

Minutes of the **GOVERNANCE & SERVICES COMMITTEE** meeting of the Regional District of Central Okanagan held at Regional District Offices, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, BC on Thursday, March 12, 2020

- Directors:
- J. Baker (District of Lake Country)
 - M. Bartyik (Central Okanagan East Electoral Area)
 - W. Carson (Central Okanagan West Electoral Area)
 - M. Singh, alternate for M. DeHart (City of Kelowna)
 - C. Fortin (District of Peachland)
 - G. Given (City of Kelowna)
 - C. Hodge (City of Kelowna)
 - S. Johnston (City of West Kelowna)
 - G. Milsom (City of West Kelowna)
 - B. Sieben (City of Kelowna)
 - L. Stack (City of Kelowna)
 - L. Wooldridge (City of Kelowna)
- Absent:
- C. Basran (City of Kelowna)
 - J. Coble (Westbank First Nation)
- Staff:
- B. Reardon, Chief Administrative Officer
 - T. Cashin, Director of Community Services
 - J. Foster, Director of Communication & Information Services
 - C. Griffiths, Director of Economic Development & Bylaw Services
 - D. Komaike, Director of Engineering Services
 - M. Kopp, Director of Parks Services
 - C. Teschner, Manager Financial Services
 - M. Drouin, Manager-Corporate Services (recording secretary)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Given called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

This meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the syilx/Okanagan peoples.

2. **ADDITION OF LATE ITEMS**

There are no late items for the agenda

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

#GS14/20

BAKER/WOOLDRIDGE

THAT the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED unanimously

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 4.1 Governance & Services Committee Meeting Minutes - February 13, 2020 & February 20, 2020

#GS15/20

BAKER/MILSOM

THAT the Governance & Services Committee meeting minutes of February 13, 2020 and February 20, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED unanimously

5. DELEGATION

- 5.1 Regional District of North Okanagan - An Overview of the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) Amendment Bylaw, RDNO Staff: Laura Frank and Rob Smailes, General Manager Planning presenting

RDNO staff addressed the Committee highlighting their Regional Growth Strategy and amendments to their bylaw. As directed by the *Local Government Act*, regional districts are required to seek acceptance of their RGSs.

Staff reviewed the background, benefits and initiatives of their RGS and the cooperation and collaboration in basin wide initiatives ie: State of the Basin Report 2016, Climate Projections Report and the subregional Conservation Plan. Five year review was initiated in 2015.

Questions and answer period followed.

#GS16/20

HODGE/FORTIN

THAT the Governance and Services Committee receive for information the Regional District of North Okanagan's Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 2846, 2019 report dated March 12, 2020;

AND FURTHER THAT the Committee recommends the Regional Board of the Regional District of Central Okanagan accepts the Regional District of North Okanagan's Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 2846, 2019 as required under Section 436 (4) of the Local Government Act.

CARRIED unanimously

- 5.2 Central Okanagan Rent Bank Program

Todd Cashin, Director of Community Services, introduced the BC Rent Bank program.

Project Lead – BC Rent Bank, Melissa Giles, Vancity Community Foundation, via conference phone, provided an overview of the program, its objectives, examples of successes and criteria used. The Province of BC has provided \$10mil for the program (to March 31, 2022). Rent Banks is a

loan for rent, utilities, and security deposits. They are currently developed in areas such as Prince George, Kamloops and various municipalities in the lower mainland. Pilot project models and partnership considerations are being developed in other areas including the Central Okanagan.

Question and answer period followed on how a Rent Bank operates in terms how loans are received and repaid; how is a Rent Bank sustainable over the long term without provincial funding involvement; various models are being followed and considered for sustainability; what role does VanCity Community Foundation play; agencies would operate grants to fund the program (investment in the community); has a model been considered to offer a grant instead of a loan—there are granting programs out there; the Rent Bank program is to regenerate funds to keep operating in the future; a Rent Bank is not a granting body.

RDCO could consider playing a key leadership role in finding an organization to operate a Rent Bank. A tool-kit would be provided to the agencies operating the RentBank. RentBank BC would provide the seed money to the agency if approved. The program is about helping keep people from becoming homeless due to being unable to pay rent or utilities at a specific time.

It was noted that today's delegation was meant as an introduction to the idea of a RentBank, and further that staff will bring forward a report for further discussion on the issues raised today.

#GS17/20

FORTIN/WOOLDRIDGE

THAT the Governance and Services Committee receives for information the Director of Community Services March 12, 2020, Central Okanagan Rent Bank report.

CARRIED unanimously

6. FINANCIAL SERVICES

#GS18/20

CARSON/BAKER

THAT public comment 6.2 be received prior Director of Finance presentation

CARRIED unanimously

6.2 – Public input on the budget was moved forward and input received.

6.1 2020-2024 Financial Plan (2nd Draft)

M. Rilkoff, provided an overview of the minor changes directed by the Committee at its February 20th meeting.

The budgets for the following cost centres have been amended:

- Paid on Call Volunteer Fire Departments: Add \$25k grants to all four departments
- 094 – SWM: Waste Reduction & Recycling: Add grant & increase study costs
- 117 – Sterile Insect Release: Change to Parcel Tax Levies
- 120 – Economic Development Commission: Add \$10k to Film Commission’s budget
- 124 – Westside Municipal Recreation: Revised tax rates received from West Kelowna. The average home tax was highlighted.

The tax changes are as follows:

	2019 Total Tax per House. Avg House Value \$741,000	2020 House Value	Feb 20 Draft		Mar 12 Draft	
			2020	2020	2020	2020
			Total Tax per House	Change per Avg House over 2019	Total Tax per House	Change per Avg House over 2019
Kelowna	\$183.85	\$730,000	\$182.12	(\$1.73) -0.937%	\$182.22	(\$1.63) -0.886%
Peachland	211.81	736,500	\$213.97	\$2.16 1.018%	\$214.08	\$2.28 1.072%
Lake Country	208.70	749,500	\$214.87	\$6.17 2.958%	\$214.98	\$6.29 3.013%
West Kelowna	202.69	735,000	\$203.46	\$ 0.77 0.382%	\$203.57	\$0.88 0.435%
C. O. West	637.71	748,000	\$677.24	\$ 39.53 6.199%	\$677.36	\$ 39.65 6.217%
C. O. East	513.57	752,000	\$547.13	\$ 33.56 6.534%	\$547.25	\$33.67 6.557%

6.2 Invitation for the Public to Comment on the 2020-2024 Financial Plan

- Tanya Northcott – Brent Road area resident addressed the Committee. Concern was raised once again regarding the tax implications for the Brent Road area residents regarding the Johnson-Bentley Pool and the Seniors and Youth Community Centres in West Kelowna; requested a second cistern in the area for fire protection; and believes fines for bylaw enforcement matters need to have more ‘teeth’ in them.

Staff noted that the communication has occurred with West Kelowna Council and staff in regards to service delivery in regards to the Johnson-Bentley Pool and the Seniors and Youth Community Centres in West Kelowna and further work continues in regards to this issue.

- 6.3 Recommendation to Forward the Draft Budget to the March 23, 2020 Regional Board meeting for final approval

#GS19/20

BAKER/STACK

THAT the Governance & Services Committee receive for information the updated and additional 2020 – 2024 Financial Plan documentation;

AND FURTHER THAT any recommended amendments discussed today be made and brought forward to the Regional Board's final budget meeting on March 23, 2020.

CARRIED unanimously

7. CORPORATE SERVICES

- 7.1 911 Wireless Call Answer Levy Update

CAO, Brian Reardon, provided an overview of the 911 Wireless Call Answer Levy to advocate for the establishment of a province-wide 911 call answer levy on cell phones and the consistent application of 911 service standards. UBCM has dealt with resolutions at their annual conventions in the past. The history of discussions was highlighted including what it is and why we need it.

Director Singh left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Current state of the PSAP system in BC was outlined. The Province undertook consultation in 2015; in July 2016 UBCM issued a letter to the Province to implement a wireless call answer levy with third party administration of funds; in June 2017 the CRTC recommended the Province enact legislation to address issues of coordination, funding PSAP standards, public education and the CRTC mandated networks to be ready for NG911 by December 31, 2020. The Province has been seriously relooking at its role regarding 911 services. All legacy 911 PSAP systems are to be decommissioned by June 30, 2023. The 911 levy rates for provinces was outlined—between \$0.44 to \$0.75 per month.

Director Johnston left the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

In October 2018, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General notified UBCM the Ministry was reinvigorating work related to 911 emergency communication services. In 2019, a new 911 steering committee was established and is nearing the completion of its mandate.

Question and answer discussion followed.

#GS20/20

SIEBEN/BAKER

THAT the Governance & Services Committee receive the 911 Call Answer Levy report for information;

AND THAT it is recommended that the Regional Board agree to advocate for the establishment of a province-wide 911 call answer levy on cell phones and the consistent application of 911 service standards that are aligned with the federal network of public safety answering points across Canada;

AND FURTHER THAT Chair Given be authorized to send a letter to the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General in support of this matter and cc'd to all regional districts in British Columbia.

CARRIED (Fortin opposed)

8. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT

G. Given (Chair)

B. Reardon (Chief Administrative Officer)