OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD IN THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN BOARD ROOM, 2903 - 35TH AVENUE, VERNON, B. C., ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th, 1987 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRESENT:	Director E. Lamont Director A. Horning Director N. Oystryk Director H. Blattner Director A. Hill Director K. Tribes Director R. Frost Director E. R. Hermiston Director J. Kimberley	Central Okanagan Reg. Dist. Central Okanagan Reg. Dist. Central Okanagan Reg. Dist. North Okanagan Reg. Dist. North Okanagan Reg. Dist. North Okanagan Reg. Dist. Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist. Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist. Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.
ALSO PRESENT:	Mayor A. Clarke Alderman D. Jones Mr. R. Vest Mr. R. Nickel Mr. T. Forty Mr. P. Epp Mr. P. Wright Mr. M. Maxnuk Mr. M. Wallis Mr. M. Carlson	City of Vernon City of Vernon City of Vernon Ministry of Environment Ministry of Forests and Lands
STAFF:	P. Mackiewich G. Armour	Administrator Field Supervisor

Director Lamont, Chairman of the 1986 Okanagan Basin Water Board, called the meeting to order and noted that the 1987 appointees to the Okanagan Basin Water Board are as follows:

Regional District of Central Okanagan:

- Director E. Lamont;Director A. Horning;
- Director N. Oystryk;
- Alternate Director J. Stuart.

Regional District of North Okanagan:

- Director K. Tribes;
- Director A. Hill;
- Director H. Blattner
- Alternate Director M. Friesen;
- Alternate Director E. Palfrey.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:

- Director J. Kimberley
- Director R. Frost;
- Director E. R. Hermiston;
- Alternate Director G. Norton.

He welcomed newly appointed Directors Kimberley and Tribes to the meeting and thanked Mayor Clarke for her support and assistance while she served as Director during 1986.

Director Lamont circulated his Chairman's report noting that from the feelings at the Premier's Conference, the Water Board obviously has an important role in preserving the delicate environment of our valley and it was suggested that it become a blueprint to others.

Director Lamont noted that the Okanagan Basin Water Board is unique in that it pulls together elected people from the entire watershed of the Okanagan Valley, thus ensuring that water management and water quality is maintained. It has been said that because of the political force of this body it does not require legislation to maintain its authority. He noted that as pressure occurs in our environmentally sensitive valley, there will be concern for the quality of life surrounding the vital resource of water.

Director Lamont thanked the Board for its co-operation during the past year and turned over the Chair to the Administrator to conduct elections for the position of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

Director E. Lamont was nominated as Chairman of the Board for the year 1987 by Director Frost. There being no further nominations, Director Lamont was declared Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for the year 1987 and assumed the Chair.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Director Blattner nominated Director A. Hill as Vice-Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for the year 1987. There being no further nominations, Director Hill was declared Vice-Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for the year 1987.

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Hermiston, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Board held on October 30th, 1986 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Oystryk:

"That the minutes of a meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Committee held on December 17th, 1986 be adopted and the recommendations contained therein be confirmed."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

MAYOR A. CLARKE: Forest Irrigation Pilot Project:

Mayor Clarke introduced Mr. R. Vest, Engineer, City of Vernon and Mr. M. Carlson, Plant Breeder, Ministry of Forests and Lands.

Mayor Clarke advised that the City would like to research the use of hybrid poplars in their spray irrigation program.

Mr. R. Vest:

Mr. R. Vest advised the Board that as part of the City's Waste Management Plan, various alternatives were looked at in the disposal of waste water. At the present time there is a lack of information covering the use of effluent on forest lands and the Council of the City of Vernon has agreed to conduct a study in this matter.

Three leading experts of wastewater disposal and irrigation on forest lands were engaged. Because of the site specific nature of the absorption of water by trees, a study is needed to determine the amount of effluent which the trees would use in this area. The matter was discussed with U.B.C. and Dr. Carlson and a comprehensive and exciting work program was developed.

The City committed \$100,000 towards the project and a Ph.D. student is being provided by U.B.C. \$79,000 is still required to do the study. The results of the study would not only be applicable to the City of Vernon, but to the entire province.

Director Horning entered the meeting.

Dr. Carlson presented the Board with a slide presentation explaining how fast the hybrid poplars grow, noting that they grow much faster than European hybrids. In the spring of 1984, black cottonwood was collected and they were 15 1/2 ft. high in the second season. The average height after one year was 5 ft. and the poplars grew 8 - 9 ft. the following year. A trial 50 acre plot was planted three springs ago and the trees were free to grow, were treated with effluent and were cut back to the ground. Cutting the trees to the ground seems the best from a water wasting point of view. It appears that it would be economical to truck the logs to New Westminster for processing. Dr. Carlson noted that the trees are cold and disease resistant and grow very quickly.

Mayor Clarke advised that the reason the delegation is here is to ask the Water Board for financial assistance to preserve the quality of water in the Okanagan Lake chain. She indicated that the City of Vernon desired to experiment with hybrid poplars to see if they are better consumers of water than grasses. The City of Vernon has committed \$65,000 over five years to cover operating costs and \$25,000 for capital. U.B.C. has committed \$50,000 per year for research, however, the City is still \$79,000 short to carry out the experiment.

Director Frost advised that the Town of Osoyoos has been experiementing with irrigating effluent on tree fruits without any funding and noted that the Board should add moral support and that the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry should do more in terms of funding.

Directors asked Dr. Carlson several questions over the use of the cottonwood and Dr. Carlson replied that cuttings of the cottonwoods may be used as an animal feed or may be allowed to grow to marketable timber. The objectives of the exercise is to tie up as much nutrient material as possible and remove it from the site. Insofar as biomass production is concerned, figures show that hybrids produce 2 - 4 times as much biomass as any other crop.

Mayor Clarke:

Mayor Clarke indicated that politically the City of Vernon would like to look at crops that are useful rather than just a waste of water.

Mr. P. Epp:

Mr. P. Epp noted that once the hybrids grow densely, the transevaporation will be much less.

Dr. Carlson:

Dr. Carlson advised that the trees will use $1\,$ - $1.5\,$ m of water per year just to produce biomass material. He did not

recommend that the Commonage area be planted with any specific species until such time as a whole lot more information is available.

Mr. R. Vest:

Mr. R. Vest noted that in 4 to 5 years there should be sufficient information to make a rationale decision in this regard. There are few projects where information can be obtained so fast.

After some discussion it was \underline{moved} by Director Frost, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board support the application of the City of Vernon for provincial funding for experimentation of spray irrigation of hybrid poplars."

CARRIED.

Authority under Supplementary Letters Patent:

The Administrator advised that the Supplementary Letters Patent creating the Okanagan Basin Water Board provides that the Water Board may participate financially or otherwise in such surveys, investigations, or projects on behalf of municipalities, electoral areas, or regional districts, as may be authorized by the participating regional districts.

Moved by Director Tribes, seconded by Director Hill:

"That if the application for provincial funding by the City of Vernon for funds to cover the experimental program for the use of spray irrigation of hybrid poplars is refused, the member regional districts be asked to authorize the Okanagan Basin Water Board to provide the necessary funds in the amount of \$79,000.00."

CARRIED.

In discussing the resolution, concern was expressed that the Board may be changing its rules for funding.

Director Frost suggested that when special projects come up, the Board should look for outside monies.

Director Blattner noted that supporting an experimental program such as the one proposed leads to tertiary treatment and basically qualifies for Okanagan Basin Water Board funding under its present terms of reference.

Director Tribes noted that if the experiment shows that hybrid poplars are great consumers of water, the results of the experiment will be beneficial to all three regional districts.

The Administrator advised the Board that the Board will need to review its sewage assistance formula in any event because the 1.5 equivalent limit will not be sufficient to cover the draw on the fund, particularly as the result of new works and the loss of a very large assessment base.

Mr. R. Nickel: Okanagan Water Quality Project Team:

Mr. R. Nickel addressed the Board and advised that his people are hoping that Waste Management Plans will be developed over the whole Okanagan Basin which will identify the scheduling and costs of providing sewage facilities. The funds which were announced under the Environmentally Sensitive Area Designations have now been hypothecated. Insofar as the

agricultural operation survey is concerned, members of the team have sat down with Ministry of Agriculture and Food officials and undertook an inventory to determine agricultural practices. The preliminary report is out and the final report will soon be available. The report indicates that some agricultural management practices can be improved upon.

The septic tank sewage disposal report should be out in the next month or two. Insofar as forestry is concerned, a control strategy is being developed for working with the ministry habitat, water management, and industry. There were some provincial wide rough guidelines available and these are being tailored to the Okanagan.

CORRESPONDENCE:

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

Discussion Paper:

Moved by Director Hill, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the following recommendations of the Houseboat Administrative Committee be endorsed:

- That Crown Foreshore Lease applications be subject to a public hearing called for by the Ministry of Lands, Parks, and Housing and held within the affected community;
- 2. That Crown Foreshore Lease applications for the purposes of marine oriented craft operations require the preparation of operational plans prior to consideration and approval and further that their enforcement form part of the conditions of the Crown Lease.
- 3. That as a condition of a Crown Lease for houseboat rental operations, the licensee or lessee shall establish, as a condition of all boat rental agreements, that renters stay a minimum of fifty (50) metres offshore from occupied shorelines for anchorage when not moored at a marina facility, and will advise renters of their responsibility to obey laws of trespass and the need to respect the privacy of shoreline property owners. This condition would not apply in the event that a renter is seeking safe anchorage during periods of inclement weather or when in distress;
- 4. That as a condition of a Crown Lease for houseboat rental operations, the licencee or lessee will ensure that rental vessels do not "raft" together;
- 5. That as a condition of a Crown Lease for houseboat rental operations, the licensee or lessee, will require renters to observe quiet hours between 2300 and 0700 hours, and ensure that renters' actions do not pose a nuisance to shoreline residents;
- 6. That the Provincial Government Parks Branch be requested to install sewage pump-out stations together with solid waste receptacles at the three major Provincial campsites on Okanagan Lake; namely Okanagan Lake campsite, Summerland; Bear Creek Campsite, Kelowna; and Ellison Park Campsite at Okanagan Landing;

- 7. That the regional districts support the adoption of the draft regulations under the Canada Shipping Act and that representation be made to the appropriate Federal Government ministry to include the control and discharge of grey water into inland waters under the proposed regulations;
- 8. That the status quo remain with regard to the enforcement of the existing legislation and regulations for the use of Mabel, Ellison, Wood, Kalamalka, Okanagan, Skaha, Vaseux, and Osoyoos Lakes and that a valley-wide enforcement agency not be considered at this time;
- 9. That the municipalities and regional districts in the Okanagan Basin which have lakeshore within their boundaries, in consultation with the appropriate ministries, prepare and adopt shore zone plans;
- 10. That the senior levels of government be encouraged to carry out a review of existing uses on the lakes and to establish criteria, methods and procedures to maintain, enhance, and improve the quality and enjoyment of all recreation uses on the Okanagan Lake system."

