



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN WATER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
HELD ON July 10, 2008 at Quail's Gate Estate Winery, Kelowna BC

PRESENT:

Chair Tom Siddon	Okanagan Partnership
Vice Chair Ted van der Gulik	Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Allison MacMillan	Okanagan College
Dr. Bernie Bauer	UBC Okanagan
Bob Hrasko	Water Supply Association of BC
Dr. Brian Guy	CWRA
Bryn White	SOSCP
Dr. Denise Neilsen	Agriculture Canada
Doug Geller	BC Ground Water Association
Drew Kaiser	CORD Environmental Advisory Committee
Gord Shandler	BC Fruit Growers Association
Peter Waterman (alternate)	BC Fruit Growers Association
Grant Maddock	Urban Development Institute
Hans Buchler	BC Agriculture Council
Hillary Hettinga	Regional District of Central Okanagan
Howie Wright	Okanagan Nation Alliance
Jillian Tamblyn	Regional Dist of Okanagan Similkameen
Ken Cunningham	Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship
Kendall Woo	Environment Canada – Pacific & Yukon Region
Dan Millar (alternate)	Environment Canada – Pacific & Yukon Region
Kerry Rouck	Shuswap Okanagan Forestry Association
Lee Hesketh	BC Cattlemen's Association
Lorne Davies	OCEOLA Fish and Game Club
Mike Adams	Interior Health Authority
Anna Page	Regional District of North Okanagan
Tricia Brett	Greater Vernon Water Stewardship Committee
Stu Wells	Community Futures

STAFF:

Dr. Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director, OBWB
Nelson Jatel	Water Stewardship Director, OBWB
Genevieve Dunbar	Water Stewardship Coordinator, OBWB
Monique Stone	Administration, OBWB
Shawn Edwards	Summer Co-op Student, OBWB

OTHERS PRESENT:

Antigone Dixon-Warren
Kellie Bunting
Steve Matthews
Judie Steeves

Township of Langley
Insight Environmental Solutions Ltd.
MoE, Fish & Wildlife Science & Allocation
Kelowna Capital News

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Siddon called the meeting to order at 1:11pm.

2. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Chair Siddon introduced all members and guests.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Jatel suggested all council members provide an update on their current water management projects as item 8.3

Moved by Brian Guy

Seconded by Bernie Bauer

"That the agenda for the July 10, 2008 meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council be approved as amended".

CARRIED.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council held June 19th, 2008 at UBC-Okanagan

Moved by Hans Buchler

Seconded by Stu Wells

"That the minutes from the June 19th, 2008 meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council be approved as circulated".

CARRIED.

5. REPORTS FROM STAFF

5.1 OBWB Board Report(s)

5.1.1 Okanagan Basin Water Board – Anna Warwick Sears

Dr. Sears updated the Council members on the Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Project. She reported that the steering committee met last week to discuss details of the project and plans for moving forward. The Water management and Use study has now been completed, as well as the Groundwater modeling pilot study in

the southern Okanagan. The Lake Evaporation modeling study has also been completed. In August we will be awarding contracts for the Surface Water Hydrology and In Stream Flow modeling of the Basin. Due to delays associated with the Water Management and Use Study, the project completion date has been extended to late 2009.

She informed the Council members that Shawn Edwards, our summer co-op student, has been working on developing the Okanagan-Waterbucket website. It has been populated with material and soon we will be sending out invitations to our stakeholders to contribute articles and reports. The site addresses are www.waterbucket.ca/okw.

She also informed the Council members that a Eurasian watermilfoil report is currently being developed by staff for the Ministry of Environment to provide information on current milfoil operations including how the OBWB contributes to water quality, fish habitat and other environmental issues.

Dr. Sears explained that the Okanagan Basin Water Board approved a request from the Forum for Leadership on Water (FLOW) to endorse an ad (open letter) written to encourage the Government of Canada deliver on their commitment to a new national water strategy.

5.1.2 OBWB Response to Sustainable Water Strategy (Nelson Jatel)

Mr. Jatel reported that at the last meeting of the OBWB, July 8, draft 3.1 of the Sustainable Water Strategy was received. Comments and feedback are due at the August Board meeting to be incorporated into the final draft prior to printing. Board members voiced strong support for the strategy and the Council's efforts.

6. **PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 Antigone Dixon-Warren, Groundwater Specialist, Township of Langley: Groundwater Management Pilot Plan – Experiences from the Field

The Township of Langley is working with the Province to develop a water management plan under Part 4 of the Water Act to protect local groundwater resources. Approximately 50 % of the municipal water supply and 100 % of the rural supply is derived from groundwater. In addition, groundwater is an important source of stream flow which, during summer, is critical for fish and other aquatic life. Although the Township has already implemented a number of initiatives to protect groundwater, studies indicate key aquifer water levels are declining due to over-extraction. Poor land use practices also threaten groundwater quality. To proactively manage local resources, the Township's plan will provide additional regulatory tools to better manage local groundwater use, protect groundwater quality, protect healthy habitat

and improve knowledge and understanding. For more information on the water management plan and to view of a copy of the plan, visit www.tol.bc.ca/watermanagementplan.

7. WORKING GROUPS AND STATUS REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

7.1 One Watershed-One Water Conference update [Nelson Jatel]

Mr. Jatel informed the council that the steering committee for the October 23rd One Watershed-One Water conference met this morning and all aspects of it are going well. Registration will be on-line by July 15th and fees for a CWRA member to attend are \$300, while for a non-member it is \$375.

8. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Reservoir Lease Lots – OBWB Letter to Minister Stan Hagen [Anna]

Dr. Sears reported that the latest development in the sale of reservoir lease lots is that Stan Hagen has replaced Pat Bell as minister of Agriculture and Lands. The package sent to Pat Bell in the spring will be resent to Minister Hagen to apprise him of our stance on this subject.

8.2 BC Chamber of Commerce Water Conservation Policies [Anna]

Dr. Sears explained that the Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce developed a set of water conservation policies which were taken to the BC Chamber of Commerce board meeting and adopted as policy for all BC Chambers of Commerce. The new policies will be listed on the OBWB website and the Waterbucket website.

8.3 WSC Members Update on Current Projects

All present council members gave an update on their current projects regarding water management.

9 NEXT MEETING

9.1 There is no meeting in the month of August. The next meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council will be held September 4th at the Coast Capri Hotel in Kelowna.

10 ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Stu Wells

SECONDED BY Bob Hrasko

“That there being no further business, the meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council of July 10, 2008 be adjourned at 4:55pm”.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CHAIR

PROGRAM MANAGER