

CARCROSS TAGISH RENEWABLE RESOURCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 4, 2021

Time: 9:00am

Location: Tagish Community Centre

In Attendance

Members: Edna Helm, Don Toews, Zena Mclean, John Smarch, Jacques Jobin, Tyler Obediah

Guests: Jaylene Goorts, Pete Knamiller, Lars Jessup (virtual)

Don Toews was Chair

Andrew Serack was recording secretary

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to council. Jacques proposed to add “safe hunting practices course” as an agenda item 6 f. Don proposed adding “new business” as agenda item 8. Jacques made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and John seconded the motion.

2. Approval of Financial Report

The financial reported dated August 2021 was presented to council for acceptance. Don motioned to approve and Tyler seconded the motion.

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting dated September 13, 2021 was presented to council for acceptance. Don motioned to approve and Zena seconded the motion.

4. Stewardship of Yukon Wetlands

Council has reviewed the draft policy and provides the same input as the last draft phase; to incorporate the existing list of special wetlands in to the policy as a starting point.

A Council member will attend the two-day workshop on October 19-20, 2021.

5. Yukon Invasive Species Council Support

Council discussed boats entering the Yukon as the most likely source of invasive species. There are not enough places to properly steam clean a boat in or near Yukon.

Council suggested the following locations as key areas within the Southern Lakes for educational signs: Tagish boat launch, Carcross boat launch, Marsh Lake Marina, Lewes River Bridge.

Council unanimously approved using the CTRRC logo as a partner on YISC signs.

Tyler suggested advertising use of the YISC page on iNaturalist to engage the public in identifying invasive species.

6. 2021-2022 Expenditure Review

Council reviewed the year-to-date spending and the anticipated spending for the rest of the fiscal year. Due to pandemic related delays and lower related expenditures, Council discussed spending based on anticipated projects for the rest of this fiscal year and to prepare for projects in the 22-23 fiscal year.

Council unanimously agreed to continue spending on social media advertisements to engage the public.

Council unanimously agreed to purchase notebooks for all members.

Council unanimously agreed to purchase \$100 in postage stamps.

- a) Moose meat donation: The donated moose from NorthCurl Outfitters is currently at Stacey's Butcher Shop. When it's packaged, Jacques will pick it up in Whitehorse. Edna and one other member will distribute the meat to Elders and others in need in Carcross and Tagish.
- b) Trapping incentives: Council agreed to spend the allocated \$5000 budget on trapping incentives.
- c) Fishing: Council agreed to engage Dennis Zimmerman in building an angling education program for summer 2022. The remaining funds from the \$10,000 fishing budget are to be used on preparation this fiscal year for projects to be undertaken next year.

Jacques picked up the fish cleaning tables from Jason Gifford. With a note from CO Dave Bakica, suggesting that the fish cleaning tables would not solve any current issues with bear attractants at YG campgrounds and the logistics surrounding voluntary cleaning of the tables, Council unanimously agreed to take no further action on the fish cleaning table program at this time.

- d) Training: Council approved spending up to \$2000 on a bookkeeping course for Andrew. Council discussed providing training to members in Land Claims, and computer education. Members were encouraged to bring forward other training ideas for the next meeting.
- e) Technology: Council unanimously agreed to spend up to \$1500 on an Owl Cam to support members of the public attending meetings virtually.
- f) Council discussed hosting a meat handling training program for the public with a professional butcher. Council decided this would be best done in 22/23 Fall moose hunting season.

7. 2022-23 Draft Budget and Workplan

Council did not have time to review either document. A separate meeting will be held to review.

8. New Business

Council did not have time to discuss new business.

Guest: Pete Knamiller (YG)

Pete Knamiller presented an update on the wolf collaring project, which is still in progress. He is looking for feedback on current and future objectives for the program from partners CTFN, KDFN, and CTRRC. Pete provided an overview slideshow and council discussed:

The wolf collaring project was initiated by concerns of wolf packs on the Carcross and Ibex Caribou herds. The last wolf study was done in 2009. During this study, 11 wolves in 6 packs were collared with GPS collars timed to fall off after two years. Of the 11 collars, 3 are still active. On average, they received 1-1.5 years' worth of data from each collar. Kill site investigations from four these wolf packs indicated that 75% of their prey are moose compared to 25% caribou. Each pack killed at least one caribou. The percentage of biomass of moose to caribou is 91% to 9%, indicating that wolves in the area are primarily preying on moose. The data also suggests that wolves in the area, while on the healthy end of the scale, consume a smaller amount of food than other wolves in North America.

YG is looking for support in collaring two more wolves in one pack in the western region of the Carcross Tagish Traditional Territory, which also belongs to the Ibex Caribou herd.

Guest: Jaylene Goorts and Lars Jessup (YG)

Jaylene, Lars, and Council engaged in discussion surrounding the objectives in the 2020-2025 Community-Based Fish and Wildlife Workplan:

Sheep: YG will implement a ground-based survey starting in 2022. YG is hopeful to add more sheep collars to collect more data this winter. The remaining objectives for sheep will follow the data collected from the collars.

Fish: CTRRC will engage with Dennis Zimmerman and CTFN to determine a respectful angling strategy and FEED workshops for the Southern Lakes. Jaylene and Lars will engage the Fish and Wildlife Branch to develop a communication strategy for anglers, regarding site specific plans for priority areas, and the creel surveys.

Caribou: YG is requesting additional funds to continue the Caribou Management Plan. YG will continue to monitor and map caribou highway collisions and provide a variable message board to alert of Caribou presence on the highways. YG has noted CTRRC requests to reduce speed limits during winter and sweep the roads.

Bears: CTRRC to engage CO's about hosting bear aware workshops in the communities.

Recreation and Access: CTRRC to invite Director of Conservation Officer Services to the next Council meeting to discuss implantation of a new CO position in Carcross Tagish.

Trapping: CTRRC to engage neighbouring RRC's regarding the future of the Marten Conservation Area.

Next Meeting

Monday, November 1, 2021 at 9:00am at Tagish Community Centre.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00PM.