Minutes of the GOVERNANCE & SERVICES COMMITTEE meeting of the Regional District of Central Okanagan held at Regional District Offices, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, B.C. on Thursday, May 10, 2012

Directors

J. Baker (District of Lake Country)
C. Basran (City of Kelowna)
L. Stack, alternate for A. Blanleil (City of Kelowna)
J. Edgson (Central Okanagan West Electoral Area)
K. Fielding (District of Peachland)
D. Findlater (District of West Kelowna)
G. Given (City of Kelowna)
W. Gray (City of Kelowna)
P. Hanson (Central Okanagan East Electoral Area)
R. Hobson (City of Kelowna)
D. Ophus (District of West Kelowna)
G. Zimmermann (City of Kelowna)
M. Werstuik, (Westbank First Nation)

Staff:

P. Macklem, Chief Administrative Officer
M. Rilkoff, Director of Administration and Financial Services
B. Smith, Communications
M. Drouin, Corporate Services Coordinator (recording secretary)

1. Call to order

Chair Hobson called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

2. Addition of Late Items to the Agenda

There were no late items to the agenda.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

#GS46/12

BAKER/GIVEN

THAT the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Adopt Governance & Services Committee meeting minutes of April 12, 2012

#GS47/12

EGSON/FIELDING

THAT the Governance & Services Committee meeting minutes of April 12, 2012 be adopted.

CARRIED
5. Delegation

5.1 BC Transit - Transit Future 25 Year Plan

Michelle Orfield and Steve Harvard, BC Transit were in attendance. M. Orfield provided an overview of the 25 year transit plan review.

BC Transit recently undertook at 25 year transit plan review. Staff attended to update the Board on the outcome of the review including:

- Increasing and aging population (41% increase in the next 25 years)
- Increasing traffic volumes, limited road space
- Aggressive provincial and local climate action objectives
- Need unified vision that directs future transit investment
- Collaborative approach – involvement with staff, updates at major milestone and phased public consultation
- 25 Year Vision – attract new riders, deliver operational excellence, improve transit sustainability and improve custom transit utilization.
- Network vision, 25 year service hours, infrastructure, fleet requirements, performance criteria, regional network priorities, and ongoing initiatives were highlighted
- Endorsement of the proposed resolution has been received from Kelowna, West Kelowna, Lake Country and Peachland. Will be addressing WFN in the near future.

Discussion:
- The Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) will be fully functioning as of Sept 2012 – 15 minutes in peak hours, 30 minutes in off peak hours.
- Central Okanagan West residents would likely require park and ride to serve this area—is this being considered? Park and ride often works on the fringes of the community but you have to be careful where they are placed. BC Transit will continue to look at strategic areas to be placed.
- As trips increase timeframe and budgets will have to be considered in the long term. More detailed planning will be done directly with the municipal partners for three year plans.
- Governance structure is still an issue.
- Ellison transit – BC Transit has been asked to review the service to determine if it is feasible for it to be increased.
- The question was raised whether the BRT can work in conjunction with the airport. Airport service is being discussed with municipal staff.
- RDCO contract holder for electoral area and Peachland. WFN now has its own contract with BC Transit.
- There is no reference to funding in the report. Concern was expressed that costs continue to rise and we will need to continue to partner with the Province for funding for future transit growth.
- Local level services are not highlighted on the mapping. These discussions are held with the municipal staff/councils.
- Lake Country fastest growing part in the region in the last Census – needs to be part of the regional vision. Lake Country has endorsed the recommendation and will continue to work with BC Transit.
- Ensure BC Transit is aware that transit governance continues to be reviewed in the Central Okanagan.
THAT the Regional Board of the Regional District of Central Okanagan endorse the ‘Transit Future Plan – Central Okanagan Region’, as the guiding document for expansion of public transit service within the region over the next 25 years.

CARRIED

6. Corporate Services

6.1 Transportation Demand Management Update – Jerry Dombowsky, City of Kelowna

Transportation Demand Management (TDM service) is contracted by the Regional District to the City of Kelowna. City staff provided a review of the TDM service including the funding model ($285,000 annually). The funding partners through the Regional District service include the City of Kelowna, West Kelowna and the electoral areas of the Regional District. Lake Country and Peachland are considering whether they will participate in the service in the future.

A review of the programs including the new projects for 2012 were highlighted which include: UBC-O sustainable Glenmore Transportation ComPASS pilot project; KGH Corporate TDM Plan; Okanagan College UPASS research; and faculty/staff pass UBC-O / Okanagan College. Programs include bike to work week, Commuter Challenge, Care Free Day, Carpool.ca, U-Pass Transit pass programs, regional traffic safety officer, Bike rodeo program, clean air day, walk to school week. The program currently consists of two TDM staff, a traffic safety officer (cost shared), and the region’s air quality coordinator works in conjunction with TDM staff as there is a strong tie between managing growth of transportation and air quality issues.

THAT the update on the Transportation Demand Management service be received for information.

CARRIED

6.2 Enhanced Transportation Partnership – Approval of MOU between local governments of the Central Okanagan for a Sustainable Transportation Partnership

City of Kelowna staff report from Ron Westlake, Director of Regional Services, provided a review of the work which began in 2011 to establish a strategic partnership of local and regional governments in the Okanagan to coordinate the regional delivery of sustainable transportation programs and projects in support of common regional policy and interests (economic, social and environmental). This work has now culminated in all four municipal Councils and WFN endorsing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU is now being forwarded to the Regional Board for consideration.
BASRAN/BAKER

THAT the Governance & Services Committee receive the report of the Director, Regional Services dated May 2, 2012;

AND THAT the Governance & Services Committee recommends the Regional Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Local Governments of the Central Okanagan for a Sustainable Transportation Partnership subject to development of an Inter-local Agreement to more formally establish the new partnership;

AND THAT the Regional District's Chief Administrative Officer be directed to work with his counterparts with local and regional governments in the Okanagan to draft an Inter-local Agreement for Sustainable Transportation Partnership;

AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Board Chair be authorized to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

CARRIED

6.3 Okanagan Basin Water Board Overview

Staff report dated May 2, 2012 provided background information on the Okanagan Basin Water Board’s (OBWB) mandate, program and services following the Regional Board’s request to further discuss the service prior to OBWB’s strategic planning session planned for early June. If there are concerns which the appointees should bring forward this would provide an opportunity to give that direction.

Broad level – strategic vision for the future
- Collectively the Central Okanagan provides 56% of the funding.
- One water basin needing coordination for services.
- OBWB is currently doing valuable work.
- Have not heard of any major issues raised about the program.
- Should identify the priorities to be focused: engage First Nations in some of the processes engaged; issues of storm-water management and importance for infrastructure grants to address these issues; and draft planning and climate change issues affecting our water shed and encouraging more emphasis on greenhouse gas emissions, data collection management is critical; and issue of communication and how information is communicated.
- It is important to sustain these programs rather than take them apart
- Review how regional district grants are allocated and believe further review of this program is warranted. Look at net cost not the gross cost for the grant program, and need to look at that over the long period. Program was put in place to replace a Federal grant that was stopped.
- Grants were intended to fund innovation. Look at purpose – don’t reward for not modernizing systems – focus on pilot projects and innovation. Careful as these grants also help get other funding grants. Critical examination of grants before coming forward for approvals.
• Weighted voting would require provincial legislation to change. It is better to keep all partners at the table than to make this an issue.
• It is essential to engage First Nations in the discussions.
• The key issue is what is being done now, does it still need to be done, is there value for money being spent, are there other things OBWB should be doing? Are the programs effective, efficient and required?
• Stormwater management and drought management is critical.
• Provincial objectives with respect to water management – need to keep an eye on this. Careful for downloading from the Province.

#GS51/12 BAKER/EDGSON

THAT the information on the Okanagan Basin Water Board be received and that the RDCO appointees take forward the general discussion to the OBWB strategic planning session.

CARRIED

7. Adjourn to a Regular Board Meeting

There was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. to a Regular Board meeting.

CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT

R. Hobson (Chair)

P. Macklem (Chief Administrative Officer)