

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO HELD ON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014 AT 3:05 PM IN THE
RDN BOARD CHAMBERS**

In Attendance:

Director G. Holme	Chairperson
Director A. McPherson	Electoral Area A
Director M. Young	Electoral Area C
Director J. Fell	Electoral Area F
Director J. Stanhope	Electoral Area G
Director B. Veenhof	Electoral Area H

Also in Attendance:

Director H. Houle	Electoral Area B
Director D. Johnstone	City of Nanaimo
Director M. Lefebvre	City of Parksville

P. Thorkelsson	Chief Administrative Officer
J. Harrison	Director of Corporate Services
R. Alexander	Gen. Mgr. Regional & Community Utilities
G. Garbutt	Gen. Mgr. Strategic & Community Development
P. Thompson	A/Gen. Mgr. Transportation and Solid Waste
J. Holm	Mgr. Current Planning
J. Hill	Mgr. Administrative Services
C. Golding	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order.

DELEGATIONS

Mayta Ryn, re Medical Marihuana Production Facilities on ALR land.

Mayta Ryn shared her views that medical marihuana production facilities on Agriculture Land Reserve lands should be regulated to guide producers of medical marihuana to choose a site that provides the necessary services and infrastructure for the facility.

REPORTS

Ministry of Agriculture Draft Bylaw Standard Guide for Medical Marihuana Production in the ALR.

MOVED Director Stanhope, SECONDED Director Veenhof, that the Board receive this report for information.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Stanhope, SECONDED Director Holme, that staff provide correspondence to Health Canada requesting its thorough evaluation of such issues as traffic and security impacts, potential for ground and surface water contamination, wastewater discharge and aquifer impacts when considering Medical Marihuana Production Regulation applications on Agriculture Land Reserve land within the Regional District of Nanaimo.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Stanhope, SECONDED Director Veenhof, that staff respond to the Ministry of Agriculture's request for comments on draft criteria for developing local government bylaws regarding medical marihuana production in the Agriculture Land Reserve with the following requests:

- a) that the criteria provide clarity with regard to provisions available only to municipalities and those available to regional districts.
- b) that the criteria provide clarity on which provisions are only available to local governments through approved Farm Bylaws.
- c) that the "Guide for Bylaw Development in Farming Areas" provide clarity with regard to Provincial and Federal regulations that apply to medical marihuana production in the Agriculture Land Reserve.
- d) that the Ministry of Agriculture include guidance specific to the production of medical marihuana in the Ministry's 'Farm Practice Reference Guide'.

MOVED Director Fell, SECONDED Director Stanhope that the Board amend the motion to include:

- e) that the Ministry of Agriculture recognize the uniquely industrial character of medical marihuana production facilities and that regulating bylaws be allowed to include provisions to:
 - 1) Prove that there is sufficient on site water to meet the needs of the facility.
 - 2) Install a proper facility to treat waste.
 - 3) Prove that the infrastructure of roads and power is sufficient to service the site without upgrades.
 - 4) Meet standards for the zero emissions claimed in the discussion paper. At the very least, the Provincial Government should be taken up on its offer in the Discussion Paper that a similar standard to that used in on-farm mushroom composting could be developed for odours with respect to the production of medical marihuana.
 - 5) Prove that fire and police facilities are close enough to meet safety concerns.
- f) that the Province harmonize its siting regulations in accordance with Health Canada Guidelines.

The vote was taken on the main motion as amended.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Director Young, SECONDED Director Stanhope, that this meeting terminate.

CARRIED

TIME: 4:22 PM

CHAIRPERSON

CORPORATE OFFICER