



**CARIBOO REGIONAL DISTRICT  
ESLER RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION  
Esler Sports Complex – Slo-Pitch Diamonds**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday – May 12, 2022, 5:00 pm**

**Attending:** Darron Campbell (CRD staff), Angie Delainey (Area E Director), Linda Barbondy (WL Slo-Pitch), Brian Hansen (WL Soccer), Nick Surette (WL Minor Ball), Bruce Newbery (Esler Community Association), Judy Newbery (Esler Community Association), and Pierre Mayette (Esler Community Association).

5:00 pm      **Director Angie Delainey (commission chair)**

Items for discussion

1. Introductions and registration updates

The groups reported the following registration numbers for 2022:

- Slo-Pitch has 30 teams with approximately 800 participants.
- Soccer has approximately 700 participating youth as well as 60 women and 50 men in the adult leagues.
- Minor Fastball participants are up to 135.
- **Action item:** that as a condition of receiving field maintenance funding, all three groups supply an annual activities report similar to the one produced by the soccer associations for 2021 and that the reports be presented to the Central Cariboo Joint Committee each fall.

2. Minutes from May 27, 2021 ERAC meeting

- The minutes from the May 27, 2021 were reviewed.

3. Reports on 2021 capital projects (User Groups/CRD staff)

- Slo-Pitch: Completed re-finishing of the infields.
- Soccer: Completed the mower and well pump purchase.
- Minor Fastball: Completed storage security upgrades.

4. 2022 projects proposed and funding available (User Groups/CRD staff)

2022 planned capital projects:

- Slo-Pitch: parking lot improvements and danger tree removal along outfield fence lines.
- Soccer: install fencing and purchase line painting equipment
- Minor Fastball: purchase topsoil to dress fields.

CRD staff advised that \$5,000 to each group for capital projects are available in the Central Cariboo Recreation and Leisure Services (CCRLS) budget and business plan for 2022.

## Res A

“That the proposed 2022 capital projects for Williams Lake Slo-Pitch League, Williams Lake Soccer Associations, and Williams Lake Minor Fastball be approved, including: the Slo-Pitch League will complete parking lot improvements and danger tree removal along outfield fence lines, the Williams Lake Soccer Associations will install fencing and purchase line painting equipment and the Williams Lake Minor Fastball will purchase topsoil for field dressing. And further that \$5,000 to each group for the capital projects be approved as allocated in the Central Cariboo Recreation and Leisure Services (CCRLS) budget and business plan for 2022.”

**By Consensus**

### 5. 2022 business plan goal (CRD staff)

- CRD staff updated the Commission on the 2022 goal to build a wheelchair accessible trail at the sports complex, including potential location and other amenities included.
- The groups discussed the irrigation system projects specifically allocated in the CCRLS capital plan for 2022.
- **Action Item:** that the occupancy licences be reviewed for appropriate language regarding the soccer and minor fastball caretaker residences.

### 6. 2023 business plan goal (CRD staff)

- CRD staff updated the Commission on the 2024 goal to build a new access road to the sports complex, including successful completion of the required land tenure and the licence to cut and remove timber currently in-progress. Timber removal is expected to occur this summer to take advantage of current high log sale prices.
- Staff also advised that a large infrastructure grant program is currently available and the Regional District plans to submit an application for this project.

## Res B

“That an application to the UBCM Strategic Priorities Fund grant program for up to \$5,000,000 in funding to support construction of the access road into the Esler Sports Complex and improved onsite parking be submitted. Further, that the appropriate signatories be authorized to enter into the necessary contribution agreement should the grant application be successful.”

### 7. Disc golf course proposal

- The Cariboo Disc Golf Club’s course proposal was received and discussed including project timing and trail locations with tree removal and buffers.

## Res C

“That a five-year Use and Occupancy Agreement be entered into with the Cariboo Disc Golf Club to develop and maintain a public course at the north end

of the Esler Sports Complex. Further, that the appropriate signatories be authorized to enter into the agreement and that the Slo-Pitch Use and Occupancy Agreement be amended to remove the overlapping area so it can be made available for the disc golf club.”

8. 2021 Water Report review (CRD staff)

The overall annual water use at the complex can be a maximum of 2.5 million USG. The annual allocations for each user group are as follows:

- Soccer: 2,000,000 US Gallons
- Minor Fastball: 150,000 US Gallons
- Slo-Pitch: 350,000 US Gallons

According to the Water Report, the following amounts were used in 2021:

- Soccer: 748,740 US Gallons
- Minor Fastball: 90,400 US Gallons
- Slo-Pitch: 159,640 US Gallons

Groups will continue to report water use and static well levels every two weeks throughout the irrigation season and static well levels monthly in the winter. Current water allocations should remain fine and field improvements continue to aid in water retention.

10. ERAC appointments (User Groups)

**Res D**

“That the advisory commission members for 2022 be appointed as follows: Linda Barbondy for the WL Slo-Pitch League, Brian Hansen for the WL Soccer Associations, Nick Surette for WL Minor Fastball, and Bruce Newbery and Pierre Mayette for the Esler Community Association. And further that the Esler Recreation Advisory Commission establishment bylaw be amended to include an appointed representative from the Cariboo Disc Golf Club.”

**By Consensus**

12. Next meeting (*as required, planned for spring 2023*)

Adj. 6:15 pm