

CARCROSS TAGISH RENEWABLE RESOURCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 7, 2022

Time: 9:00am

Location: Online

In Attendance

Members: Don Toews, John Smarch, Jacques Jobin, Tyler Obediah, Zena McLean

Guests: Kate Andre, Colleen James, Patrick James, Charlie James, Janet McDonald, Lars Jessup

Don Toews was Chair

Andrew Serack was recording secretary

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to Council. Don proposed adding a brief discussion on a way forward for the proposed Lands Act discussion to New Business. Jacques made a motion to accept the agenda as presented and John seconded the motion.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting dated February 7, 2022 was presented to council for acceptance. Jacques motioned to approve the minutes as amended and Tyler seconded the motion.

3. Approval of Financial Report and 22/23 Budget

The financial report dated February, 2022 was presented to council for acceptance. Jacques motioned to approve and Tyler seconded the motion.

The 22/23 Budget was reviewed for a final time. Zena motioned to approve the budget and John seconded the motion.

4. Habitat Protection Area Survey Results draft review

John, Tyler, and Don all reviewed the draft HPA Public Survey results and found no errors. Tyler suggested adding to the formatting. Don proposed mentioning Aga Mene in the introduction. Tyler

proposed being more specific with the survey respondent numbers in the disclosure statement. Andrew will make the final changes for Council approval.

5. Big Game Letter

Council discussed the Mayo RRC letter and proposal regarding limiting big game harvest. Council agreed to draft a letter to support the subject on a future Fish and Wildlife Regulation Agenda.

6. Squanga Boat Launch and Campground

Council reviewed the proposed plans to improve the boat launch at Squanga Lake Campground. Council Members agree that the improvement will incentive more users with bigger boats to use the area. While it is noted that the boat launch improvement will prevent larger boats attempting to launch the current shallow boat ramp and disturbing the soil, the project will likely solve a small issue and create a larger one.

John spoke with the Hall brothers, who's property and trap line are affected by public use of the space. In the past they have had traps sprung and have seen a decrease in wildlife population as use has increased. A unique species of fish, the Squanga Whitefish, may be impacted by increased traffic in the lake. It is also suspected that moose populations in the area have dwindled over the years, and allowing larger boats will allow hunters to further reduce the area's population. Considering the easy access to the area from the Alaska Hiwghway, invasive species are a legitimate concern coming from BC and the rest of Canada, or Alaska.

Council agreed to draft a letter of concern to submit to YESAB after hearing from CTFN.

7. Sheep Collars in GM7

Council unanimously supports collaring two more sheep in GM7.

8. New Business

Council was presented with the information package and survey questions on the future Lands Act. Council agreed to reach out to the community for feedback using the website and social media, and to engage with the organizers to host an information session open to the public.

9. Elders Gathering – with guests from CTFN

Colleen discussed the draft agenda for the Elders Gathering on March 29th. Council agreed it would be a good idea to host 4 separate tables to engage the Elders feedback. A note taker would be present at each table, along with a knowledgeable host. The notetaker would work on whiteboards or noteboards to take down comments which could later be shared with the group.

Kate confirmed CTFN will cover the cost of the venue and equipment for the event.

10. Squanga Boat Launch - with guests from CTFN

CTFN met and discussed the proposed improvement to the Squanga Boat Launch and is not in support of the project and would like to see the current boat ramp removed. CTFN would like to see a land relationship agreement in place with YG before any further work is done. CTFN will share their YESAB comment letter with CTRRC.

11. Updates from Lars Jessup

Local Knowledge Survey – Lars and Matt have completed 7 of the 15 interviews and are scheduling the rest this week and next. Feedback from participants thus far is positive, with participants stating they're happy that a non-government body is doing the work and gathering the information. Lars is working on the data entry in Excel and starting to outline the report. Lars discussed how the current CTFN database will not be able to hold the data. A long-term solution for multi-year data storage on the project will need to be designed.

Moose Surveys – Lars has done one interview with Jacques and is scheduling the remaining three.

Caribou in the Schools – Lars has completed his review and met with Lyndsay for an interview. Lars provided missing information on the Southern Lakes. His work on the project is done.

Council asked Lars to work the moose table at the upcoming Elders Gathering on March 29th. Lars agreed. Council was unanimously in favour of hiring Lars.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50PM.