

SAANICH PENINSULA WASTEWATER COMMISSION

Minutes of a Meeting held 22 September 2011 at the Saanich Peninsula Treatment Plant Meeting Room 9055 Mainwaring Road, North Saanich

PRESENT: R. Commandeur, M. Doehnel, M. Lougher-Goodey, M. Loveless, J. Mar, M. Matheson, G. Orr (Chair); CRD: A. Liu, C. Lowe, T. Tanton, D. Telford, J. Tradewell (recorder)

ABSENT: J. Bill, C. Green, J. MacGowan, A. Olsen

The meeting commenced at 10:12 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by J. Mar, **SECONDED** by M. Loveless, that the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD 16 JUNE 2011

MOVED by R. Commandeur, **SECONDED** by M. Loveless, that the minutes of 16 June 2011 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. REVIEW OF TASK LIST FROM MEETING HELD 16 JUNE 2011

The task list was reviewed.

4. WASTEWATER AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM – 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

C. Lowe gave a brief summary of the 2010 annual report. He advised that the results for 2010 were as expected; all effluent quality regulatory compliance limits were met and receiving environment monitoring showed no indication of adverse outfall effects.

MOVED by M. Lougher-Goodey, **SECONDED** by J. Mar, that the Saanich Peninsula Treatment Plant Wastewater and Marine Environment Program – 2010 Annual Report be received for information, and that the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission forward a copy of this report to the Ministry of Environment.

CARRIED

5. TECHNICAL WATER QUALITY REVIEW PANEL – REVIEW OF THE NEED FOR DISINFECTION

C. Lowe gave an overview of the contents of the report *Saanich Peninsula Treatment Plant Technical Water Quality Review Panel – Review of the Need for Disinfection*. He noted that of the four triggers set in 2001 for the future evaluation of the need for effluent disinfection at the Saanich Peninsula treatment plant (SPTP), only one trigger has occurred which is that ten years has elapsed since the SPTP started operation.

MOVED by M. Lougher-Goodey, **SECONDED** by M. Loveless, that the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission update the Technical Water Quality Review Panel (TWQRP) terms of reference, designate the Marine Monitoring Advisory Group (MMAG) as the TWQRP, and enhance MMAG expertise by extending invitations to representatives from Environment Canada, local First Nations and/or other relevant agencies.

CARRIED

6. THERMAL ENERGY RECOVERY SYSTEM – OFFICIAL OPENING/RIBBON CUTTING (VERBAL REPORT)

D. Telford reported on the highlights of the official opening/ribbon cutting ceremony of the Saanich Peninsula thermal energy recovery system that was held on June 24. He noted that approximately 40 individuals toured the thermal energy recovery system site that morning and since then more than 10 groups have toured the facility.

In the steps forward from here, D. Telford informed members that a consulting engineer has prepared a business case detailing the work required to connect Kelset School to the Saanich Peninsula thermal energy recovery system. Staff will report back to the Commission about the feasibility of connecting the school to the thermal energy recovery system. Staff also continues to work with the Centre for Plant Health on their potential of connection to the heat recovery system.

Related to the project overall and coming into budget time, staff was asked to report back at the next meeting on the savings and benefits realized to date with the Saanich Peninsula thermal energy recovery system.

MOVED by R. Commandeur, **SECONDED** by M. Matheson, that the verbal report on the thermal energy recovery system – official opening/ribbon cutting be received for information.

CARRIED

7. BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT – BENEFICIAL USE OF BIOSOLIDS AT HARTLAND AS LANDFILL CAPPING

Copies of the staff report *Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Management – Beneficial Use of Biosolids at Hartland as Landfill Capping* were distributed at the meeting. D. Telford reported that in response to the CRD Board's direction in July 2011 that biosolids cannot be produced, stored or distributed for land application at all CRD regional facilities and parks, a report went forward to the Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) on September 21 for consideration of the proposal that beneficial use of biosolids as part of the landfill capping material be approved as an exemption.

D. Telford explained the process of applying biosolids at the landfill as capping material, how it would offset chemical fertilizer use and how the surface water conveyance system works.

The outcome of the ESC meeting was to forward the report to the CRD Board without a recommendation. Also, ESC requested staff to come back with answers to various questions including a description of what other beneficial use opportunities are available to the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission. Discussion followed.

MOVED by M. Lougher-Goodey, **SECONDED** by M. Matheson, that the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission receive this report for information.

CARRIED

8. OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF PENINSULA BIOSOLIDS (VERBAL REPORT)

D. Telford reported that much work has been done in seeking options for future management of biosolids and highlighted a few options.

Discussion followed which included the following points:

- Whatever option(s) are pursued for the management of biosolids, it must satisfy the Provincial requirements.
- The goal is to proceed with the most appropriate option that is economically feasible.

- A suggestion was made to discontinue the proposed biosolids to farmland pilot study as there are currently no customers (farmers) interested in proceeding at this time and the CRD Board has indicated that they do not support application of biosolids to farmland.

MOVED by R. Commandeur, **SECONDED** by M. Lougher-Goodey, that the preparation of the Land Application Plan and communications plan for the biosolids to farmland pilot study be removed from the task list at this time with the option of bringing it forward in the future, if needed.

CARRIED

MOVED by M. Matheson, **SECONDED** by J. Mar, that the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission request staff to prepare a plan for engaging a consultant to review biosolids management options, in more detail, and report back to the Commission at the November meeting.

CARRIED

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A member informed the group of the upcoming Biochar Field Day at the Fraser Common Farm Cooperative in Aldergrove on September 24.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 10 November 2011 at 9:15 a.m. at the Saanich Peninsula treatment plant meeting room.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by R. Commandeur, **SECONDED** by M. Matheson, that the meeting adjourn at 11:11 a.m.

CARRIED