Regional District of Central Kootenay
CRESTON VALLEY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Open Meeting Minutes

8:00 a.m. PST
9:00 a.m. MST

Thursday, March 6, 2025
Town of Creston, Council Chambers
238 10 Avenue North, Creston, BC

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair A. DeBoon	Town of Creston
Director G. Jackman	Electoral Area A
Director R. Tierney	Electoral Area B
Director K. Vandenberghe	Electoral Area C

STAFF PRESENT

S. Horn	Chief Administrative Officer
Y. Malloff	General Manager Finance, Information Technologies and Economic Development
T. Davison	Regional Manager – Recreation and Client Services
C. Stanley	Manager of Recreation – Creston and District Community Complex
S. Sudan	General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability
U. Wolff	General Manager of Environmental Services
A. Wilson	Resource Recovery Manager
D. Sequin	Manager of Community Sustainability
N. Hannon	Disaster Mitigation and Adaption Senior Advisor
M. Crowe	Parks Planner
R. Baril	Meeting Coordinator

TOWN OF CRESTON STAFF PRESENT

M. Moore	Creston Chief Administrative Officer
J. Riel	Creston Fire Chief

GUESTS

Director A. Watson	RDCK Board Chair/Electoral Area D
I. Finley	Little Dog Farm
C. Chapman	Physician Recruiter for the Creston Valley
M. Schneider	Creston Valley Regional Airport Society
S. Itkonen	Library Director

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1. ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFO

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

Meeting Time:
9:00 PST
8:00 MST

Join by Video:
https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/92632670829?pwd=VkcPYOv0WnMTDNowScaJt12nFYz8zN.1

Join by Phone:
+1-778-907-2071

Meeting ID: 926 3267 0829
Meeting Password: 430277

In-Person Location: Town of Creston - Council Chambers
238 10 Avenue North, Creston, BC

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair DeBoon called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

3. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

The agenda for the March 6, 2025 Creston Valley Services Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The January 30, 2025 Creston Valley Services Committee minutes, have been received.

6. DELEGATION

6.1 SHORT TERM RENTAL REGISTRY

Ian Finley, from Little Dog Farm, presented his concerns with the Short-Term Rental Registry that the Province has implemented. Committee advised that the Rural Affairs Committee would be better suited platform to serve the issues brought forward, if a variance would need to be applied for to address what they wish to develop on their property.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 FOR INFORMATION: RDCK EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - QUARTER 4 (Q4) REPORT

Dan Sequin, Manager Community Sustainability, presented the RDCK Emergency Management Q4 Report. 2024 was a busy season for Emergency Management, centered around the four pillars of: preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. Recruitment is going to be the primary focus in 2025, as well as completing a regional roundtable RDCK ArcGIS fire mapping tool, the first of its kind in the province. After action review process is happening now in 2024 affected wildfire evacuation areas. And Emergency Services has obtained a grant to upgrade equipment to new standards.

Dan answered the Committee's questions.

7.2 FOR INFORMATION: CRESTON VALLEY FIRE QUARTER 4 (Q4) REPORT

Jared Riel, Creston Fire Chief, presented his Q4 Operational Report for Creston Valley Fire Department. There were 212 calls for service in 2024 4th quarter, with Creston area showing the most incidents. Response times have gone up slightly in quarter 4 over the previous quarter when all areas are factored in. Staffing is currently made up of 40 paid on call firefighters, 6 work experience firefighters, and have just added a part time administrative staff this past quarter.

Chief Riel answered the Committee's questions.

7.3 FOR DISCUSSION: RDCK CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION - QUARTER 4 (Q4) REPORT

The Committee discussed the Q4 RDCK Corporate Administration Report. The Committee would like items for Areas A, B and C separated out of this report. The Committee can then focus on the applicable items for the Electoral Areas that pertain.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 CRESTON VALLEY PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT UPDATE

Cathy Chapman, Physician Recruiter for the Creston Valley, presented an update for the Committee. Cathy's focus is community driven recruiting, focused mainly on finding housing and childcare for physicians. Interior Health's focus is on keeping tertiary and regional hospitals staffed and towns in crisis, which Creston is neither. Interior Health has not forwarded one viable candidate to Creston in the past two years. Creston is six full time equivalents short for physician recruiting with more than two thousand people in the region on the wait list for a family doctor. However, due to the work of the recruiter program, we have not faced the hospital closures that other small communities have had. Our locum program is working with over forty locum physicians supporting the community.

The personal touch of the physician recruiter program has value to the Creston community. There is no increase to the financial ask for 2025 in the draft budget.

Cathy answered the Committee's questions.

8.2 CRESTON VALLEY AIRPORT

Moved and seconded,
And resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

That the Board send a letter of support for British Columbia's Air Access Program (BCAAP) Grant to fund a backup generator for the Creston Valley Airport.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

Director Watson granted Freedom of the Floor.

Carried

8.3 CRESTON VALLEY AIRPORT

Melody Schneider, Secretary/Treasurer of Creston Valley Regional Airport Society, has an amendment to the 2025 Draft Budget. The request for the Service S240 Airport – Creston B, C and Area A has increased to $212,275 to account for a recent change in staffing for their maintenance worker. The Committee would like to see alternative ways to increase revenues.

Melody answered the Committee's questions and will bring more information back re: increasing revenues to the Committee for a future meeting.

ORDER OF THE AGENDA CHANGED The Order of Business was changed with Item 9.2 Old Business considered at this time.

9.2 CRESTON VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY REVISED BUDGET

Saara Itkonen, Library Director, presented the revised budget amount for the 2025 Draft Budget for the Creston Valley Public Library. The library has suggested to close on Fridays to accommodate a budget increase to twenty-five percent, as well as reduce the amount set aside for reserves in 2025.

Saara answered the Committee's questions.

ORDER OF THE AGENDA RESUMED Item 8.4 considered at this time.

8.4 DISCUSSION ITEM: SCULPTURE AT CRESTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COMPLEX

Craig Stanley, Regional Manager Operations and Asset Management, presented a request to place a sculpture at the Creston and District Community Complex from the Town of Creston. This sculpture would need to be located indoors due to the delicate nature of the sculpture.

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

That the Committee authorized staff to proceed to find an alternate location indoors for this sculpture and report back to the Committee and that any future art pieces would need a Display of Public Art Policy.

Carried

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 CRESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WELCOME

Town of Creston will provide numbers from 2024 for the Creston Neighbourhood Welcome program and the Town of Creston staff will put in a request to RDCK for discretionary funds to cover the Areas A, B and C for newcomers to the Valley based off the historical data.

9.3 ACTION ITEM LIST

Item #7. No date for the Traditional Land Use (TUS) workshop yet.
Item #6. Can be removed.

10. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair called for questions from the public and members of the media at 11:15 a.m.

There were no questions from the public or media.

11. CLOSED

11.1 Meeting Closed to the Public

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

In the opinion of the Board - and, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter – the public interest so requires that persons other than DIRECTORS, ALTERNTAE DIRECTORS, DELEGATIONS AND STAFF be excluded from the meeting;
AND FURTHER, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, the meeting is to be closed on the basis(es) identified in the following Subsections:

90. (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;

(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

Carried

11.2 Recess of Open Meeting

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

The Open meeting be recessed at 11:17 a.m. in order to conduct the Closed meeting.

Carried

12. NEXT MEETING

The next Creston Valley Services Committee meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

The Creston Valley Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Carried

Digitally approved by

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Arnold DeBoon, Chair