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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SAANICH PENINSULA WASTEWATER COMMISSION  
Held Thursday, May 16, 2019 in the Saanich Peninsula Treatment Plant Meeting Room,  
9055 Mainwaring Road, North Saanich, BC**

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**PRESENT:** P. Wainwright (Chair); M. Thompson (V. Chair); R. Barnhart; C. McNeil-Smith;  
G. Orr; M. Weisenberger; K. Wing

**STAFF:** T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; I. Jesney, Senior  
Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; S. May, Senior Manager, Facilities and  
Engineering Services; P. Kickham, Manager, Regulatory Services; D. Dionne  
(recorder)

**ABSENT:** M. Doehnel; C. Graham; R. Windsor

**ALSO PRESENT:** one member of the public

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Orr,  
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission approve the agenda.

**CARRIED**

2. Adoption of Minutes from March 21, 2019

**MOVED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barnhart,  
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission adopt the minutes of the meeting held  
March 21, 2019.

**CARRIED**

3. Chair's Remarks

He noted that the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission (the Commission) will need to  
move into Closed session for part of the discussion under Item 5.1.

4. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations or delegations

5. Commission Business

5.1. **Discussion:** Beneficial Use of Biosolids Produced at the Residuals Treatment Facility  
(RTF)

T. Robbins introduced Stephen May, Senior Manager of Facilities and Engineering Services  
and Peter Kickham, Manager, Regulatory Services.

T. Robbins reviewed the main points as outlined in the discussion background. A summary  
of feedback received on the proposed process will be presented to the Parks & Environment  
Committee and subsequently submitted to the Province in June to meet the deadline.  
Discussion ensued and staff responded to questions from the Commission regarding the

need to revise the Liquid Waste Management Plans and the timeline involved with the required public consultation.

At 9:20 a.m. the Commission moved into closed session.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Orr, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barnhart, That **in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, 90(2)(b)** the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

**CARRIED**

The Commission rose from its closed session at 9:58 a.m. without report.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Orr, **SECONDED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, That the Commission rise from its closed session without report.

**CARRIED**

The Commission continued its discussion on the topics of:

- Costs related to processing.
- Transportation and tipping fee versus Class A biosolids production on a small scale.
- The market for the Class A biosolids and how the economics have changed since the production of PenGrow.

R. Barnhart spoke in favour of the proposed solution, noting the evolution of sludge/biosolids treatment and the issue of emerging contaminants, such as micro plastics. Moving the product to cement kiln use is a final destruction, keeping contaminants out of the food chain.

The Commission discussed whether or not the CRD Board would reconsider land application of biosolids. T. Robbins advised that the CRD Board has reaffirmed its policy, adopted July 13, 2011, of no land application of biosolids.

The Chair noted that using the material in a cement kiln is a short-term solution and asked what the long-term solution is. Staff advised that, within three years of operation they will have been able to collect sufficient data from the kiln that can then be evaluated and all long-term options would be considered.

The Commission considered the implications of ashes produced from the burning of biosolids versus what fuel is currently being used by the facility. Staff noted that the facility is currently burning coal and the dust tumbles to the bottom and stays as an ashy final product; the biosolids would reduce the amount of ash produced.

The Commission enquired about First Nations engagement on the proposed solution. Staff advised that they have met with various First Nations groups and that the future would see broader scale meetings.

**10:33 a.m. M. Thompson left the meeting**

Having discussed and considered the proposed Biosolids Beneficial Use Strategy the Commission put forward the following motion:

**MOVED** by Commissioner Orr, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Weisenberger,  
That, given the constraint of no land application and based on the information received with respect to the Residual Treatment Facility and the short term and long term direction, the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission support the proposed Biosolids Beneficial Use Strategy.

**CARRIED**

6. New Business

There was no new business.

7. Motion to Close the Meeting

The Commission moved into closed session for a discussion under Item 5.1.

8. Adjournment

**MOVED** by Commissioner Barnhart, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Weisenberger,  
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting be adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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Secretary