

Meeting Minutes

Regional Water Supply Commission

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

11:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT:

L. Szpak (Chair); G. Baird (EP) (V. Chair); C. Chambers; S. Dubow (EP); S. Duncan (EP);
C. Graham (EP); K. Harper (EP); M. Hicks (EP); B. Isitt (EP); K. Kahakauwila (EP); G. Logan (EP);
J. Loveday (EP); R. Mersereau; T. Morrison; J. Rogers (EP); C. Stock; N. Taylor; R. Wade (EP);
G. Young

STAFF:

T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; A. Constabel, Senior Manager, Watershed Protection; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; I. Jesney, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations; T. Duthie, Manager, Integrated Water Services Administration Services; D. Dionne, Administrative Coordinator; S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk; M. Risvold, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

REGRETS: Z. De Vries; T. St-Pierre, E. Wood Zhelka

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 am

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice Chair Baird provided the territorial acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersereau,

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. Adoption of February 16, 2022 Minutes

Attachments: [Draft Minutes: February 16, 2022](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Baird and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stock,
That the Minutes of the February 16, 2022 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked commissioners and staff for the great work being done for regional water in the community.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

T. Robbins provided updates on the following:

- Water supply outlook
- Long term water supply master plan update

7. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

7.1. Summary of Water Advisory Committee Recommendations

Attachments: [Summary Of Water Advisory Committee Recommendations](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Rogers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,
That the Summary of Water Advisory Committee Recommendations be
received for information.

CARRIED

8. COMMISSION BUSINESS

8.1. Demand Management Update

Attachments: [Staff Report: Demand Management Update](#)
[Appendix A: Regional Water Demand Trends](#)
[Appendix B: Demand Management Program - Key Priorities & Deliverables](#)

G. Harris spoke to Item 8.1.

Staff advised that there are new educational videos to support Demand Management programs and presented one of the videos as an example.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- First Nations water servicing
- Watershed planning
- Working with local governments
- Sharing CRD videos publicly
- Reducing waste on revenue water
- Water conservation
- Risk to trees when reducing watering
- Population growth and consumption
- Longevity of water supply
- Status of the service agreement process with municipalities
- Potential of observing successful demand management programs occurring in other jurisdictions
- Smith Hill reservoir construction

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Chambers,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission receive this report for information.

CARRIED

8.2. Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Mining Access Request

Attachments: [Staff Report: Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Mining Access Request](#)
[Appendix A: Location Maps of Placer Mining Tenures](#)
[Appendix B: Signed Access Agreement \(redacted\)](#)

A. Constabel spoke to Item 8.2.

MOVED by Commissioner Chambers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Rogers,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission:

1. Authorize Greater Victoria Water Supply Area access and special use to Jesse Wylie and his agents (where agency is confirmed) and workers (that hold valid free mining certificates) that meet Capital Regional District insurance requirements, subject to the conditions of the Access Agreement.
2. Not authorize Greater Victoria Water Supply Area access and special use to Ron Walton for the purpose of camping overnight on his placer tenures in the Leech WSA in order to facilitate his mining activities.

CARRIED

Commissioner Graham introduced a Notice of Motion:
That staff investigate the implications of delegating the mining access requests to staff and that a set of policies be put in place.

8.3. 2021 Wildfire Season - Greater Victoria Water Supply Area

Attachments: [Staff Report: 2021 Wildfire Season - GVWSA](#)
[Appendix A: 2021 Wildfire Management Activity Photos](#)
[Appendix B: Wildfire Management Map](#)

A. Constabel spoke to Item 8.3.

Discussion ensued regarding:
- Mechanized thinning
- Prescribed burning

MOVED by Commissioner Chambers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersereau,
That the 2021 Wildfire Season - Greater Victoria Water Supply Area report be received for information.

CARRIED

8.4. 2021 Tours and Videos Summary and 2022 Plans - Regional Water Supply System

Attachments: [Staff Report: 2021 School Tours and Videos Summary and 2022 Plans - GVWS](#)

A. Constabel spoke to Item 8.4.

Staff advised that there are new educational videos being developed to support watershed protection awareness and presented one of the videos as an example.

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Chambers,
That the 2021 Tours and Videos Summary - Regional Water Supply System report be received for information.

CARRIED

8.5. Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

Attachments: [Report: Summary Of Recommendations Other Water Commissions](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Rogers and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersereau,
That the Summary of Recommendations from other Water Commissions be received for information.

CARRIED

8.6. Water Watch Report

Attachments: [Water Watch Report](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersereau,
That the Water Watch Report be received for information.

CARRIED

9. MOTION WITH NOTICE

9.1. Motion with Notice (February 16, 2022) Cost Recovery Fee for Special Use Access Permits (Commissioner Graham)

Attachments: [Motion with Notice: Cost Recovery Fee for Special Access Permits](#)

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Cost associated with processing requests
- Historical public access to the Watershed
- Cost recovery
- Subsidizing organized groups access to the watershed

MOVED by Commissioner Graham and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baird,
That staff develop a cost recovery fee for access, bring forward a
standardized process and check list that needs to be met by an applicant
for access, and investigate delegating the issuance of access permits to
staff as is done in other cases.

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Isitt, Chambers

10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Stock and **SECONDED** by Commissioner
Mersereau,
That the meeting be adjourned at 12:53 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY