

Meeting Minutes

Saanich Peninsula Water Commission

Thursday, February 5, 2026

9:30 AM

Mary Winspear Centre - Room 3
2243 Beacon Ave, Sidney, BC

PRESENT:

Commissioners: E. Diller, M. Doehnel, R. Thompson (on behalf of C. Graham), D. Halldorson, C. McNeil-Smith, R. Novek, S. Shrivastava

STAFF: A. Fraser, General Manager, Infrastructure and Water Services; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection (EP); D. Robson, Manager, Saanich Peninsula Gulf Island Operations; J. Kelly, Manager, IWS Capital Projects; D. Dionne, Manager, IWS Business Support Services; J. Dorman, Committee Clerk; M. MacDonald, Legislative Services Coordinator (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Commissioners C. Graham, P. Jones, R. Windsor

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

A. Fraser provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Election of Chair

A. Fraser called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission for 2026.

Commissioner Doehnel nominated Commissioner Novek. Commissioner Novek accepted the nomination.

A. Fraser called for nominations a second time.

A. Fraser called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, A. Fraser declared Commissioner Novek the Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission for 2026 by acclamation.

3. Election of Vice Chair

Chair Novek called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission for 2026.

Commissioner Doehnel nominated Commissioner Halldorson. Commissioner Halldorson accepted the nomination.

Chair Novek called for nominations a second time.

Chair Novek called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair Novek declared Commissioner Halldorson the Vice Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission for 2026 by acclamation.

4. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by Commissioner Diller, SECONDED by Commissioner Halldorson,
That the agenda for the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission meeting of
February 5, 2026 be approved.
CARRIED**

5. Adoption of Minutes

- 5.1. [25-1120](#) Minutes of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission Meetings of July 17, September 18, and October 21, 2025

**MOVED by Commissioner Halldorson, SECONDED by Commissioner Diller,
That the minutes of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission meetings of July
17, September 18, and October 21, 2025 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED**

6. Chair's Remarks

Chair Novek noted he hopes to have a great year with the upcoming work of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission.

7. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations or delegations.

8. Commission Business

8.1. [26-0031](#) General Manager's Verbal Update - February

A. Fraser presented Item 8.1. for information and noted the following:

- reservoir levels and impacts of climate change
- the Regional Water Strategic Plan was recently approved by the Board
- recent Calgary Bearspaw feeder main failures and subsequent public report
- asset management report will be presented later this year
- decommissioning unused wells is required by legislation

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Goldstream water supply as an alternative to Sooke Lake
- Regional source water locations and capacity of reservoirs
- future plans for the Leech water supply area

8.2. [26-0036](#) Saanich Peninsula Water Commission Appointment to Water Advisory Committee

MOVED by Commissioner Diller, SECONDED by Commissioner Shirvastava, That the Vice-Chair of the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission be appointed as the Commission's representative on the Water Advisory Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2026. CARRIED

8.3. [26-0040](#) Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

A. Fraser spoke to Item 8.3. for information.

8.4. [26-0039](#) Water Watch Report

A. Fraser spoke to Item 8.4. for information.

9. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no notice(s) of motion.

10. New Business

There was no new business.

11. Adjournment

MOVED by Commissioner Diller, SECONDED by Commissioner Halldorson, That the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission meeting of February 5, 2026 be adjourned at 9:53 am. CARRIED

Chair

Recorder