

Minutes of a Meeting of the Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee held via electronic communications in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, commencing at 9:00 AM.

Present:

Bryce Kumka, Chair, Business Community
David Secord, Vice-Chair, Business Community Representative
Justin Ellis, Public At Large
Steven Hale, Education Sector
Alex McKenzie, Land Development Sector
Curtis Williams, Community Development
Stu Wigle, Councillor

Absent:

Bilal Abbas, Public-At-Large
Justin MacNeil, Arts, Culture and Recreation Sector
Ijeoma Uche-Ezeala, Public-At-Large
Jennifer Vardy, Public At Large
Raj Vasal, Community Development

Administration:

Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Amanda Haitas, Senior Manager, Planning and Development
Kevin Meacher, Coordinator, Strategic Planning & Program Management
Sonia Soutter, Manager, Senior Legislative Officer
Heather Fredeen, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Chair Bryce Kumka called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be amended by adding as item 4.2., East-West Corridor Highway;
and

THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended.

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: David Secord
SECONDER: Curtis Williams
FOR: Kumka, Ellis, Hale, McKenzie, Secord, Williams
ABSENT: Abbas, MacNeil, Uche-Ezeala, Vardy, Vasal

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1. Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee Meeting - February 9, 2022

MOTION:

THAT the Minutes of the Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee meeting held on February 9, 2022, be approved as presented.

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Justin Ellis
SECONDER: Alex McKenzie
FOR: Kumka, Ellis, Hale, McKenzie, Secord, Williams
ABSENT: Abbas, MacNeil, Uche-Ezeala, Vardy, Vasal

4. New and Unfinished Business

4.1. Government of Alberta Associate Minister; Red Tape Reduction Meeting Update

Heather Fredeen, Legislative Clerk, indicated that a meeting has been scheduled between the Committee and the Honorable Tanya Fir, Associate Minister, Red Tape Reduction for April 26, 2022, as part of the ongoing quarterly meetings agreed to at the January 25, 2022 meeting with the Associate Minister.

MOTION:

THAT WBDAC review the former Committee working groups established and develop a framework for assigning or selecting committee members to action each of the nine initiatives in the Committee's mandate; with red tape reduction being one, to be brought back to the April Committee meeting; and

THAT any initiative with similar objectives be combined.

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Justin Ellis
SECONDER: Alex McKenzie
FOR: Kumka, Ellis, Hale, McKenzie, Secord, Williams
ABSENT: Abbas, MacNeil, Uche-Ezeala, Vardy, Vasal

4.2. East-West Corridor Highway Update

Chair Bryce Kumka provided an overview of a stakeholder meeting he attended with Vice-Chair David Secord and local Members of the Legislative Assembly, regarding a proposed secondary highway that would provide a secondary route out of Fort McMurray and connect Fort McMurray with Grande Prairie and other municipalities to the west. It was noted that a similar meeting has been planned to take place in Fort McMurray in the fall.

4.3. Potential Emerging 2022 Priorities – Round Table Discussion

The Committee reviewed emerging issues identified for 2022 as follows:

- Review rezoning parcels of lands for appropriate use to support development ready lands.
- Reduce cumbersome process of rezoning applications for uses that are similar to a neighbouring property.
- Recommend reconsideration of Council Resolution 198/06 related to the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board Intervention.
- Review of burdensome safety code processes for businesses through the process review project.
- Support allocation of work to local and Indigenous Businesses via new procurement initiatives (i.e. Yukon bid value reductions approach).

Committee Member Justin Ellis rescinded his support for reconsideration of Council Resolution 198/06 related to the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board Intervention.

Actions

Administration committed to:

- Identifying a mechanism for collaboration and communication for the Committee.
- Providing a presentation to the Committee on how population projections are created and how the data is used.
- Providing the Committee with a presentation on future growth areas.
- Investigating resolution No. 198/06, passed on June 13, 2006, related to the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board Intervention, and providing an update to the Committee.

- Providing the Committee with the Consultant’s report on the Planning and Development Process Review Project and providing a presentation on implementation steps.
- Investigating the Yukon bid value reduction approach and providing an update to the Committee via email.

Exit

Committee Member Steven Hale exited the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

Adjournment

Due to a loss of quorum, the meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Chair