

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE  
KANANASKIS COUNTRY INTERDEPARTMENTAL  
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, September, 14, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.  
Main Floor Boardroom  
Canmore Provincial Building  
800 Railway Avenue, Canmore, AB**

**Present:**

Co-chair: Steve Donelon Tourism, Parks & Recreation

Secretary: Laurie Christiansen Tourism, Parks & Recreation

Members/  
Alternates Mike Benny Tourism, Parks & Recreation  
Rick Blackwood Sustainable Resource Development  
Ross Spence Sustainable Resource Development  
Fred Lee Transportation  
Param Sekhon Infrastructure  
Loren Winnick Tourism, Parks & Recreation (via telephone)  
Joey Young Tourism, Parks & Recreation

Absent: Dave Hanna Tourism, Parks & Recreation  
Louella Cronkhite Environment

Guests: Roger Drury TransAlta – Item #3  
Stew Walkinshaw Montane Forest Management Ltd. – Item #4

- 1) Review of the Agenda (All)
  - Agenda was approved as written.
  - Updates on items from the September 9/09 meeting were requested.
- 2) Review of Minutes (All)
  - Minutes of the November 10, 2009, meeting were approved as written.

### **Updates from November 10, 2009**

#### Evan Thomas Water & Waste Water Facility Upgrades (P. Sekhon)

- Design work is about 85 percent done, with a goal of October 31, 2010, for completion.
- This project is being looked at for P3 possibilities by Treasury
- Construction will be delayed until 2011/12 FY while funding options are sorted out
- New water treatment standards come into effect December 2012, so there could be a need for an extension to comply
- M. Benny encourages Infrastructure to host an Open House to keep KID residents and rate payers informed

#### Boundary Ranch Proposal

- R. Blackwood updated that Mike Thompson and Jon Jorgenson have looked at the proposed changes and do not envision any issues. There will be one more site visit with Rick Guinn and then likely all conditions will have been met and this can proceed.
- **Decision: Item received for information.**

#### Fortress Mountain (M. Benny)

- As of July 30, 2010, leases have been assigned to Joey O'Brien and group
- No formal plans are in place at this time for the refurbishment
- Ross Spence will meet with the leaseholders on September 22, 2010
- Goal of the group is to reopen in 2012
- **Decision: Resurrect the inter-agency group to oversee progress on this project. Tracey Cove will be the SRD contact.**

#### KID Land Use Order: Update (M. Benny)

- LUO was approved and signed July 13, 2010, and a new MO has been issued
- **Decision: Update for information only.**

#### Land Updates (J. Young)

- The Silvertip land exchange process is complete and has been approved by Cabinet

- The Dead Man's Flats land exchange is currently going through a 60-day Public Consultation and then the Minister will sign-off, if no concerns are raised during this period. After which a recommendation will be made by TPR to move this forward.
- **Decision: Update for information only.**

3) Pocaterra Penstock Replacement (Roger Drury)

- TransAlta commissioned the Pocaterra Hydro Facility in 1955 in Peter Lougheed Provincial Park with the main dam and storage reservoir at Lower Kananaskis Lake
- Water is conveyed from the reservoir to the plant by a 1.4 km long penstock
- Flow through the plant is released back into the Kananaskis River
- This is a peaking facility – provides additional power at peak times during the day to address demands
- Pocaterra Penstock is wood stave construction and is leaking at numerous locations along its 1.4 km length which could lead to further damage or collapse
- The preferred option to deal with this issue is full replacement of the penstock by a parallel, buried steel or glass-reinforced plastic penstock with the current one demolished following construction and removed to a landfill
- Minimal impacts on water management and minimal land disturbances are expected – facility will continue to operate during construction – and any land disturbances will be reclaimed
- Project is expected to start March 2012 and wrap up in December 2012 with about three months of “down time” for tie-in of the new penstock (September to November)
- Increased traffic can be expected when the new pipe is delivered and the demolished penstock is trucked out to landfill
- Canyon Campground and trail will have fairly significant disruptions so TransAlta will begin discussions with the Facility Operator regarding compensation during this time or possibly leasing the campground for workers' accommodation
- There will be a thorough communications plan to inform all stakeholders of the project and any disruptions. M. Benny noted the Lower Kananaskis Lake Cottage Owners' Association holds its annual general meeting late August of each year and it would be a great forum to communicate to that group.
- Detailed engineering and detailed design work is still pending. The goal is to have all the plans in order by September 2011 and complete all pre-work by late 2011 to be ready to start March 2012.
- Questions:
- S. Donelon asked about cost analysis to decommission rather than replace and R. Drury responded they are about the same – either would be approximately \$20 million

- S. Donelon asked if there have been any discussions with the Bow River Basin Council and Mike Kelly. R. Drury explained he has been working on the engineering aspect of this project and has not been dealing with stakeholders.
- P. Sekhon inquired whether the new penstock would be buried and what is the plan for any surface soil? The new pipe will be buried but the displaced soil will fill in where the wood penstock is removed. There is not much rock to deal with.
- **Decision: Item presented for information.**

**PUBLIC SESSION: Start at 10:30 a.m.**

- 4) KID FRIAA Fire Hazard Reduction Grant Applications (Stew Walkinshaw)
- In 2009 KID received \$50,000 from SRD towards FireSmart programs. Work included:
    - Lower Kananaskis Lake Cottage Area – fuels reduction with hand crews – “light on the land” approach
    - Delta Lodge – fuels reduction around the residence property
    - Mt. Kidd RV Park housing loop – cooperative effort with residents, SRD and KID to reduce fuel
    - Public education component – added information to the KID website under a “FireSmart” tab
    - Cross-training – all KID fire department staff have participated in the wildland fire training course
    - Pre-attack plan prepared for PLPP Facility Zone
  - Grant applications to FRIAA (Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta) to continue the KID fuels reduction program and to develop the KID Pre-Attack Plan were submitted
  - A fuels reduction project plan – grant application for \$455,000 was approved for:
    - Lower Kananaskis Lake cottage area which has 21.5 hectares remaining
    - Mt. Kidd RV Park housing loop 150 – 200 metres fuel reduction surrounding the area
    - Bow Valley housing area – 150 – 200 metres fire break around area which is not complete yet but approximately 100 stems/ha have been removed. Average cost is \$13,000 per ha for this work.
  - A second grant application was approved for \$20,000 to develop a Pre-attack Plan for the Evan Thomas Provincial Recreation Area
    - Maps are being developed for response teams with two done and two underway to cover all KID.
  - 2010 grants will go towards projects at Kananaskis Village (Sept. 22/10 start), King Creek housing loop (Sept. 14/10 start), Tim Horton’s

Children's Ranch (early October start), and the Rocky Mountain YMCA (100 metre wide break south side of the road, but camp staff will do the camp itself)

- All work is expected to be done by December 31, 2010
- Two preplans are also being developed: One is for the Bow Valley area which encompasses the U of C Research Station and south plus a north project at the Bow Valley housing loop. The second pre-plan being developed is for the Elbow/Sibbald.
- **Decision: Update provided for information.**

## 5) Roundtable

### o Param Sekhon

- Surplus buildings at Elbow highway yard? SRD may be interested in the site for cold storage. TPR has no interest in the site.
- Wind event at CNC in August 2007 which blew down several trees. Is there a plan to plant trees in that area? Some tree removal has taken place to create fire breaks and has also facilitated training jumps being placed in the open area for Nordic combined.

**Decision: For discussion by CNC Advisory Group in terms of long term management of the facility.**

### o Joey Young

- Kananaskis Trails Committee is meeting monthly to develop a new planning process.
  - Silvertip land exchange – about to enter the 60-day public comment period.
  - Yamnuska Natural Area/Deadman's Flats – involves SRD, TPR, and MD of Bighorn – exchange intended to finalize the wildlife corridor in the hamlet of DMF. Information has been sent to First Nations for review. Focused stakeholder letters will be going out shortly.
- Land Use Framework – Terms of Reference for the SSRP were developed in December 09. Vision was to be developed by June 2010, but has been delayed until early 2011. The RAC (regional advisory committee) will remain in place until December 2010. R. Blackwood suggested presentations by Darryl Johnson and Justin Ellis may be useful.
- Lower Kananaskis River – potential for enhanced services along the Kananaskis River to the Bow River to deal with increased demand in the area for services. Public consultations will take place this fall.

- Fred Lee
  - No capital projects planned in Kananaskis at this time.
  - Gravel work will be done on the Smith Dorrien/Spray road
  - S. Donelon requested an update on the Legacy Trail. Fred responded that there is no funding available for this project. A temporary gravel road in the CP right-of-way is being discussed. It is also recommended to slow the speed to 60 km/h when approaching the East Banff Park Gate.
  
- Mike Benny
  - KID Recycling program will kick off in January 2011. There will be 36 bins set up throughout KID/KC in the coming weeks. Bins were purchased through federal gas tax money.
  - Stantec Engineering has been contracted to revisit the natural gas proposal to run a pipeline down the Kananaskis Valley to Nakiska. Review should be complete by December 2010, with a possible presentation available for January 11, 2011.
  
- Rick Blackwood
  - Fortress Mountain – Ross Spence will meet with Joey O’Brien
  - MPB – Numbers are down according to surveys. There are still issues with MPB coming into AB from BC. Controls will continue over winter but will be reduced to single-tree treatment
  - Changes within SRD – Glenn Selland will be the new ADM of Lands Division; Bruce Mayer, ADM of Forestry; and Rick Blackwood, ADM of Fish & Wildlife. Acting Manager for Southern Rockies Area office will likely be rotating. Continue to send any concerns to the program manager in the interim. S. Donelon inquired whether there would be reorganization at this time or if vacancies will be filled. R. Blackwood responded that the plan is to fill the vacancies. The Department (SRD) is working to realign boundaries to match the LUF boundaries.
  
- Steve Donelon
  - TPR is also in a period of restructuring mainly due to retirements and the opportunity for restructuring in Edmonton.
  - Dave Hanna is now the Operations Manager for Kananaskis Region.
  - All other Area Manager positions within Parks have now been filled

9) Next Meeting:

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 9, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.**  
**Main Floor Boardroom**  
**Canmore Provincial Building**  
**800 Railway Avenue, Canmore, Alberta**

Minutes approved by:

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Steve Donelon, Co-Chair, KCICC

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Ross Spence, Co-Chair, KCICC