



Okanagan Basin
WATER BOARD

Science. Management. Governance.

BOARD REPORT: October 6, 2009

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www.obwb.ca

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Nation Alliance

The next regular meeting of
the OBWB is scheduled for
10am on November 3, 2009
at the Regional District Central
Okanagan office.

Okanagan Basin Water Board Meeting Highlights

Integrated Stormwater Management: Chris Johnson, with Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Ltd., discussed stormwater quality issues and provided examples of integrated stormwater management practices. He suggested that a comprehensive look at the contribution of stormwater pollutants to the lake systems in the Basin relative to sources is needed in order to set objectives and targets and assign priorities.

Southern Interior Regional Drinking Water Team: Dr. Warwick Sears, OBWB Executive Director, will participate in meetings of the Southern Interior Regional Drinking Water Team, an interagency committee dealing with water quality issues in the Interior Health region. Local governments will have the opportunity to forward their concerns to the SIRDWT through the OBWB, or bring them directly. Please contact us for more information.

Central Okanagan Gravel Extraction Plan Pilot Project: The OBWB will request a seat on the new steering committee being struck for a pilot project to look at where aggregate should and should not be mined in the Central Okanagan.

Drought Response Planning: Following up on recommendations on the July "Living Within our Means" Drought Preparedness Workshop, the OBWB will initiate projects to develop a drought response technical framework, assemble a basin-wide drought team, and develop a water conservation bylaws toolkit.

Streamlined Water Use Reporting Tool: The OBWB received a \$154,000 infrastructure grant to develop a web-based water use reporting tool for the Okanagan valley. The tool will enable water suppliers and other large water users to record how much water they use each month, evaluate changes from year to year, and look at how their water use compares to other areas.

Water Pricing Study: The OBWB will lead a water pricing analysis to collect information on current water pricing and infrastructure cost estimates in the Okanagan. The assessment will provide a frame of reference to guide water pricing options for municipalities and other water purveyors, identify mechanisms to support payment for infrastructure, and help determine farmer's ability to pay for water.

For more information, please visit: www.OBWB.ca