



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at 9 am in the Goldstream Conference Room,
479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC

PRESENT: R. Mersereau (Chair), G. Orr, M. Williams, J. Rogers, R. Neuman, M. Doehnel, T. Wood, B. June, B. Wilkes
Staff: T. Robbins, M. Montague (Recorder)
ABSENT: M. Thompson, F. Schultz, P. Elworthy, M. Gingras, R. Machin, C. Nowakowski

The meeting was called to order at 9 am. The Chair welcomed members back following the summer break.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

- First Nations engagement

MOVED by R. Neuman and **SECONDED** by G. Orr,
that the Water Advisory Committee approve the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MAY 6, 2015

MOVED by T. Wood and **SECONDED** by M. Williams
that the Water Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the meeting held May 6, 2015.

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATIONS

- There were no presentations.

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair remarked as follows:

- She participated in meetings of all three working groups during the summer, and the Water Conservation and Value Committee is meeting with T. Robbins today following the Water Advisory Committee.
- A representative from the Polis Water Sustainability Project has asked to postpone their presentation to the Committee until November.
- She noted that she will not be as available to support the working groups as she will be starting work on her Masters this fall. She may also step down as Chair next year.

5. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- a) Water Value and Conservation
 - A work plan for the working group was circulated to members last spring.
 - Several editorial pieces have been published in the Times Colonist and the working group are preparing another piece to be published between September 8 and 11.

- b) Water for Food
- Two memos were considered by the Water Advisory Committee recommending that the Regional Water Supply Commission discontinue use of the term 'agricultural subsidy' in budget materials and in internal correspondence at IWS.

MOVED by B. Wilkes and **SECONDED** by R. Neuman,
That the Water Advisory Committee support sending the memo to the Regional Water Supply Commission recommending that the term 'agricultural subsidy' be discontinued in budget materials and in internal correspondence at IWS.

CARRIED
M. Williams OPPOSED

MOVED by M. Williams and **SECONDED** by G. Orr,
That the Water Advisory Committee rescind the previous motion.

CARRIED

MOVED by M. Williams and **SECONDED** by R. Neuman,
That the Water Advisory Committee direct staff to revise the agricultural subsidy reference in the 2016 budget documents to "agricultural water rate funding".

CARRIED

- c) Disaster Planning
- M. Williams spoke to the report to the Committee re: Water Supply Emergency Preparedness Plan

MOVED by M. Williams and **SECONDED** by B. Wilkes,
That the Water Advisory Committee recommend to the Regional Water Supply Commission that a Water Supply Emergency Preparedness plan be prepared as outlined in the report.

CARRIED

6. QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

First Nations Engagement – T. Robbins will follow up with S. Hallatt regarding the next steps in finding a First Nations representative for the Water Advisory Committee.

Leech Update – at its meeting in September, the Regional Water Supply Commission will be receiving two reports; one on the Leech Open Houses and the second on the Public feedback received with regard to restricting unauthorized access to the Leech Water Supply Area and amending the bylaw to permit enforcement. Input from the Water Advisory Committee will be presented to the Regional Water Supply Commission in conjunction with the report.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by M. Williams and **SECONDED** by G. Orr,
That the meeting of the Water Advisory Committee be adjourned at 11:20 am.