

Meeting Minutes

Regional Water Supply Commission

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

11:30 AM

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

PRESENT:

L. Szpak (Chair); G. Baird (Vice Chair); Z. de Vries(12:25 pm) (EP); S. Dubow (EP); S. Duncan;
K. Harper (EP); M. Hicks (EP); B. Isitt (EP)(11:51 am); K. Kahakauwila (EP); G. Logan (EP);
J. Loveday; R. Mersereau(EP); T. Morrison (EP); J. Rogers (EP); C. Stock; N. Taylor;
R. Wade (EP); E. Paterson (for E. Wood Zhelka) (EP); G. Young

STAFF:

R. Lapham, CAO; T. Robbins, General Manager; A. Constabel, Senior Manager, Watershed Protection;
I. Jesney, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental
Protection; J. Ussery, Manager, Resource Planning; S. Carey, Manager, Legal Services; D. Dionne,
Administrative Coordinator; T. Duthie, Manager, Administrative Services; S. Orr, Senior Committee
Clerk (Recorder)

REGRETS: N. Chambers, C. Graham, E. Wood Zhelka

EP – Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice-Chair Baird provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOVED by Commissioner Stock, SECONDED by Commissioner Loveday,
That the agenda be approved as circulated.**

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. [21-528](#) Adoption of the June 16, 2021 Regional Water Supply Commission
Minutes

Attachments: [Draft Minutes - June 16, 2021](#)

**MOVED by Commissioner Baird, SECONDED by Commissioner St-Pierre,
That the minutes of the June 16, 2021 meeting be adopted.**

CARRIED

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Szpak expressed her appreciation to the staff that clean and prepare the meeting rooms.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

6.1. Water Supply Outlook [Verbal]

T. Robbins reported that:

- Sooke Lake Reservoir is currently at 81% of full storage capacity.
- The heat wave drove high consumption.
- Water supply is being monitored and staff continue to encourage residents to use water wisely.
- Local Service Areas are at Stage 3 water conservation levels and are being closely monitored.
- Under the BC Wildfire Service support agreement with the Province of BC, Capital Regional District (CRD) initial attack crews have been on stand-by for wildfire service and were dispatched to Muir Creek fire last Friday night.
- Staff continue to monitor fire risk within the watershed on a daily basis which is priority before committing staff under the support agreement.

Staff answered questions from staff regarding:

- Heat wave effects on vegetation in the watershed

7. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 7.1. [21-533](#) Draft minutes of the June 22, 2021 Water Advisory Committee special meeting.

Attachments: [Draft Water Advisory Committee Minutes - June 22](#)

**MOVED by Commissioner Baird, SECONDED by Commissioner Stock,
That the draft minutes of the June 22, 2021 Water Advisory Committee
special meeting be received for information.**

CARRIED

8. COMMISSION BUSINESS

8.1. [21-499](#) Regional pH & Corrosion Study Update

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

G. Harris spoke to Item 8.1.

Staff answered questions regarding:

- Budget requirements
- Local government involvement
- Aging infrastructure and lead exposure

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

CARRIED

8.2. [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](#)

A. Constabel spoke to Item 8.2.

**MOVED by Commissioner Stock, SECONDED by Commissioner St-Pierre,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receive the report for
information.**

CARRIED

8.3. [21-571](#) Water Conservation Initiative - Once-Through Cooling Project

Attachments: [Staff Report: Water Conservation Initiative - Once-Through Cooling Project](#)

G. Harris spoke to Item 8.3.

Staff answered question from the Commission regarding:

- BC Building Code
- Applying for exemption similar to Metro Vancouver
- Commercial use (hotels and grocery store)
- Rebate program
- Cost increase
- Associating costs of OTC water use at properties and setting rates for that use
- Financing climate action related initiatives
- Compliance with unit replacement

Staff to follow up on whether new once-through cooling units continue to be installed.

Alternative 2 in the staff report was moved with a modification to Part 2 of the recommendation lowering the proposed \$40,000 per year amount to \$20,000 per year.

MOVED by Commissioner Rogers, SECONDED by Commissioner Loveday,

That staff be directed to:

- 1. Continue with the Regional Water Supply Demand Management Program Outreach, specifically the commercial sector based free water use assessments, that provide custom business cases for the replacement of inefficient fixtures, including once-through cooling equipment; and**

CARRIED

MOVED by Commissioner Rogers, SECONDED by Commissioner Loveday,

That staff be directed to:

- 2. Include a once-through cooling equipment replacement rebate program in the 2022-2026 budgets, in the amount of \$20,000 per year.**

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Baird, De Vries, Duncan, Harper, Mersereau, Morrison, Stock, Young

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Current education program
- Provincial allowances may shift
- Budgetary amount and allocation of funds
- Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Resolution
- Hotel definition

MOVED by Commissioner Young, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,
That staff recommend a program of reduced rebates to fit within the
approved \$20,000 per year budget.

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Duncan

- 8.4. [21-529](#) Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

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

Staff answered questions regarding the Financial implications from Seagirt
Improvement District Conversion.

MOVED by Commissioner Stock, **SECONDED** by Commissioner St-Pierre,
That the summary of recommendations from other water commissions be
received for information.

CARRIED

- 8.5. [21-530](#) Water Watch Report

Attachments: [July 12, 2021 Water Watch Report](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Stock, **SECONDED** by Commissioner St-Pierre,
That the water watch reports be received for information.

CARRIED

9. NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

- 9.1. [21-531](#) Motion with Notice (June 16, 2021) - Commissioner Isitt

Attachments: [Motion with Notice: Land Acquisition Priorities](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Isitt, **SECONDED** by Commissioner St-Pierre,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission direct staff to provide a
report, in a closed meeting, on land acquisition priorities.

CARRIED

Commissioners Harper and Wade left the meeting at 12:42 p.m.

10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

11. MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING

11.1. [21-482](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

**MOVED by Commissioner Stock, SECONDED by Commissioner St-Pierre,
That the meeting be closed for Legal Advice in accordance with Section
90 (1)(i) of the Community Charter.**

CARRIED

The Regional Water Supply Commission moved into closed session at 12:46 p.m.

12. RISE AND REPORT

The Regional Water Supply Commission rose from its closed session at 1:02 p.m. without report.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**MOVED by Commissioner Baird, SECONDED by Commissioner Stock,
That the July 21, 2021 meeting of the Regional Water Supply Commission
be adjourned at 1:02 p.m.**

CARRIED

Chair

Recorder