CARRIED.

C.O.R.D.:

O.B.W.B. Sewerage Facilities Assistance Fund:

A letter was received from the Central Okanagan Regional District advising that the Board is of the opinion that an increase to an equivalent to 2.5 mills for the Sewerage Facilities Assistance Fund at this time would not receive favourable considerable by all political partners within this region.

The Administrator noted that the North Okanagan Regional District Board took a similar view, however the increase was endorsed by the Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District Board.

After some discussion, it was \underline{moved} by Director Frost, seconded by Director Blattner:

"That the entire matter of funding of the Sewerage Facilities Assistance Fund be referred to the Aquatic Plant Management Committee for study and recommendations."

CARRIED.

MINISTER OF HEALTH:

Septic Tank Disposal under one Jurisdiction:

A letter from the Minister of Health advising that the Board's suggestion to have the regulation of sewage disposal under one jurisdiction has merit and that he will forward our comments to those who are participating in these discussions was received for information.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS:

Septic Tank Disposal under one Jurisdiction:

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the letter from the Minister of Environment and Parks advising that while he appreciates that it would be best to have all matters involving ground disposal of sewage under one jurisdiction, the resolution of this matter is complicated and that, although it may not be possible to resolve this matter, the ministry intends to do everything possible not to further complicate it following the introduction of any additional septic tank regulations that are determined necessary of the Okanagan Valley, be received and filed."

CARRIED.

CITY OF KELOWNA:

Information concerning use of grass carp in aquatic weed control:

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That correspondence from the City of Kelowna providing information from Mr. Lorne Pearson relating to the use of grass carp for aquatic weed control be referred to Mr. M. Maxnuk of the Ministry of Environment for reply."

CARRIED.

N.O.R.D.:

Letter to Okanagan Mainline Municipal Association concerning septic tank regulations:

Moved by Director Blattner, seconded by Director Oystryk:

"That the copy of a letter to the Okanagan Mainline Municipal Association from the Regional District of North Okanagan requesting their support for the placement of the control of septic tank discharges under the jurisdiction of a single ministry be received and filed."

CARRIED

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT:

Kokanee Die-off:

Moved by Director Blattner, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That correspondence from the Ministry of Environment and Parks advising that they have not discovered the cause of last summer's Kokanee die-off be received and filed."

CARRIED.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS:

Request for Additional Funding:

Correspondence from Mr. P. M. Brady, Director, Water Management Branch, Ministry of Environment and Parks, advising that our request for additional funding in the fiscal year 1986/87 has been approved and the ministry will provide an additional contribution of \$24,000 towards the cost-shared control program for tillage projects in Kalamalka Lake was received for information.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS:

Milfoil Discovered in Mara Lake:

A letter from Mr. M. Maxnuk, Ministry of Environment, advising that milfoil was discovered in a portion of Mara Lake lying within the Regional District of North Okanagan, but outside the boundaries of the Okanagan Basin Water Board, was received for information.

SEWERAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Oystryk:

"That the following Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants be approved:

City of Kelowna:	Jan Dec./86	\$ 743,232.10
District of Coldstream:	July - Dec./86	\$ 62,455.47
City of Vernon:	July - Dec./86	\$ 179,060.49
Village of Oliver:	Jan Dec./86	\$ 80,254.18
Town of Osoyoos:	July - Dec./86	\$ 33,765.72."

CARRIED.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENT:

Signing Officers:

Moved by Director Horning, seconded by Director Blattner:

"Whereas it is desirable for the Okanagan Basin Water Board (hereinafter called the 'corporation') to authorize certain of its officers to, inter alia, sign cheques, deposit promisory notes and cheques, receive paid cheques, obtain and deliver from the Corporation's bankers copies of all or any stocks and bonds;

NOW THEREFORE the Corporation hereby enacts as follows:

That all cheques of the Corporation drawn on its Current account be signed on its behalf by E. Lamont, Chairman; A. Hill, Vice-Chairman; E. Shipmaker, N.O.R.D. Chairman, and P. Mackiewich, Secretary-Treasurer (any two to sign);

That P. Mackiewich, Secretary-Treasurer, of the Corporation be and is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the said Corporation to negotiate with, deposit with or transfer to the Bank of Montreal (but for the credit of the said Corporation only) all or any Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Cheques and Orders for the payment of money and other negotiable paper, and for the said purpose to endorse the same or any of them on behalf of the said Corporation, either in writing or by rubber stamp, and further that all cheques under the sum of \$5,000.00 may be mechanically signed by any of the above officers;

That P. Mackiewich, Secretary-Treasurer, be and is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the said Corporation from time to time to arrange, settle, balance, and certify all books and accounts between the said Corporation and the Bank; to receive all paid cheques and vouchers, unpaid and unaccepted bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments;

That P. Mackiewich, Secretary-Treasurer, be and is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the said Corporation to obtain delivery from the said Bank of all or any stocks, bonds and other securities held by the said Bank in safe-keeping or otherwise for the account of the said Corporation and to give valid and binding receipts therefore;

That this resolution be communicated to the said Bank and remain in force until written notice to the contrary shall have been given to the Manager for the time being the Branch of the Bank at which the account of the said Corporation is kept and receipt of such notice duly acknowledged in writing."

