

Meeting Minutes

Environmental Services Committee

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

1:30 PM

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

PRESENT

Directors: B. Desjardins (Chair), S. Tobias (Vice Chair), J. Bateman (for M. Tait) (1:50 pm) (EP), J. Caradonna, G. Holman (1:59 pm) (EP), D. Kobayashi (1:53 pm) (EP), D. Murdock, D. Thompson, A. Wickheim

Staff: T. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer; L. Hutcheson, Acting General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; R. Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management; N. Elliott, Manager, Climate Action Programs; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; J. Dorman, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Director(s) J. Brownoff, M. Tait, C. Plant

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Tobias provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Caradonna, **SECONDED** by Director Wickheim,
That the agenda for the April 17, 2024 Environmental Services Committee meeting be approved.
CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [24-227](#) Minutes of the March 20, 2024 Environmental Services Committee Meeting

MOVED by Director Wickheim, **SECONDED** by Director Caradonna,
That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting of March 20, 2024 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Desjardins spoke about the CRD's Environmental Services upcoming regional events, city nature challenges, Environmental Resource Management (ERM) campaigns and May's Invasive Species month.

5. Presentations/Delegations

5.1. Presentations

There were no presentations.

5.2. Delegations

**MOVED by Director Tobias, SECONDED by Director Wickheim,
That a late delegation, Francois Brassard, be permitted to speak.
CARRIED**

5.2.1 [24-421](#)

Delegation - Philippe Lucas; Representing Biosolids Free BC: Re: Agenda Item 6.3. Biosolids Literature Review - Update

P. Lucas spoke to Item 6.3.

5.2.2. [24-422](#)

Delegation - Jonathan O'Riordan; Representing Creatively United for the Planet Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.3. Biosolids Literature Review - Update

J. O'Riordan spoke to Item 6.3.

5.2.3. **24-428**

Delegation - Francois Brassard; Representing Esquimalt Climate Organizers: Re: Agenda Item 6.1. Solid Waste Management Plan and 6.3. Biosolids Literature Review - Update

F. Brassard spoke to Items 6.1. and 6.3.

6. Committee Business

6.1. [24-398](#) Solid Waste Management Plan - 2023 Progress Report

R. Smith presented Item 6.1. for information.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- electoral area depot statistics
- statistics and upcoming studies
- waste to energy
- co-processing and dirty versus clean wood waste
- multi-family dwelling recyclable diversion

Alternate Director Bateman joined the meeting electronically at 1:50 pm.

Director Kobayashi joined the meeting electronically at 1:53 pm.

Director Holman joined the meeting electronically at 1:59 pm.

6.2. [24-382](#) Climate Action Strategy - 2023 Progress Report

N. Elliott presented Item 6.2. for information.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- waste diversion
- quantifying regional and corporate GHG emissions
- electric vehicles and corporate climate goals
- storm water management
- impacts of growth on GHG emissions
- climate adaptation

Motion Arising:

MOVED by Director Caradonna, SECONDED by Director Holman,

That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That staff be directed to report back on options for reducing corporate transportation and building emissions including Capital Region Housing Corporation buildings, and advise on options for advancing an adaptation strategy.

MOVED by Director Holman, SECONDED by Director Caradonna,

That the motion arising be amended to add the words "a corporate and regional" before the words "adaptation strategy".

CARRIED

The question was called on the motion arising.

That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That staff be directed to report back on options for reducing corporate transportation and building emissions including Capital Region Housing Corporation buildings, and advise on options for advancing a corporate and regional adaptation strategy.

CARRIED

6.3. [24-406](#) Biosolids Literature Review - Update

G. Harris spoke to Item 6.3.

Discussion ensued on the impartiality of the literature and legal reviews.

Alternative Committee Member Motion:

MOVED by Director Caradonna, **SECONDED** by Director Tobias,
That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

Direct staff to continue the process of identifying suitable academic researchers to undertake an independent biosolids literature review, and report back to the Environmental Services Committee.

CARRIED

Motion Arising:

MOVED by Director Caradonna, **SECONDED** by Director Wickheim,
That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That staff be directed to proceed with a legal review of the risks associated with the land application of biosolids.

MOVED by Director Wickheim, **SECONDED** by Director Caradonna,
That the motion arising be amended to add the words "an independent unbiased" before the words "legal review".

CARRIED

The question was called on the motion arising as amended.

That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That staff be directed to proceed with an independent unbiased legal review of the risks associated with the land application of biosolids.

CARRIED

6.4. [24-396](#) Amendment to Environmental Resource Management Capital Plan

L. Hutcheson spoke to Item 6.4.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- capital reserve fund
- food scrap and organics processing versus transfer station
- capital plan overview for solid waste

MOVED by Director Thompson, **SECONDED** by Director Caradonna,
The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That an advancement of \$500K from the 2025 Aggregate capital budget to the 2024 capital budget be approved; and

2. That the budget for the 2024 capital project Kitchen Scraps Transfer Station Relocation be increased by \$800K to ensure a contract can be awarded at the completion of the procurement process.

CARRIED

6.5. [24-400](#) Previous Minutes of Other CRD Committees and Commissions for Information

The following minutes were received for information:

- a) Climate Action Inter-municipal Task Force Meeting - March 15, 2024
- b) Technical and Community Advisory Committee Meeting - March 14, 2024

7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no notice(s) of motion.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Murdock, **SECONDED** by Director Thompson,
That the April 17, 2024 Environmental Services Committee meeting be adjourned
at 3:46 pm.
CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER