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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SAANICH PENINSULA WASTEWATER COMMISSION**  
**Held Thursday, October 17, 2019 in the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant**  
**Meeting Room, 9055 Mainwaring Road, North Saanich, BC**

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

**STAFF:** R. Lapham, CAO; T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services;  
M. McCrank, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Operations; I. Jesney, Senior  
Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; P. Kickham, Manager, Regulatory  
Services; J. Klassen, Manager, Service Delivery Southern Gulf Islands;  
K. Vincent, Senior Financial Advisor; D. Dionne (recorder)

**ABSENT:** R. Windsor

**ALSO PRESENT:** M. Underwood

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Graham, **SECONDED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith,  
That the October 17, 2019 agenda be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**2. Adoption of Minutes**

**MOVED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Weisenberger,  
That the minutes of the May 16, 2019 meeting be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**3. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair had no remarks.

**4. Presentations/Delegations**

There were no presentations or delegations

**5. General Manager's Report**

There was no report.

**6. Commission Business**

**6.1. SPWWC 19-01** Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Service – 2020 Operating and Capital  
Budget

The Chair noted that the Liquid Waste Management Plan (Peninsula) 2020 Budget  
document was handed out at the beginning of the meeting as part of the budget review.

T. Robbins reviewed the 2020 Operating and Capital budget package noting the following

items:

- 2019 year end Budget Projections.
- There are three major projects:
  - Replacement of the sludge dewatering equipment – he noted that staff are getting close to having a 5-year plan for sludge related to the new Residuals Solids Treatment Facility at Hartland and being able to bring forward tipping fee information.
  - Relining segments of asbestos cement trunk sewer main
  - Manhole repairs
- The Turgoose pump station upgrade is the major Development Cost Charge (DCC) project planned for 2020.
- There is no debt associated with the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Service, staff do not see the need to borrow in the near future.
- Sale of energy to Panorama Recreation Centre – the rate used to determine the 2020 revenue is based on the 2019 natural gas rate, which was abnormally high due to the Enbridge gas line failure.

Discussion ensued regarding the Biosolids treatment study options going forward in 2020 and staff noted that the budget line item was set in 2016 in order to fund a potential pilot study with the intent of a potential sub-regional solution. The Commission requested the funds to carry forward.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Graham, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Orr,  
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission recommend that the CRD Board:

1. Approve the 2020 Saanich Peninsula trunk sewers, treatment and disposal operating and capital budget and the 2020 Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) program budgets including the LWMP administration budget, the Saanich Peninsula Stormwater Quality Management Program budget and the Saanich Peninsula Stormwater Source Control budget; and
2. Balance the 2019 actual revenue and expense on the transfer to capital reserve fund.

**CARRIED**

**6.2. EPP 19-61** Independent Review (Performance Audit) of the Liquid Waste Management Plan

**MOVED** by Commissioner Doehnel, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Weisenberger,  
That the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission endorse creation of the Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan Technical Advisory Committee under the revised terms of reference.

**CARRIED**

**6.3. SPWWC 19-02** Bazan Bay Outfall Inspection

I. Jesney introduced the report noting that an electromagnetic inspection and condition assessment of the outfall was conducted in 2018. The results indicated that the outfall is in good shape and is expected to have at least 15 to 25 years of life left in deteriorated areas, given the current maintenance practices and planning used in managing the outfall.

M. Underwood raised the following First Nations concerns:

- Tsawout First Nations are looking to establish a protected area from Bazan Bay to Cordova Bay to improve the productivity of food security. They are increasing kelp and seaweed production in that area and food security is a main concern.
- The Tsawout First Nations people conduct ceremonial bathing in the sea and are seeking better information sharing and clarification on overflows into the bay to minimize health risks, they feel it is important for them to have contamination numbers.
- Clams are still being harvested in areas and she is not sure if people pay attention to beach closure signs – would like to see an alert system to the First Nation Health Authority (FNHA) and work together.
- They note considerable concerns with respect to remains. Settler community thinking is that remains are only where the villagers were, however she noted that where there was a high incidence of death related to disease such as measles or influenza, people were prepared above the ground and bedrock areas could potentially have remains. They would like to move away from using cultural advisors and instead look at using people raised in the culture and trained as gravediggers.

Discussion ensued regarding the CRD's communication with the FNHA and staff confirmed that FNHA is included in the notification of overflow events through the Environmental Incident Reporting, which also notifies Island Health and provincial regulators at the time of an event.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Weisenberger, **SECONDED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith,  
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission receive the report for information.

**CARRIED**

## 7. New Business

Discussion ensued on the composition and sources of material found in the wastewater sludge and the steps being taken to mitigate the unwanted materials.

***M. Weisenberger left the meeting***

## 8. Adjournment

**MOVED** by Commissioner Graham, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Orr,  
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting be adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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Secretary