

FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 24, 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 (*Zoom*)
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 (*Zoom*)
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
Alt. Director Mark Warkentin, City of Abbotsford

Regrets: Director Les Barkman, City of Abbotsford

Staff Present: Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer
Kelly Lownsbrough, 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
Lauren Olynick, Deputy Corporate Officer

Sterling Chan, Deputy Director of Engineering Services
Beth Klein, Controller
David Urban, Deputy Director of Regional Services
Lance Lilley, Manager of Environmental Services
Adam Swartz, Manager of Information Technology, GIS & FDM
Katelyn Hipwell, Manager of Planning
Sam Piper, Manager of Communications
Tarina Colledge, Manager of Emergency Management
Lucas Thompson, Network Analyst III
Amanda Molloy, Administrative Manager (*recording secretary*)

Also Present: Two members of the public attended in person.

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice Chair Chris Kloot 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 6:08pm.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDENDA AND LATE ITEMS

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By CHAHAL

THAT the Agenda, Addenda and Late Items for the Fraser Valley Regional District Board Open Meeting of April 24, 2025 be approved;

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

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

4. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

4.1 2024 Fraser Valley Regional District Audited Financial Statements

Sean Reid, KMPG, noted that KPMG is independent of the Board and provided an overview of the 2024 Audit Finding Report which included: executive summary, areas of audit focus, audit risks, significant accounting policies and processes.

Moved By PRANGER
Seconded By POPOVE

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve the 2024 Audited Financial Statements for the Fraser Valley Regional District.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

5. BOARD MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Draft Fraser Valley Regional District Board Meeting Minutes - March 27, 2025

Moved By JOHNSON
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Minutes of the Fraser Valley Regional District Board Open Meeting of March 27, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

6. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

6.1 Draft Board of Variance Meeting Minutes - March 25, 2025

6.2 Draft Regional and Corporate Services Committee Open Meeting Minutes - April 10, 2025

6.3 Draft Electoral Area Services Committee Open Meeting Minutes - April 10, 2025

6.4 Draft Electoral Area Advocacy Committee Open Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2025

6.5 Draft Intergovernmental Relations Committee Open Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2025

6.6 Draft Flood Resiliency Committee Open Meeting Minutes - April 17, 2025

7. FINANCE

7.1 Financial Plan 2025-2029 Amendment - April

Moved By SIEMENS
Seconded By DIXON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board prepare for the Board's consideration an amendment to the Fraser Valley Regional District 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1769, 2025 to include nineteen Electoral Area Service Amendments and twelve Regional Service Amendments.

CARRIED

All/Unweighted

7.2 2025 Grant-in-Aid Request – Deroche & District Community Association, Electoral Areas C and G

Moved By CASSEL
Seconded By WAARDENBURG

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$6,000 to Deroche & District Community Association, funded from the 2025 Electoral Area C and Electoral Area G grant-in-aid budgets, to assist with replacing the front access door, steps, and landing at the Deroche Community Hall.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

7.3 2025 Grant-in-Aid Request – Post Creek Ratepayers Association, Electoral Area E

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By DRIESSEN

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$4,000 to the Post Creek Ratepayers Association, funded from the 2025 Electoral Area E grant-in-aid budget, to assist with costs of various continuing community preparedness projects.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

7.4 2025 Grant-in-Aid Request – Cultus Lake Park Board Community Events and Engagement Committee, Electoral Area H

Moved By DIXON
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$4,000 to the Cultus Lake Park Community Events and Engagement Committee, funded from the 2025 Electoral Area H grant-in-aid budget, to help offset the costs of the annual Cultus Lake Day event.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

8. BYLAWS

8.1 Fraser Valley Regional District Noxious Weed Control Service Area Conversion and Establishment Bylaw No. 1750, 2024

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By CASSEL

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Noxious Weed Control Service Area Conversion and Establishment Bylaw No. 1750, 2024*.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

8.2 Fraser Valley Regional District Rexford Creek Storm Drainage Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1770, 2025

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By DIXON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Rexford Creek Storm Drainage Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1770, 2025*.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

8.3 Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area C Community Parks Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1771, 2025

Moved By WAARDENBURG
Seconded By CASSEL

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area C Community Parks Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1771, 2025*.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

8.4 Fraser Valley Regional District Repeal (Cultus Lake Sewer Connection and Regulations) Bylaw No. 1784, 2025

Moved By DIXON
Seconded By CHAHAL

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give first reading to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Repeal (Cultus Lake Sewer Connection and Regulations) Bylaw No. 1784, 2025*;

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By DICKY
Seconded By PRANGER

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give second and third readings to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Repeal (Cultus Lake Sewer Connection and Regulations) Bylaw No. 1784, 2025*;

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Moved By HORN
Seconded By DIXON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Repeal (Cultus Lake Sewer Connection and Regulations) Bylaw No. 1784, 2025*.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted (2/3 Votes Cast)

8.5 Fraser Valley Regional District Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1788, 2025

Moved By GILL
Seconded By ADAMO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give first reading to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1788, 2025*;

CARRIED
All/Weighted

Moved By SMITH
Seconded By READ

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give second and third readings to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1788, 2025*;

CARRIED
All/Weighted

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By DRIESSEN

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1788, 2025*;

CARRIED
All/Weighted (2/3 Votes Cast)

9. CONTRACTS, COVENANTS AND OTHER AGREEMENTS

9.1 Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Contract Award

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed timeline of the plan. Staff noted there will be a report provided to the Board in Spring 2026, and that any findings may be provided to local volunteer fire departments in the Electoral Areas.

Moved By LOEWEN
Seconded By MACAHONIC

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board award a contract to Frontera Forest Solutions, Inc. as the preferred proponent to Request for Proposal 25005 for the provision of professional services to conduct a grant-funded Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan.

CARRIED
All/Weighted

9.2 Covenants for a 6 lot strata subdivision of 3636 Columbia Valley Road, Electoral Area H

Moved By DIXON
Seconded By DICKEY

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to execute all documents relating to subdivision file 3320-20-2017-07445, 6 lot strata subdivision of 3636 Columbia Valley Road, Electoral Area H.

CARRIED
All/Weighted

9.3 Update on Bill 44 Housing Statutes Amendment Act Implementation & Award of Contract for Servicing Review

Discussion ensued regarding the directions and considerations the FVRD will provide to the consultant during the review, and staff provided a brief breakdown of the projected cost of the contract. Discussion also took place regarding the challenges and advocacy work the FVRD and member municipalities have and will continue to encounter in response to this new legislation.

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By CHAHAL

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize a sole-sourced agreement for services not to exceed \$203,923 + GST with Urban Systems LTD for the Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing Implementation and Servicing Review.

CARRIED
All/Weighted

10. OTHER MATTERS

10.1 Quarterly Update (Q1) January 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025

It was requested staff include an update of active bylaw files each quarter.

10.2 Regional Zero-Emissions Mobility Strategy

The staff report dated April 10, 2025 by Elias Ross, Environmental Service Coordinator was provided for information.

Discussion ensued regarding the determination of categories within the report. Staff noted the list of categories represent the highest classification level of the North American Industry Classification System, designed to classify economic activity across a set of predefined categories. Discussion also ensued regarding the reliability of the scale of data sets and if there is any possibility to report the data by community/municipality in the future.

10.3 2025 Regional Economic Review and Related Initiatives

The staff report dated April 10, 2025 by Riley Smith, Planner I, was provided for information.

Discussion ensued and it was requested that this report be shared with FVRD's member municipalities.

10.4 Social Media Policy - Update

Discussion ensued regarding accountability within the policy and the tools the FVRD may use, such as the Code of Responsible Conduct Policy, should any issues ever arise. Discussion also ensued regarding implementing a communications strategy or monthly summary to allow the public to quickly find information on meetings and resolutions.

Moved By CASSEL
Seconded By HORN

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the *Social Media Policy*.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

Discussion ensued regarding approaches to civic engagement being considered by member municipalities. Staff noted any enhancements and opportunities to include these topics in the new board term director orientation will be considered.

Moved By HORN
Seconded By ADAMO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to prepare a report including recommendations on social media platforms that provide the best message integrity and civic engagement value at a future board meeting.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.5 Media Relations Policy – Update

Discussion ensued regarding clarity of the language around FVRD spokespersons.

Moved By GILL
Seconded By ADAMO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the *Media Relations Policy*.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.6 Steward Logistics Inc. Towers Telecommunications Tower Referral at 58251 Laidlaw Road, Electoral Area B

Moved By ADAMO
Seconded By DIXON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board respond to the referral from SLI Towers for the installation of a new telecommunications tower at 58251 Laidlaw Road, Area B with the following comments:

1. The scope of the public consultation is satisfactory to the Fraser Valley Regional District.
2. SLI Towers will provide documentation confirming the consultation is complete.
3. SLI Towers has provided information about the potential for other telecommunications companies to co-locate on the proposed tower.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.7 Agricultural Land Commission Application for Fill at 10940 Stave Lake Road, Electoral Area F

Moved By DAVIDSON
Seconded By CASSEL

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board refuse to forward the application for Placement of Fill at 10940 Stave Lake Road, Electoral Area F, to the Agricultural Land Commission.

CARRIED
EAs/Unweighted

10.8 Update on Proposed Harrison Rise Development at 43837 & 43873 Lougheed Highway, Area C

The staff report dated April 10, 2025 by Katelyn Hipwell, Manager of Planning, was provided for information.

10.9 Motions brought forward from the April 14, 2025 Electoral Area Advocacy Committee Meeting

10.9.1 Options for determining Electoral Area Advocacy Committee Chair

Moved By SMITH
Seconded By JOHNSON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District direct staff to bring forward updates to the Electoral Area Advocacy Committee Terms of Reference to provide that the Chair of the Electoral Area Services Committee shall be the Chair of the Electoral Area Advocacy Committee.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.9.2 Meeting with Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness

Discussion ensued regarding the rationale of the motion.

Moved By MACAHONIC
Seconded By DICKY

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to request a meeting in Victoria with the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to make them more familiar with the situation of the residents in the Chilliwack River Valley impacted by the 2021 Atmospheric River and ask the Ministry to rescind their decision around Disaster Financial Assistance and follow their published policy.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.9.3 Minister Meetings with respect to trucked liquid waste

Discussion ensued requesting that representatives from the City of Chilliwack and the City of Abbotsford be included in any scheduled meetings.

Moved By CASSEL
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to request meetings in Victoria with relevant Ministers and request funding to support the issue of trucked liquid waste.

CARRIED

All/Unweighted

10.9.4 Legislative amendments with respect to illegal fill activities

Moved By DAVIDSON
Seconded By ADAMO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District refer the item of legislative amendments allowing for provincial agencies and local governments to seize property of illegal fill activities back to the Electoral Area Services Committee for further discussion.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.9.5 Advocacy Plan

Moved By DIXON
Seconded By MACAHONIC

THAT a new item be added to the Advocacy plan Dashboard regarding Homelessness;

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board ask the Province to treat homelessness as a true emergency, and to take bold action and use available resources such as the surplus housing units from the Site C dam project and create an interim housing site for those experiencing homelessness.

Discussion ensued regarding the rationale of the motion, resulting in the following motion:

Moved By HORN
Seconded By GILL

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board refer the item with respect to surplus housing units from the Site C dam project back to the Electoral Area Advocacy Committee.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted
DIRECTORS CASSEL AND SIEMENS OPPOSED

10.10 Motions brought forward from the April 14, 2025 Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting

10.10.1 Letter to Minister of Public Safety regarding Highway 1

Moved By HORN
Seconded By POPOVE

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to write a letter regarding the Highway 1 service realignment to the Minister of Public Safety and provide a copy to the Superintendent of the RCMP.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.10.2 Invitation for RCMP to present at future FVRD meeting

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By JOHNSON

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to invite Inspector Darren Pankratz of the RCMP to present at a future FVRD board meeting.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

10.11 Motions brought forward from the April 17, 2025 Flood Resiliency Committee

10.11.1 Letter to Premier

Discussion ensued suggesting that the letter include a request for routine updates from the Ministry on the progress of the funding and related projects.

Moved By CASSEL
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board send a letter to Premier Eby in support of the Lower Fraser Floodplains Coalition's concerns regarding funding of flood related projects.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

11. ITEMS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 Letter dated April 15, 2025 from City of Pitt Meadows re: support for LMLGA resolution

Discussion ensued resulting in the following motion being brought forward:

Moved By ROSS
Seconded By FACIO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board Chair write a letter of support in response to Mayor Nicole MacDonald's letter with respect to the City of Pitt Meadows' LMLGA resolution about increasing funding for agriculture in the province.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

12. ADDENDA ITEMS/LATE ITEMS

No items.

13. REPORTS BY STAFF

No items.

14. REPORTS BY BOARD DIRECTORS

Director Smith reported the District of Hope will be recognizing Earth Day with various community efforts and events.

Director Pranger invited everyone to attend the Harrison Tulip Festival being held currently in Agassiz.

15. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD FOR ITEMS RELEVANT TO AGENDA

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

16. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By DIXON

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)(c) of the *Community Charter* - labour relations or other employee relations;

- Section 90(1)(d) of the *Community Charter* - the security of the property of the regional district;
- Section 90(1)(g) of the *Community Charter* - litigation or potential litigation affecting the regional district;
- Section 90(1)(i) of the *Community Charter* - the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- Section 90(1)(k) of the *Community Charter* - negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a regional service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the board, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the regional district if they were held in public;
- 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 8:00pm.

17. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

The open meeting reconvened at 9:55pm.

18. RISE AND REPORT OUT OF CLOSED MEETING

Chaumox Landfill Operations Contract

Moved By SIEMENS
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff in accordance with the Fraser Valley Regional District Purchasing Procurement Policy to initiate a competitive procurement process by issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the open market for the provision of services related to the operations of the Chaumox Landfill in 2026 and beyond.

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to continue to pursue obtaining an executed contract with the Boston Bar Landfill Society for the Chaumox Landfill for the term of 2024 to 2025.

CARRIED
All/Weighted

Request to Establish a Sub-Regional Service Area for Lets'emot Regional Recreation & Aquatic Centre

Moved By PRANGER
Seconded By FACIO

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct staff to respond to the District of Kent and Village of Harrison Hot Springs, indicating interest for the creation of a service area for operating funding, subject to a successful service area establishment process, including Inspector of Municipalities' and Elector approval.

CARRIED

DIRECTORS CASSEL, CHAHAL, DIXON, DRIESSEN, GIBSON, LOEWEN, JOHNSON,
MACAHONIC, SIEMENS, WAARDENBURG, WARKENTIN OPPOSED

Community Animal Response & Education (CARE) Centre – Progressive Design-Build Phase 1

Moved By READ
Seconded By SMITH

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize its signatories to enter into a Progressive Design-Build agreement with Gerry Enns Contracting Ltd. for \$244,230 (including GST) for Phase 1 of the provision for a new Animal Control facility.

CARRIED

All/Weighted

19. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By FACIO
Seconded By PRANGER

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board Open Meeting of April 24, 2025 be adjourned.

CARRIED
All/Unweighted

The Fraser Valley Regional District Board open meeting of April 24, 2025 adjourned at 9:55pm.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Director Patricia Ross, Chair

.....
Corporate Officer/Deputy