CARRIED.

APPOINTMENTS: Aquatic Plant Management Committee:

The Board agreed that Directors Lamont, Hill, and Frost be appointed as the elected representatives to the Aquatic Plant Management Committee.

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SLIDE PRESENTATION:

Review of O.B.W.B. Aquatic Weed Control methods:

Mr. Greg Armour made a slide presentation which showed the various methods of harvesting the aquatic weeds employed by the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

He also showed and explained how the bombardier has been modified to a hydraulic drive machine which, hopefully, will eliminate many of the major operating problems being experienced with the mechanical drive.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS:

Report:

Mr. Mel Maxnuk reported that invoices for the 1986/87 year must not be dated later than March 31st and must be in his hands by April 8th, 1987. He indicated that officials of his ministry are not optimistic that the Board's request for additional funding for the fiscal year 1987/88 will be approved and that the Board's 1988/89 budget must be submitted by June 30th, 1987.

OF GRASS CARP RESEARCH:

Mr. Maxnuk advised that the grass carp is a native to Eastern China and Siberia and has been introduced to the larger rivers in Russia. In 1960 it was introduced in North America, specifically for aquatic weed purposes. It was found that subsequent to the introduction the grass carp was only efficient for harvesting in very small areas. It would take 256 tons of fish to do 640 hectares in the Okanagan or 256,000 1 kg fish. The grass carp has been banned from importing to Canada and has also been banned in many states due to fisheries related concerns. Recently a grass carp which is thought to be sterile has been developed and in labs and field studies it has been found that species prefers milfoil to other food. The State of Washington has introduced the grass carp into four of its lakes this year and will monitor the fish for the next two years.

NEXT MEETING:

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Board will be held in Penticton at a date to be determined by the Chairman.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10~p.m. on a motion of Director Blattner.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

PM/las

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE OFFICES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 2903 - 25TH AVENUE, VERNON, B. C. ON MARCH 10TH, 1987 AT 3:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Chairman E. Lamont C.O.R.D. Director R. P. Frost 0.S.R.D.

Director A. Hill

N.O.R.D.

STAFF:

P. Mackiewich Okanagan Basin Water Board G. Armour Okanagan Basin Water Board

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

The purpose of the meeting was to review a letter from Mr. P. M. Brady, Director, Water Management Branch, relating to the cost sharing agreement between the Okanagan Basin Water Board and the province regarding aquatic plant management.

Mr. Brady advised that requests for assistance to control Eurasian water milfoil in British Columbia have increased and since provincial funding for aquatic plant management is fixed, the formula for cost-shared control programs has been reviewed and that effective April 1st, 1987, Aquatic Plant Management Programs will be funded under a two-step cost-shared formula. Approved programs with a total annual expenditure up to \$40,000 will be funded 75% by the province and 25% by local agencies. Programs with total annual expenditures of more than \$40,000 will be cost shared 50% by the province and 50% by local agencies for the amount above \$40,000.

In the case of the agreement between the province and the Okanagan Basin Water Board, Mr. Brady advised that this change will require a modification of Section 3(b) of the agreement.

The Committee was advised that on February 27th, 1987 the Chairman wrote a letter to Mr. Ben Marr, Deputy Minister of Environment and Parks, explaining that at this late date the Water Board could not increase its requisition to its member regional districts and expressing concern over the obvious attempt by the province to abrogate its responsibilities covering aquatic plant management and attempt to pass the cost of a provincial responsibility over to local government. It seems ironic that one ministry is tripling its grants to regional districts while another ministry is trying to take them away. The letter also expressed concern that the province is attempting to break an agreement which was just renewed last year.

The Chairman noted that at the Premier's Conference it was suggested by others that the structure of the Okanagan Basin Water Board is a good blueprint for other communities to follow and now it appears that the structure is trying to be eroded by the government taking away its funding.

The Chairman expressed concern that perhaps the politicians are not aware of what the bureaucrats are trying to do in this instance. He noted that the position of the Water Board is that no chemicals would be used for treating aquatic plants, however, the reduction will prompt the use of chemicals by individuals.

It was also noted that in spite of a minimal budget covering such a vast area of the Okanagan Basin, not a single complaint was received last year. The Committee is aware that weeds have been found in Christina Lake, at Dawson Creek, Nanaimo and other areas and it appears that the province is looking to the Okanagan Basin Water Board to provide the funding for harvesting these areas by reducing the funds made available to the oldest established agency.

It was also noted that Mr. Earl Anthony, Asst. Deputy Minister of Environment and Parks, will be attending a meeting with the O.M.M.A. Executive later in the afternoon and it was agreed that the Chairman speak with Mr. Anthony in this regard.

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hill:

"That, if after the Chairman meets with the Asst. Deputy Minister concerning the reduction in funding of the aquatic plant management program he does not receive an indication that the funds would not be reduced, it be recommended to the Okanagan Basin Water Board that the Aquatic Plant Management Program be discontinued and be entirely transferred back to the Ministry of Environment and Parks."

CARRIED.

