



FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
REGIONAL AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE
OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 13, 2025
10:00 am

In person at FVRD Boardroom, 4th Floor, or by Zoom Conference Call
45950 Cheam Avenue, Chilliwack, BC V2P 1N6

Members Present: Director Patricia Ross, City of Abbotsford, Chair
Director Chris Kloot, City of Chilliwack, Vice Chair
Director Cory Cassel, Electoral Area G
Director Bill Dickey, Electoral Area D
Director Leo Facio, Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Director Paul Horn, City of Mission
Director Patti MacAhonic, Electoral Area E
Director Ken Popove, City of Chilliwack
Director Sylvia Pranger, District of Kent
Director Ross Siemens, City of Abbotsford (*Zoom*)
Director Victor Smith, District of Hope
Director Mel Waardenburg, Electoral Area C

Staff Present: Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer
Stacey Barker, Deputy CAO/Director of Regional Services
Kelly Lownsbrough, Director of Corporate Services & CFO
Jaime Van Nes, Director of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer
Lauren Olynick, Deputy Corporate Officer
David Urban, Manager of Integrated Planning & Engagement
Christina Vugteveen, Manager of Parks
Lance Lilley, Manager of Environmental Services
Alison Stewart, Manager of Strategic Planning
Sam Piper, Manager of Communications
Beth Klein, Controller/Deputy CFO
Melissa Geddert, Acting Manager of Integrated Planning and Engagement
(*Zoom*)
Melanie Jones, Accountant (*Zoom*)
Kinga Al-Mubarak, Accountant (*Zoom*)
Theresa Alexander, Planner I (*Zoom*)
Riley Smith, Planning Technician (*Zoom*)
Joel Niezen, Support Technician
Amanda Molloy, Administrative Manager
Keely Hill, Executive Assistant (*recording secretary*)

Also Present: Director Diane Johnson, Electoral Area A

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Ross provided introductory remarks recognizing the homeland of the 31 First Nations located within the Fraser Valley Regional District.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDENDA AND LATE ITEMS

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By CASSEL

THAT the Agenda, Addenda and Late Items for the Regional and Corporate Services Committee Open Meeting of February 13, 2025 be approved;

AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence, minutes, and other information set to the Agenda be received for information.

CARRIED

4. MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Draft Regional and Corporate Services Committee Meeting Minutes - January 16, 2025

Moved By SMITH
Seconded By PRANGER

THAT the Minutes of the Regional and Corporate Services Committee Open Meeting of January 16, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

5. FINANCE

5.1 Fraser Valley Regional District 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1769, 2025

Moved By SIEMENS
Seconded By KLOOT

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give three readings and adoption to the bylaw cited as Fraser Valley Regional District 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1769, 2025.

CARRIED

5.2 Service Area Establishment Bylaw Amendment – Requisition Increase 2025

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By POPOVE

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give three readings and adoption to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Rexford Creek Storm Drainage Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1770, 2025*.

CARRIED

Moved By HORN
Seconded By KLOOT

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give three readings and adoption to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area C Community Parks Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1771, 2025*.

CARRIED

5.3 Fraser Valley Regional District Sub-Regional Transit Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1757, 2024

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By POPOVE

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board rescind third reading given to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Sub-Regional Transit Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1757, 2024*;

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give a new third reading to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Sub-Regional Transit Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1757, 2024*, as amended.

CARRIED

6. REGIONAL SERVICES

6.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

6.1.1 Abbotsford and Agassiz Air Quality Monitoring Stations - Licences of Occupation

Moved By PRANGER
Seconded By SIEMENS

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to enter into a Licence of Occupation with the City of Abbotsford for the air quality monitoring station located at Mill Lake Park in Abbotsford;

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to enter into a Licence of Occupation with the District of Kent for the air quality monitoring station located at Centennial Park in Agassiz.

CARRIED

6.1.2 Invasive Weed Control Program Service Agreement

Moved By SMITH
Seconded By CASSEL

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to execute a new service agreement with the Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society for the management of invasive weeds related to the Fraser Valley Regional District's Invasive Weed Control Program.

CARRIED

6.2 INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

6.2.1 Grant Application Request for Support

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By KLOOT

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board acknowledges and supports Boston Bar First Nation's application for a funding opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund Feasibility Study Grant for the Boston Bar Geothermal and Green Hydrogen Project, in partnership with the Fraser Valley Regional District.

AND THAT Boston Bar First Nation is the lead applicant on this project, and the Fraser Valley Regional District supports the application as the eligible local government with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District as a partner is absolved from any financial or administrative obligations to this project.

CARRIED

6.3 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INITIATIVES

6.3.1 Rural Transit Needs Assessment and Action Plan Update

Moved By HORN
Seconded By WAARDENBURG

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff, subject to not receiving confirmation of funding from the Rural Transit Solutions Fund by the end of March 2025, to use Strategic Planning and Initiatives surplus funds to complete the Rural Transit Needs Assessment and Action Plan in lieu of receiving federal funding;

AND THAT the scope of the project be adjusted to also assess handyDART connections between the region's urban centres.

CARRIED

7. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Quarterly Report Q4 (October 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024)

The quarterly report was provided for information.

7.2 2025 Advocacy and LMLGA Resolutions

Director Cassel called for division of the motion:

Moved by CASSEL
Seconded by MACAHONIC

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to forward two resolutions to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) for consideration at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference from April 29 – May 1, 2025;

RESOLUTION #1: *Illegal dumping in rural areas clean-up funding*

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia does not have a funding policy in place to offset costs associated to illegal dumping in rural areas of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the dumping/tipping fees, equipment, and fuel costs to clean-up the effects of abandoned vehicles, garbage, and litter unfairly places hardships on the efforts of dedicated volunteers and requires the backing of private donations to cover the costs associated with the clean-up work;

AND WHEREAS these sites are unsightly, negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas including waterways and natural spaces, posing a threat to public safety;

AND WHEREAS the sites are located on rural Crown land area, and can be directly associated with the impacts of low inventories of affordable housing in the Province of British Columbia;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Union of British Columbia Municipalities ask the provincial government to take urgent steps to develop a policy to support a community-based funding model to support clean-up efforts on Crown lands undertaken by volunteers and organized interest groups.

RESOLUTION #2: Unmet Demands on Social and Community Infrastructure as a Result of Provincial Housing Targets

WHEREAS the mandate letters of the sitting provincial government include

- Growing the economy;
- Affordability;
- Strengthening healthcare; and
- Community safety

AND WHEREAS the Province has mandated accelerated and densified housing, placing historical and unmet demands on social and community infrastructure such as education, transit, social welfare and supportive housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities ask the provincial government to focus on strengthening complete communities and make historically significant investments in schools, community mental health, and transit to accommodate growth.

CARRIED

Moved by CASSEL
Seconded by MACAHONIC

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to further develop an Advocacy Plan, following 14 issues in 2025.

CARRIED
DIRECTOR CASSEL OPPOSED

8. ADDENDA ITEMS/LATE ITEMS

No items.

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Letter from Mayor Smith, District of Hope, to Honourable Niki Sharma, Attorney General of BC RE: Prolific Criminal Activity and the Justice System (January 13, 2025)

10. REPORTS BY STAFF

No items.

11. REPORTS BY DIRECTORS

No items.

12. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD FOR ITEMS RELEVANT TO AGENDA

No questions were asked online or in person and no written correspondence was received.

13. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the meeting be closed to the public, except for Senior Staff and the Executive Assistant, for the purpose of receiving and adopting Closed Meeting Minutes convened in accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter* and to consider matters pursuant to:

- Section 90(1)(c) of the *Community Charter* - labour relations or other employee relations;
- Section 90(1)(e) of the *Community Charter* - the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the board considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the regional district;
- Section 90(1)(l) of the *Community Charter* - discussions with regional officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the

purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 *[annual regional district report]*.

RECESS

CARRIED

The open meeting recessed at 10:32am.

14. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

The open meeting reconvened at 11:27am.

15. RISE AND REPORT OUT OF CLOSED MEETING

No items.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By HORN

THAT the Regional and Corporate Services Committee Open Meeting of February 13, 2025 be adjourned.

CARRIED

The Fraser Valley Regional District Regional and Corporate Services Committee Open meeting of February 13, 2025 adjourned at 11:27am.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Director Patricia Ross, Chair

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Corporate Officer/Deputy