need for the process to happen in a timely manner, with an implementation strategy by the end of the year that includes actionable items.

Question on the motion was called.

CARRIED

Chair Ranns reported that he has received the petition "No to a Deer Cull" with over a thousand names on it and that it will be included as part of the submissions accessible by all the Directors.

5. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Hill, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,
That the meeting be adjourned at 3:50 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR