



FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 30, 2025
(Immediately following the FVRHD Board Meeting)
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 Peter Adamo, Electoral Area B
Director Les Barkman, City of Abbotsford
Director Cory Cassel, Electoral Area G
Director Kelly Chahal, City of Abbotsford
Director Hugh Davidson, Electoral Area F (Zoom)
Director Bill Dickey, Electoral Area D
Director Taryn Dixon, Electoral Area H
Director Patricia Driessen, City of Abbotsford
Director Leo Facio, Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Director Simon Gibson, City of Abbotsford
Director Jag Gill, City of Mission
Director Paul Horn, City of Mission
Director Diane Johnson, Electoral Area A
Director Dave Loewen, City of Abbotsford
Director Jason Lum, City of Chilliwack
Director Patti MacAhonic, Electoral Area E
Director Ken Popove, City of Chilliwack
Director Sylvia Pranger, District of Kent
Director Nicole Read, City of Chilliwack
Director Ross Siemens, City of Abbotsford
Director Victor Smith, District of Hope
Director Mel Waardenburg, Electoral Area C

Staff Present: Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer
Kelly Lownsborough, Director of Corporate Services / CFO
Jaime Van Nes, Director of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer
Stacey Barker, Deputy CAO/Director of Regional Services
Graham Daneluz, Director of Planning & Development
Tareq Islam, Director of Engineering Services
Lauren Olynick, Deputy Corporate Officer
Beth Klein, Controller/Deputy CFO
David Urban, Deputy Director of Regional Services

Christina Vugteveen, Manager of Parks
Sam Piper, Manager of Communications
Alison Stewart, Manager of Strategic Planning (*Zoom*)
Katelyn Hipwell, Manager of Planning
Lance Lilley, Manager of Environmental Services
Scott Salisbury, Manager of Special Engineering Projects
Lucas Thompson, Network Analyst III
Amanda Molloy, Administrative Manager (*recording secretary*)

One member of the public present online, none in person.

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Ross recognized the homeland of the 31 First Nation communities of the area now called the Fraser Valley Regional District.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The open meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDENDA AND LATE ITEMS

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By GIBSON

THAT the Agenda, Addenda and Late Items for the Fraser Valley Regional District Board Open Meeting of January 30, 2025 be approved;

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

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

4. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Land Use Planning for Agriculture

A presentation was provided by Jeffrey Weightman, Acting Director of Land Use Planning for the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, to discuss the importance of the agriculture industry in the Fraser Valley and across the province. Key points of the presentation included the significant contributions agriculture makes to the economy and job security in the community, and the industry consistently outperforms forestry and logging across the province. The FVRD contains 2,358 farms. Challenges facing the sector include limited arable land and the cost of ALR land to obtain, and urbanization in the Fraser valley. Mr. Weightman identified how local governments

can help BC agriculture through land use planning such as utilizing appropriate bylaws, and working with the provincial staff in their land assessments, to ensure greater food security by having the land base available to support the sector. Questions were raised regarding the future of greenhouses to expand growing seasons in the Fraser Valley, as well as the challenges faced by local farmers in terms of the costs of production and need to outsource production. Discussion ensued regarding advocacy for solutions to these issues as well as the imbalance of tax requisitions per ALR land size in member municipalities, and the need for more funding from the provincial and federal governments.

5. BOARD MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Draft Fraser Valley Regional District Board Meeting Minutes - December 12, 2024

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By KLOOT

THAT the Minutes of the Fraser Valley Regional District Board Open Meeting of December 12, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

5.2 Draft Fraser Valley Regional District Committee of the Whole Open Meeting Minutes - January 23, 2025

Moved By DIXON
Seconded By DRIESSEN

THAT the Minutes of the Fraser Valley Regional District Committee of the Whole Open Meeting of January 23, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

6. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

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

6.2 Draft Electoral Area Services Committee Open Meeting Minutes - January 16, 2025

7. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

7.1 Amendment to the Board and Committee Procedures Bylaw brought forward by Director Dickey, Electoral Area D

Moved By DICKEY
Seconded By DIXON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to bring forward to a future Board meeting amendments to the *Fraser Valley Regional District Board and Committee Procedures Bylaw No. 1600, 2020*;

AND THAT the amendments include revisions to the Chair and Vice Chair election procedure allowing for a method of determining results of an election following a tie vote.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

8. LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

8.1 FVRD Flood Resiliency Committee Terms of Reference

Moved By CASSEL
Seconded By LUM

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the Fraser Valley Regional District Flood Resiliency Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

8.2 FVRD Intergovernmental Relations Committee Terms of Reference

Moved By HORN
Seconded By READ

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the Fraser Valley Regional District Intergovernmental Relations Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

8.3 2025 Holiday Closure of FVRD Corporate Offices

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By GIBSON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve the closure of the FVRD Corporate Offices to the public on December 29, 30, 31, 2025.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

9. **FINANCE**

9.1 **2025 Grant-in-Aid Application – Harrison Mills Community Club, Electoral Area C**

Director Waardenburg declared a conflict as he sits on the board for the Harrison Mills Community Club and left for the voting and discussion on this matter.

Moved By PRANGER
Seconded By ADAMO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$4,000 to Harrison Mills Community Club, funded from the 2024 Electoral Area C grant-in-aid budget, to help offset the cost of window replacements at the Harrison Mills Community Club Hall.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

9.2 **Establishment of a Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel**

Moved By KLOOT
Seconded By ADAMO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board establish a Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel pursuant to Section 204 of the Community Charter for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and authenticating the following parcel tax bylaws:

- *Fraser Valley Regional District Dogwood Water System Local Service Area Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 1738, 2024; and*
- *Fraser Valley Regional District Cultus Lake Sewer System Service Area Parcel Tax Establishment Bylaw No. 1499, 2018.*

AND THAT Director Peter Adamo, Director Bill Dickey and Director Taryn Dixon be appointed as members of the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel;

AND FINALLY THAT the sitting of the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel take place on February 25th, 2025 at 10am.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

9.3 Budget 723 - Community Parks Area E

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By JOHNSON

THAT the Electoral Area Services Committee direct staff to include Budget 723 Electoral Area E Community Parks in to the draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

9.4 Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) Reporting Requirements

Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer, noted an extension until July 29, 2025 for the reporting requirements has been granted.

10. BYLAWS

10.1 Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Department Establishment and Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1764, 2025

Discussion ensued regarding the framework used to determine the proposed remuneration for the Chilliwack River Valley Volunteer Fire Department.

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give first reading to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Department Establishment and Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1764, 2025*;

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By LOEWEN
Seconded By READ

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give second and third readings to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Department Establishment and Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1764, 2025*; and

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By DRIESSEN

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Department Establishment and Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1764, 2025*.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted (2/3 Votes Cast)

11. CONTRACTS, COVENANTS AND OTHER AGREEMENTS

11.1 Covenant for Development Permit 2024-07 at 14520, 14590, and 14616 Sylvester Road, Electoral Area F

Moved By DAVIDSON
Seconded By HORN

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to execute all legal documents related to Development Permit 2024-07.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

11.2 Award of Contract for Chilliwack River Valley Slope Hazard Public Safety & Risk Assessment

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve an agreement for services for \$499,900.00 plus GST with BGC Engineering INC for the Chilliwack River Valley Slope Hazard Public Safety & Risk Assessment.

CARRIED
All/Weighted

11.3 Airpark Hangar Lease Renewal Valley Helicopters

Moved By HORN
Seconded By PRANGER

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to enter into a five year agreement with Valley Helicopters for the purpose of a hangar land lease located at the Fraser Valley Regional Airpark in Hope.

CARRIED
All/Weighted

11.4 Harrison Mills Transfer Station Request for Proposal Results

Moved By KLOOT
Seconded By WAARDENBURG

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to execute a three-year contract to Crucible Contracting for the operation and maintenance of the Harrison Mills transfer station at an annual cost of \$57,262.20 plus GST.

CARRIED
All/Weighted

12. OTHER MATTERS

12.1 Fire Department Member Service Awards

The staff report dated January 16, 2025 by Trina Douglas, Manager of Protective Services, was provided for information. Chair Ross expressed gratitude on behalf of the Board for the dedication and service of the volunteer members.

12.2 Invasive Weed Control Program 2024 Year-End Summary

The staff report dated January 16, 2025 by Vanessa Hart, Environmental Services Technician, was provided for information.

12.3 Agricultural Land Commission Application 2024-06 for a 3-Lot Subdivision at 4671 Sherlaw Road, Electoral Area E

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose of the restrictive covenant, resulting in an updated motion being brought forward as follows:

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By DICKEY

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board forward the application for a 3-lot subdivision at 4671 Sherlaw Road, Electoral Area E, to the Agricultural Land Commission, subject to the registration of a restrictive covenant in favour of the Fraser Valley Regional District;

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to execute all documents relating to this application.

CARRIED
EAs/Unweighted

12.4 UBCM's Regional Community to Community Program – FVRD and Sts'ailes Forum Grant Application

Moved By READ
Seconded By POPOVE

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve an application to the Union of BC Municipalities' 2024/2025 Regional Community to Community Program to facilitate a forum with Sts'ailes First Nation, and confirm that the Fraser Valley Regional District will manage this grant, as required by the funder, should the grant application be approved.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

13. CONSENT AGENDA - MOTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE JANUARY 23, 2025 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved By HORN
Seconded By GIBSON

THAT the following Consent Agenda items 13.1 to 13.7 be endorsed:

13.1 General Government Budgets

THAT staff be directed to include the following budgets as presented into the draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan:
101 Regional Administration
104 Fiscal Services to Municipalities
105 Grants-In-Aid Regional
106 Regional Indigenous Relations

13.2 Protective Services Budgets

THAT staff be directed to include the following budgets as presented into the draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan:
204 Building Inspection - Harrison Hot Springs Portion Only
240 Sub Regional Search & Rescue
246 Combined E-911

247 Regional Fire Dispatch
255 Animal Control – Municipal

13.3 Transportation Services Budgets

THAT staff be directed to include the following budgets as presented into the draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan:
301 Airpark - Hope, Area A & B
306 Transit - Area D, Chilliwack, Kent & Harrison Hot Springs
307 Transit - Fraser Valley Express
308 Transit – Hope

13.4 Environmental Health Services Budgets

THAT staff be directed to include the following budgets as presented into the draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan:
400 Regional Mosquito Control
401 Regional Air Quality
402 Regional Solid Waste Management
430 Invasive Weed Control

13.5 Environmental Development Budgets

THAT staff be directed to include the following budgets as presented into the draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan:
601 Regional Strategic Planning and Initiatives
602 GIS/Regional Mapping

13.6 Recreation and Culture Budgets

THAT staff be directed to include the following budgets as presented into the draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan:
700 Regional Parks (East)
709 Hope Recreation (Arena/Pool)
710 Hope & Area Recreation Programming
716 Experience the Fraser
731 Vedder River Campground
735 Sub Regional Parks (West)

13.7 Letter to Premier of B.C. and Minister of Transportation and Transit

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to write a letter to the Premier of B.C. and Minister of Transportation and Transit to ask that the Provincial government robustly fund transit initiatives in the region.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

14. **MOTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE JANUARY 27, 2025 ELECTORAL AREA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By SIEMENS

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to bring forward to a future meeting amendments to the Electoral Area Advocacy Committee Terms of Reference;

AND THAT the proposed amendments include options for determination of the Committee Chair for the Electoral Area Advocacy Committee.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Discussion ensued regarding the rationale for adding local government bodies the ability to seize property associated with illegal fill activities, with the intent being the Agricultural Land Commission receiving this power, resulting in the following motion being brought forward:

Moved By ADAMO
Seconded By DIXON

THAT staff be directed to request a meeting with the Minister of Forests as a follow up to the 2024 UBCM Resolution on management of fire risk on Crown land;

AND THAT staff be directed to request a meeting with the Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness as a follow up to the 2024 UBCM Resolution on Disaster Financial Assistance;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to provide a report back to the February 13, 2025 meeting of the Electoral Area Services Committee providing draft resolutions or recommendations for advocacy for the 2025 Lower Mainland Local Government Association on the following topics:

- Development of an additional provincial insurance program for victims of climate related events who are ineligible for the provincial Disaster Financial Assistance program;
- Legislative amendments allowing for provincial agencies and local governments to seize property associated with illegal fill activities;

- **Expanded and updated process associated with BC Assessment's property assessment** program to ensure that all housing is being adequately assessed and taxed;
- Implementation of a 911 Call Answer Levy on cellular devices;
- **Unhoused encampments within FVRD's rural areas.**

AND FINALLY THAT staff be directed to monitor the following topics for future Lower Mainland Local Government Association resolutions or advocacy:

- Development of provincial Bill 44 and the requirements for a housing needs assessment;
- Legislative amendments allowing for provincial and local government access to private property to undertake recovery works following weather related events such as the 2021 atmospheric river event.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

15. **MOTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE JANUARY 29, 2025 INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved By HORN
Seconded By POPOVE

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to report back to the February 13, 2025 meeting of the Regional and Corporate Services Committee with a draft LMLGA resolution on the topic of the unmet demands on social and community infrastructure as a result of provincial housing targets.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By KLOOT
Seconded By JOHNSON

THAT the topic of trucked liquid waste be referred to Electoral Area Advocacy Committee for the development of a coordinated advocacy approach, including requesting a meeting with the provincial government, and the provision of a trucked liquid waste communications brief for all Board Directors.

Comments were offered regarding past discussions of an interconnected approach with member municipalities, and if the indirect consequence of this issue being discussed at EASC for a coordinated advocacy approach would exclude municipal voices. Staff noted any recommendations developed by the EASC would then come to the full Board for approval before any action can take place, and so there are minimal concerns about this approach and the following amendment was brought forward:

Moved By DAVIDSON
Seconded By DICKEY

THAT the motion be amended to strike the words Electoral Area Advocacy Committee and insert the words Electoral Area Services Committee.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By DAVIDSON
Seconded By DICKEY

THAT the topic of trucked liquid waste be referred to the Electoral Area Services Committee for the development of a coordinated advocacy approach, including requesting a meeting with the provincial government, and the provision of a trucked liquid waste communications brief for all Board Directors.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By LUM
Seconded By PRANGER

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to report back to the February 13, 2025 meeting of the Regional and Corporate Services Committee with a draft LMLGA resolution on the topic of protection and preservation of industrial land.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By POPOVE
Seconded By READ

THAT staff be directed to continue to monitor the following topics for future Lower Mainland Local Government Association resolutions or advocacy:

- Provincial funding program for radon mitigation;
- Equitable approach to shelter bed locations;
- Food security.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

16. **ADDENDA ITEMS/LATE ITEMS**

No items.

17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

- 17.1 Letter from Mike Hurley, Chair, Metro Vancouver Board RE: Metro 2050 Type 3 Proposed Amendment - City of Surrey (15238 - 64 Avenue) (December 13, 2024)
- 17.2 Letter of Support from Vanessa Craig, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo RE: Request for UBCM Governance Review (December 16, 2024)
- 17.3 Letter from Rikk Beaudet, Supervisor, Community & Indigenous Engagement, Enbridge RE Proposed Sunrise Expansion Program Update (January 7, 2025)
- 17.4 Letter from Chris Gardner, President and CEO, ICBA RE: Protecting Taxpayers from Overspending on Local Government Construction (January 7, 2025)

18. REPORTS BY STAFF

No items.

19. REPORTS BY BOARD DIRECTORS

Director MacAhonic reported that the Chilliwack River Valley firefighters trained together on January 28, 2025 and crews continue to develop their skills. The department is thankful and wish to express how beneficial joint training is, as teamwork keeps both communities safe.

Director Dixon reported Cultus Lake has had a goose management committee in place for the past 6 years, and programs have been very successful. The committee is asking if there are any other communities in the district who may want to partner and grow the program.

20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD FOR ITEMS RELEVANT TO AGENDA

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

21. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By CHAHAL

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 to Section 90 of the *Community Charter* and to consider matters pursuant to:

- Section 90(1)(g) of the *Community Charter* - litigation or potential litigation affecting the regional district;

- Section 90(1)(j) of the *Community Charter* - information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#)
- Section 90(2)(b) of the *Community Charter* - the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the regional district and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

The open meeting recessed at 7:31pm.

22. **RECONVENE OPEN MEETING**

The open meeting reconvened at 9:11pm.

23. **RISE AND REPORT OUT OF CLOSED MEETING**

No items.

24. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By HORN

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board Open Meeting of January 30, 2025 be adjourned.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

The Fraser Valley Regional District Board open meeting of January 30, 2025 adjourned at 9:11pm.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Director Patricia Ross, Chair

.....
Corporate Officer/Deputy