

Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN WATER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL HELD ON June 08, 2006 AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 1450 KLO ROAD, KELOWNA, BC AT 12:00 NOON.

PRESENT:

Bob Hrasko, Director, Water Supply Association
Tom Siddon, Co-Chair of Water Flagship Group, Okanagan Partnership
Valerie Cameron, Water Stewardship Division, Ministry of Environment
~~Paul Kluckner, Regional Director, Environment Canada (absent)~~
Deana Machin, Manager, Fisheries Program, Okanagan Nation Alliance
~~Rob Smailes, Director, Development Services, Regional District North Okanagan (absent)~~
~~Marty Willfong, Development Services, Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen (absent)~~
David Arsenaault, Regional Growth Strategy Coordinator, Okanagan-Similkameen
~~Brian Symonds, A/Director, Regional Operations, Ministry of Environment (absent)~~
Bernie Bauer, Dean of Arts and Sciences, UBC Okanagan
Brian Guy, Director, BC Branch, Canadian Water Resource Association
Mike Adams, Drinking Water Protection Officer, North Okanagan Interior Health
~~Gord Shandler, Water Commission, BC Fruit Growers Association (absent)~~
Denise MacDonald, Chair, Water Commission, BC Fruit Growers Association
Hans Buchler, Chair, Water Committee, BC Agriculture Council
Ted van der Gulik, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Scott Schillereff, Vice President, BC Ground Water Association
~~Dave Casorso, BC Cattleman's Association (absent)~~
Grant Maddock, Protech Engineering, Urban Development Institute
~~Tom Roemer, Okanagan College (absent)~~
Michelle Boshard, Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Society
Rick McKelvey, Director, South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program
Drew Kaiser, CORD Environmental Advisory Committee
Ken Arcuri, Director, Planning Services, Regional District Central Okanagan
Neal Klassen, Contractor/Operator, City/Kelowna Water Conservation Program
Stu Wells, Community Futures
~~Peter Dill, Director, Friends of Mission Creek (absent)~~
Stu Mould, Friends of Mission Creek
Denise Neilsen, Research Scientist, Agriculture Canada
Mary Bowcock, Greater Vernon Water Conservation

STAFF:

Greg Armour, Project Manager, Okanagan Basin Water Board
Debbie Taylor, Recording Secretary

OTHERS

PRESENT:

John Slater, Chair, Okanagan Basin Water Board
Ross Hurst, Community Futures
One other in gallery

Stu Mould, Friends of Mission Creek gave a presentation on Water Availability from 12:20 p.m. to 12:58 p.m.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Siddon called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Valerie Cameron

Seconded by Hans Buchler

"That the agenda of the June 08, 2006 meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council be approved as circulated."

CARRIED.

Chair Siddon introduced Ross Hurst as the alternate Water Stewardship Council Member for Stu Wells and Denise MacDonald as the alternate Water Stewardship Council Member for Gord Shandler.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

That Item 5.5 being Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society Grant Proposal be added to the Agenda as a late item.

That Item 5.6 being Ministry of Environment Prospectus for the Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Study be added to the Agenda as a late item.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Vice Chair van der Gulik suggested that a contact sheet including areas of expertise of each member of the Water Stewardship Council be provided to members of the Water Stewardship Council.

Action Item: Mr. Armour to prepare Water Stewardship Council contact and information sheet and forward to members.

Moved by Stu Wells

Seconded by Bernie Bauer

"That the minutes of a meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council held on May 11, 2006 at the Regional District of Central Okanagan Woodhaven Board Room be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

5. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

5.1 **Greater Vernon Water Conservation Committee – Appointment of Mary Bowcock to Replace Reg Crane**

Chair Siddon introduced new representative Mary Bowcock appointed to the Water Stewardship Council by the Greater Vernon Water Conservation Committee. Reg Crane had resigned due to other obligations.

5.2 **Rick McKelvey – Resignation from South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program**

Mr. Armour advised the Water Stewardship Council that member Rick McKelvey was no longer affiliated with the South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program. Members agreed that Mr. McKelvey was a valuable asset to the Water Stewardship Council bringing with him extensive knowledge and expertise. The OBWB had requested Mr. Armour to follow up with Mr. McKelvey regarding possible affiliation with a group interested in being involved with the Water Stewardship Council. Ms. Machin noted that she agreed with Mr. McKelvey continuing on as a member however if or when the South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program appointed a representative to the Water Stewardship Council then a space would be made available for the replacement. Discussion ensued regarding increasing the membership of the Water Stewardship Council by one member or possibly inviting others with technical expertise to join as members at large.

Moved by Bernie Bauer

Seconded by Brian Guy

“That it be recommended to the Okanagan Basin Water Board that Rick McKelvey remain as a member on the Water Stewardship Council as a community member at large.”

CARRIED.

David Arsenault entered the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

5.3 **Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium - BC Water Resources Stakeholder Consultation**

Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium BC Water Resources Stakeholder Consultation information was received by the Water Stewardship Council for review and discussion.

Members discussed the possibility of having the climate impact groups from both the University of Victoria and the University of British Columbia

making presentations to the Water Stewardship Council at the same meeting. Vice Chair van der Gulik noted that the groups were not linked and that it may be awkward to invite presentations from both at the same meeting as it may be construed by the groups as a competition for support by the Water Stewardship Council.

5.4 Assessment of Water Initiative Grant Applications – Utilize Expertise of Council Members

Mr. Armour reported to the Water Stewardship Council that members of the OBWB agreed that applications should not be formally referred to the Water Stewardship Council but that Staff could contact a member with appropriate expertise for technical advice.

Mr. Armour also advised the Water Stewardship Council that the OBWB had tabled the review of grant applications to their next meeting in order that all applications received by the Regional Districts would be included in the review process. Copies of the grant applications received to date were included in the agenda package for information only.

The Water Stewardship Council agreed that Agenda Item 5.4 Assessment of Water Initiative Grant Applications would be tabled to their next scheduled meeting. Agenda Item 5.4 was lifted from the table.

Presentation by Randy Manuel on History of Okanagan Water Supplies.

Chair Siddon introduced Randy Manuel, City of Penticton Councilor and Museum Curator at 1:35 p.m. to make an informative presentation on the history of Okanagan water supplies. Mr. Manuel concluded his presentation at 2:08 p.m.

Denise Neilsen entered the meeting at 2:09.

5.5 Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society Grant Proposal

A Grant Proposal from the Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society was received by the Water Stewardship Council for consideration. Mr. Armour noted that the application was a regional project and was over the OBWB grant limit of \$30,000. The OBWB had recommended the application be referred to the Water Stewardship Council then be returned to them for approval at the next OBWB meeting.

The Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society proposed to collect information, determine status, and establish priorities for management of riparian and wetland areas.

Mr. Armour suggested that members email to him any comments and he would relay this to the OBWB.

Chair Siddon commented that he felt there was a need for such a project. Mr. Guy agreed adding that if a majority of the project had already been completed that \$45,000 was more than enough to complete the project however if the project was only commencing then \$45,000 was insufficient. He suggested determining what had been completed on the project and possibly completing it. Mr. Arcuri added that the Regional District of the Central Okanagan had done some of the work already.

Discussion ensued regarding the Water Stewardship Committee possibly taking this project on as one of their short term projects.

Chair Siddon proposed that a committee to the Council be struck to evaluate Water Initiative Grant Applications. Stu Wells, Deana Machin, Brian Guy, Denise Neilsen, and Greg Armour volunteered to form the committee.

The Council recessed at 3:14 p.m. and reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

5.6 Ministry of Environment Prospectus for the Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Study

Correspondence from the Ministry of Environment regarding the Prospectus for the Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Study was received by the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council for information.

Mr. Armour reported to the Water Stewardship Council that the Water Board would request more information from Assistant Deputy Minister, Jim Mattison.

6. PRESENTATION FROM COMMITTEE GROUPS

6.1 Principles

Submissions of Principles thoughts collected by Michelle Boshard was received by the Water Stewardship Council for discussion. She commented that the response was encouraging and was she was waiting for the rest of the input sheets to be returned to her.

Ms. Boshard proposed that a committee to the Council be struck to refine the Principles of the Water Stewardship Council. Michelle Boshard, Ted

van der Gulik, Scott Schillereff, Bernie Bauer, and Denise Nielsen volunteered to form the committee and that a draft document be discussed at the next meeting.

The Council agreed that principles should be distinct from the Terms of Reference. Discussion ensued regarding Strategy and Principles.

Ms. Boshard requested that input sheets be submitted to her by July 01 and that the committee convene in July. She would like to present the draft wording to the Water Stewardship Council in September.

Neal Klassen entered the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

6.2 Terms of Reference

Bob Hrasko reviewed the seven Plan Modules developed by the Terms of Reference Committee:

1. Water Quantity
2. Water Quality
3. Environment, Fisheries and Wildlife
4. Integrated Land Use and Recreation
5. Value and Economics of Water
6. Public Engagement and Communications
7. Regulatory Structures and Mandates.

Copy of Plan Modules to be circulated to Water Stewardship Council at the next scheduled meeting for comment and subsequent development of a more detailed version.

7. COMMUNICATION PLAN

The Water Stewardship Council is awaiting direction from the OBWB.

Chair Siddon suggested scheduling Joanne DeVries for another presentation or perhaps looking into a presentation from an alternate professional.

8. NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 12:00 noon. Members would be notified as to the venue.

Vice Chair van der Gulik suggested that the Water Stewardship Council Look at

funding from the Geo Connections Project. This could be put forward for discussion at the September meeting.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Brian Guy

Seconded by Drew Kaiser

"That there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned."

CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Chair

Program Manager