

Meeting Minutes
Core Area Liquid Waste Management
Committee

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

9:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
Capital Regional District
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT

DIRECTORS: L. Helps (Chair), R. Atwell (Vice-Chair), M. Alto, D. Blackwell, S. Brice, J. Brownoff, V. Derman, B. Desjardins (Board Chair), C. Hamilton, B. Isitt, N. Jensen, C. Plant, D. Screech, L. Seaton, J. Albany (for Chief R. Sam), G. Young

STAFF: L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; D. Lokken, General Manager, Technology and Initiatives; T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; R. Sharma, A/CFO; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; A. Orr, Senior Manager, Corporate Communications; D. Telford, Senior Manager, Environmental Engineering; B. Reems, Corporate Officer, and N. More, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

ALSO PRESENT: Honourable Peter Fassbender, Minister, and Jacquie Dawes, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development & Responsible for TransLink; Peter Milburn; Director D. Howe; Alternate Directors C. Day, L. Hundleby, M. Lougher-Goodey and L. Wergeland; Councillors B. Burton-Krahn and S. Low, Township of Esquimalt;

ABSENT: Chief A. Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Derman, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,
That the agenda be approved with the supplementary agenda.
CARRIED

2. Presentation

2.1. [16-506](#)

Presentation: The Honourable Peter Fassbender, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

Minister Fassbender addressed the Committee. He spoke of the support being extended to the CRD by the Province in the form of facilitation, as well as attention to the project by him and Minister Polak. He remarked on the reality of the federal government environmental priorities and the deadline of 2020. The goal was to come up with a solution that fits the criteria, and that builds the confidence of the region, stakeholders and bidders with a well-defined project.

He introduced Deputy Minister Dawes as involved in providing help, and former Deputy Minister P. Milburn and A. Farrell, President and CEO of Partnerships BC, as the chief facilitators. He noted the organizational structure and the process could be discussed, the project belongs to the Capital Regional District, and the job of the Province is to see that the project moves forward. He invited P. Milburn to come to the podium.

P. Milburn addressed the Committee. He remarked that the Minister had outlined the role and function he would be taking on, and he looked forward to the opportunity to work with the team. He acknowledged that a lot of technical work was done and the governance structure was complex. He felt there was great opportunity for him and A. Farrell to contribute their experience with large, complex projects to help move the project forward.

Minister Fassbender concluded that the Province wants to see the project move forward and meet the requirements the federal government has outlined.

The Committee sought clarification on technology, governance, authority, the environmental rating, and funding. Some of the points offered by Minister Fassbender included the following:

- * it will be a CRD decision
- * the business-case will need to be well-defined
- * if there is a scope change from the previously-approved plan, funding agreements will need Treasury Board approval
- * P. Milburn and A. Farrell will help to define steps and timelines
- * if the business case is supportable, Ministers Fassbender and Polak will take it through the provincial Treasury Board for approval

Chair Helps summed up that the Province will provide expertise to proceed to a business plan that would allow the Ministers to go to Treasury Board to champion the business plan, as long as what comes out of the process is satisfactory.

3. Adoption of Minutes

- 3.1. [16-452](#) Approval of the Minutes of March 23, 2016

MOVED by Director Seaton, **SECONDED** by Director Alto,
That the minutes of the March 23, 2016, meeting of the Core Area Liquid Waste
Management Committee be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Helps remarked on the help of the Province. She noted that the governance challenges were to be addressed through a select committee proposal coming to the CRD Regional Board that afternoon. She looked forward to moving the project to its conclusion in partnership with the public.

5. Presentations/Delegations

- 5.1. **16-538** Presentation: Councillor Susan Low, Township of Esquimalt, re item 6.2

Councillor Low spoke in favour of seeking a reclassification of the environmental risk rating given by the federal government. She felt the timelines were pushing the project too fast for the unique environmental conditions. Esquimalt had already done public hearings last time, would appreciate more details on the technology, site and amenities before reporting back to the Committee, and would contribute to pursuing a rational solution to the complex challenge, in the best interests of the region and the environment, with a level playing field and with respect for the other partners.

- 5.2. **16-539** Presentation: Councillor Beth Burton-Krahn, Township of Esquimalt, re item 6.2

Councillor Burton-Krahn remarked that the costs of the previous plan for a single plant could not be directly compared to the potential two-plant option. She spoke of the issue with McLoughlin Point and the Township of Esquimalt as more pertinent to the Environmental Management Act than to a land use issue. She was concerned that if the result of the public process in Victoria meant Clover Point was rejected, then Esquimalt would bear the burden of the whole project. She expressed that conflict between Victoria and Esquimalt was not wanted and she suggested both municipalities not give approval to any sites until knowing the technology. She felt a site chosen ahead of time would limit innovation, the private sector should be given more latitude to determine a solution, and the resources were available to work with the Province on this.

- 5.3. **16-540** Presentation: Councillor Lynda Hundleby, Township of Esquimalt, re item 6.2

Councillor Hundleby expressed reasons why Esquimalt could not yet respond to the letter, and that a viable technical solution was needed, with full design and costing information.

- 5.4. 16-541 Delegation: Colin Nielsen, re item 6.3 and 7.1

Colin Nielsen provided information on the federal clean water and wastewater fund and noted the potential funding for up to one-half of the project costs. The delegation provided the presentation slides in a written submission, on file at Legislative and Information Services.

- 5.5. 16-542 Delegation: John Farquharson, Sewage Treatment Action Group, re item 6.2

J. Farquharson was concerned that there were complications of having potential sites named but not confirmed. He felt all potential vendors would need to know the official status of the over 50 sites put forward by the East and West sides. By not providing clear parameters as part of the private sector canvas, a wastewater treatment and resource recovery system that is an optimized marriage of technologies, sites and resource recovery opportunities would not be obtainable. If those living close to Clover Point understood that a small facility at green-lit sites in Oak Bay and south Saanich would allow for a much smaller facility at Clover Point, it might help to alleviate some of their concerns.

- 5.6. 16-543 Delegation: Kim Walker, re item 6.2

Kim Walker expressed her concerns and those of some of her neighbours over the disruptions that would be caused by construction and operation of a wastewater treatment plant at Clover Point.

- 5.7. 16-544 Delegation: Jane Mertz, re item 6.2

Jane Mertz spoke as a representative of residents of Fairfield, whose concerns included appropriate setbacks, conditions of the soil for underground construction, and responsibility for safety and odour. She asked for costs to be spread over 40 years rather than 15 and that public meetings contain substance and real information. The delegation provided a written submission, on file at Legislative and Information Services.

6. Committee Business

- 6.1. [16-503](#) Fairness and Transparency Advisor - Final Report

On the motion, the Committee sought clarification on why the advisor wasn't present to give the final report.

**MOVED by Director Desjardins, SECONDED by Director Alto,
That the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee recommend to the
Capital Regional District Board:
That the staff report and the final report of the Fairness and Transparency Advisor
be received for information.**

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Atwell,
That the matter be postponed until the next meeting when the Fairness and
Transparency Advisor could be present to give the report.
CARRIED**

- 6.2. [16-491](#) Update on Municipal Referral Process - Core Area Wastewater and Resource Recovery System
- L. Hutcheson noted the attachments to the report from the City of Victoria and provided the Committee with an update that she and Chair Helps would attend a special meeting of Esquimalt Council that evening on the matter.
- MOVED by Director Derman, SECONDED by Director Alto,
That the report be received for information.
CARRIED**
- 6.3. [16-489](#) Core Area Sewage and Resource Recovery System 2.0 - Budget Update No. 5
- L. Hutcheson provided an update that invoices had come in from the Fairness and Transparency Advisor since the report was posted so the total budget overrun for that line item was closer to \$158,000, with \$292,000 remaining. She clarified that the funding for the community engagement was earmarked from an operating reserve and could be covered from the annual operating budget for the liquid waste management plan. A further report outlining sources of funding can be brought to the Committee at the next meeting .
- MOVED by Director Derman, SECONDED by Director Desjardins,
That the budget update be received for information.
CARRIED**
- 6.4. [16-394](#) Previous Westside Options Analysis
- MOVED by Director Blackwell, SECONDED by Director Screech,
That, pending the outcome of discussions at the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee, Esquimalt and Victoria City Councils, and to ensure that the Westside Select Committee participant communities continue to work towards a solution that meets the objectives of the Committee, staff be directed to revive the work done in part last fall on a Westside Solution--specifically focusing on a one or two plant option and the opportunity to include treatment of solids at a facility on the Westside.
CARRIED**
- 6.5. [16-514](#) Accountability and Representation in Governance of Components of Eastside and Westside Sub-systems
- L. Helps introduced the report and staff clarified for the Committee that the scope and role of the facilitator from the Province could include the matters raised by this item.
- MOVED by Director Derman, SECONDED by Director Screech,
That the report be received for information.
CARRIED**

6.6. [16-428](#) Winter Shoreline Bacterial Levels - Core Area and Saanich Peninsula

L. Hutcheson provided highlights of the report, which had first been presented to the Environmental Services Committee, and G. Harris provided the clarification sought by the Committee on the following points:

* sources of contamination: cross-connection, illegal dumping, and animals. A further report on cross-connection will be provided to both the Environmental Services Committee and the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee.

* the CRD consults with Island Health on monitoring contamination that would affect food consumption

* Westshore areas are monitored in a separate, monthly program and reported annually.

**MOVED by Director Derman, SECONDED by Director Brice,
That the report be received for information.**

CARRIED

7. Correspondence

**MOVED by Director Blackwell, SECONDED by Director Desjardins,
That the following correspondence be received for information:**

- 1. PPP Canada, 30 March 2016, re Extension of the Conditional Financial Agreement for the Biosolids Energy Centre with the CRD**
 - 2. CAO R. Lapham, CRD, 30 March 2016, to Mayor Desjardins and Esquimalt Council, re Clarification Regarding Land Use Approvals - Wastewater Treatment**
 - 3. Ministry of Environment, 30 March 2016, re Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan Amendment No. 10**
 - 4. US Ambassador Heyman, 22 March 2016, re Wastewater Treatment**
- CARRIED**

7.1. [16-477](#) Correspondence: PPP Canada, 30 March 2016, re Extension of the Conditional Financial Agreement for the Biosolids Energy Centre with the CRD

This Correspondence was received for information.

7.2. [16-490](#) Correspondence: CAO R. Lapham, CRD, 30 March 2016, to Mayor Desjardins and Esquimalt Council, re Clarification Regarding Land Use Approvals - Wastewater Treatment

This Correspondence was received for information.

7.3. [16-518](#) Correspondence: Ministry of Environment, 30 March 2016, re Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan Amendment No. 10

This Correspondence was received for information.

7.4. [16-509](#) Correspondence: US Ambassador Heyman, 22 March 2016, re Wastewater Treatment

This Correspondence was received for information.

8. New Business

9. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Brice, **SECONDED** by Director Alto,
That the meeting be adjourned at 10:27 a.m.
CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER