

Meeting Minutes

Environmental Services Committee

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

1:30 PM

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

PRESENT

Directors: B. Desjardins (Chair), S. Tobias (Vice Chair), J. Bateman (for M. Tait) (EP), J. Brownoff, J. Caradonna, G. Holman (EP), D. Murdock, D. Thompson, I. Ward (for D. Kobayashi) (EP), A. Wickheim (EP)

Staff: T. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; K. Morley, General Manager, Corporate Services; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; R. Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management; I. Wiebenga, Manager, Project Engineering; S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk; J. Dorman, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Director(s) D. Kobayashi, C. Plant, M. Tait

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Director Caradonna provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by Director Caradonna, SECONDED by Director Thompson,
That one (1) late delegation be permitted to speak, and that the agenda for the
June 21, 2023 Environmental Services Committee meeting be approved as
amended.
CARRIED**

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [23-428](#) Minutes of the April 19, 2023 Environmental Services Committee Meeting

**MOVED by Director Tobias, SECONDED by Director Caradonna,
That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting of April 19,
2023 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED**

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Desjardins spoke regarding the significance of National Indigenous Peoples Day, and the crossroads being faced with the anticipation of an ultimate solution ahead related to biosolids.

5. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations.

5.1. [23-447](#) Delegation - Jon O'Riodan; Representing Mount Work Coalition: Re: Agenda Item 6.1. Biosolids Update - June 2023

J. O'Riodan spoke to Item 6.1.

5.2. [23-455](#) Delegation - Hugh Stephens; Representing Peninsula Biosolids Coalition: Re: Agenda Item 6.1. Biosolids Update - June 2023

H. Stephens spoke to Item 6.1.

6. Committee Business

6.1. [23-409](#) Biosolids Update - June 2023

G. Harris spoke to Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- suitable areas and non-agricultural options for land application
- in-region options availability and justification
- jurisdictional oversight associated land application
- forest application and mine sites
- current short term contingency plan for biosolids
- timelines of thermal processing pilot
- differentiation between biosolids and sewage sludge

**MOVED by Director Caradonna, SECONDED by Director Tobias,
That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional
District Board:**

**That staff maintain the short term contingency plans for biosolids management
and expedite the thermal processing pilot.**

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Brownoff, Holman

6.2. [23-410](#) Amendment to Environmental Resource Management Capital Plan

I. Wiebenga spoke to Item 6.2.

Discussion ensued on the current and potential uses of the processing area.

**MOVED by Director Caradonna, SECONDED by Director Tobias,
That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional
District Board:**

**That the following capital items be approved: \$300,000 for a new project to
create a Beneficial Use Processing Area; \$200,000 for a new project to create a
Biosolids Mixing Area; and an increase of \$400,000 to the existing capital project
New Scale Software to account for additional IT costs associated with the north
scale.**

CARRIED

6.3. [23-394](#) Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program - Delivery Organizations
Grant Application

L. Hutcheson spoke to Item 6.3.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- rational for use of delegation bylaw for grant agreements
- requirements of granting agency
- associated granting opportunities
- EV charger road map

Director Brownoff left the meeting at 2:40 pm.

**MOVED by Director Holman, SECONDED by Director Caradonna,
That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional
District Board:**

**That staff be directed to apply for, negotiate and, if successful, enter into an
agreement and do all such things necessary for accepting grant funds and
overseeing grant management to implement a regional Electric Vehicle Charger
Assistance Program under the Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Program -
Delivery Organizations grant.**

CARRIED

6.4. [23-416](#) Previous Minutes of Other CRD Committees and Commissions for
Information

The following minutes were received for information:

- a) Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force - June 2, 2023
- b) Solid Waste Advisory Committee - April 21 and June 2, 2023

7. Notice(s) of Motion

7.1. [23-456](#) Notice of Motion: Academic Review - Land Application of Biosolids (Director Desjardins)

Director Desjardins spoke to Item 7.1.

Director Desjardins proposed the following Notice of Motion with same day consideration:

"That staff report back with a proposal that CRD Environment Service fund University of Victoria or other suitable independent academic institution to prepare a review:

- a) of available literature, to determine whether there are validated examples and/or peer reviewed papers assessing the risks of the application of biosolids on environmental and human health, and**
- b) based on this and on The Precautionary Principle, whether CRD may have a legal liability for such application. The institution may receive submissions from the public."**

**MOVED by Director Caradonna, SECONDED by Director Tobias,
That same day consideration be applied to the Notice of Motion.
CARRIED**

**MOVED by Director Desjardins, SECONDED by Director Tobias,
That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:**

That staff report back with a proposal that CRD Environment Service fund University of Victoria or other suitable independent academic institution to prepare a review:

- a) of available literature, to determine whether there are validated examples and/or peer reviewed papers assessing the risks of the application of biosolids on environmental and human health, and**
- b) based on this and on The Precautionary Principle, whether CRD may have a legal liability for such application. The institution may receive submissions from the public.**

CARRIED

7.2. [23-457](#)

Notice of Motion: Consortium Approach - Lessons Learned on Thermal Processing of Biosolids from Australia (Director Tobias)

Director Tobias spoke to Item 7.2.

Director Tobias proposed the following Notice of Motion with same day consideration:

"That staff look to the example of Logan, Australia for lessons learned on thermal processing of biosolids and a consortium approach."

**MOVED by Director Caradonna, SECONDED by Director Thompson,
That same day consideration be applied to the Notice of Motion.
CARRIED**

**MOVED by Director Tobias, SECONDED by Director Caradonna,
That the Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That staff look to the example of Logan, Australia for lessons learned on thermal processing of biosolids and a consortium approach.
CARRIED**

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment

**MOVED by Director Caradonna, SECONDED by Director Murdock,
That the June 21, 2023 Environmental Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 3:06 pm.
CARRIED**

CHAIR

RECORDER