



McBride Community Forest Corporation
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting
Wednesday, June 12, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Chair Mike Monroe, Director Warren McLennan, Director Joe Kolida, GM Craig Pryor, FM Samantha Palmer

Via Zoom: n/a

Absent: Director Terry Kuzma

Late attendance: n/a

Public/Press: n/a

Chair Monroe called the MEETING TO **ORDER** at 4:00pm.

1. **Introduction of Late Items:** letter - funding request from Dunster Fine Arts Society
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Director McLennan, second Director Kolida
3. **Reading and approval of minutes:** May 8 Minutes - Director McLennan, second Director Kolida
4. **Management Report:** Minnow will be upgraded, logged then deactivated/waterbarred. Pasture Road as well. A question put forward by Chair Monroe – Who can sign off on free-growing? Does it have to be an RPF or can it be an RFT? Craig will confirm this.
5. **Approval of Financials:** accepted.
6. **OLD**
 - A) **Limited Partnership:** New rules are complicating things. The lawyers and accountants are trying to find a simple way to avoid liability and explain it in plain terms to the Village. Still underway.
7. **New Items**
 - A) **Procurement Policy:** *Motion to put the procurement policy to email motion to ensure quorum.* Put to a motion – Director Kolida. Second – Director McLennan. All in favor.
 - B) **Village water:** the creek has been assessed by an engineer and it is confirmed an S3 creek. The buffer required is 20 meters, so the creek cannot be logged up to as initially requested. A letter should be drawn up to the Village to explain MCFC's position and recommendations. Forward to CAO.
 - C) **Silviculture C&E:** The letter has been sent re compliance. It is not expected that they will come down on MCFC for non-compliance, but there has not yet been a response.
 - D) **McBride Peak/Bike Park/Halfway house:** MCFC will grade to parking lot, as has been done in previous years. Plans to Right of Way log up to the Halfway lookout to remove danger trees and get it reopened. Request an outhouse from Rec Sites & Trails and MCFC will dig the pit. Have maintenance of this outhouse added to Bike Clubs Partnership Agreement with Rec Sites & Trails.
 - E) **Dunster Fine Arts letter:** requesting funding for one or two youth to attend Reel Youth Film Camp. *Motion to approve support in the amount of \$500.00 for two youth to attend.* Put to a motion – Director Kolida. Second – Director McLennan. All in favor.

- F) **McKale:** With all bridges condemned, MOF wants the liability gone. They will deactivate (at huge cost) or potentially MCFC could take over the roads/bridges. The proposal involves the trading of areas around Fleet Creek and East Twin (caribou corridor) in exchange for the McKale. This would be a boundary amendment, not an expansion, but may result in a cut increase for MCFC.

The cost associated with the bridges and roads is potentially \$2 million. The plan would be to recoup the costs along the way. With assets gained (usable bridges) and net logging revenues, the work done to 17km would be close to break even. The hope would be that additional costs could be offset by third party involvement in the project. Rec Sites and Trails BC and Big Country Snowmobile Association have a vested interest in the project and could offer funding supports at various points along the way.

This project is very important for the Village of McBride and the tourism revenues that snowmobiling brings into this community. There will be future costs associated with the bridges, as the plan is for temporary bridges at 8.5km, 15km, 16km and 17km. The permanent bridges would be at an estimated cost of \$800,000.00 and could be done as finances allow.

The biggest cost is the first bridge. It requires a 40-45m bridge, which is estimated \$800,000.00 installed. MOF has a fund for deactivations. This deactivation, if they were to proceed, would require them to repair/replace bridges so that deactivations could be done. This is far more costly than simply deactivating, so the question was posed: What can MOF contribute to MCFC? Can they do the first bridge? Can they give us other smaller bridges? Can they complete road work or brushing to help with our overhead costs?

The question was also raised about the location of the first bridge. It was placed at the widest crossing. If it could be moved wither upstream of downstream slightly, the river narrows both directions and the bridge needed could be shorter. What would be involved in moving the road/bridge?

The Board is happy with the research done so far on the McKale and would like to proceed. There are a lot of positive reasons to see if this plan can be executed. Keep pursuing it.

****8. Motion to recess regular meeting and go in-camera under Labour Law, Freedom of Information and 3rd party information made by Director McLennan, seconded by Director Kolida, all in favor****

9. **Motion to adjourn regular BOD meeting.** Director McLennan. Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Next Regular Meeting: July 10, 2024, 4:00pm

Next VOM Meeting:

Next Special Meeting: Community Meeting June 29, 2024 at 10:30am at the Elks Hall.