

Outdoor Recreation Council of BC

Meeting of Board of Directors

5.30 PM Monday, September 12, 2016

1101 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

MINUTES

<u>Present</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Dave Wharton	Director, Chair	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director	Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society
<u>By phone</u>		
Penney Edwards	Director	BC Nature
Roxanne Rousseau	Director, Vice Chair	Sea Kayak Association of BC
Ciel Sander	Director	Trails Society of BC
Rose Schroeder	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC
<u>Absent</u>		
Penny Cartwright	Director	BC Snowmobile Federation
Kim Reeves	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Dennis Webb	Director, Past Chair	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Gordon Weetman	Director	Advisory Member, UBC Faculty of Forestry

1. Dave called the meeting to order at 5.35 PM and advised that the quorum requirement of three directors was met.

2. Approval of agenda

Motion: Moved & seconded (RS/PE). That the agenda be approved. Items 6(h) South Chilcotin, and 6(i) Proposed BC Marine Trail section of the Trans Canada Trail were added. **Agenda approved as amended.**

3. Minutes of the July 11 meeting of the Board of Directors

- a. Approval, errors & omissions:

Motion: Moved & seconded (JM/RR). That the minutes of the July 11 Board meeting be approved. **Motion carried.**

- b. Item 7(a) – Circulate invitation for ORC members to serve on the Access to Private Forest Lands subcommittee - completed – see agenda Item 6(f).

- c. Business arising from the minutes: None

4. Administration, membership and general

- a. New bylaws status/new membership categories/banking arrangements: Jeremy advised that the Corporate Registry has not yet formally acknowledged receipt of the new bylaws although it received them on July 7. Dave is now an approved signing officer for the HSBC accounts.
- b. Membership renewals: Jeremy listed member organizations which have not yet paid their dues.
- c. BC Wildlife Federation Membership:

Motion: Moved & seconded (JM/RS): That the British Columbia Wildlife Federation be accepted as a Provincial Group Member of ORC and be invoiced \$68 for membership dues for the second half of the 2016/17 Membership year.

Discussion: Jeremy met with Jim Glaicar, President, and Cheryl Johnson, Operations Manager, at the BCWF office in Surrey on July 26. The BCWF's Application for Membership was received on August 29 and it was circulated to the Board before today's meeting. Members of the Board agreed that having the BCWF, with its 100 member clubs and approximately 60,000 individual members, as a partner, could bring considerable benefits to ORC with respect to access issues, especially in the private forests. Regarding the BCWF's emphasis on conservation, comments were more mixed. All agreed that the BCWF's habitat conservation and restoration work is appropriate. Jeremy mentioned that Jim Glaicar had stated that one of the BCWF's principal objectives is to ensure that there are healthy populations of game species of fish and wildlife. Jeremy supports this commendable aim, though he himself does not support trophy hunting. In that regard he reported that Michael Audain, the successful Vancouver real estate developer, recently formed the Grizzly Bear Foundation for the protection of grizzlies in BC. Mr Audain questions whether BC has a sustainable population of grizzly bears. Though the BC Government says we do, the Foundation will be asking First Nations' communities, other BC residents and scientists what they think about grizzly populations. Penney said that, on balance, adding BCWF as a member should be good for ORC.

Motion carried.

- d. ORC Administration & Communications Assistant: A revised draft posting was circulated. Jeremy said he benefited from his wife's advice when he amended the posting because she had many years of experience hiring a variety of employees in her pre-retirement work. Rose asked what the major changes were, to which Jeremy said it had been tweaked in a number of ways so he suggested that the new version be compared with the earlier version. Dave questioned whether it is a good idea to include a question about salary expectations, to which Jeremy replied that it is a quick way to discount applicants who expect to be paid more than ORC is able to offer. Jeremy said he would post it progressively to ORC's member organizations, then perhaps on Craig's list. Penney suggested Workopolis, the Job Bank On-line and Service Canada, to which Jeremy said he did not want to get swamped with applications. Rose suggested the outdoor leadership programs at Capilano and Langara Universities. Jeremy expects to be in a position to post in early October.

5. Correspondence

- a. Aug. 24 LF Messrs. Youds, Macaulay & Nichols to Premier Clark re access to Ahousat waters off west coast of Vancouver Island. Roxanne pointed out that forging relationships and forming partnerships with First Nations represent the new future. The BC Marine Trails Network Association (BCMTNA) is already engaged in those processes. Rose suggested that this be put to the PTAB. It was also suggested that Stephanie Meinke and John Kimantas of the BCMTNA be consulted if necessary. Jeremy reminded directors that ORC appointed Nick Heath of the BCMTNA to the PTAB. Dave said that First nations charge for camping on river bars between Yale and Kanaka Creek. Rose said she was pleased to see rec sites being hosted by First Nations.

Action item: Jeremy to put the letter from Y, M & N re Ahousat territory on the agenda of the next PTAB meeting and report back after the meeting.

- b. A reply has yet to be received from Jim Standen at BC Parks to ORC's July 11 letter enclosing ORC Resolution 2016 – 06 requesting a complete list of provincial parks in which either summer or winter motorized recreation is permitted.

6. Business related to ORC's mission – Ongoing initiatives and projects

- a. 2016/2017 BC Parks Funding Campaign: Jeremy failed to register for a face-to-face presentation at one of the local meetings of the Select Standing Committee of the Legislature for Finance & Government Services because they were fully booked when he tried. He will submit a written submission only and he has not yet prepared it. It will be a follow-up to the 2015 submission which resulted in a recommendation by the Committee. Jeremy said he was pleased to see that several member organizations are also planning to either make presentations or submit written comments. Dennis reported that the Campaign has taken off on social media and there has been TV coverage on Global among other networks as well as radio interviews on CBC and CKNW. Dennis suggested that areas of BC Parks be designated as either Intensive Front Country or Wilderness. Dave said he did not appreciate having to pay four \$6 campsite reservation fees for a single booking for four nights. Jeremy agreed to circulate the ORC submission before submitting it prior to October 14.

Action item: Jeremy to circulate ORC submission on Funding for BC Parks to Board.

- b. 2016/17 BC Rivers Coalition & Campaign: Mark Angelo reports that the following have joined ORC to form the Coalition: ORC members BC Federation of Drift Fishers, BC Nature and BCWF. Non-members: Watershed Watch Salmon Society, West Coast Environmental Law, Rivershed Society of BC, Raincoast Conservation Foundation and Georgia Strait Alliance. The Coalition will be making a submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance on September 21 to advocate the formation of a Watershed Sustainability Society for BC, with objectives based on its previously published Declaration, which is posted on the ORC website.
- c. August 15 Meeting with John Hawkings & Tennessee Trent: This meeting was held at the office of Recreation Sites & Trails BC (RSTBC) in the MFLNRO building on Loggers Lane in Squamish. It replaced the regular monthly call between Jeremy and Tennessee to discuss issues relevant to the Provincial Trails Advisory Body. Part of the discussion at this meeting did concern the agenda for the PTAB face-to-face meeting scheduled for September 22. In response to ORC's request John agreed to give a presentation on RSTBC's funding. RSTBC has also been active on rail trail issues on the Boarder Country and has succeeded in reserving limited sections of the former Kettle Valley, Columbia & Western and Slocan Valley railbeds for non-motorized use. They acknowledged that it has been difficult to reserve longer sections for non-motorized use because of the determination of quad riders to have access to as much of the rail trails as possible for access to their preferred areas. Also discussed were the sudden closure of Vedder Mountain trails in the summer and the proposed removal of the bridge over the McGregor River north of McGregor.
- d. PTAB face-to-face meeting – September 22: The draft agenda was distributed to the ORC Board prior to its meeting. No comments received. Jeremy will report at the next meeting.
- e. CTF AGM & Board Meeting reports: The new Executive is as follows: Patrick Connor, Ontario Trails Council, President, Loren Winnick, Alberta TrailNet, Vice President, Linda Strong Watson, Alberta TrailNet, Secretary, Dennis Webb, ORC, Treasurer. John Cushing, Individual Member, Past President. Under amendments to the CTF bylaws passed at the 2016 AGM, Dennis was able to delegate the duties of managing accounts to Jeremy to maintain banking continuity. Linda Strong Watson also delegated the duties of recording secretary to Jeremy for a similar reason. Jeremy reported that Patrick Connor has hit the ground running and has already had

meetings of the Executive Committee and reached out to prospective new member organizations as well as existing members.

- f. Outdoor recreation access to private forest lands sub-committee: With Kim Reeves absent this item was deferred to the next meeting. Jeremy reported that a number of individuals from the ORC membership have agreed to serve on this sub-committee and are eager to get going. The first meeting will likely be in October.
- g. Confirm representation on MaPP by Nick Heath and Peter Stockdill: Confirmed by an e-mail decision. No further action required.
- h. South Chilcotin: Rose reported that Back Country Horsemen of BC met with Tony Barrett who has been hired by BC Parks to produce a concept plan for the South Chilcotin Mountains Provincial Park. It will form part of the overall Management Plan for the park and one of the areas discussed was the future development of facilities. Rose asked if other groups were being consulted. No-one was aware of any.
- i. Proposed BC Marine Trail section of the Trans Canada Trail: Covered by discussion of letter in Item 5(a).

7. Business related to ORC's mission – Emerging issues

- a. Proposed demolition of McGregor River Bridge: This issue was introduced by Penny Cartwright. It appears at first sight to be an unnecessary demolition if the bridge can be reserved for recreational traffic after the logging road is deactivated. Not discussed due to Penny's absence from meeting. Jeremy advised that it will be discussed at the PTAB meeting on September 22.
- b. Access to Boat Harbour: Several individuals have asked if ORC can provide assistance with this issue which involves the closing of trails in the Cedar area south of Nanaimo by a developer. These trails have been used by the public for recreation and access to the waterfront for many years,. So far there appears to be no progress on any front, including the Regional District of Nanaimo which does not appear to be interested. Jeremy said ORC has no solutions at present.
- c. 2017 Share the Trails Workshop: Jeremy has had a preliminary discussion with Nancy Spratt at Horse Council of BC and they have agreed to work together on it. Proposed timing would be in May, as for 2016. Penticton is being considered as a possible location to facilitate attendance by members in the Interior. The proposed theme would be something like "*Not everyone on every trail*". Rose suggested an earlier quote from John Hawkins "*A trail for everyone but not everyone on every trail*" as it would come across as being more positive. All agreed that this would make a great theme.
- d. Reprint of Trail user's Code of Ethics: Deferred.
- e. Completion of Policy Manual: Deferred

8. Upcoming events & meetings:

- a. Next meeting of the PTAB: Thursday September 22.
- b. Living Waters Rally: September 28 to 30, Vancouver.
- c. Next Board meeting: 5.45 PM Monday October 3 to follow the Outdoor Recreation Foundation AGM.
- d. Washington State Trail Conference: October 13 – 15, Richland (Tri-Cities area).

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.22 PM.

As approved
Oct. 3/16
jm

APPENDIX TO SEPTEMBER 12 BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Agenda Item 6(f) - Access to Private Lands Sub-committee

Terms of Reference

At its regular monthly meeting on April 4, 2016, the Outdoor Recreation Council's Executive Board of Directors decided that a sub-committee should be formed for the purpose of improving access to and through private forest lands. It was intended that this subcommittee develop recommendations based on suggestions contained in the report by the University of Victoria's Environmental Law Clinic entitled "*Enhancing Public Access to Privately Owned Wild Lands*" (the ELC Report). Kim Reeves agreed to chair the sub-committee.

The following terms of reference are proposed for this subcommittee:

1. Recruit sufficient members from the Board of Directors and ORC's member organizations having an interest in this issue to form an effective sub-committee.
2. Schedule conference calls for the sub-committee at appropriate intervals to inform the members of the sub-committee about the issue and develop possible solutions.
3. Review the ELC Report.
4. Review Section 3 of the ELC Report concerning Access Regimes in Other Jurisdictions.
5. Review the provisions of the Private Forests Managed Lands Act.
6. Review the website of the Private Managed Forest Lands Council at <http://mfcouncil.ca/>
7. If appropriate meet with the chair of the Managed Forest Council (Phil O'Connor - 250 - 386-5737)
8. Select two or three of the Access Regimes described in Section 3 of the ELC Report for further consideration as possible models for application in BC. These might require either legislation or coordinated advocacy with the BC Government or the owners of private Lands.