In discussing the resolution, it was noted that if the Provincial Government follows through with its threatened reduction in funding, it would mean that the Okanagan Basin Water Board's program would need to be cut almost in half and the hostility which would be asserted by the residents who do not receive the service, nor would it be worthwhile to carry on with just half the program.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

PM/las

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD IN THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN OFFICES, 101 MARTIN STREET, PENTICTON, B. C., ON THURSDAY, MAY 7th, 1987 AT 2:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Director E. Lamont Central Okanagan Reg. Dist.

Director A. Horning Central Okanagan Reg. Dist.(Absent)
Director N. Oystryk Central Okanagan Reg. Dist.(Absent)

Director H. Blattner
Director A. Hill
Director K. Tribes
Director R. Frost
North Okanagan Reg. Dist.
North Okanagan Reg. Dist.
North Okanagan Reg. Dist.
Okanagan-Similkameen Reg.

Director R. Frost
Director E. R. Hermiston
Director J. Kimberley

Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.
Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.

ALSO PRESENT: M. Maxnuk Ministry of Environment

P. Mackiewich Administrator
G. Armour Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Hermiston, seconded by Director Blattner:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on February 10th, 1987 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Further <u>moved</u> by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hermiston:

"That the minutes of a meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Committee held on March 10th, 1987 be adopted as circulated."

Discussion arose over the recommendations made by the Committee that if after the Chairman meets with the Asst. Deputy Minister concerning the reduction in funding of the Aquatic Plant Management Program he does not receive an indication that the funds would not be reduced, the Okanagan Basin Water Board discontinue the Aquatic Plant Management Program and transfer it back to the Ministry of Environment and Parks.

Director Frost explained that the position of the Committee is that if we can't perform because of a lack of funding we should not try to offer half of a program.

Director Hill agreed and stated that we cannot possibly do any work if the funding is cut.

Director Frost expressed concern over how ongoing Boards relate to the attitude of the ministry towards the program, to reduce funding and apparently wishing to withdraw from participating in a weed program. He stated that this attitude of the ministry is particularly hard to accept when at the recent Premier's Conference, the Premier stated that other areas should consider functions similar to the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Concern was also expressed that last year an agreement was signed with the Province to provide 75% of the funding and now the ministry wishes to renage on the agreement.

Mr. Armour pointed out that before the Okanagan Basin Water Board entered into an agreement with the Province, the Province performed all of the aquatic weed harvesting on its own and paid for the program in its entirety.

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It was finally $\underline{\text{moved}}$ by Director Frost, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the recommendation of the Aquatic Plant Management Committee made on March 10th, 1987 covering the discontinuation of the Aquatic Plant Management Program be tabled until the Chairman and Administrator have had an opportunity to meet with the Minister of Environment and Parks, together with the valley MLA's to review the entire matter."

CARRIED.

PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

$\frac{\text{MR. H. BLAZOWSKI}}{\text{\& MR. W. SMITH:}}$ $\frac{\text{Vaseux Lake Weed Problem:}}{\text{Vaseux Lake Weed Problem:}}$

Messrs. Blazowski and Smith appeared before the Board to express concern over the deterioration of Vaseux Lake and requested that the Water Board place the harvesting of Vaseux Lake high on its list of priorities.

CORRESPONDENCE:

DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT:

Reduction in Provincial funding for Aquatic Weed Control:

A letter from the Minister of Environment and Parks advising that for the first \$40,000 in any jurisdiction the existing 75% Provincial/25% local formula would be retained, while for expenditures beyond this amount the formula would be changed to 50/50% was received and filed pending a meeting with the Minister of Environment and Parks.

MLA, BOUNDARY SIMILKAMEEN:

Acknowledgement of Water Board concern regarding funding reduction:

Correspondence from J. Hewitt, MLA, Boundary Similkameen, advising that it is his intention to discuss the matter of funding with the Minister of Environment and Parks was received and filed.

MLA, OKANAGAN SOUTH:

Acknowledgement of Water Board concern regarding funding reduction:

Correspondence from L. Chalmers, MLA, Okanagan South, advising that it is his intention to discuss the matter of funding with the Minister of Environment and Parks was received and filed.

MLA, OKANAGAN NORTH:

Support Restoration of Funding:

A copy of a letter to the Minister of Environment and Parks from L. F. Hanson, MLA, Okanagan North, supporting the restoration of funding was received and filed.

CHAIRMAN, R.D.C.O.:

Concern over Funding Cutback:

A copy of the communication from the Chairman of the Central Okanagan Regional District to the Minister of Environment and Parks expressing concern over the cutback in Water Board funding was received for information.

HOLIDAY PARK RESORT:

Harvesting Duck Lake:

Moved by Director Hill, seconded by Director Blattner:

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> "That a reply to the letter received from Holiday Park Resort requesting early harvesting of Duck Lake and offering to pay a portion of the cost be forwarded indicating that the Board has not resolved its financial concerns and that their request will be reviewed when the level of funding from the Province is determined."

> > CARRIED.

N. GLUSCHENKO & K. DROUGHT:

Opposition to Houseboats on Okanagan Lake:

Moved by Director Blattner, seconded by Director Hill:

"That N. Gluschenko and K. Drought be advised that the Okanagan Basin Water Board does not have jurisdiction over houseboats on Okanagan Lake, but has supported the recommendations of the Houseboat Committee, which recommendations address some of the concerns raised."

FUNDING: PILOT PROJECT SPRAY IRRIGATION OF POPLARS:

Correspondence from Minister of Labour and Consumer Services; C. Serwa, MLA, Okanagan South; Director of Research Branch, Ministry of Forests and Lands; Minister of Environment and Parks; Regional District of Central Okanagan; Regional District of North Okanagan; and the City of Vernon:

Moved by Director Hill, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the correspondence from the Minister of Labour and Consumer Services; C. Serwa, MLA, Okanagan South; Director of Research Branch, Ministry of Forests and Lands; Minister of Environment and Parks; Regional District of Central Okanagan; Regional District of North Okangan; and the City of Vernon all concerning the funding for a pilot project for spray irrigation of hybrid poplars be received and filed."

CARRIED.

REGIONAL DIST .:

COLUMBIA SHUSWAP Aquatic Weed Control in Mara Lake:

The Board was advised that milfoil has appeared in the south part of Mara Lake within the North Okanagan Regional District outside of the boundaries of the Okanagan Basin.

The Columbia Shuswap Regional District has agreed to provide control in this part of the lake when it does its own program so long as the costs do not become excessive.

SEWERAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

Moved by Director Blattner, seconded by Director Frost:

"That the Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grant application from the Town of Osoyoos covering the period of January to July, 1987 in the amount of \$25,484.88 be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

The Administrator recommended that the formula covering Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants be addressed because the 1.5 mill equivalent does not raise any more dollars than the 1 mill used to prior to the removal of the machinery and equipment assessment.

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NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

IMPLICATIONS OF

A memorandum was circulated among the Board showing the implications on the Aquatic Weed Program if the funding REDUCED FUNDING: limit is reduced as indicated in the Deputy Minister's letter.

> The memorandum showed that the Field Supervisor may need to be laid off for approximately two months, the harvesting would be reduced for machines operated one eight-hour shift per day instead of double shift. The reduced hours will result in approximately 25% less area being harvested, special projects would need to be curtailed. reduction would be in the derooting program.

It was pointed out that virtually every dollar contributed to the Okanagan control program goes into control work. There are no unproductive activities such as research and development or administration which can be cut and still allow the same level of control to proceed. Notwithstanding the purely political decisions regarding changes to the cost-share formula or increased local funding, the reduced funding will result in less area of milfoil under control in 1987/88.

The entire program must be reduced by approximately 25 to 30% if it is to be done within the funds which have so far been allocated.

The Board was advised that originally when the Aquatic Weed Control Program was commenced, the Province provided approximately \$2 million towards the program. The program has now been reduced to one of approximately \$180,000.

Mr. Henry Blazowski: Mr. Henry Blazowski addressed the Board and stated that he understands that there is a new method out to control weeds. A derivative of kelp has been developed which breaks itself into ropes and kills aquatic weeds on contact. The herbicide placed within this product is not released into the water, but is contained until it comes in contact with the weeds.

1987/88 AQUATIC WEED PROGRAM:

The Board agreed that a meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Committee be held to develop harvesting and winter tillage programs as soon as the level of funding has been determined.

STATUS OF 1986/87 WINTER TILLAGE:

Mr. Armour reported that all sites outlined in the October schedule have been completed with the exception of the Kelowna foreshore and work in this area is presently underway and is expected to be finished by May 22nd.

Rototiller No. 1 is presently in the yard for maintenance and will be moved to Cultus Lake and Harrison Lake until the end of August. It will then be used in the Shuswap Lake system.

Rototiller No. 2 will be in the Kelowna foreshore working until approximately May 22nd. It will then not be used until September.

The Bombardier is now working in the shallow zone of the Kelowna foreshore and will be moved to Wood Lake to treat the shallow waters and work with this machine will be finished by June 5th.

Mr. Armour noted that the winter season ends during the first week of June and the summer season starts the second week of June.

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1987 STAFF SALARIES:

The Board was advised that five employees have been with the Board for over four seasons and have not received a wage increase for two years.

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hermiston:

"That the regular staff of the Okanagan Basin Water Board be awarded a salary increase of 3% for 1987."

CARRIED.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:

It was agreed that the next regular meeting of the Board will be held in the offices of the Central Okanagan Regional District at the call of the Chair.

ADJOURNMENT:

CHAIRMAN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

PM/las

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE OFFICES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 2903 - 25TH AVENUE, VERNON, B. C. ON JULY 29TH, 1987 AT 2:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman E. Lamont C.O.R.D.

Director R. P. Frost O.S.R.D. Director A. Hill N.O.R.D.

P. Mackiewich STAFF: Okanagan Basin Water Board

G. Armour Okanagan Basin Water Board

Dr. P. Newroth ALSO PRESENT: Ministry of Environment M. Maxnuk M. Wallis Ministry of Environment

Ministry of Environment

1987/88 BUDGET STATUS:

The Committee was advised that on June 3rd, 1987 Messrs. Frost, Mackiewich, and Armour met with the Minister of Environment in Victoria accompanied by MLA's Messmer, Chalmers, and Serwa.

The meeting was very cordial, however on July 7th, 1987 the Minster advised by letter that the Provincial share for the 1987/88 program would be held at \$147,000 and we would not receive the \$165,787 Provincial contribution required to maintain the 75/25% cost share agreement.

It now appears that the Water Board has several options:

- 1. Continue to exert pressure upon the Provincial government to provide the shortfall;
- Operate within the budgetary limits and direct where the cutbacks should occur;
- 3. Do not provide an Aquatic Weed Program at all;
- 4. Provide local funds to cover the shortfall.

Director Frost advised that he has discussed this matter with Mr. Ivan Messmer, MLA, who indicated that he has requested the Minister to provide the additional funds, however the Minister has not yet replied to Mr. Messmer's request. It also appears that the newspapers and the tourists are letting the Minister of Environment know how bad the Aquatic Weed problem really is.

The Committee expressed concern that the Provincial Government appears committed to withdraw from financial participation in the Aquatic Weed Program. The Chairman indicated that he had discussed the aquatic weed program with the Premier at a recent meeting in Kelowna.

The Premier indicated that he understood the situation and would discuss the Board's concerns with the Minister of Environment and Parks.

Director Frost stated that when the delegation met with the Minister of Environment and Parks, it was pointed out that the Aquatic Weed Program was an integral part of tourism and the Minister left the delegation with the impression that he would discuss the matter with his colleague the Minister of Tourism.

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Concern was also expressed that the Provincial Government appears to feel that the base level of funding is \$147,000, which level had to be raised in 1986 because it was inadequate and that this sum should not be considered as the base level.

Dr. Newroth noted that if the tillage program is cutback to fit the budget, the result of the cutback would not be noticed for several years.

Mr. Armour noted that the Aquatic Weed Control funds would run out approximately 6-8 weeks before the end of the fiscal year, therefore the Board should exercise one of the options discussed earlier.

After some discussion, it was \underline{moved} by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hill:

"That a further letter be directed to the Minister of Environment and Parks, together with a copy to all of the Okanagan Valley MLA's, requesting that the Government reconsider its decision and provide the \$165,787 requested."

CARRIED.

PROVISIONAL BUDGET - 1988/89:

The Committee reviewed the 1988/89 Provisional Budget as prepared. Mr. Armour advised that it is difficult to obtain sufficient use of the shared rototiller. The Columbia Shuswap and Nanaimo areas are increasing their demands on the machine and, as a result, the south end of the Okanagan is being shortchanged because the machine is available only 50% as often as the one that we cost-shared.

Mr. Armour also expressed concern that this reduced work load may result in the loss of two experienced operators.

It was pointed out that the tillage program has been very effective over the years. For example, approximately 200 harvester loads were taken from the Kelowna foreshore in the 1980/81 fiscal years compared to 1 load this year.

Dr. Newroth noted that with the Provisional Budget as presented, only about 20% of the aquatic weed problem can be addressed, yet people's expectations rise.

The Committee recommended that the Provisional Budget be increased by \$20,000 to operate a second derooting machine.

It was <u>moved</u> by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hill:

"That the 1988/89 Provisional Budget for the Aquatic Weed Control Program in a total amount of \$321,000 be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Parks and that a copy of this budget be provided to each member of the Water Board and that it be pointed out that the non-shareable costs are not included in the budget recommended for approval."

CARRIED.

1987 AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING PROGRAM:

The 1987 Aquatic Weed Harvesting schedule was circulated among the Committee members which showed that a weed harvester was stationed in Vaseux Lake from June 24th to July 2nd, one machine has been in Osoyoos Lake since June 25th. Harvesting commenced in Skaha Lake on July 13th and will commence on Okanagan Lake South on August 10th.

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A harvester was in Wood Lake from June 23rd to July 10th and in the Kelowna area since June 22nd. Ellison Lake was treated during the period of June 24th to July 3rd. Okanagan Lake north harvesting commenced on July 6th.

Mr. Armour noted that there has been an increase in weed growth in the south end of the valley. As a result it is more difficult to get to the lower priority areas timewise. He indicated that the more work that can be done in the winter, the better.

1986/87 WINTER TILLAGE RESULTS:

Mr. Armour advised that as a result of the mild winter, the crews were able to work through the winter. It has been noted that pond weeds still come up regardless how thoroughly an area is rototilled because they do not receive any competition from other weeds. It appears however, that if the areas are harvested in the spring, this action tends to keep the weeds out.

Dr. Newroth advised that his staff has investigated the tillage sites to determine whether or not an area should be tilled each year or whether improved techniques, timing, and time spent at a site would improve the results.

VASEUX LAKE:

Dr. Newroth advised that his Ministry is sensitive to the pressure of some Vaseux Lake residents concerning milfoil. The residents would simply like to see the milfoil vanish, however due to the state of this lake, this would be impossible. The Ministry is, however, concerned over the safety issue and suggested that perhaps the Water Board could find a way to offer tillage to an area of the lake if the residents would be prepared to confine swimming to the tilled area.

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hill:

"That it be recommended to the Board that a meeting be co-ordinated with the Vaseux Lake residents in this regard."

CARRIED.

The Committee requested that the Administration identify areas where safety may be a factor and recommend the areas which should be tilled and the costs for tilling such areas before such a meeting is arranged.

PCB's IN WATER PUMPS:

The Chairman expressed concern that water pumps built between 1966 and 1978 may contain PCB's and that the Provincial Government will reimburse any homeowner who pulls out his pump to test the pump and water up to \$100.

The Chairman stated that if pumps containing PCB's are in the lake, this presents quite a hazard and the Board should encourage the water testing and request that the Government provide it without charge.

