



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SAANICH PENINSULA WASTEWATER COMMISSION
Held Thursday, July 16, 2020 in Meeting Room #6 at Greenglade Community Centre, 2151
Lannon Way, Sidney BC

PRESENT: Commissioners: P. Wainwright (Chair); R. Barnhart (Vice Chair); M. Doehnel; B. Fallot for C. McNeil-Smith; G. Orr; M. Weisenberger; M. Williams;
By WebEx: D. Kelbert; Z. King; R. Windsor

Staff: T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services; P. Kickham, Manager, Environmental Regulations, Environmental Protection; M. Cowley, Manager Wastewater Engineering & Planning; D. Dionne (recorder)
By WebEx: E. Elder, Senior Financial Advisor

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

Chair Wainwright provided a territorial acknowledgement.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner Barnhart, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Weisenberger,
That the minutes of the June 18, 2020 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION

1. That this resolution applies to the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission for the meetings being held between July1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.
2. That the attendance of the public at the place of the meeting cannot be accommodated in accordance with the applicable requirements or recommendations under the *Public Health Act*, despite the best efforts of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission, because:
 - a. The available meeting facilities cannot accommodate more than (8) people in person, including members of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission and staff, and
 - b. There are no other facilities presently available that will allow physical attendance of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission and the public in sufficient numbers; and
3. That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission is ensuring openness, transparency, accessibility and accountability in respect of the open meeting by the following means:
 - a. By allowing the public to hear or participate via teleconference or electronic meeting software,
 - b. By providing notice of the meeting in newspaper or local notice Board, including the methods for providing written or electronic submissions,

- c. By making the meeting agenda, as well as the other relevant documents, available on the CRD website, and directing interested persons to the website by means of the notices provided in respect of the meeting,
- d. By strongly encouraging the provision of, and subsequently receiving and distributing to members, written correspondence from the public in advance of the meeting, and
- e. By making the minutes of the meeting available on the CRD website following the meeting.

MOVED by Commissioner Weisenberger, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Williams,
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission adopt the resolution as presented.

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Wainwright made no remarks.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

6. COMMISSION BUSINESS

6.1. EEP 20-32 Management of Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Residual Solids

P. Kickham summarized the report as presented.

Staff responded to questions from the Commission and the following additional information was presented:

- Concerns with pharmaceuticals and personal care products
 - o The Biosolids Beneficial Reuse Strategy involves the majority of the biosolids being trucked to the lower mainland and incinerated in a cement kiln. A small amount would be used at Hartland Landfill as engineered bio-cover to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.
 - o Bioaccumulation of Pharmaceuticals – personal care products and pharmaceuticals are generally not Bioaccumulation substances.
 - o In terms of the destruction of those products in the combustion process they are components of the biosolids that will combust at relatively low temperatures.
- The ash from the cement kilns will most likely be used in cement factories who will incorporate it into their cement production.
- Long-term options for the biosolids – under the Provincial Municipal Waste Regulation, there are a number of beneficial reuse options available to municipalities handling residual solids. One is land application, which Capital Regional District (CRD) is not doing, other options include, co-combustion and gasification.
- The CRD is working on releasing a Requests for Expressions of Interests (RFEOI) for options analysis and pilot testing of the full suite of potential beneficial reuse options under the Municipal Waste Regulation.
- The RFEOI will be structured to review scaleable volumes to get a sense of the capacity required to beneficially utilize all of the region's residuals, or simply just the

- Core Area's. Staff can then work with those proponents to pursue different options that will include the Saanich Peninsula residuals component.
- The Province may direct SPWWC to use the Residuals Treatment Facility (RTF).
 - Due to the high dollar value of the grant funding contributed by the Province to construct the RTF, the Province may not be agreeable to grant funding for a different sub-regional solution.
 - RTF Capacity
 - o The RTF was designed with enough capacity to serve as a merchant facility to receive solids from Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant (SPWWTP) and potentially Sooke and the wastewater treatment plants on the Southern Gulf Islands.
 - o The capacity is designed to accept all the Core Area residuals for 20 years. For the interim period there is surplus capacity based on the residuals received from McLoughlin Treatment Plant. It will be determined over the course of time, what the actual capacity is compared to the projections.
 - o Over and above the 20-year capacity, there is opportunity for an expansion of the facility to provide a further 25 years of capacity. Bringing the capacity up to 2065.
 - o Beyond 2045, it has been projected that a second wastewater treatment facility would need to be built for the Core Area, likely on the Westshore.
 - Odour control
 - o Odour threshold requirements are built into the contract, with an obligation to control odours regardless of where those odours may be generated at facility.
 - o The area where the trucked solids are disposed of is under vacuum and will be treated.
 - Use of Pyrolysis – Biosolids feedstock can be highly variable depending on which municipality you're in. A review has shown that large facilities have required very expensive retrofits in the first two or three years of operation. Therefore staff are proposing a small scale pilot to evaluate these options.

MOVED by Commissioner Orr, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Weisenberger,

The motion was amended to include "after receiving and analyzing Requests for Expressions of Interests for options" at the end of the paragraph.

That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission direct staff to prepare the 2021 service operating budget with the intent to haul residual solids to the Hartland Residual Solids Treatment Facility for processing and beneficial reuse, and direct staff to evaluate options for sub-regional processing and disposal/beneficial reuse of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant residual solids after receiving and analyzing Requests for Expressions of Interests for options.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Options and literature research for addressing concerns with pharmaceuticals, personal care products and micro plastics in the residual solids
- Other processing technologies

MOVED by Commissioner King, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Doehnel,
That the motion be further amended to include the following sentence at the end of the motion:

And that staff report back with best information to address the concerns of pharmaceuticals, personal care products and micro plastics.

CARRIED

Opposed: Barnhart, Wiesenberger, Windsor

That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission direct staff:

1. to prepare its 2021 budget with the intent to haul residual solids to the Hartland Residual Solids Treatment Facility for processing and beneficial reuse;
2. to evaluate options for sub-regional processing and disposal/beneficial reuse of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant residual solids after receiving and analyzing Requests for Expressions of Interests for options; and
3. report back with best information to address the concerns of pharmaceuticals, personal care products and micro plastics.

CARRIED

Opposed: Windsor

7. NEW BUSINESS

Staff responded to a request from the Commission regarding an opportunity to tour the McLoughlin Wastewater Treatment Plant advising that the request would be brought to the Board Chair for his review.

Staff advised that the next meeting is planned for October, however if something emerges a September meeting is possible.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Weisenberger, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Doehnel,
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting be adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY