



bulkley valley - lakes district
airshed management society

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Environment

Final Minutes

Directors Meeting: Jan. 18, 2024

Location: Houston Council Chambers and MS Teams

In Attendance:

Sybille, Dave, Troy, Ben, Sue and Paula Tait, Cori Johnstone, Corrine Schiller, Madeleine and Karen (Houston)

Regrets: Genevieve Paterson, Charlie Rensby, Simon Schat, Ray Sturney

Chair: Troy **Recording:** Sue

Introductions

Everyone made a brief introduction.

Motion to adopt the last meeting minutes by Sybille, Troy seconded.

1. Treasurer's Report

Total assets:

\$19398.00 operating account balance and cash and investments (1year)

Net Income: (2023) \$9428.63

- According to Dave we have around \$17000.00 for the Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program.
- We need to be thrifty until we can raise further funds.
- Referring First Nations for the CWSRP fulfillment straight from the Province is one way to conserve spending.

Action Item (AI**)** 1. Sue circulate the year end statements
2. Sue to find out about the FN fulfillment process with the Province.

2. **Guest Presentation Corrine Schiller**, Senior Atmospheric Scientist - Environment Canada on low cost sensors, spatial models and the role that MSC Science is playing in forwarding that program. This will be a brief summary of the low-cost sensor PM2.5 pilot project, and the other current projects that she and her team are involved in.

Summary:

- Air Quality Science at MSC focused on prediction and services for air quality
- there are 2 departments: we are in the Western unit, Keith Jones (head) - there are scientists, research scientists, and a technician
- Environment Canada's (EC) low cost monitors are compared to FEM Monitors on the AQ Map (<https://aqmap.ca/aqmap>). Produced in collaboration with UNBC. Correlations with FEM sensors are a .9 that's very good! Good for use for some things, but not regulatory use.
- Get the bias low, in low concentrations.
- Great slide of expanded sensor appearances in Canada over the years - eggs, Fems and purples.
- EER - dispersion model, these models are good for situational analysis.
- Colour coding matches the AQHI Plus
- EC still wants non profits and others to have access to free data like the purple air data but we need to remind EC of our needs specifically. The purple air network is being monetized.
- EC is urging us to use the AQ map above.
- EC figures they have 80% of population in CA covered with sensors.
- They figure they have 24% of forecast zones covered with FEMs but with low cost sensors that's now 41%
- Indigenous communities only have 49% of their populations in proximity to a sensor.
- What would it take to reach most communities...they have a list of these communities and here are their ideas...
 - - high pm areas
 - - painting a broader picture
 - - better spatial coverage
 - - numbers for communities to make policy decisions
- New tools - daily reports are in development where there are the highest numbers, highest smoke densities etc., monthly and seasonal reports

- Ventilation Index Project: new physical parameters are coming, providing a different way to calculate these indexes. The new dispersion model is still about a year out.
- Salamander Project: Colocated in Edmonton right now.
- Visibility: Model compared to actual, using the purple air network.
- Send comments or questions to Corrine.

Coordinated Projects

Community Wood Stove Reduction Plans (CWSRP):

- formerly the WSEP
- Sue reviewed the current rebate values and the rationale for not participating in the \$300/unit salvage program
- there was discussion around keeping some rebate values low despite the Provincial increase to certain rebate amounts. This is because we do not have funding this year and want to keep some money on reserve.

Municipal/Industrial Funding

- those present discussed instituting a membership model.
- tiered financing depending on budget needs.
- Kamloops works this way, Troy will touch base with Kamloops at an upcoming conference.
- Sue to touch base with PG.

Action Item** Sue to get out a sample member proposal and look at our annual operating budget to determine values

Open Action Items: full list on the next page

1 - Sue has contacted the National Pollutant Release Inventory Department of Health Canada and is awaiting a call back about presentation topics and dates.

2 - Sue drafted letter for a Burn Operator workshop and not got feedback from Directors, she will attach it here for your review.

3 - Sue starting to plan the AGM end of March or early April. She will confirm the possibility of guests: NPRI folks or another airshed management society, before we decide on a date and venue. (likely Smithers or Burns Lake)

Other News: BC Lung Health Workshop - March 12, 2024 Vancouver

Meeting Adjourned 5:18pm

Next meeting: AGM early April

Table 1

Date	Year	Current Open Action Items	Who
Dec 23	2023	Let Dave know about Ray volunteering as a cosigner at BVCU	Sue
Nov 23	2023	Contact NPRI for a report or presentation to Directors. Jan 22, 24 finally made contact and they are considering what they could present and dates, we will possibly schedule an AGM (April) around a presentation	Sue
Dec 7	2023	Review invitation and format document of an Open Burn Forum, first draft submitted to Directors	Directors, Sue
Nov. 4	2022	Propose sensor locations for E and W of Burns (2)	Doug
May 4	2023	Draft a letter of invitation to Forestry and Mining Industry's inviting them to sit as Directors, drafted and awaiting comments, first draft submitted to Directors	All
May 4	2023	Delineate priorities for 2023/24 and propose a long term membership funding strategy for municipal and industrial funding. - this is evolving	Directors, Sue
May 4	2023	Look at community resiliency: pipeline community capacity grant money. Narrowing field of apps, Smithers and Houston would likely endorse but needs delegation to council.	Sybille, Sue, Karen Hogstead, (Houston)