

NWDSN and Board Meeting

**December 13th 2005, 9:30-12noon
Caribou Room, 3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers**

Attendees

Don Morgan Don.Morgan@gems7.gov.bc.ca Yes
Francois Depey francois@wetsuweten.com No
Jim McCormack JMcCormack@mail.canfor.ca Yes
Ruth Edwards Ruth.Edwards@gov.bc.ca Yes (Chair and Recorder)
Scott Emmons emmons@unbc.ca Yes
Jaret Van der Giessen jaret.van.der.giessen@westfraser.com No
Glen Buhr glen.buhr@gems3.gov.bc.ca Yes
Tim Penninga Tim.Penninga@westfraser.com Yes
Tom Olafson Tom.Olafson@westfraser.com No
Agathe Bernard agathe.bernard@gov.bc.ca No
Andy Muma. Andy.muma@gov.bc.ca No

AGENDA

1 Agenda Review

- 1) Review and confirm agenda
- 2) Review action items from August meeting –Board
- 3) Financial update - Ruth
- 4) Project status – IFPA - Jim
- 5) FIA submission - Ruth
- 6) MSRM to ILMB reorg - Ruth
- 6) Using ILMB IMF license for common look and feel – Ruth
- 8) Follow up on presentation to Skeena Region (interagency) manager’s committee in September
- 9) Next year’s direction for NWDSN –Board
- 10) Next meeting and adjournment

1) The agenda was reviewed and accepted

2) Review of Action Items from August Board Meeting

a) See Action items attached. Not many outstanding items so little time spent on this. Wet’suwet’en membership on hold due to internal political changes. Tim and Glen still are working on SOP for external access to NWDSN.

3) Financial Statement to December 6, 2005 – Ruth

Finances as of December 6, 2005. \$11,458. The Board needs to decide what to do with this money. We need to look for best value for the membership. We do not need to worry about March 31 deadline.

4) Project status IFPA – Jim

End product of project is taking NWDSN roads/cut blocks to semi automate reporting for the monitoring area. IFPA is not ready to go to request for proposal yet. Jim Burbee has discussed with Steve Quinn of PWC. Project is now split into multi year, \$35,000/\$15,000, with SOP before March 31 and programming after March 31.

Action: Don to send a select list of qualified contractors to Jim McCormack that may be interested in this work.

NRFLs are not in this process. Tim concerned that NWDSN needs to support initiatives for up to data proposed blocks for NRFLs. The issue is the need to meet old seral targets in multi licensees units. Agathe made a commitment to look after incorporating NRFLs for the NWDSN. (see extract from e-mail)

You may want to report to report that we have started with the "Best Available Data" project for the Morice. Also, following some concerns raised over the last few months, I have begun drafting a letter outlining how spatial information for NRFL holders might flow to the DSN and vice versa. I am hoping to have that drafted by the end of week. Once drafted, I am planning on forwarding to the Board for review and approval.

Please call if you have any questions,

Agathe

Concern from Tim that aggregated block data for PIR was supplied to UNBC in June but it is not showing up on the NWDSN map viewer. The data is there it is just not showing up through the viewer

Action: Scott to fix map viewer for NWDSN.

Action: Technical Committee to develop QA process for next year's submission, using last year's submission to test. Ensure that there is appropriate metadata (add disclaimer).

5) FIA funding submission – Ruth

- FIA informed MoF (and therefore ILMB) that there would be one time uplift in FIA funding next fiscal. Several submissions for data management were developed in a hurry in early December. Ruth put forward a \$100,000 submission for NWDSN.
- The final submission that went from the Bureau to MoF was a consolidated single project for all Shared Data Warehouse Management initiatives in ILMB at \$800,000, with a separate line item for Kootenay and NWDSN partnerships at \$110,000 in total. This was under the Land based program.
- How this will fare with the FIA board is yet to be determined, but may provide valuable funding for next year. It also shows commitment from government to the NWDSN.

6) MSRM – to ILMB reorganization – Ruth

Rough presentation on the structure of the Integrated Land Management Bureau and its priorities: (see Appendix 1)

Outcome is that Ruth is not the local manager for Land Information at least until the end of June 2006 and probably for the next year and will not be able to continue as the ILMB board member for the NWDSN.

There is going to be a temporary appointment to Ruth's job and that person will be the board member for ILMB.

7) Using ILMB IMF license for common look and feel – Ruth

There was the opportunity offered to use an ILMB owned IMF license in order to make the NWDSN front end more compatible with other networks, like Kootenay and the LRDW.

Agreement that unless the IMF license comes free we should move to an open source viewer

Action: Ruth to follow up with Evert Kenk and ask if the IMF license is likely to be provided free to the NWDSN on a permanent basis

8) Follow up on presentation to Skeena Manager's meeting.

Positive feedback from MoF and ILMB planners the agencies with most interest. MoE (Hugh Markides) saw the need especially around best available. Opens up the opportunity to get MoE to be a member. Also likely to keep NWDSN as a strategic priority that needs the local LIM staff support.

Action: Ruth to complete contact with MoE.

9) Next year's direction for NWDSN

Questions to the board: Do we need a mid course correction on what we are doing with the NWDSN? Are we meeting the "Ends" of the NWDSN as stated in our policy? Will the LRDW provide all members with better service? We need to be providing the best value for our membership.

Questions arose post the Bulkley best available data meeting. Concerns were brought up by Kevin Eskelin. Government data is getting to the point of being accessible and useful, but still does not provide all local needs.

LRDW will never have proposed roads and blocks in the FSP world as there is no requirement to submit. F10 layer has no internal line work, just the boundary. This is a big issue for big blocks. The submission date for blocks is the same as FTA. Roads are the same as "As Built" Requirement.

Action (Long term): Tech committee - NWDSN needs to re-look at schema once all members are transitioned to the FSP world.

Action item: All Licensee Board Members. Members to determine if their organizations are prepared to post ‘declared areas’ to NWDSN and report back in February. We need to decide what “posting declared areas” looks like? This information becomes more important through time as we move away from the FDP towards the FSP world. It may not be worth doing if all members are not prepared to do this.

Lots of discussion based on forgoing items and financial status on what to do with our available funds

Conclusion: NWDSN needs a full time person similar to Pete Lewis in Nelson who does the work around meeting with committees and individuals to define best available data and then actually organizes data and meta data and posts it. This is work that needs to happen every year.

Best use of money would be to hire a contractor to:

- Take the Best Available lists
- Take corporate data as is it is
- Take non- corporate data and look at it
- Call meeting with committees, review multiple copies, decide on what to use
- Add metadata, post to NWDSN
- Create matrix similar to Kootenay.

What kind of contractor? – Need to be people management and highly organized data management skills. Hard mix to find locally. Several contractors discussed.

Action: Don to develop possible list of contractors and prepare and develop an ITQ for work.

Action: Technical Committee to try and meet late January with contractor.

10) Next meeting scheduled for February 14th in Burns Lake if possible.

Action: Ruth to contact Agathe and Andy Muma re room availability in Burns Lake February 14th.-

Appendix 1 Agenda Item 6

MSRM – to ILMB reorganization – Ruth

Rough whiteboard presentation on the structure of the Integrated Land Management Bureau and its priorities: (see Appendix 1)

- MSRM as a ministry no longer exists. Land Info BC no longer exists
- ILMB is part of the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands. Larry Pedersen is the Deputy of Ag and Lands. ILMB has its own Associate Deputy, Mike Lambert. The attached site has the service plan for ILMB

www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/sp/al/BureauOverviewandCoreBusinessAreas8.htm

- Ruth and the Land information Management (GIS) staff in Smithers are now part of the “Regional Client Services Division” of ILMB which includes crown land tenuring, land information, Front Counter BC and strategic land use planning.
- The first three areas fall under one manager (Elizabeth Zweck) Strategic Land use planning is under Eamon O’Donoghue. Eamon looks after all the SRMP work and the Morice LRMP.
- Elizabeth and Eamon report to the Regional Executive Director, Jim McGregor, in Prince George, who reports to the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), Dave Byng in Victoria.
- All the baseline inventory staff (VRI, etc.) returned to MoF or Environment.
- The rest of the Land Information BC staff who remain in Victoria are part of the “Corporate Resources Information Management Division”, who report to an entirely different ADM, but still to Mike Lambert!
- This organization structure presents a bit of a challenge. The LIM group in Smithers is now 3 layers of management away from the rest of the folk who look after Land Information corporately for government (LRDW, TRIM, orthos, IMAP, The integrated registry etc.). However we are maintaining our working structures to try and keep everything afloat.
- The key priority for Elizabeth Zweck and ILMB regionally is “Front Counter BC” (www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca) which is serving non-major industrial tenure holders and the general public.

“In the past, clients of B.C. natural resource ministries and agencies often had to go from agency to agency to obtain their necessary authorizations.

The new Front Counter BC centre simplifies the process for small-to-medium-sized natural resource businesses operating or starting up in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District.

The Kamloops centre is the first in a series to be opened throughout B.C.”

The priorities for LIM locally are therefore:

- Supporting Front Counter BC (mostly organizing government local data and data discovery)
- Supporting the work of ILMB (mostly land use planning GIS and organizing local, government data)
- Supporting the work approved by the Skeena Regional (inter agency) Manager’s Committee as a priority for all agencies
- Supporting the work of other agencies like MoE, MoF, Ag and lands – Mostly by helping them with data discovery and self service tools.
- It is expected that MoE will develop its own GIS capacity over the next year and MoF will continue on its drive to self sufficiency in GIS.