

Meeting Minutes

Regional Water Supply Commission

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

11:30 AM

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

PRESENT:

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

STAFF:

R. Lapham, CAO; T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; 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;
K. Vincent, Senior Financial Advisor, Financial Services; M. Bader, Budget Analyst, Financial Services;
T. Duthie, Manager, Integrated Water Services Administration Services; D. Dionne, Administrative
Coordinator; S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk; M. Risvold, Committee Clerk

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice Chair Baird provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. [21-764](#) Draft Minutes of the July 21, 2021 Meeting

Attachments: [July 21, 2021 Draft Minutes](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner
Mersereau,
That the Minutes of the July 21, 2021 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair stated that she is happy to be here today and welcomed everyone in attendance. She stated that the reservoir is filling up and it is getting better everyday.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

6.1. Water Supply Outlook [Verbal]

T. Robbins spoke to Item 6.1 noting:

- Rains in September came earlier and heavier than anticipated
- Still expecting the winter rains and at this time there is no concerns with water supply

7. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Vice-Chair Baird provided an update on the Water Advisory Committee noting:

- The Committee met in September
- The Committee continues to see high participation level of members adding quality and value
- Staff provided overview of service impacts of the drought within the region
- the Committee received a presentation from staff on the capacity of the water system to deal with large urban fires as related to the large conflagration fire that occurred in Lytton over the summer

8. COMMISSION BUSINESS

8.1. [21-770](#) Water Conservation Initiative - Once-Through Cooling Project Reduced Rebates Program

Attachments: [Staff Report: Water Conservation Initiative – Once-Through Cooling Project Reduced Rebates Program](#)
[Appendix A: Once-Through Cooling Rebates Program Formula](#)

G. Harris spoke to Item 8.1.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding:

- Administration of rebate programs
- Climate change communications and outreach
- Benefit of reducing air cooling

Staff to report back at the end of 2022 on the environmental benefits of the once-through cooling equipment replacement rebate program including energy costs of once-through cooling versus forced air cooling.

MOVED by Commissioner Rogers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird; That staff be directed to advertise and administer a once-through cooling equipment replacement rebate program in the 2022-2026 budgets for a total amount of \$20,000 per year up to a maximum of \$2,500 per water account.

CARRIED

Opposed: Graham

8.2. [21-264](#) 2022 Service Planning - Water

Attachments: [Staff Report: 2022 Service Planning - Water](#)
[Appendix A: Community Need Summary – Water](#)
[Appendix B: Capital Plan Report](#)
[Appendix C: Initiatives Progress Report](#)

T. Robbins spoke to Item 8.2.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding:

- Post disaster planning project update
- Hydrological study in Leech Water Supply Area
- Water Supply Master Plan Update
- Water consumption

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

The Regional Water Supply Commission recommends the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That Appendix A, Community Need Summary - Water be approved as presented and form the basis of the 2022-2026 Financial Plan.

CARRIED

8.3. [21-765](#) Regional Water Supply Service 2022 Operating and Capital Budget

Attachments: [Staff Report: Regional Water Supply Service 2022 Operating and Capital Budget](#)
 [Appendix A: 2022 Regional Water Supply Service Budget](#)
 [Appendix B: Long Term Debt Obligations Summary](#)
 [Appendix C: Agricultural Water Volumes and Rate Payments for 2011 – 2020](#)
 [Appendix D: Wholesale Water Rate History and Projection](#)

T. Robbins spoke to Item 8.3. and provided a presentation outlining the 2021-2022 budget factors.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding:

- Bond rates
- Five year rate projection
- Demand estimates
- Budget
- Agricultural rates
- Long term planning
- Filtration

N. Chambers left the meeting at 12:28

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

1. Approve the 2022 Operating and Capital Budget and the Five Year Capital Plan;
2. Approve the 2022 wholesale water rate of \$0.7332 per cubic metre;
3. Approve the 2022 agricultural water rate of \$0.2105 per cubic metre;
4. Direct staff to balance the 2021 actual revenue and expense on the transfer to the water capital fund; and
5. Direct staff to amend the Water Rates Bylaw accordingly.

CARRIED

- 8.4. [21-769](#) Water Quality Summary Report for Greater Victoria Drinking Water System - April to June 2021

Attachments: [Staff Report: Water Quality Summary Report for Greater Victoria Drinking Water System - April to June 2021](#)
[Appendix A: Water Quality Summary Report - April to June 2021](#)

G. Harris spoke to Item 8.4.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding:
- Heat dome

MOVED by Commissioner Mersereau and **SECONDED** by Stock,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receives the Water Quality Summary Report for the Greater Victoria Drinking Water System - April to June 2021 for information.

CARRIED

- 8.5. [21-766](#) Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

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

MOVED by Commissioner Baird and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Loveday,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receives the summary of recommendations from other water commissions for information.

CARRIED

- 8.6. [21-767](#) Water Watch Report

Attachments: [Water Watch Report](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Morrison,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receives the October 11, 2021 water watch report for information.

CARRIED

9. NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

There were no Notices of Motion.

10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

11. MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING

11.1. [21-768](#)

Motion to Close the Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Loveday and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersereau,
That the meeting be closed for land acquisition in accordance with Section 90 (1)(e) of the Community Charter.

CARRIED

MOVED by Commissioner Loveday and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersereau,
That the meeting be closed for appointments in accordance with Section 90 (1) (a) of the Community Charter.

CARRIED

The Regional Water Supply Commission moved into closed session at 12:50 pm.

12. RISE AND REPORT

The Commission rose from its closed session at 1:08 pm without report.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Mersereau and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Taylor,
That the September 21, 2021 meeting be adjourned at 1:08 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY