



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021

LOCATION Peace River Regional District Office, Dawson Creek, BC

ATTENDANCE

Directors

Chair Sperling, Electoral Area 'C'
Vice-Chair Rose, Electoral Area 'E'
Director Ackerman, City of Fort St. John
(via teleconference)
Director Bertrand, District of Tumbler Ridge
Director Bumstead, City of Dawson Creek
Director Courtoreille, District of Chetwynd
Director Fraser District of Taylor
(via teleconference)
Director Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'
(via teleconference)
Director Heiberg, District of Hudson's Hope
Director Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D'
Director Smith, Village of Pouce Coupe
Director Zabinsky, City of Fort St. John

Staff

Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer
Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer
Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer
Tab Young, Deputy Corporate Officer
Paulo Eichelberger, GM of Environmental Services
Kathy Suggitt, GM of Development Services
Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager
(via teleconference)
Jeff McDonald, Communications Manager
(via teleconference)
Trevor Ouellette, IT Manager
David Sturgeon, Protective Services Manager
Brenda Deliman, Recorder
(via teleconference)

Delegation

4.1 ChangeTech - Mark Blake *(via teleconference)*

1. CALL TO ORDER The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Adoption of Agenda CW/21/04/01 (29)
MOVED Director Rose, SECONDED Director Bertrand,
That the Committee of the Whole adopt the April 29, 2021 Meeting Agenda:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Gallery Comments or Questions**
4. **Delegations**
 - 4.1 Draft PRRD Connectivity Strategy
5. **Reports**
 - 5.1 Health Related Services Policy, ADM-COW-004
6. **Media Questions**
7. **Adjournment**

CARRIED



Director Courtoreille

Director Courtoreille entered the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

3. GALLERY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1

PRRD Connectivity
Strategy

The Committee of the Whole was provided with a presentation on the draft PRRD Connectivity Strategy from ChangeTech. Topics included:

- Vision
- Targeted outcomes (access to broadband internet / mobile wireless technology)
- Connectivity principles (essential infrastructure for residents, strengthen social / economic / ecological / cultural resilience)
- Recommendations (test internet speed, leverage funding, establish committee, develop work plan, stakeholder engagement, 'Dig Once' policy, develop PRRD role, changes to legislation, advocacy items, create service function)
- Next steps (connectivity strategy, PRRD Vision and Connectivity Principles, development of Broadband Internet and Mobility Standing Committee)

A question and answer period ensued. The Committee of the Whole recommended that the following amendments be made to the draft Connectivity Strategy:

- Strike the word 'affordable'
- Retain the words 'essential services' without referencing specific services
- Remove reference to the 'PRRD' and acknowledge the specific jurisdictions that will benefit from the service
- Remove 'equitable high speed broadband' and replace with language that specifies the minimum service standard

Director Bumstead

Director Bumstead entered the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

The Committee of the Whole further suggested that the draft Connectivity Strategy be amended by replacing 'shovel-ready' with 'shovel-worthy'.

5. REPORT

5.1

Health Related Services
Policy

CW/21/04/02 (29)

MOVED Director Hiebert, SECONDED Director Bertrand,

That the Committee of the Whole receive the report titled "Health Related Services Policy – ADM-COW-004", which provides options for a draft Health Related Services Policy, for discussion.

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole discussed the option to combine air ambulance, search and rescue, and health related services, and the recruitment and retention of health care professionals into one Health Related Services Grants in Aid policy; further, that the policy would contain grant parameters specific to each item.



5.1
(Cont'd)

The Committee concurred that the Health Care Scholarship Committee would continue to make recommendations to the Regional Board regarding scholarships awarded to students pursuing training in a health care or medical field.

CW/21/04/03 (29)

MOVED Director Heiberg, SECONDED Director Hiebert,

That the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Regional Board be provided with a draft health related services grants policy that mirrors existing grant policies, and provides eligibility parameters for health related services grants.

CARRIED

6. MEDIA QUESTIONS

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

CERTIFIED a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on April 29, 2021 in the Regional District Office Board Room, Dawson Creek, BC.

Brad Sperling, Chair

Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer