

## Meeting Minutes

### Regional Water Supply Commission

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Wednesday, October 21, 2020

11:30 AM

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

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PRESENT:

R. Mersereau (Chair); N. Chambers; C. Graham; M. Hicks; T. Morrison; J. Rogers; C. Stock; L. Szpak;  
N. Taylor; G. Young

BY WebEx:

Z. de Vries; S. Duncan; K. Harper; B. Isitt; K. Kahakauwila; J. Loveday; T. St-Pierre;  
R. Wade; E. Wood Zhelka

REGRETS:

G. Baird (Vice-Chair); L. Collins; G. Logan

STAFF:

R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer; T. Robbins, General Manager; A. Constabel, Senior Manager, Watershed Protection; G. Gullekson, Senior Financial Advisor; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; S. Henderson, Manager, Real Estate Services; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations; I. Jesney, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; B. Semmens, Manager, Financial Planning; T. Urquhart, Communications Coordinator; S. Orr (Recorder)

#### 1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Commissioner Morrison provided the territorial acknowledgement.

Chair Mersereau shared the new inclusion statement with the Commission.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOVED** by Commissioner Graham, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stock,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission agenda be approved.

**CARRIED**

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. [20-653](#) Adoption of Minutes

**Attachments:** [Draft Minutes: September 16, 2020](#)

**MOVED** by Commissioner Stock, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Taylor,  
That the minutes of the September 16, 2020 meeting be adopted.

**CARRIED**

#### 4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Mersereau stated that Vice-Chair Baird has stepped down from his role on the Commission while engaged in provincial election activities.

#### 5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

#### 6. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

##### 6.1. Water Advisory Committee Chair's Report - Verbal

R. Hunsinger, Water Advisory Committee Chair, reported that the Committee has re-established the following working groups:

- Long Term Water Supply and Demand Management
- Water Quality
- Major Capital Projects
- Water Rates

He stated that the working groups will allow the committee to better serve the Commission.

##### 6.2. [20-656](#) Draft Water Advisory Committee Minutes September 24, 2020

**Attachments:** [Draft Minutes - Water Advisory Committee, September 24, 2020](#)

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Chambers,

That the draft September 24, 2020 Water Advisory Committee Minutes be received for information.

**CARRIED**

#### 7. COMMISSION BUSINESS

7.1. [20-525](#) Regional Water Supply Strategic Plan - 2020 Progress Report

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Regional Water Supply Strategic Plan - 2020 Progress Report](#)  
[Appendix A: Regional Water Supply Strategic Plan Progress Report Dashboard](#)

T. Robbins provided a summary of the report as presented.

The Commission thanked staff for the report.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding:

- Water quality aspects related to climate change and resiliency
- Water filtration
- Biodiversity in the watershed
- Agricultural land

**Motion Arising**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Graham, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Szpak,

That any movement toward a filtration program be based on sound health guidelines and demonstrable health benefits.

Discussion took place about the motion.

**DEFEATED****Opposed**

Chambers; Duncan; Harper; Loveday; Mersereau; Morrison; Rogers; Stock; Taylor; Young

**MOVED** by Commissioner Stock, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Morrison,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the Regional Water Supply Strategic Plan - 2020 Progress Report be received for information and that the strategic priorities and actions planned in 2021-2022 that deliver on the Plan be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

7.2. [20-661](#) 2019 - 2022 Service Planning - Water

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: 2019 - 2021 Service Planning - Water](#)

[Appendix A: Community Need Summary - Water](#)

[Appendix B: Initiative Progress Report - Water](#)

T. Robbins provided a summary of the report as presented.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Rogers, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stock,  
That the Regional Water Supply Commission recommends to the Capital  
Regional District Board:

That Appendix A Community Need Summary - Water be approved as presented  
and advanced to the October 28, 2020 provisional budget review process.

**CARRIED**

7.3. [20-651](#) Regional Water Supply Service - 2021 Operating and Capital Budget

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Regional Water Supply Service - 2021 Operating and Capital Budget](#)  
[Appendix A: 2021 Regional Water Supply Service Budget](#)  
[Appendix B: Long Term Debt Obligations Summary](#)  
[Appendix C: Agricultural Water Volumes and Rate Payments for 2011 – 2019](#)  
[Appendix D: Wholesale Water Rate History and Projection](#)

T. Robbins provided a summary of the report as presented.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding:

- Cross connection control program
- Urban watershed
- Variable water rates
- Agricultural Water Rates Study

**Motion Arising**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Graham, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Young,

That the Agricultural Water Rates Study be removed from the 2021 Operating and Capital Budget.

Discussion ensued and staff answered questions from the Commission about the Agricultural Water Rates Study.

**DEFEATED**

**Opposed**

Chambers; De Vries; Duncan; Harper; Kahakauwila; Loveday; Mersereau; Morrison; Rogers; Stock; Szpak; Taylor; Zhelka;

**Motion Arising**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Szpak, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Taylor,

That the Commission review the Terms of Reference for the Agricultural Water Rates Study prior to the commencement of the study.

**Chair Mersereau tabled the motion arising until after consideration of the 2021 Operating and Capital Budget.**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Chambers, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Rogers,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission recommends that the Capital Regional District Board:

1. Approve the 2021 Operating and Capital Budget and the Five Year Capital Plan;
2. Approve the 2021 wholesale water rate of \$0.7148 per cubic metre;
3. Approve the 2021 agricultural water rate of \$0.2105 per cubic metre;
4. Direct staff to balance the 2020 actual revenue and expense on the transfer to the water capital fund; and
5. Direct staff to amend the Water Rates Bylaw accordingly.

**CARRIED**

The motion arising was brought back to the table.

**Motion Arising**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Stock, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hicks,

That the motion arising be amended to:

That the Commission review the Terms of Reference for the Agricultural Water Rates Study prior to the issuance of the Request for Proposal.

**CARRIED**

- 7.4. [20-663](#) Bylaw 4382: Regional Water Supply Water Works Facilities Loan Authorization Bylaw

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Bylaw 4382 Regional Water Supply Loan Authorization](#)  
[Appendix A: Bylaw 4382 Regional Water Supply Loan Authorization](#)

**MOVED** by Commissioner Stock, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Morrison,

The Regional Water Supply Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 4382 cited as "Regional Water Supply Water Works Facilities Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 5, 2020" be introduced and read a first, second and third time; and
2. That Bylaw No. 4382 be referred to the Inspector of Municipalities for approval, and if received, to proceed with elector approval by way of regional alternative approval process.

**CARRIED**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Szpak, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Morrison,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission defer the remaining open and closed agenda items to a future meeting.

**CARRIED**

- 7.5. [20-636](#) Water Quality Summary Report for Greater Victoria Drinking Water System - December 2019 to May 2020

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Water Quality Summary Report - Greater Vic - Dec 2019-May 2020](#)  
[Appendix A: Water Quality Summary Report - Greater Vic - Dec 2019-May 2020](#)

This item was postponed to the November 25, 2020 meeting.

- 7.6. [20-655](#) Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

**Attachments:** [Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions](#)

This item was postponed to the November 25, 2020 meeting.

7.7. [20-654](#) Water Watch Report

**Attachments:** [Water Watch Report October 13, 2020](#)

This item was postponed to the November 25, 2020 meeting.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

8.1. [20-659](#) BC Wildfire Service

**Attachments:** [Correspondence: BC Wildfire Service](#)

This item was postponed to the November 25, 2020 meeting.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**9.1. November Meeting Schedule Change**

**10. MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING**

10.1. [20-652](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

This item was postponed to the November 25, 2020 meeting.

**11. RISE AND REPORT**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Graham, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Rogers,  
That the meeting be adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

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CHAIR

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SECRETARY