



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE Saanich Peninsula Water Commission, held Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 10:25 am, Sidney Community Safety Building, 2245 Oakville Ave, Sidney BC

PRESENT: Commissioners: D. Kelbert (Chair); M. Doehnel (Vice Chair); S. Duncan (EP); D. Halldorson; Z. King; C. McNeil-Smith; C. Pinches; S. Shrivastava; R. Windsor
Staff: A. Fraser, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; J. Marr, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; J. Dales, Senior Manager, Wastewater Infrastructure Operations; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations; C. Lowe, Environmental Science Officer, Environmental Monitoring Programs; D. Dionne, Administrative Coordinator, Integrated Water Services (Recorder)

REGRETS: D. Helgason; P. Jones

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 10:25 am.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

An acknowledgment was provided in the preceding meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Pinches,
That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Halldorson,
That the minutes of the July 20, 2023 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair made no remarks.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

6.1. Watermain Leak Repair, McTavish Road - Update

A. Fraser reported that:

- Staff received a resident notification of a leak on McTavish Road West of East Saanich Road on September 2, 2023.
- The source of the leak was the Transmission Main No. 4, a 600-millimeter concrete cylinder pipe which is the primary feed for the Saanich Peninsula.
- She noted there were some unique challenges with this leak.

- Staff reviewed various solutions to address the repair and a location was identified where a temporary line stop could be installed, which allowed for diversion of the water through the Lowe Road pumping station and through the reservoir system.
- Public service announcements were issued to the communities to help reduce flows by reducing water usage.
- Crews worked around the clock from Friday, September 8 to Tuesday, September 11 to undertake the repair.
- It was found that a very short section of pipe had been damaged from what looks like construction from some adjacent infrastructure where a temporary patch had been applied and grated over.
- The entire section has now been replaced and the pipe outside of the replaced section was still in very good condition.
- She noted that this was a very successful repair; the team undertook a lot of procedures and processes seamlessly and the water was restored to the communities quickly.
- Key success factors were:
 - The team had critical spare parts on hand; a lot of the pipe and couplings used could have taken weeks to manufacture and we had those on hand, which was very good forethought.
 - This was not a traditional repair. The team had undergone training in advance in order to make sure they were prepared in the event of such a leak.
 - The collaboration among the teams, Integrated Water Services, CRD corporately and with staff from the Public Works in North Saanich – an impressive group effort.
- Lessons learned:
 - Need to review an alternate feed to the Peninsula, which is planned, and has just gone to tender with the Bear Hill interconnect planned for 2024.
 - Need for a review of where there is storage capacity needs to facilitate these repairs when there is a single supply.

Commissioner Windsor left the meeting.

7. COMMISSION BUSINESS

7.1. Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

Commissioner Doehnel stated that there was a Water Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday and noted the following information:

- The Committee received some excellent presentations from Capital Regional District staff.
- Discussions around agricultural water rates are ongoing.
- One of the Committee members had a document on the history of once through cooling systems in terms of not wasting that water. Commissioner Doehnel will provide a copy of the report to the Commission.

7.2. Water Watch Report

Received for information.

8. NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

The following notice of motion was provided by Commissioners King, Doehnel and Chair Kelbert, for consideration at the next meeting:

8.1. Speaker Series: Commissioners King, Doehnel and Chair Kelbert

Whereas, there is a need for the commission to engage with citizens about water and wastewater trends, technologies and ideas, and

Whereas, the benefits of engaging with the community before tackling pressing issues will move the relationship with the public beyond a transactional exchange and toward increased trust, and

Whereas hearing from outside experts on topics of public interest will benefit staff, leaders and the community.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission direct staff to organize an annual speaker series for the peninsula, dedicated to presentations by researchers and public interest groups that are focused on emerging topics concerning water and wastewater.

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Shrivastava, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Pinches,
That the September 28, 2023 meeting be adjourned at 10:40 am.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY