

Dunster Community Forest Society  
Directors Meeting  
February 13, 2017

Called to order at 1901.

Present: Larry Stamm, Jan De Niet, Donna Hampson, Chuck McNaughton, Eric Gauthier, Ray Thiessen, Kelly McNaughton.

#### Agenda

1. Minutes of the December 19, 2016 Meeting: Read.

Motion: To approve the minutes as amended. Moved: Donna, Seconded: Jan. Carried.

2. Treasurer's Report

Donna referred to her budget. Seth realized an error in his billing so he presented an additional bill which Donna has paid. Evan also recognized an error in his billing & presented an additional bill which has been paid. DNR Logging also submitted an invoice for 2016. GST has been filed & we will be receiving a credit. Jan brought up the issue of differing amounts being collected for loads of firewood. Ray clarified that these are different sized loads & that they will be documenting this more clearly in the future. Ray is projecting slightly lower hauling costs with logging, in the future, due to shorter distances involved. A refund from the Ministry has come in for stumpage, regarding an over-payment related to problems with the Harvest Billing System. The development of the FSP cost approximately \$7000 & this would normally be spread out over 5 years. Donna will present the budget at the AGM.

Donna moved her report. Seconded: Eric. Carried.

3. Manager's Report

Ray referred to his report. Evan will do visuals for C, G, & M blocks. C will be done first as it is most relevant, while the others are for future use. Some companies are challenging government rulings surrounding visuals, in court, with a hope for more objective measurements regarding compliance. Ray is challenging the change in the visuals which were set by the Ministry, without community consensus & the AAC. The Forester who has taken over for Elaine Gillette has said that the Shere Lookout Trail is an undocumented trail, in regards to Fire Protection so Ray is pursuing this through Front Counter BC & looking for support from the Simpcw, regarding maintenance. Ray would like a letter of support for the trail from the DCFS. Other groups, such as the DCA, will also be asked for letters of support. Once it is designated under the DCFS, we are able to apply to the NDIT for some funding support. Ray would like the DCFS to consider putting in claims for gravel pits, in a couple areas that look hopeful, to add to our business profile. NDIT takes in grant proposals quarterly. Dave's prescriptions were incomplete but he is finishing them now – this affected our ability to apply for funding requests. Ray tried to take advantage of the retention in the R10 block – with stratification into the different silviculture units, it has reduced the number of trees required. A couple of other blocks that are quite brushy, will not be planted this year. These will wait for later brushing & subsequent planting. Target stocking standards are 1200 stems/ha. Ray is going to do some surveys on areas that we have planted at this rate & is looking at the amount of naturals. Areas which Dave did a prescription to not plant, on the north side of the valley, which is drier than the south, has found 4-500 stems of naturals 4 years after logging. With looking at less trees required for planting, this will free up more funds for brushing.

4. Correspondence

a. BCCFA Survey

Larry & Ray worked on this. Some of the information we do have, but some of it we don't have at all, so it was sent in incomplete. This related to record keeping for things like how many hours were put into planting, brushing, etc. BCCFA are taking this data to the government to build an argument for their case.

5. Old Business & Business Arising from the Minutes

a. Website Update

The test site is down again. Larry has spoken to Vincent De Niet regarding taking this on, but has not heard back from him as of yet.

b. Community Grant Program

Archie received 5 applications for grants. Archie & his committee plan to meet on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

c. Non-Motorized Hunting in the Raush

Chuck dealt with this. Chuck forwarded a response from the local Fish & Wildlife Club. The Simpcw did not send in a response. Ray emailed Chuck the scans of the maps which he forwarded to the Biologist. Chuck has not received any update on the application.

d. DCFS Office computers

Everything is installed. We still need a printer. Data needs to be entered.

e. Respectful Communications

Kelly reviewed the Policies & sent out a possible addition to the Steps to Responsible Decisions section, which would cover respectful communications. This was reviewed. Larry suggested that this be done when we are transitioning, as all the Policies & By-Laws will be reviewed at that time.

6. New Business

a. Policy on Handling Invoicing Errors

Ray found Seth's error while doing an assessment on silviculture. Larry & Ray discussed this & paid same. Ray is already overloaded with paper work. A possibility is to have the contractors submit a sheet identifying how many trees were planted in a block, to have as a record & possibly have Donna review same prior to payment. Ray has been developing a spread sheet that could work for same. A time frame for submitting corrections is required & could be indicated on the contract. Larry will speak to Donna regarding the possibility of reviewing submissions for accuracy prior to payment of invoices.

b. Record Keeping

Larry covered the issue of tracking data, like what was requested in the BCCFA Survey. This would be a lot more work for someone. In 2-3 years, we could compile more data regarding outcomes as we will have more inputs. Doing this more rapidly, would require a cash infusion. The consensus is to allow this data to build over time.

c. AGM Planning

Will be held Mar 6, at 1900 hrs. There will be a short board meeting following the AGM. Jon will put an advertisement in the Goat for 2 weeks. He will put a notice up at the store & on Pete's email list. Ray will look into setting up a projector & some site maps.

Next meeting: AGM, March 6, 2017 at 1900 hrs. A short board meeting to follow.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting. Moved: Eric, Seconded: Chuck. Carried at 2138.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly McNaughton  
DCFS Secretary