

Meeting Minutes

Regional Water Supply Commission

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

11:30 AM

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

PRESENT:

L. Szpak (Chair); G. Baird (Vice Chair); N. Chambers; Z. de Vries (EP); S. Dubow (EP);
S. Duncan (EP); C. Graham (EP); K. Harper (EP); M. Hicks (EP); B. Isitt (EP);
K. Kahakauwila (EP); G. Logan (11:48 am) (EP); R. Mersereau; T. Morrison (EP);
J. Rogers (EP); T. St-Pierre (EP); C. Stock; N. Taylor; E. Wood Zhelka (EP); G. Young (EP)

STAFF:

T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; A. Constabel, Senior Manager, Watershed Protection; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations (EP); D. Dionne, Administrative Coordinator; S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk (Recorder)

REGRETS: J. Loveday; R. Wade

EP – Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 11:32 am.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice Chair Baird provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

Commissioner Young expressed concern over the reference to Ceded vs. Unceded territories in the Acknowledgement, as it relates to the Douglas Treaty.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

That the May 19, 2021 Regional Water Supply Commission agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 3.1 [21-386](#) Adoption of the Minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting.

Attachments: [DRAFT Minutes: March 17, 2021](#)

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

That the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair stated that the COVID-19 vaccinations are currently underway in the region and thanked staff and the Commission for their engagement through electronic meetings.

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

5.1 Water Supply Outlook - Verbal

T. Robbins reported on the water supply outlook noting:

- Sooke Lake Reservoir began it's annual draw down on May 13
- He noted historical monthly averages of rainfall
- Given the current storage volumes there are no concerns with water supply

5.2 Smith Hill Reservoir Duck Ramp - Verbal

T. Robbins provided an update stating that a duck ramp was installed at the Smith Hill Reservoir in response to concerns raised by residents. He stated that the reservoir is proposed to be decommissioned in future.

The Commission thanked staff for the work.

Staff responded to questions from the Commission regarding the decommissioning of Smith Hill Reservoir.

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

That the General Managers report be received for information.

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

7. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Water Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 3, 2021.

8. COMMISSION BUSINESS

8.1 [21-407](#) Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Mining Access Request

Attachments: [Staff Report: Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Mining Access Request](#)
[Appendix A: Location Map of Placer Mining Tenure No. 994033](#)
[Appendix B: Signed Access Agreement](#)

A. Constabel introduced the report.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding the sunset clause.

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Mersereau,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission authorize Greater Victoria Water Supply Area access and special use to Jesse Wylie and his agents (where agency is confirmed) and workers (that hold valid free mining certificates) that meet Capital Regional District insurance requirements, subject to the conditions of the Access Agreement.

CARRIED

8.2 [21-388](#) Greater Victoria Drinking Water Quality - 2020 Annual Report

Attachments: [Staff Report: Greater Victoria Drinking Water Quality - 2020 Annual Report](#)
[Appendix A: Greater Victoria Drinking Water Quality - 2020 Annual Report](#)

G. Harris introduced the report.

Staff responded to questions from the Commission regarding:

- Lead levels
- Leech Watershed
- Water temperature

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

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

That the Greater Victoria Drinking Water Quality 2020 Annual Report be approved.

CARRIED

8.3 [21-389](#) Greater Victoria Water Supply Area 2020 Wildfires Follow Up

Attachments: [Staff Report: Greater Victoria Water Supply Area 2020 Wildfires Follow Up](#)
[Appendix A: Maps Showing Water Quality Sampling Sites](#)
[Appendix B: Burned Area Recovery Photos](#)

A. Constabel introduced the report providing an overview of wildfire events in August 2020.

The Commission thanked staff for their excellent work.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding:
- BC Wildfire Service partnership
- Recovery costs from Emergency Management BC

MOVED by Commissioner Stock, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receive this report for information.
CARRIED

8.4 [21-390](#) Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

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

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stock,
That the Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions be
received for information.

CARRIED

8.5 [21-391](#) Water Watch Report

Attachments: [Report: Water Watch](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Mersereau, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner
Rogers,
That the May 10, 2021 Water Watch Report be received for information.

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

10. NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

Commissioners Rogers and Wood Zhelka introduced the following Notice of
Motion:

That staff be directed to report back on the jurisdictional questions and incentive
funding considerations regarding the elimination of once through cooling
equipment for the 2022 budget.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stock,
That the May 19, 2021 meeting of the Regional Water Supply Commission be
adjourned at 12:11 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY