



**DISTRICT OF HIGHLANDS  
MINUTES OF ELECTRONIC COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 17, 2021 @ 7:00 PM**

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**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Ken Williams  
Councillor Leslie Anderson  
Councillor Ann Baird  
Councillor Gord Baird  
Councillor Marcie McLean  
Councillor Karel Roessingh  
Councillor Rose Stanton

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Administrative Officer Lorraine Hilton  
Corporate Officer Deb Hopkins

Public Observation: 1

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**1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION: 117-2021

*Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor McLean  
That the agenda be approved as presented.*

CARRIED

**2. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

3.1

Council Minutes – May 3, 2021

MOTION: 118-2021

*Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Stanton  
That the minutes of the May 3, 2021 Council meeting be adopted.*

CARRIED

3.2

Special Council Minutes – May 10, 2021

MOTION: 119-2021

*Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Stanton  
That the minutes of the May 10, 2021 Special Council meeting be  
adopted.*

CARRIED

**4. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES &  
COMMISSIONS**

Councillor Leslie Anderson

Heritage Select Committee, West Shore Parks and Recreation Society and  
Western Communities Policing Advisory Committee

Councillor Anderson provided an update on West Shore Parks and  
Recreation noting that they are managing within the established budget and  
that there were unanticipated fees collected for the filming of a Netflix  
production. She advised that there are two significant capital projects  
underway. The development of additional child care spaces is a significant  
undertaking and is on time and on budget. The arena floor replacement is  
progressing and is close to being on time and on budget subject to the  
availability of required materials. She also reported that there has been a  
large uptake in arts programming during the pandemic and that staff are  
managing programs and services very well within the COVID restrictions.

Councillor Ann Baird

CRD Climate Action Committee and CRD Housing Trust Fund Commission

Councillor Gord Baird

CRD Regional Water Supply Commission & CRD JDF Water Distribution Commission

Councillor Marcie McLean

Coexisting with Carnivores Alliance, Greater Victoria Family Court Youth Justice Committee, Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues and Sustainable Land Use Select Committee

Councillor Karel Roessingh

Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommunications (CREST), CRD Arts and Greater Victoria Public Library Board

Councillor Roessingh reported that diversity, inclusion, and access will form significant parts of the Greater Victoria Public Library's Strategic Plan. He noted that Board members will be provided with training in these three key areas to increase their understanding and that he is looking forward to receiving the training.

Councillor Rose Stanton

Emergency Planning and Social Sustainable Committee

Councillor Stanton expressed appreciation for the number of Highlands residents who participated in the CRD Regional Parks Committee and Board meetings with respect to the proposed mountain biking guidelines. She acknowledged the efforts of participants to highlight the unsanctioned trail building and biking activities occurring in the Highlands and the resulting damage to the sensitive ecosystems and surrounding areas.

Mayor Ken Williams

#### **Tues. May 4th, Westshore Parks and Rec Society Owners Tour**

The owners toured the extensive renovations being made to the JDF Arena building. These improvements are really well done and include a huge expansion of child care spaces, a new sprinkler system and energy recovery for the ice sheet.

"The new energy-recovery systems are expected to shave nearly \$20,000 off the annual electric bill at Juan de Fuca pool and about \$24,000 from the rink's annual total", said Wade Davies, Operations Manager at West Shore Parks and Recreation. "That's a huge savings to taxpayers", said Davies.

Davies also points to the environmental advantage, noting the new operating systems for the pool and rink are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 62%, or 284 tonnes per year. That's the equivalent to planting 14,220 trees, taking 61 cars off the road or heating 54 houses each year." - *courtesy TC Adrian Lam*

The owners then met for an update by CAO, Grant Brown. Admissions are largely done by reservation as the COVID-19 protocols called for reduced capacity. The skate board park initiative has found a grant for 65% and is looking for matching funds. One of the new rooms at the JDF will be named the Highlands Room. All owners will receive naming as new spaces are created. Metchosin will be decorating theirs with artwork from that municipality and perhaps our council could consider asking our local artists for ideas on what might look good in the Highlands Room?

#### **Wed. May 5th, 2021 Minister Osborne Video Meeting**

Minister of Municipal Affairs, Josie Osborne, and Citizen Services Minister, Lisa Beare, held a MS Teams meeting to discuss internet and cellular connectivity in BC. There is now additional funding available to help those without high speed internet or with poor cellular reception.

**Wed. May 5th, 2021 CRD Finance Committee Meeting**

KPMG's Lenora Lee led us through the Audit Findings and Statement of Financial Information:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22152&GUID=6932891D-60A1-495E-90B8-D9FFA5F7D4DF>

CFO Nelson Chan presented an External Grants Update:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22153&GUID=93AF388F-8B07-4D22-BE0A-5C3151B225BC>

and the External Grants Annual Report:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22154&GUID=E35A293E-4D57-4275-9220-E95B7A7D0BFB>

Nelson also gave us his thoughts on the Provincial Budget:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22158&GUID=25F31E4F-7B4B-4480-8276-1E9CA79E3911>

and the Federal Budget:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22159&GUID=A2EE03C0-0DFD-44B1-8281-6093665EDBD6>

**Wed. May 5th, 2021 CRD Performing Arts Facilities Select Committee**

The committee's first meeting discussed the potential scope and function of a Performing Arts Facilities Service. Many comments were made about how to include the more distant communities from the core and create something with tangible benefits for all.

