



# PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING** **MINUTES**

DATE: February 27, 2020

PLACE: Regional District Office Boardroom, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT:

**Directors**

Chair Sperling, Electoral Area 'C'  
Director Bertrand, District of Tumbler Ridge  
Director Courtoreille, District of Chetwynd  
Director Fraser, District of Taylor  
Director Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'  
Director Heiberg, District of Hudson's Hope  
Director Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D'  
Director Michetti, Village of Pouce Coupe  
Director Zabinsky, City of Fort St. John  
Vice-Chair Rose, Electoral Area 'E' (10:10 am)

**Alternate Directors**

Alternate Director Hansen, City of Fort St. John  
Alternate Director Parslow, City of Dawson Creek

**Absent**

Director Ackerman, City of Fort St. John  
Director Bumstead, City of Dawson Creek

**Staff**

Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer  
Lyle Smith, Chief Financial Officer  
Kelsey Bates, Deputy Corporate Officer  
Paulo Eichelberger, General Manager of Environmental Services  
Gerritt Lacey, Solid Waste Services Manager  
Loryn Day, Solid Waste Coordinator  
Trevor Ouellette, Information Technology Manager  
Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community Services  
Kevan Sumner, General Manager of Development Services  
Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager  
Jennifer Baddeley, NDIIT Intern  
Suzanne Garrett, Corporate Services Coordinator

**Delegations**

- 4.1 Rick Anderson, Synergy Alberta
- 4.2 Todd Baker, Morrison Hershfield
- 4.3 Jim Smolik and Ron Giercke (*via speakerphone*), Value Optimized sustainable Planet Solutions

March 12, 2020

Call to Order                      The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

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CW/20/02/ (27)

MOVED Director Heiberg, SECONDED Director Hiebert,

That the Peace River Regional District Board agenda for the February 27, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting, be adopted:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Gallery Comments or Questions**
4. **Presentations**
  - 4.1 Synergy Alberta  
Re: Synergy Alberta Overview  
Rick Anderson, Executive Director
  - 4.2 Morrison Hershfield  
Re: Energy Recovery and Residual Waste Management Options  
Todd Baker, Senior Environmental Engineer
  - 4.3 VOsPS (Value Optimized sustainable Planet Solutions) (via speakerphone)  
Re: Ultimate Thermal Organics Converter  
Ron Giercke, President  
Jim Smolik, General Manager
5. **New Business**
6. **Media Questions**
7. **Adjournment**

**CARRIED.**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

4.1  
Synergy Alberta – Rick  
Anderson, Executive  
Director

**SYNERGY ALBERTA**

The Committee of the Whole received an overview of Synergy Alberta from its Executive Director, Rick Anderson. Topics included:

- History and purpose
- Mission and vision (foster and support resource development outcomes)
- Principles (respect, transparency, responsiveness, accountability, inclusiveness)
- Synergy groups (voluntary, mutual understanding, active participation)
- Process (identify and assess issue, engage stakeholders, develop action)
- Successes

A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- Funding challenges, establish broader funding base
- In-kind support
- Limited staff
- Guidebook available on website, in process of being updated
- Not all resource companies participate
- During economic downturn have seen more involvement, companies see value in the cooperative approach.

Recess The Chair recessed the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Reconvene The Chair reconvened the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

**PRESENTATIONS:** (continued)

4.2

Morrison Hershfield –  
Todd Baker, Senior  
Environmental  
Engineer

**ENERGY RECOVERY AND RESIDUAL WASTE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS**

Todd Baker, Morrison Hershfield addressed the Committee of the Whole regarding options for energy recovery and residual waste management, as part of the ongoing Solid Waste Management Plan update/renewal project. Topics included:

- Prioritized waste diversion strategies
- Energy recovery (biological, thermal, waste to fuels)
- Provincial guidance on energy recovery
- Energy recovery strategies (processing of organics, non-recyclables and residual waste)
- Residual waste management (curbside, drop-off, landfill options, residential rates, accessibility)
- Summary of guiding principles
- Impacts of strategies
- Next steps

A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- Landfill mining (removal of organics from landfill), challenges include costly to undertake, labour intensive to separate, decomposition of material
- Technology does not replace a landfill, will continue to have “residual” waste
- Medical waste

4.3

Value Optimized  
sustainable Planet  
Solutions - Ron  
Giercke, President,  
and Jim Smolik,  
General Manager (*via  
Webex*)

**ULTIMATE THERMAL ORGANICS CONVERTER**

Jim Smolik and Ron Giercke, VO/SPS, addressed the Committee of the Whole regarding a waste to energy option called the Ultimate Thermal Organics Converter (UTO). Topics included:

- Benefits of Ultimate Thermal Organics Converter (UTO)
- Incinerator
- UTO schematic
- Feedstocks
- Advantages
- Third Party Emissions tests
- PRRD benefits
- Recommended location and site advantages

A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- BC Hydro permitting process
- Fracking material, fairly important to consider
- Facility operated by remote monitoring system, one operator to ensure feedstock is loaded into unit
- Demonstration facility operational within 6 months

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

CERTIFIED a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regional Board of the Peace River Regional District from a Committee of the Whole meeting held on February 27, 2020 in the Regional District Office Board Room, Dawson Creek, BC.

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Brad Sperling, Chair

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Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer

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