

Meeting Minutes

Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission

Thursday, June 4, 2026

9:35 AM

Meeting Rm. 2, Sidney Community Safety Bldg.
2245 Oakville Ave., Sidney, BC

PRESENT

R. Novek (Chair), D. Halldorson (Vice Chair), E. Diller, M. Doehnel, J. Martin (EP), C. McNeil-Smith

Staff: A. Fraser, General Manager, Infrastructure and Water Services; J. Dales, Senior Manager, Wastewater Infrastructure Operations; J. Marr, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Planning and Engineering; R. Tooke, Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation; L. Ferris, Manager, Resource Recovery and Innovation (EP); J. Kelly, Senior Manager, Regional Water Strategic Program; P. Kickham, Manager, Environmental Regulations (EP); M. Miklea, Deputy Corporate Officer/Manager, Legislative Services; J. Ives, Committee Clerk (recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Commissioners Graham, Jones, Shrivastava, Windsor

The meeting was called to order at 9:46 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Novek provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by C. McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by E. Diller,
That the agenda of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting of
June 4, 2026 be approved.
CARRIED**

3. Adoption of Minutes

- 3.1. [26-0665](#) Minutes of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission Meeting of April 2, 2026

**MOVED by C. McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by D. Halldorson,
That the minutes of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting of
April 2, 2026 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED**

4. Chair's Remarks

There were no Chair's remarks.

5. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. Commission Business

6.1. [26-0646](#) General Manager's Verbal Update - June 2026

A. Fraser advised there were no updates.

6.2. [26-0645](#) Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Service 2026 Mid-Year Capital Projects and Operations Update

A. Fraser presented Item 6.2. for information.

6.3. [26-0624](#) Biochar Project Update

R. Tooke and L. Ferris presented Item 6.3. for information.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- procurement process and selection of carbonization technology
- determining the final project business case
- cost of project expected to be comparable to current cost to dispose of biosolids beneficially, with cost per tonne of processing including both capital and operating costs
- provincial regulations currently apply to air emissions from biochar production but not the product's end uses
- scrubbing technology and air quality modeling work
- public and First Nations engagement processes

7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Motion to Close the Meeting

9.1. [26-0685](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

MOVED by D. Haldorson, **SECONDED** by E. Diller,
That the meeting be closed for first nations or indigenous entity negotiations in
accordance with Section 90(2)(b)(iii) of the Community Charter.
CARRIED

The Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission went into closed session at
10:31 am.

The Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission rose from the closed session
at 10:59 pm without report.

11. Adjournment

MOVED by C. McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by E. Diller,
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting of June 4, 2026 be
adjourned at 10:59 am.
CARRIED

Chair

Recorder