

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, November 8, 2012

Directors

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

Regrets:

W. Gray (City of Kelowna)
G. Zimmermann (City of Kelowna)

Staff:

P. Macklem, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Radford, Director of Environmental Services
P. Rotheisler, Manager of Waste Reduction
M. Rilkoﬀ, Director of Finance & Administrative Services
B. Smith, Communications
M. Drouin, Corporate Services Coordinator (recording secretary)

1. Call to order

Chair Hobson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Addition of Late Items to the Agenda

There were no late items for the agenda.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

#GS76/12

de JONG/CONDON

THAT the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Adopt Governance & Services Committee meeting minutes of October 11, 2012

#GS77/12

EDGSON/BAKER

THAT the Governance & Services Committee meeting minutes of October 11, 2012 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Delegations

5.1 Connie Bielert, BC Grapegrowers' Association re: Starling Control Program Update & Request for Continuation of Funding (Bylaw No. 1262)

BC Grapegrowers' Association letter of October 31, 2012 outlined their request for continuation of funding for the Okanagan valley's starling control program. In 2009, the three valley regional districts agreed to an establishment bylaw to fund the program at \$25,000 annually for a period of three years. The funding allocation ends in 2012.

A review of the program was provided. It was noted that funding is also received from the BC Fruit Growers' Association - \$15,000, Okanagan Kootenay Cherry Growers' Association - \$5,000, Okanagan Tree Fruit Co-op - \$5,000 and the BC Grapegrowers' Association-minimum of \$15,000. Funding for the program averages \$115,000 annually.

Trapping in this area is carried out by Don Marshall. Total captures this year is at 36,000+, in the Central Okanagan 11,000 have been trapped to date in 2012.

Director Blanleil arrived at 8:35 a.m.

An education program called 'Starling Aware' is being developed which is creating a better awareness for the public. Continue to work with other regions, universities and local governments in the US to offer advice on their program.

Discussion:

- Do you know why there was such large trapping in 2009? Growers call for help when there are larger populations—more growers called.
- What percentage of birds do you think the program is trapping? The percentage is not known but there is a positive impact in the agricultural community.
- Is there data specific to West Kelowna? The program does not have a location in West Kelowna. No specific trapping in the electoral areas, Peachland or Lake Country. Because birds move large distances to feed there isn't a need to have specific locations in each area. Trappers are always looking for the most lucrative sites, not necessarily responding to complaints. Traps are set in sites most able to trap the bird. Marshall's feedlot is a perfect example – land surrounded by agricultural.
- Because birds travel so far, trapping sites do not need to be in a locality for the area to benefit from the program.
- The industries most impacted are cherry growers and vineyards, minor impact to apple orchards.
- As part of the research does the program use a falconer? No, but other districts have tried this with only minor success.
- A little bit of public awareness goes a long way to educate the public. Intend to advertise and offer nesting information to the public. Opportune 'racking' locations are being looked at for Chamber offices, local governments, etc.
- Truly a regional program that all partners benefit from. The program wants to discuss if there are other ways to fund the program. Is there a way to voluntarily tax growers? Could a program like SIR program taxation be effective?

- C. Bielert was asked to provide the program's budget for review.

**RDCO Starling Control Program Service Area Establishment Bylaw –
Continued Funding of the Starling Control Program**

#GS77/12

BAKER/EDGSON

THAT the Regional Board direct staff to seek consent from the participating partners (City of Kelowna, District of Peachland, District of Lake Country and Central Okanagan East and West Electoral Areas) for continued funding of the starling control program;

AND THAT staff be directed to contact the District of West Kelowna to confirm whether they wish to continue participation in the program through their grant in aid process;

AND FURTHER THAT should the participating partners and the North Okanagan and Okanagan-Similkameen Regional Districts agree to participate, staff be directed to prepare a service establishment bylaw for the purposes of providing funding to the Starling Control Program in the amount of \$25,000 per year for 2013-2015.

CARRIED

5.2 David Dubois, Project Coordinator, Green Heat Initiative (SIBAC-Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition) re: Biomass Heating Potential

At the request of the Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition, Director Edgson being the Board's delegate to the committee, the project coordinator David Dubois for the Green Heat Initiative, provided an update on the potential for biomass heating. Funding and services are potentially available for local governments to implement biomass heating systems in local government buildings. As part of SIBAC funding, Dubois is available to travel to communities to provide information on green heat.

Staff report dated October 23rd noted that there are currently no regional district buildings that would clearly benefit by switching to biomass heating, however the information is presented for the Committee's information.

Dubois noted that the system is highly sophisticated requiring little manpower to operate. A consistent, sustainable fuel supply is always the challenge with a system. This type of system requires a very small piece of the 'overall puzzle' in the amount of debris available. In the Central Okanagan there is a large demand for clean construction waste, ogogrow operations and Tolko go-generation. Under certain circumstances this type of heat source makes sense where transportation costs are low and where gas is not available.

RDCO staff highlighted what is going on the region regarding biomass heating. There is no obvious building in the regional district to move to a wood waste heat source. The question was raised about the region's community halls ie: Joe Rich. Staff noted that a brand new air source heat pump has recently been installed in Joe Rich. The North Westside community hall is considering upgrades but they can choose whatever system they wish—the hall does not belong to the Regional District.

It was felt that a system like this should be paid by the users not taxpayers in general. If there is nothing in our current capital plan for upgrades why would any time be spent considering a system? If an upgrade to a system is being considered in the future staff may consider if a system such as this is feasible.

#GS78/12

EDGSON/HANSON

THAT the presentation by David Dubois, project coordinator for Green Heat Initiative, and the staff report dated October 23, 2012 on biomass heating information be received for information and referred to staff and should there be any opportunity in the future to consider this heat initiative that staff contact David Dubois directly for further information.

CARRIED

6. Finance & Administrative Services

6.1 Quarterly Program Measures Report (Year-to-Date - September 30, 2012)

Staff report dated November 1, 2012 outlined the program measures report year-to-date September 30, 2012. Staff highlighted the executive summary comments.

- Corporate Services
 - o Recruitment process for new CAO has begun
- Waste Reduction
 - o Launch of paper reduction program
 - o Commercial waste quantities reduced by 2.8%
 - o Curbside collection radio frequency identification system
 - 1331 non-compliant customers identified and contacted, only 52 reoffenders
 - o Recycling – market downturn, budget effect
- Environmental Services
 - o Falcon Ridge Water – exploratory drilling for a new well
 - o Trepanier Bench Water – fire effects – no risk evident
 - o Leak Detection program for Westshore Water resulted in 43% reduction, and at Killiney Beach 20% of m3 pumped
 - o RDCO lift stations/collector systems – all pumps being investigated for deterioration
 - o Killiney Beach Water – reduction to scope of upgrade
 - o Reduced clerical staff by 0.5 FTE
 - o WWTP – Stage 3 design work completed.
- Information Systems
 - o MOU Lake Country has yet to sign the agreement. Concern regarding 2013 impact to partners if Lake Country does not sign on.
- Development Services
 - o School site acquisition
 - o Inspection Services – staff reduction
 - o Dog Control – review report received in October. Implementation plan will be coming forward for Board consideration.
 - o Noxious insect control – low complaint numbers.

- Protective Services
 - o Trepanier Fire
 - o Black Mountain grass fire
 - o Wilsons Land Volunteer Fire Department – volunteer fire chief leaving
- Regional Rescue
 - o 4 total EOC activations, 27 ESS activations
 - o Operation exercise – Sept 13
 - o Review of service is underway
- Parks Services
 - o Parkland acquisitions – 3 properties closed
 - o Mission Creek – upgrade to playground
 - o Trepanier Creek Greenway fire
 - o Bear closures
 - o Interpretation programs 8% increase in participants
- Crime Stoppers
 - o Vehicle donated to the program
 - o Sponsorship packages being developed
 - o Tips provided lead to info on two major homicides
- EDC
 - o Recruitment of United Airlines flights into Kelowna
 - o Export development – increased interest from China
- Purchasing

With the hiring of a purchasing manager, total quantifiable savings to date are \$201,902, including risk reduction to RDCO, time savings for managers and staff and stronger contracts.

It was noted that the full report is in the Board's Reader file.

Discussion

- It was noted that West Kelowna is interested in receiving further information on the RFID program and staff will update Council in the future.
- West Kelowna will look at trunk lines in the near future. It's a low priority for them.
- School site acquisition – approved by the Province, developers will be required to pay a fee in the future.
- Information provided to Kelowna for review of boundary extension.
- What are the financial implications of reduced recycling and reduced income is there a way to offset costs? Staff is focusing on reduction programs (paper free program) paying less processing costs when it ends up in the recycling bins – it's the only thing that can be done to offset costs. Material is not being returned to the landfill. There is no shutdown for recyclables. The material that is recycled here is sent to relatively local markets (not China) plastics go to the Lower Mainland, paper to Washington. We can stockpile if required but there is no ability for reduced transportation costs as we use local markets. Where does the money go for electronics? The Electronics Stewardship of BC – they run the program, collecting, marketing, hauling, processing and they fund depot operations.

#GS79/12

BAKER/EDGSON

THAT the Quarterly Program Measures report year-to-date September 30, 2012 be received for information.

CARRIED

6.2 Briefing on 2013-2017 Financial Plan & Overview of the Process

Staff report dated October 30, 2012 outlined general impacts to consider during the 2013-2017 Financial Plan discussions. Full reporting will be completed through the budgeting process beginning in February. General impacts for 2013 were highlighted as a heads-up for the budgeting process.

#GS80/12

BAKER/CONDON

THAT the 2013-2017 Financial Plan overview be received for information.

CARRIED


7. Adjourn to a Regular Board Meeting

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT



R. Hobson (Chair)



P. Macklem (Chief Administrative Officer)