



Making a difference...together

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission, held Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., In the Goldstream Meeting Room, 479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC**

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**PRESENT: Committee Members:** D. Pepino (Chair); L. Cutler (Vice Chair); M. Hicks, Electoral Area Director; M. Lechowicz

**Staff:** T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations; D. Puskas, Manager, Capital Projects; C. Moch, Manager, Water Quality Operations; T. Duthie, Manager, Administrative Services; M. Risvold, Committee and Administrative Clerk (Recorder)

**REGRETS:**

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 1:01.

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The Senior Manager called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission for 2022.

M. Lechowicz nominated D. Pepino. D. Pepino accepted the nomination.

The Senior Manager called for nominations a second time.

The Senior Manager called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, the Senior Manager declared D. Pepino Chair of the Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission for 2022 by acclamation.

**2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission for the term ending December 31, 2022.

M. Lechowicz nominated L. Cutler. L. Cutler accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for nominations a second time.

The Chair called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, the Chair declared L. Cutler vice Chair of the Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission for the term ending December 31, 2022 by acclamation.

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOVED** by M. Hicks, **SECONDED** by L. Cutler,  
That the agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

### 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Paragraph four of item 5.1 was amended as follows:

“T. Robbins stated that Island Health has put the onus on the ~~CRD Commission~~...”

**MOVED** by M. Hicks, **SECONDED** by L. Cutler,  
That the minutes of the October 28, 2021 meeting be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

### 5. CHAIR’S REMARKS

The Chair provided background academic history and thanked the commission for election of Chair. The Chair’s remarks focused on the need to listen carefully to seasoned individuals to avoid making bad decisions.

### 6. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

### 7. SENIOR MANAGER’S REPORT

S. Irg provided the commission meeting schedule for the year, advising there will be three meetings held in 2022. The meetings will be held in the months of February, June and in the Fall. Additional meetings remain at the call of the Chair.

### 8. COMMISSION BUSINESS

#### 8.1. Project and Operations Update

S. Irg spoke to the item. He advised that reservoir cleaning, inspection and flushing of the distribution system was completed after the report was written.

Staff responded to a question from the commission regarding the recent communication outage and back-up battery. Staff advised there is a back-up battery, however a fuse had tripped causing the outage. The pump failure was ruled to be end of life.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Power outage and back-up generator.
- Storage tank cleaning procedure.

**MOVED** by M. Hicks, **SECONDED** by L. Cutler,  
The Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission receives this report for information.

**CARRIED**

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **9.1. Wilderness Mountain Water System (Capital Regional District), 706 Cains Way, Sooke, BC**

S. Irg spoke to the item and outlined the details on the follow up response to Island Health to meet the surface water objectives. He noted the filtration exemption has not existed since 2017, and advised the system is not currently in compliance.

T. Robbins advised Island Health responded to CRD seeking clarification with respect to the conceptual design work proposed starting this year. Staff will create the terms of reference for hiring a consultant to obtain further conceptual design information to provide more formal feedback. Discussion ensued.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **10.1. Correspondence from D. Pepino**

Correspondence received from D. Pepino on file and available upon request.

- Procurement assessment: a fluorometer for depth profiling phytoplankton
- Adaptive Management of the 2022-2023 Budget for the Wilderness Mountain Water System
- 2022-2.691 – Wilderness Mountain Water Service (WMWS) - Final Budget Modified Feb 22, 2022 V4
- Proposal for further analysis of the SCADA data for the WMWS treatment plant
- OAGBC Protection of Drinking Water Report

The Chair discussed budget alternatives proposed by the commission which included:

- A request for more data from the water system, reservoir and treatment plant.
- The possibility of changing the filter type.
- Increasing SCADA analysis.
- Working collaboratively with staff.
- Making minor adjustments to the existing infrastructure.

Discussion ensued.

Staff highlighted the funds transferred into the operating reserve account from the 2021 year end, surplus, revenue, and operating account. Staff advised that the intake pump failure and water license fees being reconciled have cost the commission \$5,500 for 2022. Staff advised SCADA is used for plant operators to monitor for any anomalies. Staff advised that the Harmsco filters down to five microns are washable, filters below five microns are not washable and costly. String wound filters are not washable.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Analyzing data from all systems for consultants to review.
- Meeting and trial proposal with Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA).
- The commission working in partnership with the CRD.

T. Robbins acknowledged the willingness and expertise that the commission brings to the community. A hybrid model consisting of staff working collaboratively with the commission was discussed. A consultant would be hired and funded through Community Works Funds to view the proposal for Island Health.

At the request of the consultant more data may be required following their initial review to complete the conceptual design based on all relevant parameters. Staff will involve the commission in various stages of the conceptual design. The consultant will sign off on the conceptual design for provincial service water objectives. Discussion ensued.

**MOVED** by M. Lechowicz, **SECONDED** by L. Cutler,  
That the Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission support the Capital Regional District with hiring an engineering consultant for the water treatment plant conceptual design work project scheduled for 2022.

**CARRIED**

**MOVED** by M. Lechowicz, **SECONDED** by L. Cutler,  
That the Wilderness Mountain Water Service Commission re-affirm acceptance and approval of the 2022 operating and capital budget, as amended and presented on October 28, 2021 with the inclusion of year-end actuals.

**CARRIED**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED** by M. Hicks, **SECONDED** by M. Lechowicz,  
That the February 22, 2022 meeting be adjourned at 2:31.

**CARRIED**

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**CHAIR**

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**SECRETARY**