



Bella Coola Watershed Conservation Society

Minutes of the February 1, 2007 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Bella Coola Watershed Conservation Society (BCWCS) was held at the Resource Center in Hagensborg on February 1, 2007 at 10:30 am.

Members Present:

Steve Waugh
Neil Osborne
Mike Wigle

Fraser Koroluk
Sandie MacLaurin
Ken Corbould

Brian Lande
Nicola Koroluk
Shirley Willson

Meeting was called to order at 10:35 am.

Steve Waugh presented a year in review summary and a look to the future. Very few new initiatives were launched in the past year; however there was significant progress on several of the fundamental projects that had been launched in previous years. Stage II of the Watershed-based Fish Sustainability Plan has been completed and pending approval from Fisheries and Oceans Canada we will move on to Stage III. Stage III is identifying valuable projects for enhancement and watershed restoration within the Bella Coola Watershed.

The application by the CCRD and the Nuxalk Nation governments to have the restriction for the use of motor boats in the Atnarko River is still being looked at by the Transport Canada offices in Ottawa. Final approval should be in place by this summer.

There are several initiatives being looked at for the coming year. These programs will be conducted with partners such as the Bella Coola Valley Tourism Society, The Trails Committee and HRDC funded programs such as Atnarko River Coho Enhancement, possible river access and others.

We also need to look at increasing our membership.

Steve also stepped down as the Chair of the group.

Fraser Koroluk presented the financial status of the group. The financial information was discussed and accepted in principle by all.

Bank Balance:	\$5468.00
Less Payable:	\$3013.39
Balance:	\$2454.61

The minutes of the January 2005 AGM were read. Moved by Nicola, Seconded by Ken and carried that the minutes be adopted as read.

Nominations from the floor for directors:

Fraser Koroluk	Nominated by Mike W.	Accepted	Director
Mike Wigle	Nominated by Ken C.	Accepted	Director

Directors allowing their names to stand:

Shirley Willson	Secretary/Treasurer
Nicola Koroluk	President/Chairman
Steve Waugh	Past President
Neil Osborne	Vice President
Ken Corbould	Director

AGM completed at 11:15.

General Meeting

In July of 2006 Fraser Koroluk was contracted as the Stewardship Center Coordinator. He was also given a contract to complete sections of the Stage II WBFSP document.

In September 2006 the document was submitted to the technical committee for input and review. In January 2007 the edits from the committee were incorporated into the document and will be shipped to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. We will be moving into the next stage.

Fraser developed a website: www.bellacoolwatershed.com . Email address for the BCWCS is info@bellacoolwatershed.com. Everyone should check it out.

Discussions between DFO, CCFPA and BCVT regarding the enhancement of Atnarko River Coho have begun.

Discussions with MOT to consider public river access at the North end of Hagensborg Rd. (Old Hagensborg Store site).

Mapping:

Watershed mapping is now underway with funding from FIA – Ian Robertson. Air photos were taken in the summer of 2006. A complete set of photos will be available to the BCWCS. These photos will need to be ortho rectified so they can be used for trim maps. Three year funding is available through FIA, with assistance from DFO and PEP.

Funding:

FIA funding is available for the monitoring of past restoration projects. HRDC funding is a possibility for summer students. Fraser looking into this possibility.

Coho Enhancement:

Egg target – 100,000

This project would be a cooperative program between, BCWCS, CCFPA, DFO (Snootli Hatchery and Community Advisor), & BCVT.

The fry will be reared to smolt size at the Atnarko spawning channel. There is a good chance that we could get funding from DFO's Stock Assessment branch to coded wire tag these fish.

Funding proposals will be done up by Fraser, Sandie will help with that. PSF funding deadlines are Feb 15 & Oct 15, 2007.

Eco Based Management (EBM) – Neil Osborne is helping with this process on behalf of the BCWCS. There was some discussion around 3 government ministries getting together and looking at gravel management in local creeks.

Stage III of the WBFSP needs to be tied into the LRMP process and the CCRD official community plan to make sure that everyone is working towards the same goals.

Moved by Steve, seconded by Fraser, carried that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05pm