



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 1:30 p.m., Goldstream Meeting Room, 479 Island Highway. Victoria, BC

PRESENT: **Members:** G. Baird; M. Doehnel; K. Sander; D. Timothy
 Electronic: J. Caradonna; E. Cote; C. Davis; J. Rogers; W. Scheuer; J. Todd;
 M. Turner
 Staff: T. Robbins, General Manager; K. Wilson, Demand Management
 Coordinator, Environmental Protection; D. Dionne (Recorder)
 Also Present: L. Szpak, Chair, Regional Water Supply Commission

REGRETS: T. Krawczyk; C. Nowakowski; H. Thompson

1. CALL TO ORDER

T. Robbins called the meeting order at 1:30 p.m.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

T. Robbins provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

T. Robbins welcomed new members and conducted a roundtable of introductions of Committee members and staff.

T. Robbins introduced Lillian Szpak, Chair of the Regional Water Supply Commission.

Chair Szpak addressed the Committee stating that she had sat on the Water Advisory Committee in the past and that she has been a City of Langford Councillor since 2002. She stated that the capacity that this Committee has is very valuable to the Regional Water Supply Commission, and thanked them for their work. She is looking forward to the Committee's feedback over the course of the year.

4. ELECTION OF CHAIR

T. Robbins called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Water Advisory Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2021.

J. Todd nominated E. Cote. E. Cote accepted the nomination.

T. Robbins called for nominations a second time.

T. Robbins called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, T. Robbins declared E. Cote of the Water Advisory Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2021 by acclamation.

5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Chair Cote called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Water Advisory Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2021.

G. Baird nominated J. Todd. J. Todd accepted the nomination.

Chair Cote called for nominations a second time.

Chair Cote called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair Cote declared J. Todd Vice Chair of the Water Advisory Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2021 by acclamation.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by K. Sander, and **SECONDED** by G. Baird,
That the March 4, 2021 Water Advisory Committee agenda be approved.

CARRIED

7. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by M. Doehnel, and **SECONDED** by G. Baird,
That the minutes of the September 24, 2020 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

8. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Cote thanked the Committee for nominating her for the position of Chair, she stated that she is excited to work together with the Committee and advised that if anyone has any questions or concerns related to the Water Advisory Committee to contact her directly.

9. PRESENTATIONS / DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations or delegations.

10. WELCOME FROM REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION CHAIR

The Chair addressed the Committee under Item 3. Introductions.

11. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

11.1. Regional Water Supply Orientation and 2021 Priorities (Presentation)

T. Robbins provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining:

- Service and Governance
- Regional Water Supply Source and Infrastructure
- Service Delivery – CRD Departmental Programs
- Service Budgets

- Water Demand & Rates
- Budget Factors & Upcoming Initiatives
- Service Staff Support

He identified the following upcoming initiatives that the Water Advisory Committee could expect to be involved with:

- Water Supply Master Plan Update
- Managing risks associated with placer & mineral tenures
- Agricultural water rate review and options study
- pH and corrosion study – tap sampling & lead level determination
- Water supply area land acquisition strategy funding
- Water supply area dams - emergency response
- Regional Water Supply Service – Development Cost Charge Program

MOVED by J. Caradonna, and **SECONDED** by W. Scheuer,
That the Water Advisory Committee receive the presentation for information.

CARRIED

11.2. Demand Management Program Update

K. Wilson provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining:

- Total Regional Supply and Demand
- Water Use in the CRD
- Regional Total Per Capita Trend & Population Growth
- Total Demand by Municipality
- Projected Per Capita Demand by Municipality
- Indoor & Outdoor Residential Water Conservation Campaigns
- Annual Water Demand Profile
- Indoor Residential Use
- Top 10 ICI Uses
- Daily Demand Pattern

Discussion ensued and the Committee requested that staff provide an annual update on the ICI water demand.

The Committee asked how it could help support staff regarding long-term demand planning, whether there are areas of interest that the Committee could provide some research and input. Staff indicated that they will be looking at the following areas:

- Impact of tourism, what is the influx, how do tourists influence sector's per capita number, impact on overall demand.
- Cruise ship water use – noting the difference in trends between last year (the pandemic year) and the year before.

MOVED by G. Baird, and **SECONDED** by M. Turner,
That the Water Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

CARRIED

11.3. Summary of Regional Water Supply Commission Recommendations

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

CARRIED

11.4. Water Watch Report

MOVED by D. Timothy, and **SECONDED** by C. Davis,
That the February 22, 2021 Water Watch report be received for information.

CARRIED

12. UPDATES FROM WORKING GROUPS

T. Robbins provided some background on the working groups for the new members, noting how business flows to the Committee. The formal meetings are for the purpose of decision-making. Typically, this is where staff will bring reports for input or the Regional Water Supply Commission would refer items to the Committee for input.

The working groups were established for Committee members to have more informal discussions on areas of interest. Staff can provide support the working group meetings.

Chair Cote noted that, to be effective, it would be good to have 3 or 4 members per working group.

- Long term water supply and demand management
 - J. Todd noted that research in this area had just begun and there is no update to provide today.
- Water Quality
 - No update
- Major Capital Projects (including dam safety)
 - G. Baird advised that, due to COVID restrictions, the discussions on this topic have been limited. There is not update to provide today.
 - He and K. Sander are on this working group and he invited W. Scheuer to join this group if there is interest.
- Water Rates (including agriculture and First Nations)
 - J. Rogers referred to correspondence submitted by T. Krawczyk that provided updates from the discussions that have taken place in this area to date.
 - T. Robbins provided some detail related to the First Nations item, noting that discussions have occurred over the years about applying a different rate, or the wholesale rate, to First Nations communities that are currently served through the municipal distribution systems. The item is not actively being considered by the Regional Water Supply Commission at this time.

Staff noted that meeting rooms at Integrated Water Services could be made available to the working groups on the meeting dates noted in the proposed meeting schedule, agenda Item 13.

Chair Cote asked members to email her with which group they are interested in participating on and she will put them in touch with committee members working on that group.

MOVED by G. Baird, and **SECONDED** by J. Rogers,
That the Updates from the Working Groups be received for information.

CARRIED

13. PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE

The Committee discussed the length of this meeting and whether to schedule more meetings to break up the agenda items or to schedule fewer longer meetings to allow for fulsome discussions. T. Robbins advised that he can work with the Chair for future meetings to review the agenda and work through time allotments. The Committee also acknowledged that members have other commitments and obligations and that they can let the Chair know in advance of the meetings.

- First Thursday of the month with quarterly “business” meetings

Business Meetings	Working Group Meetings
June 3	April 1
	May 6
September 2	Aug 5
	Oct 7
December 3	Nov 4

14. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by G. Baird, and **SECONDED** by J. Rogers,
That the March 4, 2021 meeting be adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY