



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY SELECT COMMITTEE

Held Wednesday, November 5, 2014, CRD Board Room, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC

PRESENT: B. Desjardins, Esquimalt (Co-Chair); C. Hamilton, Colwood (Co-Chair); S. Young, Langford; L. Seaton, Langford; G. Hill, View Royal; K. Cossey, Songhees Nation (for Chief R. Sam)
Councillors: J. Cullington, Colwood; L. Hundleby, Esquimalt (9:45)
Staff: L. Hutcheson, K. Quayle, C. Leahy (Recorder)

Also Present: J. Miller, Esquimalt; M. Baxter, Colwood; J. Bowden, Langford; C. Houghton, Aurora Consulting; S. Russell (City of Colwood)

Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED by Mayor Desjardins, **SECONDED** by Councillor Seaton,
That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee approve the agenda as distributed.

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2014

Two amendments were suggested:

- Fix typo under Item 4, bottom of page, 1st bullet: to "bene3fit"
- Change to Item 5: "He advised that the first round of public engagement will begin in November and ~~will determine whether the right question is being asked~~ *we will ask the public what parameters they would require in order to site wastewater treatment (appearance, cost, etc.).*

MOVED by Mayor Desjardins, **SECONDED** by Mayor Hill
That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee approve the minutes of October 23, 2014, as amended.

CARRIED

3. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mayor Hamilton thanked everyone for attending the meeting to continue this work.

4. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Sandra Russell, Communications Manager, City of Colwood, gave a PowerPoint presentation on draft materials for public consultation on Westside sewage treatment and resource recovery. She also distributed a draft public questionnaire.

Ensuing discussion included the following points:

- Re Q3, Public Input Questionnaire, "What's Important to You?": Should gasification be included? Other benefits? Should climate change be mentioned?

- Staff need to include *examples*: photos/information, including price tag, on existing wastewater treatment facilities and resource recovery facilities that serve similar-sized communities. How do landlocked cities treat their sewage?
- Keep information at a broad level, but create a library of links to photos/more detailed information. Don't want to lose our audience/overwhelm the public with too many details in initial outreach, i.e., they may not know the meaning of "gasification."
- What are the costs for separating biosolids? \$38 million? CRD Board disallowed applying biosolids to land but the US uses it in agriculture and we buy their produce.
- Reframe the language: "wastewater recovery plant" instead of "sewage treatment plant"
- Show that new technologies would be considered.
- Re-use existing infrastructure to reduce costs.
- Need to show what resource recovery is and how it will be used.
- Use a strategic approach. Identify key fundamental issues. What is the situational context? What does the public expect from us?
- Figure out potential public criticisms in advance and address them first.
- We need to know the original budget for the project, what's been spent to date, and Westside funding for current planning work.
- There was a Seaterra report regarding emerging deleterious substances of concern in sewage. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans will charge us large fines if we don't remove substances from the outfall.

C. Houghton and S. Russell will incorporate these comments into the public consultation materials and bring this back to the next Select Committee meeting. The current plan is to have the initial public open house in late November.

MOVED by Councillor Seaton, **SECONDED** by Mayor Desjardins,
That the presentation on Westside wastewater treatment solutions be received for information.

CARRIED

(10:37 am – S. Russell left the meeting.)

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE - UPDATE

Mayor Hamilton opened the floor for discussion on the revised Terms of Reference for the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee.

Current cost-sharing apportionments are included in the staff report and can be revisited in the future if necessary.

Mayor Young requested that staff provide the Select Committee with the status of budget/costs, and made the motion below.

MOVED by Mayor Young, **SECONDED** by Mayor Desjardins,
That staff be directed to: provide (a) the original sewage treatment capital budget for the Core Area, (b) what remains of that budget, (c) CRD/federal/provincial apportionment based on the funding agreements in place (d) Westside funding for the planning work underway; and that staff provide the budget status to the Select Committee on a monthly basis.

CARRIED

A member asked if the Westside group is able to access closed CALWMC information. L. Hutcherson advised that the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee would need to make a recommendation to release closed reports to the Westside Select Committee.

MOVED by K. Cossey, **SECONDED** by Mayor Desjardins,
That it be recommended to the CRD Board through the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee:
That the Terms of Reference for the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee be adopted, as amended and presented in Appendix A.

CARRIED

6. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Mayor Desjardins stated that the committee must try to have a broader discussion with the public so they can provide us with objectives/parameters of how they wish us to move forward.

Revisions should be made to:

Page 1, Introduction: "This Project charter applies only to the Westside municipalities **and Songhees Nation.**"

Page 2, 1st bullet: "Identify wastewater and residual solids treatment solutions for all seven municipalities and the ~~two~~ **participating** First Nations that meet or exceed...."

MOVED by Mayor Desjardins, **SECONDED** by Mayor Hill,
That the project framework staff report be received for information.

CARRIED

7. PUBLIC CONSULTATION STRATEGY

This was already discussed under Item 4.

MOVED by Mayor Desjardins, **SECONDED** by Mayor Hill,
That the public consultation strategy be referred back to staff for amendments, as discussed under Item 4, and bring revised materials to the next meeting for approval.

CARRIED

8. NEW BUSINESS

The committee wishes to send a letter to the Minister of Environment providing an update on its progress.

MOVED by Mayor Desjardins, **SECONDED** by Mayor Hill,
That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee send a letter to the Minister of Environment providing an update on Westside progress, after the November 12 CRD Board meeting.

CARRIED

The committee asked Larisa Hutcheson to provide an update on the East Side's work at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 18 @ 9:30 a.m. at Colwood city hall.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Mayor Desjardins, **SECONDED** by Mayor Hill,
That the meeting of the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select
Committee be adjourned at 11:10 am.

CARRIED

Chair

Recorder