

WEST QUESNEL LAND STABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 22, 2006

7:00 pm

Advisory Committee: Heinz Loelke, Cynthia Bernier, Sonya Hunt, Andriana Wilson-Busby, Mel Dunleavy, Councillor Ron Craigmyle, Mayor Nate Bello *ex officio*
Staff: Jack Marsh, Matt Wood
Guests: Jo-Anna Johnston (MLA's office), Allan McDonald (concerned property owner)

Councillor R. Craigmyle called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and introduced himself as the new Council representative on the Committee.

1 Adoption of Minutes

MOVED H. Loelke, Seconded C. Bernier and resolved: THAT the minutes from the meeting held on August 23, 2005 be adopted.

CARRIED

2 Selection of new Committee Chair

R. Craigmyle indicated he was interested in chairing the Committee.

MOVED H. Loelke, Seconded C. Bernier and resolved: THAT Councillor Ron Craigmyle be named Chair of the WQLSAC.

CARRIED

3 Business Arising from previous Minutes

- (a) **update on 2005 Work Program and Budget** – J. Marsh provided an overview of the work and budget for 2005.
- (b) **final budget figures for 2005** - J. Marsh noted there were some problems with the drilling that accounted for some cost overruns as well as the need for additional design work.
- (c) **AMEC update** - J. Marsh noted that the drainage plan was submitted to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in the summer, but has heard no response to date.

7:20 pm - J. Johnston joined meeting.

4 New Business

- (a) **conference call December 15, 2005** - J. Marsh explained that the Ministry of Community Services has asked Dr. Morgenstern, a renowned land slippage expert from the University of Alberta, to provide expert advice on the City's work plan. Before committing to funding, they required this. J. Marsh provided a general overview of the document. **Conference call** - J. Marsh said he has indicated numerous times this is an urgent problem. However, the Ministry isn't prepared to continue without further analysis and filling in some of the remaining areas of study that are required.
- (b) **conference call February 10, 2006**
 - (i) (ii) J. Marsh indicated the Ministry is concerned with ensuring Phase 1 is done right. R. Craigmyle indicated sympathy with residents and the level of frustration that may be evident due to the necessity for more study work.

- (iii) J. Marsh provided more information about the suggested work plan. For example, new drill holes are to be completed for monitoring purposes, higher up in Uplands.
- (iv) J. Marsh read excerpts of a letter from the ministry and indicated that the cost-sharing scheme mentioned in the letter was never introduced until this letter was received by City staff. Discussion to ensue between the two bodies on this matter.

5 Other

- J. Johnston indicated having spoken with BC Assessment that values will rise once the land stability issue is mitigated.
- Request that agendas for meeting, especially larger ones, be made available to Committee members earlier.
- General discussion about recent media attention at the provincial level. S. Hunt indicated it was poor timing from a business perspective for her.
- M. Dunleavy indicated he is hearing frustration from other residents about the amount of study required. He suggested making the message as simple as possible, sending out a newsletter followed by a public meeting.
- N. Bello said we'll need clear graphics in our communications and there is a need to highlight the capital work that is done, while re-enforcing that we can't do too much ahead of the analysis work.
- Indicated the Committee should communicate with the Ministry.

MOVED C. Bernier, Seconded H. Loelke and resolved: THAT a letter be sent to the Ministry of Community Services indicating the Committee is pleased with the work done to date, but also highlighting the urgent nature of the issue and developing a mitigation strategy.

CARRIED

- McDonald indicated an interest in sitting on the committee should a vacancy arise.
- H. Loelke indicated the federal government should be lobbied for funding. R. Craigmyle and M. Wood to set meeting with MP Dick Harris.
- General discussion about damage to various committee members' homes.

6 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING will be scheduled once J. Marsh has compiled the work plan for the committee to review.