



RAINY RIVER FIRST NATIONS
Chief & Council Business Meeting
Tuesday June 9th, 2020
Zoom Meeting @ 10AM

PRESENT:

Chief Robin McGinnis

Councillor Willie J. McGinnis

Councillor Karen Oster-Bombay

Councillor Jason Wilson

Councillor Gary Medicine

OTHER:

Lauren Hyatt – Executive Assistant

REGRETS: Councillor Leona McGinnis

Opening

10:12am: Meeting Opened Chief R. McGinnis.

Agenda Approval:

The Agenda was presented, and the following additions were requested: Security, Computers and in camera member request.

MOTION # 2020-06-09-001

To approve the Amended agenda

Moved by: Jason Wilson

Seconded by: Will McGinnis

All in Favour - Carried

Pandemic Update:

- A proposal was submitted to the Trust for Off Reserve Support during the COVID 19 Pandemic.
- Screening gate: the license plate of RRFNs residents are not being recorded unless there is a non-resident in the vehicle. The gate staff are not charged with duty to ensure BCR'd individuals are not let into the Community. Staff will record the names of the individuals, make notes surrounding their entry and then either call Treaty Three Police themselves to report the individual/s or contact a member of leadership and/or the Band Manager to call Treaty Three.
- There was discussion surrounding what constitutes an individual as a resident. A list of residents in each household has been compiled and will be provided to the gate.

- J. Hunter-Connon has been tracking Community Members/Staff who have been out of the District.
- It was suggested that the question, “How long are you staying for?” be posed to visitors to the Community.
- There was discussion about creating an RRFNs auxiliary security service so that we do not have to contract out services.
- It was suggested that we look into COVID tracking Apps at the Tribal level.
- It was clarified that is not the job of the checkpoint staff to ensure that BCR’d individuals do not enter the community. They are however, to call the Chief or MOA who will follow through with Treaty Three Police.
- It was concluded that all questioned should be asked of all coming into the community, regardless of the frequency.
- A plan needs to be made for the isolation suite sites as there may not be a big enough septic field in the current area that has been designated.
- Due to recent cases in Kenora, L. Hyatt has requested that Staff not travel to Kenora on Band business unless absolutely essential for the next 2 weeks.

11:30AM: S. McGinnis, T. Friesen and M. Rai join

Economic Development Presentation:

Mounds

- Preliminary discussion and document review on path forward.
- Initial financial review of historic financial statements have been completed.
- Next steps are to meet with Kayleigh, Pam, and Jon Evans to better understand current operations and various revenues and costs identified in the financial statements.
- Deliverables:
 - Provide a report for recommendations to CC.
 - Financial and Operating Management Plan

Housing

- Reviewing data related to the following items:
 - Existing Inventory – CMHC / Rentals / Rent-to-Own
 - Applications
 - Staffing
 - Condition Reports
 - Repairs
 - Capital Plan
 - Land Use Plan
- It would be ideal if there was a full-time housing manager we could support as part of this process. Job posting was sent to Advisory Services yesterday.
- Deliverables:

- Provide a report for recommendations to CC:
 - Housing plan
 - Housing code policy
 - Operational manual

Band Office

- Meeting held last week with Allan Nosworthy to evaluate process to date, identify deficiencies.
- Process established to map invoices from contractor, through owner's rep, to MOA and Finance, and to receive funds from bank prior to any payments.
- Follow-up meeting being held this week with Allan/A49, RRFN and with Advisory
- Upcoming Decisions: Furniture Purchase

EcDev Corporation

- Main remaining hurdle before implementation and corporate structuring phase is the appointment of trustees to Holding Trust.
- A briefing note was sent to L. Mikoni last week on the request and it is the intent hoping to finalize the trustees this week or next.
- Next Steps
 - Form the Corporations.
 - Transfer in the subsidiary companies.
 - Brief the board and request direction.

Aazhogan Renewal

- Due Diligence in the project is underway.
- Contractors are being engaged.
- CORP funding application has been approved for approximately \$200K to cover due diligence costs.
- Property Development:
 - FF has requested a joint renewal committee. Draft terms of reference were provided yesterday. The main benefit is to simplify / reduce cost of required zoning changes.
 - A new logo for Aazhogan Renewal and a plan to issue a joint press release formally announcing the partnership, is being developed

Manitou Forest Products:

- Significant new financial and internal controls have been implemented.
 - Notably, we moving to a dual signature process at MFP a representative from RRFNS will be a signatory on cheques moving forward.
 - All but one of the credit cards have been eliminated and the remaining credit card statement will be reviewed by the Board on a monthly basis.

- Further operational and financial reviews are underway.
- Deliverables
 - Succession plan is to be developed by end of August: MNP has been engaged to complete a valuation calculation report.
- Co-Manager Position has been posted, to be in place by end of August

New Gold Fuel Supply

The Current status of this contract was presented and discussed.

Solar Farm:

- Board meeting upcoming.
- Will be Talking to CCL about the potential for new investment opportunities.

Sturgeon Hatchery Business Plan:

- Ready to start once COVID is complete.

WARN Application

- Work hasn't been initiated on this file yet.

Oni Dissolution

- The final contracts have been wound up and the next step in the dissolution process is the completion of the audited financial statements.
- MNP may be engaged to complete a review of the final two years of transactions as their forensic report only covered transactions to March 31, 2018.
- Next Steps
 - Wind up remaining contracts
 - Reconcile remaining accounts.

Water Treatment Plant

- Pending presentation from Burnside Engineering on June 11, 2020.

Files in the pipeline but not being actively pursued.

- EPL
- Data Farm concept
- Business Plan for Junction 11/71
- Spirit Bear Coffee

12:30PM S. McGinnis, T. Friesen and M. Rai Depart.
Lunch

1:00PM: Jenn Rodegard joins

Membership Q& A:

- The process of reviewing membership applications by the Membership Committee was explained to C&C.
- Membership eligibility in various categories was discussed
- A timeline of acceptance as a member was explained.
- There were some concerns brought forward about the composition and decisions of the Membership Committee. Chief R. McGinnis will meet with this committee to discuss their commitment and duty on this board.
- It was suggested that a Council Member sit on this committee as an ex officio to lend support, guidance and advocacy.
- It was decided that the positions of OW and Registrar will be separated into separate positions.

MOTION # 2020-06-09-002

To separate OW & Membership Registrar positions

Moved by: Karen Oster-Bombay

Seconded by: Will McGinnis

All in Favour - Carried

Housing:

- There are some house that have big trees surrounding them that are rotting and dangerous. Band Members will be approached to cut these down to ensure the safety of the houses and members.
- Grass Cutting: this service is falling behind. L. Hyatt will look into services to help Maintenance to get caught up on this task.

2:33 PM In Camera Session

3:30 PM Meeting Adjourned

The minutes dated Tuesday June 9th, 2020, have been reviewed and approved at a duly convened meeting dated: June 24, 2020

Date signed: Feb 11, 2021

Quorum: 3



Robin McGinnis, Chief




Willie James McGinnis, Councillor



Gary Medicine, Councillor

Leona McGinnis, Councillor



Karen Oster-Bombay, Councillor

Jason Wilson, Councillor