



Making a difference...together

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission, held Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 12 p.m., Goldstream Meeting Room, 479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC**

---

**PRESENT: Commissioners:** G. Baird; D. Grove; C. Harder; K. Pearson; J. Rogers (EP); M. Wagner; A. Wickheim  
**Staff:** I. Jesney, Acting General Manager; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations; J. Marr, Acting Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; N. Tokgoz, Acting Manager, Water Distribution & Planning; T. Duthie, Manager, IWS Administration; D. Dionne (Recorder)

**REGRETS:** S. Donaldson

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 11:59 am.

### **1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I. Jesney provided the Territorial Acknowledgement and conducted a roll call.

### **2. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The Acting General Manager called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

Commissioner Rogers nominated Commissioner Baird. Commissioner Baird accepted the nomination.

The Acting General Manager called for nominations a second time.  
The Acting General Manager called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, the Acting General Manager declared Commissioner Baird Chair of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024 by acclamation.

### **3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

Commissioner Harder nominated Commissioner Rogers. Commissioner Rogers accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for nominations a second time.  
The Chair called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, the Chair declared Commissioner Rogers Vice Chair of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024 by acclamation.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda under New Business:  
Recognition of Previous Commission and Chair.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Wickheim, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Pearson,  
That the agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

#### 5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Grove,  
That the minutes of the September 6, 2022 meeting be adopted.

**CARRIED**

#### 6. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair remarked that the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission is one of the best run commissions that he deals with and that the commission has been consistently exceptional at discussing issues and being proactive. He also commented on the work of the staff that support the commission and that he is looking forward to his role as Chair.

#### 7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

I. Jesney welcomed all the commissioners. He encouraged all the new members to ask questions, noting that there is a lot to understand about this water system, being the third largest behind Saanich and Victoria.

#### 8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

#### 9. COMMISSION BUSINESS

##### 9.1. Presentation – Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission Orientation

I. Jesney provided the orientation presentation and staff responded to questions from the Commission regarding:

- Location of Asbestos Cement (AC) pipe within region. Staff advised that construction has started for replacing the AC pipe along Goldstream Avenue.
- Expansion of the distribution system is done through development. Where a developer wishes to expand the system to their development, the developer would install the watermains and the Capital Regional District (CRD) would take it over.
- Expanding water services beyond the Urban Containment Boundary requires undertaking a process of municipal governance and CRD Board approvals.
- There are at least two new reservoir installations planned for the next four years, one at Sun River and one on South Skirt Mountain.
- Responsibility of water distribution to the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations

is through the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution service. There is currently a transition under development that will see the water being billed through the Regional Water Service at a bulk water rate for the First Nations.

- Typical customer service concerns are generally related to billing inquiries and water leak reporting.
- Public education and outreach are accomplished through watershed tours and online education videos.
- School Tours of the Water Supply Area are also conducted and educational information is provided through this program to students.
- Juan de Fuca has an aggressive infrastructure replacement program.
- The Development Cost Charges (DCC) bylaw will undergo a review this year. DCC's are provincially regulated and assessed by external consultants.
- Projects on the horizon for 2023 include completion of the South Skirt Mountain DCC project, completion of the Rocky Point project which is a pumpstation and two reservoirs and a pumpstation upgrade in Sooke
- Staff provided a status update of the post disaster water supply planning.
- Flood and fire risk planning is managed through the CRD's disaster planning. Flooding concerns related to Juan de Fuca would be associated with dam overflow or failure.
- Municipal Official Community Plan development includes a referral to the water commission. Staff advised that CRD referrals are more technical in nature than related to land use.
- Aging infrastructure and ability to upgrade it in a timely fashion was noted as one of the biggest risks for the Commission.
- The Commission has not been successful in receiving Federal Government Grants. The grants are generally more focused on local smaller service areas.
- The service meets the Fire Underwriters Standards for fire protection.

Requests from the Commission:

- That future iteration of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution System map (slide 7) include First Nation's distribution lines represented in another colour.
- That staff consider public education for Strata developments regarding regular water flushing for water quality maintenance.

Staff recommend that all commissioners review the budget staff report from the September 6, 2022 meeting.

There is no recommendation, the presentation is for information only.

## **9.2. East Sooke Water Servicing Study**

J. Marr introduced the staff report.

Discussion ensued and staff stated that the report is presented for information in order to identify the feasibility and costs of expanding to those areas.

Staff responded to questions regarding:

- Costs and approvals processes if a developer wished to proceed.

- Other water systems and Improvement Districts processes.
- Well costs versus connection charges.
- Promotion of rainwater capture systems.

There is no recommendation, the report is for information only.

### **9.3. Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions**

I. Jesney stated that the summary of recommendations from other water commissions is presented to each water commission so that they are aware of what is occurring at the other water commissions.

There is no recommendation, the summary is for information only.

### **9.4. Water Watch Report**

I. Jesney spoke to the water watch report and reviewed the various graphs and data presented.

There is no recommendation, the report is for information only.

## **10. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE**

I. Jesney advised that each water commission is required to provide a representative on the Water Advisory Committee. He noted that the representation has typically been through the Vice Chairs of each of the Commissions.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Pearson, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Harder,  
That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission appoint the Vice Chair to the Water Advisory Committee for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

**CARRIED**

## **11. JUAN DE FUCA WATER DISTRIBUTION COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE**

Regular meetings of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission shall be held at CRD Integrated Water Services, Goldstream Conference room, 479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC on the first Tuesday of the month commencing at 12 pm unless otherwise determined.

## **12. NOTICE(S) OF MOTION**

There were none.

## **13. NEW BUSINESS**

### **13.1. Recognition of Previous Commission and Chair**

Commissioner Rogers stated his appreciation and thanks to the previous Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission members who served so well over the last four years, he offered his formal thanks to all of them.

He provided a special thank you to former Chair Gordie Logan for his exceptional work with staff and the Commission members during his tenure on the Commission.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Grove,  
That the Chair, on behalf of the Commission, prepare a letter of appreciation for the work of last term's Commissioners and that a letter of and token of appreciation be presented to the last term's Chair for his work with the Commission.

**CARRIED**

#### 14. ADJOURNMENT

**MOVED** by Commissioner Pearson, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Grove,  
That the January 3, 2023 meeting be adjourned at 1:38 pm.

**CARRIED**

---

**CHAIR**

---

**SECRETARY**