



South Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council

Meeting Notes - Meeting # 10

Revised September 13, 2010

Date: June 21 (8:30 am – 6:30 pm) and June 22 (8:30 am – 4:30 pm)

Place/Time: Medicine Hat Lodge, Medicine Hat, AB

Next Meeting: September 7 and 8, Calgary, AB

Attendees: **Regional Advisory Council (RAC):** Colin Jeffares, Jay Bartsch, Linda Bruce (June 22), Stanley Church, Lisa Fox, Wolf Keller, John Kerkhoven, Georgina Knitel (June 21), Gord Lehn, Hugh Lynch-Staunton, Ron McMullin, Ralph Nelson, Greg Sekura, Daniel Smith, John Squarek, Bill Szabon, Kevin Van Tighem

Regional Planning Team (RPT): Glen Tjostheim, Doug Olson, Judy May-McDonald, Andrea Dorrans, Carolyn Johnson, Rob McManus, Sarah Pasemko, Justin Ellis, Darryl Johnson, Heather Sinton, Hugh Norris, Dave McGee, Toby Schneider, Bill Symonds, Olimpia Pantelimon, Kevin Williams

Lunch Guests: Chief Administrative Officer Ray Barnard of Medicine Hat (June 21) and Reeve Darcy Geigle of Cypress County (June 22)

Day One

Introduction

South Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council Chair Colin Jeffares welcomed the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) to Medicine Hat and called the meeting to order. Mr. Jeffares expressed that he was glad to be in Medicine Hat and to have the RAC back for another two-day meeting. He explained that the meeting's goal was to accomplish a substantial amount of work before the RAC's summer break. Mr. Jeffares confirmed that the Minister had signed the RAC's December 31st, 2010 extension.

In moving forward, the Regional Planning Team (RPT) presented the RAC with an updated series of advice sheets to review and provide comments on. Before the advice sheets were addressed, Mr. McManus reviewed the May 11th to 13th meeting notes and minutes and added amendments as necessary. Mr. McManus then clarified the agenda and review process for the next two days, including:

- Review and provide feedback on new and updated advice sheets
- Review and discuss the valued landscapes mapping
- Hear a presentation from Mr. Nicol and Mr. Seiferling on conservation and stewardship tools

Overview and Feedback on Advice Sheets – facilitated by Rob McManus

The following topics were discussed by the RAC on day one:



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- Topic #2: Economic diversification
- Topic #3: Infrastructure
- Topic #4: Energy industry
- Topic #5: Agriculture industry
- Topic #6: Forestry industry

Valued Landscapes Presentation on Mapping Classifications – Doug Olson

Mr. Olson provided a presentation on the proposed land-use map legend. A common language across regional plans was pursued in designing the land-use classifications for the SSRP. Comments received from the RAC indicated that the legend was too complex and unclear in terms of individual land-use classifications. The RAC discussed possible categories for a map legend and provided feedback on further revision to the SSR valued landscapes map legend.

Closing: 6:45 pm

Day Two

Introduction

Mr. McManus initiated the meetings by focusing the agenda back to the advice sheets for the RAC to review.

Overview and Feedback on Advice Sheets – facilitated by Rob McManus

The RAC reviewed and provided feedback on the following topics:

- Topic #7: Headwaters
- Topic #8: Source water protection
- Topic #9: Wetlands
- Topic #10: Riparian areas
- Topic #12: Biodiversity

Conservation and Stewardship Tools Presentations (Ken Nicol and Morris Seiferling)

Mr. Jeffares introduced Mr. Nicol and Mr. Seiferling. The presentation from Mr. Nicol was on market-based instruments as a policy approach to ecosystem management. Mr. Nicol was the former chair of the Institute of Agriculture, Forestry, and the Environment (IAFE). A report was prepared on market-based instruments at the request of Premiere Stelmach. This report was submitted on March 31st, 2010 and is currently under review by the deputy ministers. Recommendations on the report will be available by September 2010. Mr.



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Seiferling, Stewardship Commissioner, provided a presentation on the conservation and stewardship strategy.

Meeting Wrap-Up

Mr. Jeffares thanked the RAC for their feedback and input which will be incorporated into the next drafts of the advice sheets. Mr. Jeffares also thanked the RAC members for participating in the two-day meeting, and noted that they are making continual progress. At the next meeting, the RAC will revisit the advice sheets, address any hot topic issues, and discuss the vision document.

Closing: 4:30 pm

Deliverables

- The RPT will take the feedback the RAC provided on each of the advice sheets and draft new versions for the next meeting in September.
- The next step in the valued landscapes modelling process will involve further revisions on the mapping classifications, as well as the design of a new map based on the revised legend.
- The RAC was encouraged to provide additional feedback on the vision document table of contents, the biodiversity advice sheet and the mapping classifications for valued landscapes.
- As a result of the extension approved by the Minister, three more RAC meetings will be held throughout the fall and winter of 2010.
- The next RAC meeting is scheduled for September 7 and 8 in Calgary.

The foregoing is considered to be a true and accurate record of all items discussed. If any discrepancies or inconsistencies are noted, please contact the writer immediately.