

Meeting Minutes

Regional Water Supply Commission

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

11:30 AM

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

PRESENT:

L. Szpak (Chair); G. Baird (Vice Chair); N. Chambers; S. Dubow (EP); S. Duncan (EP);
C. Graham (EP); K. Harper (EP); M. Hicks (EP); B. Isitt (EP) (11:51 am);
K. Kahakauwila (EP); G. Logan (EP); J. Loveday (EP); R. Mersereau;
T. Morrison (EP) (11:58 am); J. Rogers (EP); C. Stock; N. Taylor; R. Wade (EP);
E. Wood Zhelka (EP); G. Young

STAFF:

T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; R. Lapham, CAO; A. Constabel, Senior Manager, Watershed Protection; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; I. Jesney, Senior Manager Infrastructure Engineering; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations; J. Ussery, Manager Resource Planning; T. Urquhart, Communications Coordinator (EP); M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; D. Dionne, Administrative Coordinator; S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk (Recorder)

ALSO PRESENT:

E. Cote, Chair, Water Advisory Committee (EP)

REGRETS: Z. de Vries, T. St-Pierre

EP – Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 am.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Commissioner Stock provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. [21-387](#) Adoption of the May 19, 2021 minutes.

Attachments: [Draft Minutes - May 19, 2021](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Mersereau, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stock ,
That the minutes of the May 19, 2021 Regional Water Supply Commission meeting be adopted.
CARRIED

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Szpak expressed her appreciation for everyone's efforts to continue meeting under somewhat challenging circumstances. She further acknowledged the excellent reports received from staff.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

6. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

6.1. Report from the Chair of the Water Advisory Committee [Verbal]

E. Cote, Chair of the Water Advisory Committee, stated the committee last met on June 3, 2021 and the following items were discussed:

- Options and Implications for Developing a Reserve Fund for Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Land Acquisition.
- Agricultural Water Rates

She advised that a special meeting was scheduled for June 22, 2021 for the Agricultural Water Rate working group to present its information to the Committee.

The Chair thanked E. Cote.

6.2. [21-476](#) Draft Minutes of the June 3, 2021 Water Advisory Committee Meeting

Attachments: [Water Advisory Committee Draft Minutes June 3, 2021](#)

**MOVED by Commissioner Mersereau, and SECONDED by Commissioner Baird ,
That the Draft Minutes of the June 3, 2021 Water Advisory Committee meeting be received for information.
CARRIED**

7. COMMISSION BUSINESS

7.1. [21-477](#) Options & Implications for Developing Reserve Fund for Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Land Acquisition

Attachments: [Staff Report: Options & Implications of Developing a Reserve Fund for GVWSA Land Acquisition](#)

T. Robbins spoke to Item 7.1.

Staff responded to questions from the Commission regarding:

- Reserve funds
- Acquisition fund
- Water rate increase
- Long term priorities
- Administrative process
- Capital investment
- Catchment lands
- Strategic plan / Board priorities
- Borrowing rates
- Land acquisition readiness
- Value of catchment land
- Triple bottom line analysis looking at multiple criteria
- Allocation of the cost burden between present and future generations
- Alternative recommendation versus the staff recommendation
- Closing the meeting to discuss specific parcels of land

12:40 p.m. Commissioner Logan left the meeting.

MOVED by Commissioner Isitt, and SECONDED by Commissioner Chambers,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission move into closed meeting to receive information related to the Acquisition or Disposition of land or improvements under Section 90 (1)(e) of the Community Charter.

DEFEATED

Opposed: Duncan, Graham, Harper, Hicks, Kahakauwila, Mersereau, Morrison, Stock, Wade, Wood Zhelka

MOVED by Commissioner Stock, and SECONDED by Commissioner Young,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission:

Not pursue the establishment of a reserve fund for Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Land Acquisition at this time, and address any land purchase opportunities through adjustments to the existing capital program and utilize existing capital funding and/or debt financing to fund the acquisition.

CARRIED

Opposed: Baird, Chambers, Dubow, Isitt, Loveday, Mersereau, Rogers, Taylor

MOVED by Commissioner Loveday, and SECONDED by Commissioner Chambers,

That staff be directed to bring this report back in one year to reconsider the creation of a land acquisition reserve fund.

CARRIED

Opposed: Wood Zhelka

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

That the Regional Water Supply Commission defer Items 7.2 and 7.4 to next regular meeting.

CARRIED

7.2. [21-499](#) Regional pH & Corrosion Study Update

Attachments: [Staff Report: Regional pH & Corrosion Study Update](#)
[Appendix A: Lead Sampling Procedure](#)

Item deferred to next meeting.

7.3. [21-468](#) Water Quality Summary Report for Greater Victoria Drinking Water System - January to March 2021

Attachments: [Staff Report: Water Quality Summary Report - GVDWS - Jan-Mar 2021](#)
[Appendix A: Water Quality Summary Report](#)

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

That the Regional Water Supply Commission receives this report for information.

CARRIED

7.4. [21-478](#) Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Wildlife Program

Attachments: [Staff Report: GVWSA Wildlife Program](#)
[Appendix A: Canada Goose and American Bullfrog figures](#)
[Appendix B: Letter from Chief Medical Health Officer regarding beaver](#)
[Appendix C: GVWSA Protected Lands on Southern Vancouver Island](#)
[Appendix D: SARA Listed Species Expected in the GVWSA](#)

Item deferred to next meeting.

- 7.5. [21-479](#) Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

Attachments: [Summary of Recommendations](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and SECONDED by Commissioner Taylor,
That the summary of recommendations from other water commissions be received for information.
CARRIED

- 7.6. [21-480](#) Water Watch Report

Attachments: [Water Watch Report](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and SECONDED by Commissioner Mersereau,
That the June 7, 2021 water watch report be received for information.
CARRIED

8. MOTION WITH NOTICE

- 8.1. [21-481](#) Motion with Notice (May 19, 2021): Once Through Cooling Systems - Commissioners Rogers and Wood Zhelka

Attachments: [Motion with Notice: Once Through Cooling Systems](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Rogers, and SECONDED by Commissioner Wood Zhelka,
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.
CARRIED

9. NOTICE OF MOTION

Commissioner Isitt introduced the following Notice of Motion:

That the Regional Water Supply Commissioner direct staff to provide a report, in a closed meeting, on land acquisition priorities.

10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersereau,
The Regional Water Supply Commission meeting be adjourned at 1:13 p.m.
CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY