

Meeting Minutes

Regional Water Supply Commission

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

11:30 AM

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

PRESENT:

G. Baird (Chair); K. Harper (Vice Chair); J. Caradonna; C. Coleman; Z. de Vries;
S. Duncan (EP); C. Graham (EP); S. Gray; C. Green; K. Guiry; S. Hammond (EP);
K. Jordison (EP); S. Kim; T. Morrison (EP); K. Pearson (for D. Lajeunesse);
T. Phelps Bondaroff; J. Rogers; C. Stock; M. Wagner; M. Westhaver (EP); A. Wickheim (EP)

STAFF:

T. Robbins, CAO; A. Fraser, General Manager, Integrated Water Services;
A. Constabel, Senior Manager, Watershed Protection; G. Harris, Senior Manager,
Environmental Protection; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations;
J. Kelly, Manager, Capital Projects; D. Gosper, Manager, Dam Safety;
L. Westinghouse, Manager, Revenue, Financial Services; J. Zimmerman,
Communications Coordinator; D. Dionne, Manager, Business Support Services;
M. Risvold (recorder)

REGRETS: N. Chambers

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner Coleman and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wagner,
That the agenda be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. Adoption of the Minutes of the September 25, 2024 Meeting

Attachments: [Draft Minutes: September 25, 2024](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Green,
That the Minutes of the September 25, 2024 meeting be adopted.
CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked the Commission and staff for their hard work this summer.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Fraser provided an update on the public engagement portion of the strategic plan.

S. Irg provided an update on the break and repair of watermain 15.

Commissioner Pearson thanked staff on behalf of the Mayor and Council at the District of Sooke for their response and repair of watermain 15.

Staff responded to questions regarding:

- Studies and research taking place to help prepare for emergency events.
- Premature failure and aging of assets.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner Phelps Bondaroff, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kim
That the consent agenda items 7.1. through 7.2. be approved.
CARRIED

7.1. Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

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

This report was received for information.

7.2. Water Watch Report

Attachments: [Water Watch Report](#)

This report was received for information.

8. COMMISSION BUSINESS

8.1. Regional Water Supply Service 2025 Operating and Capital Budget

Attachments: [Staff Report: RWS 2025 Operating and Capital Budget](#)
[Presentation: RWS 2025 Budget Review](#)
[Appendix A: 2025 RWS Service Budget](#)
[Appendix B: Long Term Debt Obligations Summary](#)
[Appendix C: Agricultural Water Volumes and Rate Payments for 2011-2023](#)
[Appendix D: Wholesale Water Rate History and Projection](#)
[Appendix E: 2025 Initiative Business Case Summary](#)

A. Fraser spoke to item 8.1.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Allocation of projects
- Current water rates and taking on more debt
- DCC impacts to the 2025 budget
- Potential grants
- Insurance cost increases
- Increasing water rates across North America
- Water related emergencies experienced in 2024
- Board expectations

**MOVED by Commissioner Rogers and SECONDED by Commissioner Wagner,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission recommends that the Committee of
the Whole recommend that the Capital Regional District Board:**

- 1. Approve the 2025 Operating and Capital Budget and the Five Year Capital Plan;**
- 2. Approve the 2025 wholesale water rate of \$0.8631 per cubic metre;**
- 3. Approve the 2025 agricultural water rate of \$0.2105 per cubic metre;**
- 4. Direct staff to balance the 2024 actual revenue and expense on the transfer to the water capital fund;**
- 5. Direct staff to update carry forward balances in the 2025 Capital Budget for changes after year end; and**
- 6. Direct staff to amend the Water Rates Bylaw accordingly.**

CARRIED

8.2. Water Quality Summary Report for Greater Victoria Drinking Water System
- May to August 2024

Attachments: [Staff Report: Water Quality Summary Report for GVDWS - May to August 2024](#)
[Appendix A: Water Quality Summary Report for GVDWS - May to August 2024](#)

G. Harris spoke to item 8.2.

Staff responded to questions regarding:

- The deep northern intake
- The 10-year water quality average
- Algal growth and filtration

8.3. Dam Safety Program Update

Attachments: [Staff Report: Dam Safety Program Update](#)
[Appendix A: CRD Managed Dams Map](#)
[Appendix B: Summary of RWS Dams](#)
[Appendix C: Application of the Dam Safety Regulation](#)
[Appendix D: Dam Failure Consequence Classification](#)
[Appendix E: Dam Safety Program – Major Project Descriptions](#)

A. Fraser spoke to item 8.3.

Staff responded to questions regarding:

- Seismic activities
- If current dam inspections include inspecting the integrity of the concrete
- The potential for an early warning system downstream
- The future of Charters River Dam

8.4. Greater Victoria Water Supply Area 2024 Wildfire Management Update

Attachments: [Staff Report: GVWSA 2024 Wildfire Management Update](#)
[Appendix A: 2024 Wildfire Management Activity Photos](#)
[Appendix B: Wildfire Management Map](#)
[Appendix C: Letter from CRD Board Chair](#)

A. Constabel spoke to item 8.4.

Staff responded to questions regarding:

- If proactive water dropping during dry seasons is an option
- If there is the ability for waterline connections to fight fire

9. NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

There were none.

10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Gray, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Coleman,
That the meeting be adjourned at 1:12 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY