

Meeting Minutes

Regional Water Supply Commission

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

11:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom

R. Mersereau (Chair); G. Baird (Vice Chair); N. Chambers; S. Duncan; C. Graham; K. Harper; B. Isitt; G. Logan; J. Loveday; T. Morrison; J. Rogers; T. St. Pierre (Alternate); C. Stock; L. Szpak; N. Taylor (11:36); R. Wade; E. Wood Zhelka (11:55); G. Young

REGRETS: M. Hicks; L. Collins; Z. De Vries; K. Kahakauwila

STAFF: R. Lapham, CAO; T. Robbins, General Manager; A. Constabel, Senior Manager, Watershed Protection; I. Jesney, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; M. McCrank, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Operations; J. van Niekerk, Senior Manager, Customer and Technical Services; B. Semmens, Manager, Financial Planning & Performance; K. Vincent, Senior Financial Advisor; T. Urquhart, Communications Coordinator; D. Dionne, Administrative Coordinator; S. Orr, Recorder

The meeting was called to order at 11:32 a.m.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

That Item 9.1 be moved to Item 7.1.

MOVED by Commissioner Loveday, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Stock,

That the October 16, 2019 Regional Water Supply Commission agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. [19-848](#) Adoption of the Minutes

Attachments: [Draft Minutes September 18, 2019](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Logan, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Stock,
That the minutes of the September 18, 2019 Regional Water Supply Commission meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair noted that the regular meeting length was changed from 90 minutes to two hours earlier in the Spring. Since then there have been concerns raised that it still may not be enough time. She advised that staff will review extending

the meeting time by 30 minutes to a two hour and 30 minute meeting length.

She acknowledged Integrated Water Services staff for receiving the **2019 City of Excellence (Gold Standard) Award**, which recognizes local governments for activities that improve ground disturbance, safe excavation techniques, and best practices related to underground infrastructure.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no Presentations or Delegations.

6. WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6.1. Update from Water Advisory Committee

Vice Chair Baird, Regional Water Supply Commission representative on the Water Advisory Committee, provided an update from October 8, 2019 meeting. He advised that the Chair has stepped down and that staff will be advertising for new Committee members. He stated the Committee received information regarding the updated Health Canada Guideline for lead in drinking water and that the Committee recommends additional screening for presence of lead at end of distribution lines and to engage municipalities.

6.2. [19-855](#)

Water Advisory Committee Recommendation Regarding: Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality - Recent Change in Lead Guideline and Capital Regional District Actions

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Szpak, That the Water Advisory Committee recommends to the Regional Water Supply Commission, that staff be directed to:

1. Include lead testing in the distribution system water samples being collected during the current pH and Corrosion Study; and,
2. Facilitate a meeting with Island Health, City of Victoria and District of Oak Bay staff to discuss potential outreach to municipal water customers regarding lead and copper water quality results at the municipal water distribution system bulk water connection points, which are unique among other connection points across the Supply System.

CARRIED

7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

7.1. [19-858](#)

Peninsula & Area Agricultural Commission, May 13, 2019

Attachments: [Peninsula & Area Agricultural Commission, May 13, 2019](#)

T. Robbins introduced the correspondence stating the Peninsula & Area Agricultural Commission proposes simplifying accounting and billing processes

associated with the agricultural rate and consistency with the total cost of water for farmers across the region. He provided an overview of some municipal billing systems and stated that staff are not recommending any changes to the agricultural rate or to municipal billing processes.

Discussion ensued regarding the agricultural water rate and the Commission requested that the Water Advisory Committee form a sub-committee to conduct a review.

MOVED by Commissioner Baird, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Chambers,

That the Regional Water Supply Commission ask the Water Advisory Committee to review the Provincial Study and the report looking at the present policy around the agricultural water rates and report back findings to the Commission.

CARRIED

The commission requested that staff invite the Peninsula and Area Agricultural Commission to meet with the Water Advisory Committee and speak to their letter.

MOVED by Commissioner Stock, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Taylor, That the Regional Water Supply Commission receive the correspondence from the Peninsula and Area Agricultural Commission for information.

CARRIED

8. COMMISSION BUSINESS

8.1. [19-846](#) Regional Water Supply Service - 2020 Operating and Capital Budget

Attachments: [Staff Report: 2020 Operating and Capital Budget](#)
[Appendix A: 2020 Regional Water Supply Service Budget](#)
[Appendix B: Long Term Debt Obligations Summary](#)
[Appendix C: Agricultural Water Volumes and Rate Payments for 2011 - 2018](#)
[Appendix D: Wholesale Water Rate History and Projection](#)

T. Robbins introduced the report providing an overview of the draft 2020 Regional Water Supply Service budget, highlighting the changes from 2019 and the proposed 2020 budget figures.

Staff responded to questions from the Commission.

The Commission thanked staff for their work.

12:18 B. Isitt left the meeting

12:25 C. Stock left the meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Szpak, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Wade, That the Regional Water Supply Commission recommends that the Capital

Regional District Board:

1. Approve the 2020 Capital Budget and the Five Year Capital Plan;
2. Approve the 2020 Operating Budget;
3. Approve the 2020 wholesale water rate of \$0.6968 per cubic metre;
4. Approve the 2020 agricultural water rate of \$0.2105 per cubic metre;
5. Direct staff to balance the 2019 actual revenue and expense on the transfer to the water capital fund; and
6. Direct staff to amend the Water Rates Bylaw accordingly.

CARRIED

8.2. [19-847](#) Greater Victoria Water Supply Area Mining Access Request

Attachments: [Staff Report: GVWSA Mining Access Request](#)

A. Constable presented the report as circulated and recommended that the commission approve the mining access request.

Staff responded to questions from the commission.

12:36 R. Wade left the meeting

MOVED by Commissioner St. Pierre, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Morrison,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission authorize access and special use to:

- a. the mining tenure holder; and,
- b. accompanying agents and free miners whose status can be confirmed, and that meet CRD insurance requirements;

for the valid mining tenures held, subject to the conditions of the Access Agreement.

CARRIED

8.3. [19-670](#) Summary of the 2019 Public and School Tours of the Greater Victoria Water Supply Area and Water Supply Facilities

Attachments: [Staff Report: Summary of the 2019 Public & School Tours of the GVWSA](#)
[Appendix A: 2019 Tour Brochure](#)

A. Constable presented the report and noted that the feedback from visitors has been positive and that the tours have been growing in popularity. She stated that the plans for 2020 include expansion and continued school groups.

Staff responded to questions from the Commission.

MOVED by Commissioner Rogers, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Szpak,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receive this report for information.

CARRIED

8.4. [19-844](#) Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions

Attachments: [Summary Of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Logan, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Morrison,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receive the Summary of Recommendations from Other Water Commissions for information.
CARRIED

8.5. [19-845](#) Water Watch Report

Attachments: [Weekly Water Watch](#)

MOVED by Commissioner Chambers, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner St. Pierre,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission receive the October 6, 2019 water Watch report for information.
CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Item 9.1 moved to Item 7.1

10. MOTION WITH NOTICE

10.1. [19-686](#) Regional Water Supply Commission Support of the Provincial Water Conservation Measures; N.Chambers

MOVED by Commissioner Chambers, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Loveday,
That the Regional Water Supply Commission requests that the Chair write, on behalf of the Commission, to the provincial government in support of provincial water conservation measures and climate action measures that align with protection of the Regional Water Supply.

A discussion took place about the intent of the motion and inter-governmental relations protocol.

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Spzak,

To call the question to see if there is support for the Motion with Notice.

CARRIED

Opposed

Taylor, Loveday, Rogers, Young

The Chair called the question on the main Motion with Notice.

DEFEATED

Opposed

Baird; Duncan; Graham; Harper; Logan; Loveday; Morrison; Rogers; St. Pierre; Szpak; Taylor; Zhelka; Young

11. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner St. Pierre, and **SECONDED by** Commissioner Morrison,

That the October 16, 2019 of the Regional Water Supply Commission be adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY

DRAFT