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**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREAS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2020**

SUBJECT: District of Highlands Sheep Kill Compensation Claim – Munn Road

BACKGROUND

On July 4, 2020, Capital Regional District (CRD) Bylaw and Animal Control were contacted by John Buchanan to report that there had been a sheep kill at 3523 Munn Road in the Highlands, this property is leased by the owners of the Parry Bay Sheep Farm. A CRD Bylaw Officer investigated and was provided photos of one deceased ewe and a statement from an employee on the property. The employee witnessed two females looking for a lost dog on the property and was led to the deceased sheep, the dog was not found and the worker did not obtain any details from the females. The injuries were clearly inflicted by a dog. The owner had taken all reasonable precautions to prevent an attack. After a thorough investigation and attempt to locate the dog responsible, it cannot be determined who the owner was of the dog that was responsible for the attack.

CRD Bylaw No. 1465, sections 19-23 (Appendix A), has provisions to pay compensation to the owner of livestock killed or injured by any dog up to 75% of the decrease in market value to a maximum of \$750 per animal. This bylaw states that compensation shall be paid by the Regional Board. The District of Highlands is part of the CRD Animal Control service so legitimate claims should be paid by the CRD.

The authority for a board or municipality to pass this provision in a bylaw is found in Section 319 (4) of the *Local Government Act*.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1:

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That payment be approved to Mr. John Buchanan, in the amount of \$225 which is 75% of the market value of the total losses.

Alternative 2:

Do not approve payment.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The owner of the ewe (John Buchanan) stated in his compensation claim (Appendix B) one ewe was killed. The listed value of the animal is \$300 and this is consistent with fair market value. Table 1 shows the compensation amount of 75% of the market value for a total compensation of \$225. This will be paid from the Bylaw Services Operating Budget.

Table 1 – Compensation Claim

Animal	#	Market Value	Total
Ewe	1	\$300	\$300
		75%	\$225

RECOMMENDATION

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That payment be approved to Mr. John Buchanan, in the amount of \$225, which is 75% of the decrease in market value of the total losses.

Submitted by:	Don Brown, Chief Bylaw Officer
Concurrence:	Shawn Carby, CD, BHSc, MAL, Senior Manager Protective Services
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P.Eng., MBA, General Manager Planning & Protective Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments: Appendix A – Compensation Excerpt from CRD Bylaw No. 1465
Appendix B – Compensation Claim by John Buchanan