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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JUAN DE FUCA WATER DISTRIBUTION COMMISSION,  
Held Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 12 p.m., Goldstream Conference Room, 479 Island  
Highway, Victoria, BC**

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**PRESENT:**           **Commissioners:** G. Logan (Chair); G. Baird; M. Hicks; K. Kahakauwila;  
J. Rogers; L. Szpak; R. Wade

**Staff:** T. Robbins, Integrated Water Services (IWS); M. McCrank,  
Infrastructure Operations; S. Irg, Infrastructure Engineering; D. Dionne  
(Recorder)

**Absent:** B. Parkinson

**Also Present:** M. Little (Alternate Commissioner, Metchosin)

The meeting was called to order at 12 p.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The following items were added to the agenda under Item 7 New Business:

- 7.1 Public Path / Recreational Use on Capital Regional District (CRD) Water Right of Way.
- 7.2 Extension of water main up Otter Point to the business park update.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kahakauwila,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission approve the agenda as amended.

**CARRIED**

**2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 5, 2019**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission adopt the minutes of the meeting  
held February 5, 2019.

**CARRIED**

**3. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

There were no remarks.

**4. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations or presentations.

**5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**5.1 Strathmore Road Main Break**

***R. Wade and M. Hicks joined the meeting***

T. Robbins provided a summary of the water main break on Strathmore Road in Langford  
that occurred on February 20, 2019. He advised that the Duty Operator was onsite within

15 minutes from the time the call came in through Langford fire dispatch and to Japan Gulch call centre. He noted that the location of the break was a challenge being within a few metres of the main large diameter transmission and that it was under two to three feet of water making it difficult to access the valve. It took crews about an hour to completely stop the flow of water.

He further advised that due to the substantial flow of water, a number of residential and commercial properties sustained damage. Capital Regional District (CRD) Risk and Insurance staff have received a number of enquiries and are directing property owners to their insurance companies. He noted that some rental properties did not have renter's contents insurance. As a Local Government the CRD can seek protection under section 744 of the Local Government Act (LGA), as there was no negligence on the part of the CRD in this event. He noted that the CRD will continue to work with the insurance companies and residents.

Discussion ensued and staff responded to questions from the Commission and the following was noted:

- A policy on financial assistance could be in conflict with the LGA. Staff could prepare a report outlining the implications of a policy related to assistance for property damage due to water main failures.
- There was discussion around homeowner and renter responsibility versus CRD and municipal responsibility regarding compensation for unforeseeable property damage.
- Commission members expressed their compassion towards those who were affected by the water main break and noted that communities could look at setting up smaller emergency reserve funds.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Hicks and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Rogers,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission direct staff to prepare a report outlining the implications, including social, legal and financial, of a Juan de Fuca Water policy related to provision of limited financial assistance for property damage resulting from water main failures.

**CARRIED**

## **6. COMMISSION BUSINESS**

### **6.1 JWDC 19-03 Asbestos Cement Water Main Replacement Program**

T. Robbins spoke to the report noting the aging infrastructure and the replacement program that was originally approved by the Commission in 1999. He spoke about the various factors that affect Asbestos Cement (AC) pipe service life including, manufacturing technologies/materials, water main bedding, installation technique, ground water table and surrounding soil.

He advised that a service life range of 50 to 70 years has been used for the purpose of the updated program. Staff prioritized replacement based on age of pipe, leak possibilities and other factors that could potentially lead to failures and assigned a ranking to the remaining 94,400 meters (m) of AC pipe that remain in service.

He outlined the estimated costs as detailed in the staff report noting that staff are recommending that the remaining 94,400m of AC pipe in the distribution system be replaced over the next 36 years under an accelerated program, to ensure the system remains reliable and the risk of failure is managed.

Discussion ensued with staff responding to questions from the Commission and staff noted that, when replacing pipe, they try to work with municipalities to avoid tearing up municipal roads and also look at sizing the pipes appropriately for population and growth.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Szpak and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission receive the report for information and direct staff to implement the 2019 pipe replacement program as planned and plan an accelerated replacement program in the future years, beginning in 2020, with an anticipated program completion by 2055.

**CARRIED**

## 6.2 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER WATER COMMISSIONS

**MOVED** by Commissioner Kahakauwila and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Szpak,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission receive the Recommendations from Other Water Commissions for information.

**CARRIED**

## 6.3 WATER WATCH

There was discussion regarding the graph on page 17 and staff advised that the dip at the top of the chart is due to the relatively dry month, snow hasn't been melting yet and there has been no rain in the past two to three weeks. Staff do not have concerns at this time and are monitoring the long range forecasts.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission receive the Water Watch Report for information.

**CARRIED**

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### 7.1 Public Path / Recreational use on CRD Water Right of Way

Commissioner Rogers spoke to the item noting that the public has been using an informal trail on the CRD Water Right of Way from Erskine Lane to the bus terminus at Victoria General Hospital. The path is very rocky and uneven. He advised that the Town of View Royal would like to make this into a formal 3.5 metre-wide path, possibly paved.

He further noted that, this main also runs parallel to Watkiss Way (Erskine to Talcott) and is long, wide and flat. There is a dirt bike group who would like to build a 'dirt bike jump/track' there.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission request that staff prepare a report for the next meeting, outlining the implications of the following conceptual projects in View Royal:

1. formalize a walking / cycling path along the 15 m wide CRD water main Right of Way from Erskine Lane to Hospital Way (VGH bus terminus); and
2. build a 'dirt bike jump/track' amenity within CRD water main ROW between Watkiss Way and Game Road Park.

**CARRIED**

## **7.2 Extension of water main up Otter Point to the business park update**

T. Robbins provided an update noting that the developer contacted the Ministry of Transportation and confirmed that the Ministry would consider adding the water main project to the scope of the highway improvement project. The Ministry then directed the consultant to work with the project's consulting engineer, Stantec, to look at the water main design.

T. Robbins noted some challenges with project:

1. Due to the length of the extension (about 3.5 kilometers) there may be a challenge achieving adequate fire flows without the addition of a pump station or additional fire storage.
2. The new Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) language and the Otter Point Official Community Plan (OCP) language, include the condition that the full cost of the extension be funded by the applicant or the developer. This is the first project since the new language was introduced and staff need to consider how design costs are assigned.

The approval process would be:

- A service area amendment bylaw would be drafted to include the extension of Otter Point Road. The amendment would be presented to the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission for endorsement with a recommendation to the CRD Board for approval.
- In order to ensure consistency with the RGS and the Otter Point OCP the Commission would recommend the extension to the Planning and Protective Services Committee and through to the CRD Board, so that the Board has all the pieces for considering the bylaw amendments.

Discussion ensued regarding timeline for the process to move forward and T. Robbins noted that staff are working with the developer to meet the highway project schedule, however the necessary steps are going to take some time. Staff have advised the developer that, if they are willing to take on the risk, they could proceed with getting the pipe in the ground with the highway project while the CRD works through the approval process.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair advised that he will be away for the April meeting.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Wade and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Rogers,  
That the meeting of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission be adjourned at  
12:58 p.m.

**CARRIED**

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

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Chair

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Secretary