

CARCROSS TAGISH RENEWABLE RESOURCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 1, 2021

Time: 9:00am

Location: Tagish Community Centre

In Attendance

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

Guests: Dennis Zimmermann, Lars Jessup, Kate Andre, Miles Johnson, Patrick James, Charlie James

Don Toews was Chair, Seki Giardino was Vice Chair

Andrew Serack was recording secretary

1. Guest: Dennis Zimmermann

Dennis Zimmermann tuned in virtually to provide Council with a few updates:

CAST / AWG has targeted the following key topics: Fishing Education and Ethics Development Online Course (FEED), North American Lake Trout Symposium in 2023, Targeting Large, Vulnerable, Lake Trout for Release, Single-barbless Hooks Territory Wide, Large-bodied and Small-bodied Lake Trout Regulation Change, and Stocked Lakes Research and Strategy.

The FEED program has acquired three years of funding and is sponsored by KDFN. It will be a voluntary course for anglers and is expected to be launched in April 2022 in time for fishing season.

Ideas for targeting anglers with specific messages include on the yearly fishing license print out page and with retailers of bait and tackle. RRC's and FN's need to reach an agreement on the messaging.

As a next step, Dennis would like to sit down with CTRRC to review the FEED course in detail. The program will complete a Community-Based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan (CBFWWP) objective.

4. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to Council. Edna made a motion to accept the agenda as presented and Seki seconded the motion.

5. Approval of Financial Report

The financial report dated September, 2021 was presented to council for acceptance. Seki motioned to approve and John seconded the motion.

6. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting dated October 4, 2021 was presented to council for acceptance. Tyler motioned to approve and Seki seconded the motion.

7. Draft Work Plan and Budget 2022-2023

The revised draft of the 2022-2023 Budget and Work Plan were presented to Council. Edna requested to add a line item to special projects; "Continue to engage with dog mushers and explore RRC involvement with mushers operating in winter wildlife habitat."

Council discussed including more caribou related efforts in the 2022-2023 Work Plan. Council recognized that a budget line item of \$8000 for special projects related to the CBFWWP could be put towards caribou related projects and discussed at a later date. Council agreed to hold a discussion on caribou in the workplan at a future date.

Tyler moved to approve the draft Budget and Work Plan for submission to YTG, as amended. Seki seconded the motion.

8. On the Land Gathering

Council discussed the On the Land Gathering and agreed that a different name was required for the event due to it not in-fact being on-the-land. Members were asked to think about a more appropriate name.

Council discussed the potential of the event again being postponed due to soon-to-be Covid-19 gathering restrictions. Council, however, unanimously agreed to continue planning towards the date of Saturday, January 29th, 2022.

Council was presented with the estimated preparation and facilitation rate for Dennis Zimmermann of \$2561 plus GST. Zena motion to approve the expense and Seki seconded the motion.

Council was presented with the Carcross Learning Centre facility rental rate of \$2000/ day and unanimously agreed to the expense.

Council agreed to wait until after the gathering restrictions are announced on November 30th to make any more decisions or to advertise the event.

9. Habitat Protection Area Survey

The final draft of the HPA survey was presented to Council for approval. Don suggested adding “for additional habitat protection” to the end of the 4th question.

Council discussed advertisement of the survey and agreed to place posters in the Rec Centres with a phone number to provide community members without internet or social media to access the survey. Council agreed to send the survey link to the community associations asking for support in distribution.

Seki motioned to approve the draft for publishing, as amended, and Tyler seconded the motion.

10. Local Knowledge Survey

Seki reintroduced the topic of a local knowledge survey for the C/TFN TT, as previously discussed at Council meetings using the Dawson District RRC 2018 survey as an example. In brief, the survey will offer local insight in to the changing landscape year-over-year, especially if repeated every few years. At the least, it will offer select community members the chance to offer their input to CTRRC and dictate future projects.

Council agreed it's worth looking into with the additional funds available this fiscal year. Council agreed that a professional contractor to carry out the work is required. Andrew will put together a small information package and Tyler and Seki will reach out to potential contractors.

Council agreed to a working group for the local knowledge survey that will report monthly to Council. Tyler and Seki will lead the working group. Zena will be an alternate group member in either's absence.

11. Guests: Lars Jessup, Kate Andre, Patrick James, Charlie James, Miles Johnson

Council is looking to YG and C/TFN for presentation and discussion ideas related to the CBFWWP for January 29, 2022 gathering.

Kate introduced the wildfire research as a potential topic for the gathering. Charlie and Patrick spoke to its importance and time sensitivity. An agreement could not be reached on whether it was a suitable topic for the gathering and more discussion amongst RRC members is required. However, everyone unanimously agreed on it being an important subject that requires individual attention and further meetings.

Lars presented several topics that YTG has been working on suitable for the gathering: Caribou in the Schools program, human and recreational impacts on caribou, the Caribou Steering Committee, results from the wolf collaring program, a mid-project update on the moose projects, interest in HPAs, FEED program, and results from the sheep collaring program.

General updates from CTFN:

CTFN is engaging the public on emergency preparedness following this year flooding.

CTFN is engaged on a BC mining project that may effect Tagish Lake with more information to follow soon.

The THEL transmission line project will provide an update with a caribou specific plan. More info to follow.

CTFN is working on a permafrost sampling project on Montana Mountain at the Arctic Gold and Silver mine contamination site.

The Caribou Steering Committee met and has asked for feedback on monitoring, harvest sharing, traditional knowledge, and enforcement. The next meeting is on November 30th and CTRRC should receive an invite.

YTG general updates:

YTG requested for CTRRC to contribute to radio ads for caribou on the highways, as in previous years. Council members agreed to support the initiative. Lars will forward the information for approval.

YTG recently finished flying the caribou rut count. However, they were a bit late this season and about half of the heard had already moved on. They did notice a high number of calves in the Carcross region. Lars would like to propose doing rut counts every second year instead of yearly, as it he believes it will still be accurate yet less stressful on the caribou.

YTG is working on approval to collar two more wolves in the Ibex caribou herd range following CTRRC support.

YTG is still looking for volunteers to fly the moose surveys in November. Please put your name forward if interested.

YTG is considering adding more sheep collars this year after some early mortalities.

13. Caribou in the Schools Program Update

Don provided a brief update on the Caribou in the Schools program after attending an Elders workshop. The program is scheduled to be released in December 2021.

14. Elders Gathering Update

Kate provided an update on the Elders Gathering. C/TFN held an informal meeting to discuss what they would like to achieve from a gathering. Topics included How We Walk and the On the Land Gathering. The Elders Gathering will be hosted the second week of January, 2022. Kate proposed Colleen James and Mark Wedge host the event.

15. Wildlife Act Amendment

Kate and Don agreed to discuss offline, as Council is already in support of amending the Act.

16. New Business

Seki proposed redesigning and printing new brochures, as the current brochures are out-of-date and include member names that are no longer on Council. Council agreed to explore a design and costs associated with printing new brochures for future events.

Edna thanked Council for agreeing to send her to the plastics gathering November 2nd and 3rd, 2021.

Zena suggested inviting Norma Shorty to a Council meeting to discuss traditional knowledge and incorporating it into projects and decision making. Zena will reach out to determine her availability and report back to Council.

Next Meeting

Monday, December 6, 2021 at 9:00am at Tagish Community Centre.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20PM.