

DEWDNEY AREA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
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Email : info@daid.ca Website : www.daid.ca
TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING
Monday May 5, 2014 – 7.00 PM
Hatzic Prairie Community Hall, 10845 Farms Road, Hatzic Prairie

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Doug McNeill (Chair)
Deb McKay (Vice Chair)
Craig Brooks
Gus Derewenko
Steve Dimond
Ernest Loewen
Peter Schalkx
Doug Sinitsin
Brett Vander Wyk

Larry Wiens – project manager
Peter Hanslo – administrator and finance officer
Ron Beck – dike manager
Bruce Edwards – engineering consultant

**Ratepayers in
attendance:**

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Call to Order:

Chair 7.08 pm.

Motion:

To adopt May 5, 2014 agenda with the addition of the following items:

- ✓ Mrs. Jeanette Steiger flooding issues. D. McNeill.
- ✓ Announcement of the official approval received by DAID for Intake 2013 federal/provincial funding. L. Wiens.
- ✓ A request for board approval to lower slide gates at the appropriate time to raise lake level to normal summer levels. E. Loewen.

Motion proposed: D. McKay. Seconded: P. Schalkx.

Passed: Unanimously.

Motion: To adopt AGM minutes April 9, 2014. D.Sinitsin/P.Schalkx. Passed unanimously.

Sign minutes: April 9, 2014 AGM minutes signed by Chair.

Motion: To conduct board in-camera meeting immediately after this meeting to discuss contract staff matters. D. McKay/S. Dimond. Passed unanimously.

Sign Resolution: May 5, 2014 in-camera meeting Resolution signed by Chair.

Request by Chair to move staff reports until after the FVRD presentation approved unanimously by trustees.

"EXPERIENCE THE FRASER" presentation given by Fraser Valley Regional District representatives: Troy Jones (Assistant Manager of Parks) and David Urban (project planner).

Mr. Jones supported his slide-show presentation with a commentary on the Experience the Fraser (ETF) Concept which was described as a proposed recreational, cultural and heritage project that seeks to connect Hope to the Salish Sea (the Pacific ocean) along the Fraser River, and to link and inspire river and other theme-based experiences. The project is being sponsored by the Government of British Columbia, the Vancouver Parks Board and the Fraser Valley Regional District.

Mr. Urban explained that the Trail along the Fraser River and recreational Blueways (such as boat launches) will serve as connectors linking communities by way of natural, recreational, cultural and heritage features that the Lower Fraser Corridor already offers. He said that about 43% of the proposed Trail is already in place along segments provided by regional districts, municipalities and others and that there are already 15 sanctioned boat launches along this stretch of the river and many waterfront parks that provide water access and amenities. Mr. Urban went on to say that ETF is not starting from scratch and that the project is simply seeking to fill the connectivity gaps and add to the experiences already available. He inquired as to how DAID would consider using its nature park/boat launch property (leased to FVRD) to affiliate itself with ETF.

Mr. Urban invited questions from the DAID board members and from those property owners present at the meeting. The question period lasted for some thirty minutes and covered a range of concerns such as:

- ecological and wild life concerns with an increased number of visitors to the boat launch/nature park;
- the narrow access road along River Road to the nature park/boat launch;
- the noise factor on River Road with increased traffic;
- dike slope erosion caused by speed boat back wash;
- water craft speeding on the Slough in disregard of speed limit signage;
- improve quality of staffing at gated entrance to the nature park;
- improve toilet facilities in nature park;
- public liability insurance issues.

In reply to a question on finances, Mr. Urban said that there would be around \$100,000 available for improvements at the DAID nature park to upgrade for ETF affiliation.

DAID Chair responded to the presentation by saying that the ETF issue will be placed on the board's agenda for the next board meeting when trustees and district property owners will be invited to express their opinions and views on the subject. Mr. McNeill thanked Mr. Jones and Mr. Urban for their presentations and said that DAID would be in contact with FVRD on the ETF issue after the next board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Jeanette Steiger and flooding issues on her property.

Mr. Wiens and Mr. Hanslo summarized the events over the last eight months with respect the issue of the flooding on Mrs. Steiger's property in October 2013. At that time Mrs. Steiger arranged with Ron McLeod enforcement officer for the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) to clean out vegetation from Chilqua Creek where the creek runs through her property. Mrs. Steiger said that she would manage the project and indicated that she wished Jason Barsanti to monitor the clearing of the vegetation and that Ray Butterfield of Mission Contractors be hired to supply the long reach hoe and the hoe operator. Mr. Barsanti however later declined to act as monitor and Mr. Butterfield would only agree to work on the project with the presence of a monitor on site. Letts Environmental Consultants was hired to replace Mr. Barsanti as monitor. Work commenced on October 10, 2013 and was completed on October 13, 2013. DAID paid both Mission Contracting (\$6,614.80) and Letts Environmental Consultants (\$1,989.79) for services rendered to complete the work on Mrs. Steiger's property at that time.

On November 12, 2013 DAID addressed a letter to Ron McCleod (ALC) providing him with the two bills from Mission Contractors and Letts Consulting requesting that he act as intermediary

to have Mrs. Steiger settle those bills direct with the service providers. DAID's intent was to recover those costs from the service providers after Mrs. Steiger had paid them – refer DAID minutes November 5, 2013.

By February 2014 Mrs. Steiger had still not settled the two aforementioned bills and DAID mailed a letter to her on March 3, 2014 requesting that she provide DAID with her payment for \$8,604.59 in reimbursement for DAID's earlier payments made to both service companies. Copies of this letter were sent to Ron McLeod (ALC) and Remko Rosenboom (Water Branch). Following on that letter Mr. Wiens and Mr. Hanslo both had telephone conversations with Mr. McLeod who said that DAID's last letter had upset Mrs. Steiger and that she was not willing to compensate DAID. Ron McLeod further indicated that he had other projects on his agenda which required the cooperation of Mrs. Steiger and that he did not wish to have his business relationship with Mrs. Steiger compromised, as a result of DAID's request for reimbursement.

Mr. McLeod requested that DAID address a letter to Mrs. Steiger indicating that the district would not pursue the matter of reimbursement. After discussion the board agreed that the following wording of such letter (registered mail) be approved as follows:

Mrs. Steiger,

We reference our letter dated March 3, 2014 and advise that, as a one-time act of good faith, Dewdney Area Improvement District will not pursue the recovery from you the amount of \$8,604.59 as detailed in our earlier letter.

Sincerely,

Etc.

Motion to approve wording of letter to Mrs. Steiger: D. McKay. Seconded: P. Schalkx.
Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

EMBC Intake 2013 application L. Wiens

DAID project manager Larry Wiens reported that on Friday May 2, 2014 the federal and provincial governments officially approved DAID's application for \$625,000 funding for the proposed Hatzic Valley flood management infrastructure plan developed with the help from professional consultants for the purpose of substantially reducing flooding in the region. The installation of some twelve permanent sand/silt recovery stations is a long term plan to make the required clean-outs financially self-supporting from the sale of the material removed.

Lowering slide gates to raise Hatzic Lake levels

E. Loewen

Trustee Loewen submitted a request for board approval to lower the slide gates at the appropriate time(s) in order to raise the water level in Hatzic Lake to normal summer levels.

Motion: That a request for trustees to approve lowering the slide gates for the 2014 year as an interim measure when the level of the Fraser River drops below the normal summer level of 2.5 metres and a draft manual has been provided. Hatzic Lake levels to be co-ordinated with the requirements of the Intake 2013 project for 2014-2016.

Proposed by: D. McKay.

Seconded: P. Schalkx.

Passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Dike and pump station maintenance report: Ron Beck

Refer appendix 1.

Administration and finance report: P. Hanslo

Refer appendix 1.

Project management report: L. Wiens

Refer appendix 2.

Ratepayers' question period

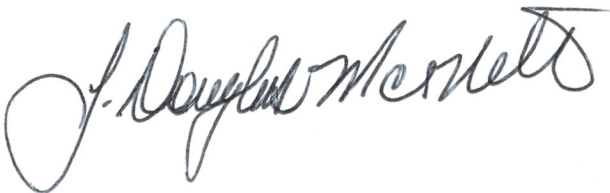
All questions raised by district property owners during the course of the evening's meeting, were responded to by DAID board members and staff.

Set date, time and location of next board meeting.

Next board meeting scheduled for Monday June 2, 2014 starting 7.00 pm to be held at the Hatzic Prairie Community Hall, 10845 Farms Road, Hatzic Prairie. B.C.

Meeting adjourned.

10.20 pm



APPENDIX 1

Dike maintenance manager report: R. Beck

- Completed clean-up of downed tree branches and trees along Newton Road.
- Massive rocks dumped on dike by construction crew need to be removed. Mr. Wiens responded by saying that actions were being taken to remove rocks within next couple of days.
- Mr. Beck said that he needed gate access keys in order to activate pumps.

End of report.

Administration and finance officer report: P. Hanslo

- DAID financial statements for period January to March 2014 circulated to trustees April 27, 2014.
- Current administrative activities focussed on computation of individual property-owner diking taxes and preparation/ mailing of 2014 tax notices.

End of report.

APPENDIX 2

Project manager report: L. Wiens

- Construction of new Hatzic pump station completed;
- The district now has five pumps capable of pumping 20 cubic metres per second;
- DAID has signed off with EMBC on the project;
- May 2 edition of the "Mission Record" ran a 2-page centre-fold communique of the project;
- Ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday May 3 attended by MLA Simon Gibson;
- Thanks extended to Deb McKay and Wayne Robertson for their assistance at the ribbon cutting;
- It is understood that DAID's new installation of the Bedford fish-friendly pump system has generated interest from other parties considering work on similar projects;
- Bedford's engineers returned to the U.K without providing pump operation training to DAID staff;
- DAID's engineering consultant, Bruce Edwards, has however written up a pump operations manual and Larry Wiens, Ron Beck, Wayne Robertson and Darrell McDonald have agreed to be trained by Bruce Edwards;
- Bruce Edwards has also written up a manual to control the gates.
- A hydrology study in the Hatzic Valley, for the Intake 2013, is currently being carried out by Mr. Edwards.

End of report.