**Wed. May 12th, 2021 CRD Committee of the Whole Special Meeting**

The long day began with a Committee of the Whole Special Meeting. This Strategic Priorities check-in guides the service planning for next year and it was decided the current priorities be maintained. Feedback from directors was largely positive with kudos for the success of the Regional Housing First Program and a desire for more climate action and less waste.

The four pillars of the Strategic Plan are:

Community Wellbeing – Transportation & Housing; Climate Action & Environmental Stewardship; First Nations Reconciliation; and Advocacy, Governance & Accountability.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22198&GUID=BDDE367F-4B50-469E-A924-33E773AA2C32>

**Wed. May 12th, 2021 CRD Board Meeting**

Thirty delegations presented their thoughts and concerns to the Board on everything from Mountain Biking Guidelines, Old Growth Forests, the Solid Waste Management Plan and Regional Transportation Priorities.

A large number of mostly housekeeping items on the consent agenda were passed and then the Capital District 2020 Annual Report was received:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22241&GUID=10C9CE3F-2B7B-41B2-9C1E-5174661BE6FC>

The report highlights many notable achievements of the past year including the completion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the addition of many new affordable homes and the inclusion of First Nations in regional governance and decision making.

A Bylaw to move forward Langford's request to withdraw from the CRD Emergency Communication Dispatch Service was given three readings. The item will now come to our council table as it will need municipal consent before sending to the Inspector of Municipalities. The remaining

participants have asked the CRD for an RFP from dispatch service providers so we may compare prices. Langford's absence will not affect the cost of the service for the remaining municipalities of Sooke, Metchosin, Saltspring, Southern Gulf Islands, JDF Electoral Area and of course the District of Highlands.

The Solid Waste Management Plan was passed with the addition of item 4. That the Board:

- a) Refer the attached report from Zero Waste British Columbia dated February 10, 2021 to staff, to inform revisions to the Solid Waste Management Plan; and
- b) Endorse the goal of the CRD becoming a national leader in Zero Waste and the Circular Economy in solid waste management.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=21995&GUID=FBD53A6B-5EA5-4EC8-B078-9455DF222696>

The CRD Regional Parks Mountain Bike Guidelines were passed:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=22007&GUID=24BF0799-1AF0-41A2-B1B0-DF4875E9B42C>

The following recommendations from the Transportation Committee regarding Identification of Regional Transportation Priorities (please see link) were passed:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=21980&GUID=5C31BA0C-9707-4007-A76B-EE8F7B2A7566>

The motion for the BC government to follow their own guidelines and work with First Nations regarding preservation of Old Growth Forests did not make it to the floor for debate. That item will return on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

## 5. RATIFICATION OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

## 6. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

6.1

Consideration of Addition of Late Item

### **RE: SOUTH HIGHLANDS LOCAL AREA PLAN TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

*Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird*

MOTION: 120-2021

That Council approve the addition of a proposed motion from Councillor McLean regarding the Terms of Reference for the South Highlands Local Area Plan Task Force.

CARRIED

MOTION: 121-2021

*Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird*

That the Terms of Reference for the South Highlands Local Area Plan Task Force be placed on the next regular Council meeting agenda for consideration of potential amendments.

Councillor McLean stated that she would like to have a discussion with Council with respect to the current Terms of Reference as they are not consistent with those of other Select Committees.

The question was then called.

CARRIED

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Letter, District of Saanich, April 29, 2021 (5280.31)  
**RE: OLD GROWTH LOGGING**
- MOTION: 122-2021 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Stanton*  
That Council receive the letter from the District of Saanich. CARRIED
- 8.2 Letter, Town of View Royal, May 4, 2021 (0400.60)  
**RE: REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY AND TRAINING FOR HOSPITAL SECURITY STAFF**
- MOTION: 123-2021 *Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird*  
That Council direct staff to write a letter of support to the Premier of British Columbia with a copy to the Attorney General, Minister of Health, and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. DEFEATED  
*With Councillors Anderson, Ann Baird, Roessingh, Stanton and Mayor Williams opposed*
- 8.3 Correspondence, J. Fisher, May 7, 2021 (4520.27.01)  
**RE: OK INDUSTRIES ROCK QUARRY**
- MOTION: 124-2021 *Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Stanton*  
That Council receive the correspondence from Janice Fisher. CARRIED
- 8.4 Letter, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, May 11, 2021 (1855.23)  
**RE: CLIMATE ACTION REVENUE INCENTIVE PROGRAM**
- MOTION: 125-2021 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor McLean*  
That Council receive the letter from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. CARRIED

## 9. BYLAWS

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1 Report, Chief Administrative Officer, May 10, 2021  
**RE: UBCM EXCELLENCE IN ASSET MANAGEMENT AWARD APPLICATION**
- MOTION: 126-2021 *Moved Councillor Stanton, Seconded Councillor Roessingh*  
That Council support an application to the 2021 UBCM Excellence Awards for the District's Asset Management Plan. CARRIED

## 11. IN CAMERA

## 12. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA RESOLUTIONS

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: 127-2021

*Moved Councillor Roessing*

That the Council meeting of May 17, 2021 adjourn at 7:37 pm.

CARRIED

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MAYOR

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CORPORATE OFFICER

Adopted June 7, 2021