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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SAANICH PENINSULA WASTEWATER COMMISSION
Held Thursday, January 16, 2020 in the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant
Meeting Room, 9055 Mainwaring Road, North Saanich, BC

PRESENT: P. Wainwright (Chair); R. Barnhart (Vice Chair); M. Doehnel; C. McNeil-Smith;
G. Orr; M. Thompson; M. Weisenberger

STAFF: T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; R. Lapham, CAO;
M. McCrank, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Operations; I. Jesney, Senior
Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; M. Cowley, Manager Wastewater
Engineering and Planning; P. Kickham, Manager, Regulatory Services;
D. Dionne (recorder)

REGRETS: D. Kelbert; Z. King; R. Windsor

ALSO PRESENT: M. Underwood

1. CALL TO ORDER

T. Robbins called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR

T. Robbins called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission for 2020.

Commissioner Weisenberger nominated Commissioner Wainwright. Commissioner Wainwright accepted the nomination.

T. Robbins called for nominations a second time.

T. Robbins called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, T. Robbins declared Commissioner Wainwright Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission for 2020 by acclamation.

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Chair Wainwright called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission for 2020.

Commissioner Orr nominated Commissioner Barnhart. Commissioner Barnhart accepted the nomination.

Chair Wainwright called for nominations a second time.

Chair Wainwright called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair Wainwright declared Commissioner Barnhart Vice Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission for 2020 by acclamation.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner Orr, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barnhart,
That the January 16, 2020 Agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner Weisenberger, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Orr,
That the minutes of the October 17, 2019 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

7. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Wainwright noted that Agenda Item 9.1 is not time sensitive and that the Commission may wish to consider deferring to a future meeting to allow the missing members to be present for the discussion.

8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations

9. COMMISSION BUSINESS

9.1. EEP 20-01 Disinfection at Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Commission considered deferring the item to ensure full Commission participation in the discussions. Consideration of the item proceeded.

Discussion ensued regarding First Nations engagement and cultural monitoring. R. Lapham advised that Commission members can review the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project's November 2019 monthly report. He stated that the report outlines the work the Project is undertaking in negotiating an agreement that considers the Project's presence within the W̱SÁNEĆ territory and engaging in further discussions towards an agreement involving the broader relationship between the Capital Regional District (CRD) and the W̱SÁNEĆ Nations.

M. Underwood joined the meeting.

P. Kickham summarized the report noting that disinfection was not included in the original plant construction, but could be considered in the future. In 2015 disinfection was not recommended, but was to be reviewed in five years. All monitoring shows the bacteria levels are not high in the 100-meter dilution zone and staff are not recommending disinfection at this time.

Discussion ensued and staff responded to questions from the Commission regarding:

- Shellfish harvesting closures and the reasons for government closure and marine food security
- The international agreements in place regarding mandatory closures around outfalls
- First Nations Health Authority involvement with closure considerations

Staff advised that the Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) is currently under audit and is the tool the Province uses to impose broader criteria. The audit will provide guiding information to the Commission. There may be opportunity to liaise with First Nations when the audit findings are reported out and for this Commission to provide some overarching input up to the Board. The advantage of using the LWMP as the mechanism is that all the stakeholders and groups are involved.

Discussion ensued regarding a pump station located on Pauquachin Lane.

MOVED by Commissioner Orr

That staff look into the condition of the pump station on Pauquachin Lane and report back to the Commission on its findings.

Commissioner Orr withdrew the motion.

Staff were asked to investigate the status of the pump station on Pauquachin Lane.

MOVED by Commissioner Wainwright, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Doehnel,
The Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission receives this report for information.

CARRIED

9.2. SPWWC 20-01 Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity Update

M. Cowley spoke to the report reviewing plant population flow rate and its projections. He stated that the plant is at about 50%, which is similar to the last report in 2014. He spoke to Peak Day flow and capacity noting that it is not currently a concern, but staff do need to start looking at the Inflow and Infiltration reduction plan.

Discussion ensued and staff responded to questions from the Commission regarding future capacity planning which could include:

- reviving municipal staff technical meetings and include First Nations participation;
- review updated Official Community Plans and understand the population projections and future flow projections;
- review a process for when participants are nearing capacity and what the mechanism is to level it out; and
- prepare some hydraulic modelling and how it ties back with the Development Cost Charge program.

Discussion ensued regarding the T'sawout wastewater treatment plant and whether it factors into the discussion on flow projections, and whether it would be connected into the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWWTP) system. There has been discussion to explore options for improving the existing plant or connecting to the SPWWTP.

MOVED by Commissioner Weisenberger, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barnhart,
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission:

1. Receives this report for information.
2. Directs staff to prepare an amendment to Bylaw No. 2388, to update the design flow allocations and any other required updates.

CARRIED

10. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Doehnel stated a concern with micro plastics from laundry pods not breaking down and causing issues with septic systems and asked whether this has been an issue for the plant.

Staff advised that micro plastics do not have a direct impact on the process at the wastewater treatment plant but do have an environmental impact. The plant is a secondary treatment without tertiary treatment, which might filter more of the micro plastics out.

Discussion ensued regarding education programming, noting that septic system outreach is provided through the CRD's Septic Savvy program. The Source Control program could review micro plastics and bring forward outreach on this topic.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Barnhart, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Weisenberger,
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting be adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

CARRIED

Chair

Secretary