



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BURNS LAKE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON Tuesday, September 07, 2021 AT 5:00 PM**

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**PRESENT**

Mayor D. Funk  
Councillor K. White  
Councillor H. Wiebe  
Councillor K. Bjarnason  
Councillor C. Rensby  
CAO S. Worthing  
Director of Public Works, D. Ross  
Deputy Corporate Officer V. Anderson

**GUESTS**

Lisa Krebs, MA, MCIP, RPP - *Permitting Engagement*  
Barry Chilibeck MASc, PEng (BC, YK) - *Principal of NHC - Engineer of Record for Endako Weir and Erosion Report*  
Warren Grafton, P.Geo, Hydrogeologist - *Waste Water interface with Lake Water -*

**PUBLIC**

1 – member of the public

**MEDIA**

Eddie Huband – Lakes District News

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor D. Funk called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

*“On behalf of Council, I would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the area’s Six First Nations.”*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-09-07: 288**

**THAT the agenda for September 7, 2021, Special Meeting (5:00 pm) be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**MAYOR, COUNCILLOR, CAO REPORTS – None**

## REPORTS

### Proposed Endako Weir Project – Preliminary Review of Potential Effect on Shallow Groundwater and Village of Burns Lake Sanitary Infrastructure

- *Lisa Krebs, MA, MCIP, RPP - Permitting Engagement*
- *Barry Chilibeck MASc, PEng (BC, YK) - Principal of NHC - Engineer of Record for Endako Weir and Erosion Report*
- *Warren Grafton, P.Geo, Hydrogeologist - Waste Water interface with Lake Water*
- Follow up from the May 27 meeting with council.
- Team introduction.
- Warren Grafton is a hydrogeologist based in Prince George.
- Barry Chilibeck has been working with UFFCA, he looked at shoreline erosion on Burns Lake
- Low flows have impacted the Endako Chinook population.
- The weir project began in the 1990s
- The weir is passive, it is not built of valves and gates; that way, it can be changed if required.
- The proposed location is located adjacent to IR 19.
- Discussion of increased levels effect on sanitary sewage systems
- Discussion of shallow groundwater during high water levels.
- The data sets were limited, and the data from the decommission Highways site were used.
- The wells on Gerow Island are drawing from a deep aquifer.
- They will need to determine whether the lake level change will affect the shallow aquifer and go into the wastewater system?
- Wastewater flows at approximately 750 M3 per day.
- An increase in lake levels will increase wastewater flows by 1/3, this is a rough estimate.
- During freshet, the wastewater system operates at 2,500 litres per day
- Without hard data, it is hard to determine the effect on the wastewater system
- Recommending long-term pre-weir monitoring and are seeking permission to use several abandoned wells to secure hard data.
- Infiltration is poorly understood, could be one problem area for the project.
- Presented a graph of treated outflow; the blue line in the graph shows lake levels.
- They don't understand where the infiltration is entering from.
- Lake levels go up, so do the waste treatment levels.
- In shallow groundwater wells near the bridge and Pioneer Way, the wells fluctuate along with lake fluctuations.
- Storm drains and septic lines are underneath the water levels; leakage means additional water enters the system.
- Erosion risk assessment was undertaken for UFFCA.
- Many factors affect the shoreline of lakes and is a natural occurrence.

- Shoreline erosion can be modified, and effects can be detrimental
- Understanding Burns Lake’s shoreline and the wind-wave dynamic is essential.
- Winds run along the valley in NW and SE directions.
- Vessel traffic is a known factor in shoreline erosion.
- Clearing vegetation increases erosion and changes the natural boundary. The transition is the area from the beach to natural vegetation.
- By increasing the lake level, it will shift the natural boundary.
- When everything is combined, a shoreline hazards scenario can be depicted.
- The hazards were shown from low to high in various locations along the Burns Lake-Decker Lake shoreline.
- Did not discover significant amounts of shoreline erosion.
- The shift in the water levels won’t be dramatic because the change will occur during naturally occurring lake fluctuations.
- There are a number of things that could be discovered in a deep dive of the shoreline.
- A number of recommendations have been given to UFFCA regarding erosion.
- Data is lacking, and more work needs to be done in this area.
- There are lots of ways to stabilize shorelines. A Shoreline Management Plan is key for reducing shoreline erosion.
- In July, community engagement sessions were held in Burns Lake.
- DFO requires an authorization process.
- No construction will occur in 2021.
- UFFCA will go to the funders to seek the realignment of construction dollars to include monitoring.
- Property owners made up 54% of the respondents to the survey.
- People are concerned about erosion and the potential impact on septic systems, especially in low-lying areas on Gerow Island.
- The weir cannot be constructed without DFO authorization.
- Recommending a lakeshore management plan to fill data gaps.
- Wake boats were identified in the survey as a concern.
- Concerns over the cost to the Village should money need to improve infrastructure.
- It was suggested by the presenter that the increased costs to improve infrastructure could be covered through grants.

The mayor thanked the Endako Weir Project representatives for the presentation.

**BUSINESS ARISING** None

**ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS – ACTION** - None

**ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS – RECEIVED AND FILED** - None

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** None

**READING FILES** None

**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD** None

**RELEASE OF CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTION - None**


**ADJOURN**

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-09-07: 289**

**THAT the meeting be adjourned at 5:40 pm**

**CARRIED**



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER

Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council for the Corporation of the Village of Burns Lake held on Tuesday, September 07, 2021.