

Meeting Minutes

Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission

Thursday, November 20, 2025

9:30 AM

Sidney Community Safety Building
2245 Oakville Ave., Sidney, BC

PRESENT:

Commissioners: M. Doehnel (Vice Chair), E. Diller, D. Halldorson, C. Stock (on behalf of P. Jones), S. Duck (on behalf of R. Novek), S. Shrivastava

STAFF: A. Fraser, General Manager, Infrastructure and Water Services; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection (EP); J. Marr, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Planning and Engineering (EP); R. Tooke, Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation; P. Kickham, Manager, Environmental Regulations; D. Green, Senior Supervisor Regional Source Control; C. Lowe, Supervisor, Environmental Monitoring; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer (EP); M. MacDonald, Legislative Services Coordinator (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Commissioners C. McNeil-Smith, P. Jones, Z. King, R. Novek, R. Windsor

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Doehnel provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by Commissioner Diller, SECONDED by Alternate Commissioner Stock,
That the agenda for the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting of
November 20, 2025 be approved.**

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

**3.1. 25-1121 Minutes of the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission Meetings of
July 17, 2025 and October 21, 2025**

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

CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Vice Chair Doehnel noted that recent changes to the *Local Government Act* have changed the requirements for closed meetings.

5. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. Commission Business

6.1. [25-1185](#) General Manager's Verbal Update - November

A. Fraser presented Item 6.1. for information and provided an update that the wastewater treatment plant was recently impacted by unanticipated toxic waste.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- work ongoing to grow healthy microbes and restore balance
- mandatory reporting requirements, environmental regulator is aware
- regulatory response not anticipated at this time

6.2. [25-1166](#) Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan - Programs Summary and Update

P. Kickham presented Item 6.2. for information.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- identification of inflow and infiltration problem areas is ongoing
- Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant typically runs at half capacity
- municipalities play a role in repairs, staff are working together

7. Notice(s) of Motion

7.1. [25-1235](#) Motion with Notice: Staff Investigation into Expansion of Waste Heat District Energy System (Commissioners Kelbert/King/Diller)

Commissioner Diller spoke to Item 7.1.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- replacement of other heating forms was not included in the motion
- capital expenditure to install heat pumps and gas pipes to each house
- system near capacity heating current homes during peak demand times
- lifecycle emissions ultimately may not provide climate benefit
- a study is underway on system capacity
- efficiencies for Panorama Recreation Center heating are being investigated
- institutional customers are preferred over single family dwellings

MOVED by Alternate Commissioner Duck, SECONDED by Commissioner

Halldorson,

That the motion be tabled.

CARRIED

MOVED by Alternate Commissioner Duck, SECONDED by Alternate Commissioner Stock,

That the motion be referred to staff for more information and to ask staff to bring back a report on existing system efficiencies, operations and potential for future expansions.

CARRIED

8. New Business

8.1. Committee Appointments

Vice Chair Doehnel requested information on the Commission appointment process.

M. Lagoa noted that letters requesting appointments to the Commission have been sent to municipalities. Responses are being received and processed as available.

9. Adjournment

**MOVED by Alternate Commissioner Duck, SECONDED by Commissioner Diller,
That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission meeting of November 20,
2025 be adjourned at 10:16 am.**

CARRIED

Chair

Recorder