



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 1:30 p.m., 6th Floor Boardroom, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

PRESENT: **Members:** G. Baird; M. Doehnel for R. Barnhart; J. Rogers; D. Timothy
Electronic: R. Hunsinger (Chair); J. Todd (Vice Chair); E. Cote; T. Krawczyk;
K. Sander; S. Sinclair; M. Turner (3:10 p.m.)
Staff: T. Robbins, General Manager; A. Constabel, Senior Manager,
Watershed Protection; T. Urquhart, Communications Coordinator; D. Dionne
(Recorder)

REGRETS: P. Lennox; C. Nowakowski; H. Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Vice Chair Todd advised that she would be Chairing the meeting today.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by G. Baird and **SECONDED** by J. Rogers,
That the agenda for the September 24, 2020 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by G. Baird and **SECONDED** by J. Rogers,
That the minutes of the June 25, 2020 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Vice Chair Todd advised that Heather Thompson recently had a baby and will be rejoining Committee meetings as soon as she is able.

4. PRESENTATIONS / DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

5. REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION BUSINESS

5.1. Summary of Regional Water Supply Commission Recommendations

T. Robbins highlighted the following staff reports received at the September 16, 2020 Regional Water Supply Commission meeting:

1. Remediation of Leech Water Supply Gravel Pit – Consideration of Certificate of Compliance.

2. Wildfires in the Greater Victoria Water Supply Area – 2020.

A. Constabel provided a presentation on the wildfires.

MOVED by G. Baird and **SECONDED** by J. Rogers,
That the Summary of Recommendations be received for information.

CARRIED

5.2. Water Watch Report

T. Robbins provided an update on water storage and demand over spring, summer and into the fall.

Discussion ensued and staff responded to questions about turbidity events and peak flow.

MOVED by G. Baird and **SECONDED** by J. Rogers,
That the September 14, 2020 Water Watch report be received for information.

CARRIED

6. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE BUSINESS

6.1. Working Group Discussion

T. Robbins provided background on previous working groups noting that the groups would meet on their own, without staff facilitation, to discuss or investigate specific topics of interest. The groups would report back to the Water Advisory Committee at its regular meetings. The list of working group topics below are areas of interest to the Regional Water Supply Commission and are provided to help guide the formation of the working groups.

Discussion ensued and staff responded to questions regarding, Regional Water Supply Strategic Plan and disaster preparedness.

6.2. Working Group Establishment and Procedures

- 1) Long Term Water Supply and Demand Management
- 2) Water Quality
- 3) Major Capital Projects
- 4) Water Rates
 - Agriculture
 - First Nations
- 5) Water Supply Area – Land Acquisition Strategy
- 6) Dam Safety

The Committee discussed the list of topics and established working groups in the following areas:

- Long term water supply and demand management
 - Elise Cote
 - Jennifer Todd
- Water Quality
 - Ron Hunsinger
 - David Timothy
- Major Capital Projects (including dam safety)
 - Gord Baird
- Water Rates (including agriculture and First Nations)
 - Tayler Krawczyk
 - Karen Sander

The Committee agreed that members would work together via email to confirm who would be in each group and how and when they will meet. Staff will ensure there is a standing agenda item on future Water Advisory Committee agendas for working groups to report on progress and findings to the Committee.

MOVED by G. Baird and **SECONDED** by E. Cote,
That the Water Advisory Committee establish working groups, with three to four members each, in the following areas:

- Long term water supply and demand management
- Water Quality
- Major Capital Projects (including dam safety)
- Water Rates (including agriculture and First Nations)

And that each working group report back to the Committee, at its regular business meetings, its progress and findings.

CARRIED

6.3. Update on the pH and Corrosion Study

T. Robbins advised that:

- Staff continue to undertake a recommissioning of the new disinfection works to replace the chlorine and ammonia gas system with liquid sodium hypochlorite and ammonia systems at the disinfection facility, following completion of deficiency work.
- There was some delay in receiving supplies from the United States.
- Once this work is complete and the new system is operating stably, the second phase of the pH and Corrosion Study can begin, which is the tap sampling program.
- The second phase won't begin until the new system is operational, as the pH and corrosivity of the water changes when operating on the liquid sodium hypochlorite system versus the gas system.
- Recommissioning should be completed in the next month or so, and the tap sampling program could begin before the end of the year.

- Staff continue to address the impacts of COVID-19 and confirm with potential participants of the tap sampling program that they are willing to work with the CRD.

Staff responded to questions regarding the tap sampling program and water pH conditions.

MOVED by T. Krawczyk and **SECONDED** by J. Rogers,
That the update be received for information.

CARRIED

7. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE – EXPIRING TERMS (DECEMBER 31, 2020)

- Sandy Sinclair
- Ron Hunsinger
- David Timothy
- Pat Lennox
- Tayler Krawczyk

T. Robbins advised that:

- The listed members' two-year term is expiring at the end of December.
- Each listed member is able to serve another two-year term.
- Staff will email each member individually to confirm if they wish to stand another term.
- All vacancies need to be advertised for.
- The names of those interested would be forwarded to the Regional Water Supply Commission to make a recommendation to the Board.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by D. Timothy and **SECONDED** by E. Cote,
That the Water Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY