



Dawson Regional Planning Commission

On The Land We Walk Together • Nän kāk ndä tr'ädäl

December 15, 2020

Dawson Regional Planning Commission Commission Meeting #7 Minutes Zoom Videoconference

| In Attendance | | | |
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| <p>DRPC</p> <p>Debbie Nagano – Chair Alice McCulley - Member Angie Joseph-Rear - Absent Dan Reynolds – Member John Flynn – Member</p> | <p>DRPC Staff</p> <p>Tim Van Hinte - Senior Land Use Planner Katie Fraser – Land Use Planner Nicole Percival – Land Use Planner</p> <p>Technical Working Group (TWG)</p> <p>Natasha Ayoub – TH Lee Whalen – TH Larissa Lychenko – YG EMR</p> | <p>Delegate/Guests:</p> <p>John Glynn Morris – Facilitator Brooke Rudolph – KPMA Jennie Gjertson– Newmont Megan Hornseth – YG Warrick Bullen – YG Jeff Bond – YG Krysti Horton – YG Kay Linley - TH</p> | <p>Public / Audience:</p> <p>*No in-person public attendance in person due to COVID 19 restrictions. Online public participation through Zoom Webinar and radio broadcast.</p> |

Acronyms:
 TWG – Technical Working Group
 SLC – Senior Liaison Committee
 YG – Yukon Government
 EMR – Energy, Mines and Resources
 ENV – Environment & Parks

First Nations:
 FNNND – First Nation of Na- Cho Nyäk Dun
 TH – Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
 VGFN – Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

Planning:
 DRPC – Dawson Regional Planning Commission
 CLUPP – Common Land Use Planning Process
 THFA - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement

Action Items: Status indicated is as of next meeting date

Meeting called to order at 9:30

| Agenda Item 1: Review Agenda (Tab 1) | Action Items |
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| Comments | |
| <p><u>Pre-Meeting Logistical Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator acknowledged the limitations that will be inherent in the zoom format of the meeting and thanks to the Commission for being flexible • Quorum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One Commission member is not able to make the meeting due to an appointment in Whitehorse. ○ Senior Planner received approval of the agenda and previous meeting minutes from the member this morning prior to the meeting. ○ The Commission accepts John Flynn's vote via proxy to commence the meeting. ○ John Flynn called into the meeting later in the morning to ensure quorum was met for the financial and administration items on the agenda. • Another Commission member is absent due to sickness • There was brief discussion about the Draft Plan timeline and frequency of meetings. The Commission will resume this discussion after this meeting. Senior Planner to keep Commission updated regarding any revisions to the timeline. <p><u>Opening Prayer – Tim Van Hinte</u></p> <p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator welcomed Commission members, staff and public to the meeting and outlined his role as a contracted facilitator. • This meeting is being held via Zoom Webinar due to recently reported COVID 19 cases in the territory. Members of the public were welcomed online and via radio broadcast on local radio station CYFT 106.9. <p><u>Agenda Review</u></p> <p>Motion #1: To accept Commission Meeting #7 agenda with no amendments.</p> <p>Moved Debbie Nagano 2nd Dan Reynolds - Passed by consensus (John Flynn approved meeting agenda via proxy before meeting commenced)</p> | |

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| Agenda Item 2: Minutes and Review of Commission Action Items (Tab 2) | Action Items |
| Comments | |
| <p><u>Minutes Commission Meeting #6 October 7 2020</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission had no amendments to the minutes. <p>Motion #2: To approve the minutes of Commission Meeting #6 October 6, 2020</p> <p>Moved Dan Reynolds 2nd Debbie Nagano- Passed by consensus (John Flynn approved meeting agenda via proxy before meeting commenced)</p> <p><u>Review of DRPC Action Items</u></p> <p>Senior Planner reviewed the DRPC action item list and the Commission did not require any revisions.</p> | |
| Agenda Item 3: Delegations | Action Items |
| Comments | |
| <p>Facilitator welcomed the delegates making presentations at the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Klondike Placer Miners' Association – Brooke Rudolph, Executive Director (Agenda Item 7.0) • Newmont Coffee – Jennie Gjertson, Manager, Sustainability and External Relations (Agenda Item 8.0) | |
| Agenda Item 4: Report from the Senior Planner and Chair (Tab 3) | Action Items |
| Comments | |
| <p><u>Report from Chair</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair addressed the recent media coverage on interim land withdrawals and the Parties' conservation priorities submissions. | |

- The Parties' conservation priority assessment submissions will be kept confidential until the draft plan is released to the public **as per the Parties' request.**
- Chair reiterated that interim land withdrawals are not made at the discretion of the Commission. The Commission is aware of the recent media coverage on this topic and is working towards submitting Module 1 of the Draft Plan (conservation land management units) for the Parties to consider in their negotiations regarding interim land withdrawals.

Senior Planner's Report

- Senior Planner updated the Commission on what staff have been working on since the last Commission Meeting. The report is available on the DRPC website.
- Highlights from report
 - Interim report was submitted for 2020-2021 to the Parties. The report is required under the financial agreement between the Commission and the Parties.
 - Public engagement and communications work included continued engagement through Facebook, website and email; Yukon Geoscience Forum presentation; and meeting with plan partners including TH land stewardship staff, Chamber of Mines, KPMA, Klondike Farmers Forum; and Cumulative Effects (CE) Working Group.
- Planning products – staff is still working on the CE report and Draft Plan development is ongoing. Staff is predominantly working through the conservation priority information that was received at the last Commission meeting from the Parties
- Senior Planner clarified the role of the Commission and regarding interim land withdrawals in the region:
 - It is not the responsibility of the Commission to implement any potential interim land withdrawals in the planning region. However, the Commission is submitting work on candidate conservation areas (Module 1 January/February) to assist the Parties in their discussions on interim land withdrawals.
- Commission had no comments on the report.

| Agenda Item 5: Correspondence and Relevant Media (Tab 4) | Action Items |
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| Comments | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Planner gave overview of correspondence and media received since the last meeting. • This was a very active period for media due in part to the Yukon Water Board hearing on wetland and placer mining, and the issue of potential interim land withdrawals. • Senior Planner highlighted the submission by the Yukon Salmon Subcommittee to the Commission and thanked the subcommittee for their thoughtful comments for consideration in the Draft Plan. | |
| Agenda Item 6: Finance and Administration (Tab 5) | Action Items |
| Comments | |
| <p>** John Flynn (4th member) joined the call for quorum to pass financial items**</p> <p><u>Financial Statements September 2020</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Planner reported financials to Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Balance sheet – About \$100,000 in accounts payable to be transferred from DRPC to YLUPC including items such as staff salaries, and other listed expenses. ○ Budget Items – DRPC is roughly 15% under budget as of end of September. ○ Commission member asked a question regarding “current liabilities - wages payable” line item. Senior Planner informed Commission that he would get full answer from YLUPC Senior Financial Administrator and report back. <p><u>DRPC Draft Preliminary Work Plan and Budget 2021-2022 (attachment)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Planner presented the draft work plan as written in November. The work plan was created assuming that the Commission would submit the Draft Plan in two parts (called Modules). The submission of Module #1 in January will include candidate areas the Commission would like to put forward for conservation to the Parties (in confidence). Module #2 will include the balance of the Draft Plan in spring 2021. | <p>Action Item: Senior Planner to confirm ‘current liabilities’ line from Financial Statement with YLUPC Senior Financial Administrator and report back.</p> <p>Action Item: Move decision about the appointment of Auditor for 2020-2021 Financial Audit to Commission Meeting #8 in January 2021.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Draft Plan public engagement process would take place between April and June 2021. • The Recommended Plan would be submitted to the Parties for consideration by the end of 2021. • Senior Planner highlighted the risk assessment and management section. Risks in the work plan include the ongoing implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, potential areas of major concern in the Draft Plan once reviewed, Parties ability to provide comments on the Draft Plan in a timely manner, seasonal constraints, and Commission availability for meetings. • Commission member asked if the proposed meeting schedule is flexible. Senior Planner stated that there is flexibility. <p>Motion: To approve the Draft Preliminary Work Plan and Budget 2020-2021 for submission to Parties.</p> <p>Moved: Dan Reynolds 2nd Alice McCulley: - Passed by Consensus (John Flynn on phone for Quorum)</p> <p>**4th Commission member left the meeting. Meeting quorum not achieved for remainder of the meeting. **</p> <p><u>Appointment of Auditor 2020-2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item moved to next Commission Meeting due to lack of quorum. | |
| <p>Agenda Item 7: Klondike Placer Miners’ Association Presentation</p> | <p>Action Items</p> |
| <p>Comments</p> | |
| <p><u>Klondike Placer Miners’ Association – Brooke Rudolph</u> Presentation – 2020 Field Season Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rudolph presented several highlights of the KPMA’s 2020 field season including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Economic reporting of placer mining in the Yukon; and ○ An initiative for industry-led KPMA education and compliance program. | <p>Action Item – Staff to distribute copy of KPMA and Newmont presentations to Commission.</p> |

| Agenda Item 8: Newmont Coffee Project Presentation | Action Items |
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| Comments | |
| <p><u>Newmont Coffee Project – Jennie Gjertson</u> Presentation – Newmont Coffee Project and Northern Access Route: Mitigations and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Gjertson presented an update on the project to the Commission and highlighted the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Coffee Project is in the advanced exploration phase; ○ Project currently under review by YESAB ; ○ Northern Access Route (NAR) is a part of the project (see map for route); ○ The NAR is proposed as an all-season, single lane road (5m), 214km in length (80% already exists). It would include pull-outs, two river crossings (barge and ice bridges) and approximately 5-10 loads per day of expected traffic. | <p>Action – Request permission to post KPMA and Newmont presentations on DRPC website.</p> |
| Agenda Item 9: New Business | Action Items |
| Comments | |
| <p>9.1 <u>Draft Plan Development Approach</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Planner shared a new graphic on the DRPC timeline and provided a high level overview of the planning process (Draft plan (DP) → Recommended Plan → Final Recommended Plan). • Senior Planner also presented on the Draft Plan methodology and process. Techniques that the Commission and staff have been using include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spatial overlay analysis (land use activities, landscape simulation modelling using ALCES software to ask “what could the future look like?”) ○ Engagement with Technical Experts (individuals, Parties, interest groups, and Commission members) ○ Options and scenarios – It should be expected that the Draft Plan will have options included to be considered by the Parties and the public. The Draft Plan is an opportunity to share, debate, discuss and consider different options and ways to resolve issues. | <p>Action – Post Senior Planner’s presentation on DRPC website</p> <p>Action – Request copy of presentation from Megan Hornseth (YG)</p> <p>Action – Review of adaptive management and implementation for the Commission and the public at a future meeting</p> |

- Chair appreciated the flexibility in the process that was presented.

9.2 Cumulative Effects Management Approach Update

- Commission received a presentation from Warrick Bullen (YGS), Megan Hornseth (YG ENV), and Jeff Bond (YGS) on cumulative effects and land use scenarios. Key points included:
 - Moose and caribou are being considered in this presentation due to their social and cultural importance in the region.
 - Interesting research is happening in the Coffee Gold area regarding revegetation at mine sites. New reclamation techniques include the potential for lichen transplants.
 - The information presented is related to only one CE product and note that the Commission will be considering CE on other values in the region too.
 - **Quartz mining:** Four different time period scenarios are being considered (0-5, 5-10, 10-20, 20-30 year periods) to assess low to high growth scenarios for quartz mining in the region.
 - **Placer mining:** Scenarios considered small, med, large operations and potential future placer development in the next 10-20 years.
- The Chair asked how long CE monitoring will take place? If something is becoming problematic how will that be communicated and addressed? (*see action item*)
- Commission member asked a question regarding potential placer mining areas:
 - Question: Did they incorporate the NAR and what effects that might have along the route? Answer: Yes, there are a lot of claims that are along that route already that have been considered.
 - Question: Were roads taken into consideration for some of the areas of potential? Answer: In this model no, access was not incorporated into it. It was based on existing streams and access to areas.
 - In ALCES software, the program can hypothetically build roads to see what the effect will be on the identified values.
- Commission likes the use of ALCES as a tool for setting thresholds on land activities.
- CE working group is available to the Commission at any time to speak to the work that they have done.

9.3 Questions from Public

Transparency

- Senior Planner addressed the issue of transparency in the planning process. It is not uncommon in a public planning process to keep some input confidential until such a time that draft documents are released.
- Krysti Horton (YG EMR) concurred with this response regarding transparency and confidentiality.
- Kay Linley (TH) agreed that it is not ideal with regards to the timing of interim land withdrawal discussions. She reiterated that TH would have liked this matter to be resolved prior to the commencement of the planning process. This would have enabled more transparency at this stage in the process.

Next Commission Meeting Date

- Tentative next meeting date the week of January 25th.

Adjournment

Action Items

Comments

Motion: To adjourn regular Commission Meeting #7.

Moved Debbie Nagano 2nd Alice McCulley Passed by Consensus

Approval at Regular Board Meeting #08 – 20\21 (January 25, 2021)

By Motion #2 at Regular Board Meeting #08 – 20/21

Chair

DRPC Secretariat

Jan 25 2021
Date