

## Meeting Minutes

### Environmental Services Committee

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**Wednesday, July 26, 2017**

**9:30 AM**

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

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**PRESENT:**

Directors: R. Atwell (Vice Chair), D. Blackwell, C. Day (for C. Hamilton), L. Helps, W. McIntyre, V. Sanders (for D. Murdock), J. Ranns, M. Tait, K. Williams, B. Desjardins (Board Chair, ex-officio)  
Staff: R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; R. Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management; D. Green, Environmental Science Officer, Environmental Protection; B. Reems, Corporate Officer; P. Perna, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

**REGRETS:** Directors: M. Hicks and R. Windsor

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

#### **1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED** by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director McIntyre,  
That the agenda for the July 26, 2017 Environmental Services Committee meeting  
be approved as amended to add Delegation Item 4.2. Councillor Gord Baird,  
District of Highlands, Re: Invasive Species.  
**CARRIED**

#### **2. Adoption of Minutes**

**2.1.**     [17-571](#)     Minutes of the June 28, 2017 Environmental Services Committee Meeting

**MOVED** by Director Blackwell, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,  
That the minutes of the June 28, 2017 Environmental Services Committee  
meeting be adopted as circulated.  
**CARRIED**

#### **3. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair remarked on the Invasive Species letters.

#### **4. Presentations/Delegations**

**4.1.**     [17-579](#)     Delegation: John R. Roe Re: Agenda Item 5.1. Abandoned and Derelict Vessels

J. Roe spoke in regards to abandoned and derelict vessels and what is involved in preparing an inventory, obtaining a workforce and volunteers to identify and inventory boats, and the process and legalities of boarding the boats.

M. Tait arrived at 9:35.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- the issue and recycling of fibreglass
- addressing houseboats
- searching for sunken boats via diving and underwater equipment
- the role of the Dead Boat Society and utilizing them to obtain funding and to get the process started

**4.2. 17-587**

Delegation: Councillor Gord Baird, District of Highlands, Re: Invasive Species

Councillor Gord Baird, District of Highlands, spoke to the request to house an Invasive Species Coordinator under the Capital Regional District. He stated that there is a need to organize which species are a priority and which sites need to be addressed.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- the damages caused by invasive species
- high priority invasive species of Japanese knotweed and fire ants
- the need for a coordinated effort
- fire ants spreading due to transfer of soil to another area
- effects of knotweed invading wells and stopping them from working

**5. Committee Business**

**5.1. [17-574](#)**

Abandoned and Derelict Vessels

L. Hutcheson provided an overview of the report.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- the areas involved in investigating for abandoned or derelict vessels
- utilizing non-profit groups
- completing the application process, seeing what will be needed, and then going out to the community for bids
- receiving proposals from private operators that may want to look at part or the whole issue

Alternate Director Day informed of a letter the District of Colwood received from Sheila Malcolmson, MP, Nanaimo-Ladysmith, who is seeking support for a bill that she is bringing forward in the Federal Government on abandoned vessels. She is seeking to create a comprehensive coast-wide strategy to designate the coast guard as the agency responsible and get taxpayers off the hook by fixing vessel registration and creating a fee to help cover the cost of disposal, preventing vessels from becoming hazards with a turn-in program and safe recycling facilities.

Discussion continued on funding, contract changes, and staffing if these changes are made.

L. Hutcheson provided information on the next steps in the process.

**MOVED** by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Tait,

That the Environmental Services Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That in support of addressing the abandoned boat issue in the CRD:

1. Staff be directed to submit a regional application for Abandoned Boats Program (ABP) Education and Awareness funding and ABP Assessment and Removal funding;
2. The Board increase the scope of the Environmental Resource Management Community Clean-up Program to include the federal ABP initiative, and approve:
  - (a) a 2017 budget amendment to provide \$50,000, from the ERM Sustainability Reserve, to fund the completion of the required ABP funding application, including inventorying of eligible abandoned boats
  - (b) the submission of federal ABP applications for a total of \$1,050,000: \$50,000 in Abandoned Boat Education and Awareness funding (with CRD contribution of \$16,667) and \$1,000,000 in Abandoned Boat Assessment and Removals funding (with CRD contribution of \$333,333) in support of a local multi-year ABP initiative starting in 2018; and CRD contributions to be funded by the ERM Sustainability Reserve;
3. Staff approach Southern Vancouver Island Regional Districts and First Nations regarding potential South Island synergies in addressing abandoned boats under the federal ABP initiative; and
4. The CRD Board Chair write a letter to the Marc Garneau, Minister of Transportation, raising the issues as itemized in Appendix B.

**MOVED** by Director McIntyre, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,

That the main motion be amended under number 3 to add the words ", Islands Trust," after the words "Staff approach Southern Vancouver Island Regional Districts".

**CARRIED**

**MOVED** by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Tait,

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1. Staff be directed to submit a regional application for Abandoned Boats Program (ABP) Education and Awareness funding and ABP Assessment and Removal funding;
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    - (a) a 2017 budget amendment to provide \$50,000, from the ERM Sustainability Reserve, to fund the completion of the required ABP funding application, including inventorying of eligible abandoned boats
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  3. Staff approach Southern Vancouver Island Regional Districts, Islands Trust, and First Nations regarding potential South Island synergies in addressing abandoned boats under the federal ABP initiative; and
  4. The CRD Board Chair write a letter to the Marc Garneau, Minister of Transportation, raising the issues as itemized in Appendix B.
- CARRIED**

**5.2.**     [17-573](#)     BC Medications Return Program - Collection of Household Veterinary Medications

L. Hutcheson provided an overview of the report.

**MOVED by Director Blackwell, SECONDED by Director Tait,**

**That the Environmental Services Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:**

**That the Board Chair write letters to:**

**(a) the BC Minister of Environment requesting an amendment to the BC Recycling Regulation to allow collection of household veterinary medications under the BC Medications Return Program; and**

**(b) the Chair of the Health Products Stewardship Association requesting its support in implementing changes to the BC Medications Return Program.**

**CARRIED**

**6. Correspondence**

**6.1.**     [17-572](#)     CRISP Statement - May 2017

K. Williams spoke to the CRISP Statement.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- invasive species other than plants
- fire ants: how to deal with them, their damage, how to eradicate them, health risks, size and depth of colonies, spreading throughout the region and the lower mainland, and making eradication of fire ants a priority
- prioritizing invasive species
- addressing the Scotch Broom species

**MOVED by Director Williams, SECONDED by Director Helps,**

**That the Environmental Services Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:**

**That staff report on the implications, feasibility, and recommendations to house the duties of a Regional Invasive Species Coordinator within the Capital Regional District.**

**CARRIED**

**6.2.**     [17-569](#)     Letter from District of North Saanich to CRD Board re Invasive Species (June 22, 2017)

**MOVED by Director Blackwell, SECONDED by Director Helps,**

**That items of correspondence 6.2, 6.3, and 6.4 be received for information.**

**CARRIED**

**6.3.**     [17-570](#)     Letter from District of Metchosis to Brent Reems, CRD Legislative and Corporate Services, re CRISP Statement (June 26, 2017)

**6.4.**     [17-578](#)     Letter from District of Highlands to CRD Board Chair Desjardins re Regional Invasive Species Coordinator (July 13, 2017)

**7. New Business**

Discussion ensued on the Plastic Bag Bylaw and when a draft bylaw will be made available.

**8. Adjournment**

**MOVED** by Director Blackwell, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,  
That the July 26, 2017 Environmental Services Committee meeting be adjourned  
at 10:20 am.  
**CARRIED**

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Chair

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Recorder