

MINUTES OF A MEETING

Regional Food and Agriculture Task Force

Thursday November 23, 2017

10:00 AM –12:00 PM

Commons Room– Capital Regional District 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC

ATTENDEES:

Bruce Greig

Bernadette Greene

Fiona Deveraux

Gerard Leblanc

Jane Evans

Sue Hallatt

Linda Geggie

Rudi Wallace

Virginie Lavallee-Picard

Bob Maxwell

Terry Michell

CRD STAFF: Jeff Weightman, Kaeley Jeffery

REGRETS: Director Finall, Fiona Deveraux, Rob Buchan, Derek Masselink, Erich Kelch, Robin Tunnicliffe

FACILITATION

The meeting was chaired by Virginie Lavallee-Picard, calling it to order at 1:08 pm.

1.0 WELCOME

CRD staff Jeff Weightman welcomed participants.

2.0 Chair's COMMENTS

Virginie welcomed everyone and thanked them for their input.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by consensus

4.0 APPROVAL OF THE October 25, 2017 MINUTES

The minutes were approved by consensus

5.0 UPDATES ON OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on RFFLT feasibility study process

Process was approved by the Board during the September meeting. Terms of Reference were drafted and received input from the Task Force working group, will seek final input this meeting.

It is noted that the Board has concerns regarding a trust being the finite answer reiterated that recommended to keep an open mind and explore a range of options to improve food and agriculture.

b. Update on National Food Policy recommendations

The was the only agenda item for the Planning and Protective Services Committee meeting for November 22, the GM and the Chair decided to send it straight to the Board on December 13, 2017.

c. Update on CRD Board Priorities – agricultural infrastructure needs/abattoir

The Board considers the lack of abattoir on the island important enough to make it a strategic priority to further look in to. The Board opted to split the anticipated cost of \$50 000. The CRD will match \$25 000 if the Ministry of Agriculture provides \$25,000 towards the project.

A motion was made during the service review that will go to the Board meeting on December 13, 2017

6.0 REGIONAL FOOD AND FARMLAND TRUST TERMS OF REFERENCE INPUT

a. Jeff provided a historical outline and answered questions about discussions at the Planning and Protective Services Committee and Board. There were additional questions about the amount of funding and if it was sufficient to complete the project, and how the project would be perceived by potential consultants. Task force members discussed government involvement in the food and agriculture sector in other regional districts on Vancouver Island.

Discussion followed about a potential phased approach and ways to explore alternative approaches and models. Task force members want to emphasize a model that uses existing government owned agricultural lands and does not acquire land.

7.0

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

N/A

9.0 NEXT MEETING

Holiday Wrap Up event date.

ACTION 1: (Jeff)

Revise Terms of Reference as per the Task Force Discussion

ACTION 2: (Jeff)

Draft report for Planning and Protective Services Committee for early 2018

ACTION 3: (Jeff)

Schedule a holiday event for the group