

Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday, May 1, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Cowichan Valley Regional District, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC

PRESENT: Chair Ron Diederichs, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations
Tracy Fleming, Cowichan Tribes
Brigid Reynolds, District of North Cowichan
Ann Kjerulf, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Lori Iannidinardo, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Cowichan Bay Director

OTHER: Laura Robertson, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair noted changes to the agenda which included adding three items of New Business and the addition of a Delegation.

It was moved and seconded that the agenda as amended be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M1 It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting of January 30, 2014, be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Unused Industrial Tenures Cowichan Tribes, Tracy Fleming reporting on a response from the Minister of FLNRO regarding R1.

DELEGATIONS

Hylton McAlister presented a Chronology of Events regarding his timeline issues with his Stilt Home Lease and Dock – this is the first meeting that Stilt Home Leases has been discussed within CEEMC including this specific lease renewal.

CORRESPONDENCE

C1 – Ministers response to Chief Seymour's letter Verbal report by Tracy Fleming regarding the Ministers' Response to Chief Seymour's letter dated January 10, 2014.

ACTION: The CEEMC Chair to ask Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations if they have a date to conclude discussion on this issue.

C2 – Stilt House Leases

Discussion on renewal of stilt house leases by request of FLNR. (see attached email)

It was moved and seconded that the CEEMC Chair compile all past correspondence on Hylton McAlister's dock application and forward to Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations, suggesting that a recommendation for approval be made for the dock to proceed with conditions.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded that the CEEMC Chair review all past correspondence on Stilt Homes and reconvene an abbreviated meeting before the end of May to make a decision and, following that make a recommendation to Lands, & Natural Resource Operations.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded that in accordance with the Order in Council that actions occurring in CEEMC area taken by local or senior government agencies be approved by CEEMC including crown leases and licenses.

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION:

Tracy Fleming will report to the Chair regarding Stilt Home Leases, after reviewing with other staff members at Cowichan Tribes.

Letter dated March 18, 2014, and attachments from CERCA regarding the proposed breaching of the Westcan Causeway and the construction of the bridge.

**C3 – CERCA
regarding the
proposed
breaching of the
Westcan**

It was moved and seconded that

- 1) The CEEMC acknowledges and conceptually supports the proposal to breach the 'Westcan Causeway' and replace it with a bridge to restore intertidal habitat, improve natural water flow regimes, and assist with investigations into salmonid juvenile habitat usage by others.
- 2) The CEEMP Committee's support is conditional upon review and authorization by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, authorization by the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations, and Crown Lands of an amendment of the development plan for the lease at this site (Lands file # 1405504).
- 3) The CEEMP Committee notes that, in order to proceed, the proposal must also be authorized by the Cowichan Valley Regional District through its development permit approvals process.
- 4) There shall be at least one Cowichan Archaeology member onsite during the digging process to monitor activities.

MOTION CARRIED

**C4 – Cowichan
Bay Zoning Bylaw
No. 3773**

Letter dated March 6, 2014, from the Cowichan Tribes regarding a response to CVRD referral of proposed Electoral Area D – Cowichan Bay Zoning Bylaw No. 3773 (Marine Zoning Bylaw)

The letter was received as information.

NEW BUSINESS

**NB1 – Cowichan Bay
Zoning Bylaw Nos.
3705 & 3773**

Letter from Cowichan Tribes regarding CVRD Electoral Area D – Cowichan Bay Zoning Bylaw Nos. 3705 and 3773.

The letter was received as information.

**NB2 – Update by K.
Miller**

Correspondence from Kate Miller, Cowichan Valley Regional District, regarding an update on the Cowichan River Stewardship Roundtable and the current Diking Program just outside the CEEMC boundary.

Kate Miller requested to hold a one hour workshop with CEEMC regarding Climate Adaptation and Resilience Planning as a component of the Regional Strategy Sustainability process.

It was moved and seconded that Kate Miller hold a workshop regarding Climate Adaptation and Resilience Planning.

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION:

The chair respond to Kate Miller, and arrange to have her at the next regular meeting which is to be announced.

**NB3 – Letter from
Chief Seymour
regarding Lease
1405504**

The letter was received as information.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting TBA, a special meeting at Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations, Nanaimo

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Chairperson

Recording Secretary