The Committee recommended that Mr. R. Nickel be invited to the next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board to advise the Board on this matter.

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NEXT O.B.W.B. MEETING DATE:

The Committee agreed that the tentative date for the next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board be August 19th, 1987 in Kelowna and that the Minister of Municipal Affairs; Minister of Environment and Parks; Minister of Tourism; and the area MLA's be invited to attend.

AIR PHOTOS OF MAJOR TILLAGE SITES:

Mr. Maxnuk showed the Committee members air photos of the major tillage sites in the Okanagan Basin, which photos showed the results of tillage.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:40~p.m.

PM/las

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD IN THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN OFFICES, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B. C., ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1987 AT 1:45 P.M.

PRESENT:

Director E. Lamont Central Okanagan Reg. Dist. Central Okanagan Reg. Dist. Director N. Oystryk Alt. Director Levers Central Okanagan Reg. Dist. Director H. Blattner North Okanagan Reg. Dist. Director A. Hill North Okanagan Reg. Dist. Alt. Director Friesen North Okanagan Reg. Dist. Director R. Frost Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.

Director E. R. Hermiston Director J. Kimberley

Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist. Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.

ALSO PRESENT:

The Honourable L. Hanson

Minister of Labour and Consumer Services, MLA, Okanagan North MLA, Okanagan South

MLA, Okanagan South

Mr. C. Serwa Mr. L. Chalmers Mr. I. Messmer M. Maxnuk P. Jarman

MLA, Boundary Similkameen Ministry of Environment and Parks Ministry of Environment and Parks

DELEGATION:

A delegation of approximately 10 persons

STAFF:

P. Mackiewich Administrator G. Armour Field Supervisor

1987/88 AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING PROGRAM - BUDGET:

The Administrator reported that the Minister of Environment and Parks has given notice to the Okanagan Basin Water Board that the ministry wishes to renegotiate the five-year agreement signed in 1986 covering aquatic weed harvesting and that the ministry will only provide the sum of \$147,000 towards the 1987/88 Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program, which sum represents an \$18,000 shortfall.

The Minister of Environment and Parks was invited to attend the meeting, however, prior commitments precluded his attendance.

Honourable L. Hanson:

The Honourable L. Hanson advised that the Honourable Bruce Strachan, Minister of Environment and Parks, would be pleased to meet with the Board at another time mutually convenient to both parties.

Director Frost:

Director Frost stated that in the south part of the valley this year the aquatic weed growth has been the worst he has ever seen. There is certainly a need for a lot more harvesting than is being done. The lake system is vital to the tourist industry and if our lakes cannot be kept relatively weed free, the entire tourist industry could be killed.

Mr. G. Armour:

Greg Armour reported that a major problem is that harvesting has to occur during the tourist season. If more funds were available the lakes could be rototilled during the off-season and less harvesting would need to occur. In the north end of the valley the rototiller which the Board purchased with the province was used for 1,220 hours during the last year. In the south end of the valley the machine owned by the Province was only available for 450 hours because of a demand for this machine by areas outside of the Basin. As a result, the south end of the valley did get shortchanged this year.

Mr. Armour said that harvesting starts in the major centres early in the year and Peachland and Summerland and less populated areas are left until mid-August which does not do much good for the tourist industry in those locations. As more rototilling is done, the harvester could be made available to the lower priority areas earlier in the year. The advantage in the rototilling is that it is done during the off-season with little interference to the tourist industry and the operating season expands to over ten months.

Chairman Lamont:

Chairman Lamont stated that at the Premier's Conference, the Premier indicated that the Okanagan Basin Water Board is unique in the Province and in North America. Because the Okanagan is an environmentally sensitive area, it should not be compared to the rest of the province. The Water Board would like to stay with the 75/25% cost sharing formula and receive a long term commitment from the Province of British Columbia so that the Board knows where it's going in the future and is not constantly fighting with the Province to maintain its uniqueness. Tourists notice the deterioration of the lakes system very quickly when weeds appear.

Director Hill:

Director Hill advised that he is familiar with similar areas such as the Okanagan in Austria and we are realizing only about $1/20 \mathrm{th}$ of the tourist potential at the present time.

Mr. S. Sigal:

Mr. Saul Sigal, Holiday Park Resort, observed that rototilling may be twice as expensive as harvesting, but suggested that the cost effectiveness should be considered and more rotovating should be done because of its effectiveness.

Mr. G. Armour:

Mr. Armour replied that we do not have a one-shot cure and we are not sure whether every area needs to be rotovated each year to reduce the weed population.

Dr. Edworthy:

Dr. Edworthy advised that he moved to Kelowna approximately 17 years ago and the lakeshore was beautiful. It progressively deteriorated and he is pleased to say that this year it is beautiful again and thanked the Water Board for making it so.

H. Blazowski:

Henry Blazowski thanked the Board for doing a good job of harvesting Vaseux Lake. He stated that this year the lake experienced the most prolific growth of milfoil. He suggested that milfoil should be considered as the worst threat to the tourist industry and that we should be doing research to find a more permanent solution than the ones presently used. He noted that the Okanagan tourist industry is based on two factors; one being climate, the second being the beautiful lakes. He stated that the Provincial Government must contribute most of the costs of combatting the weed problem and an effort to find a permanent solution.

Mr. C. Serwa:

Mr. Serwa asked whether the sewage outfalls into the lake add significantly or are they insignificant to the aquatic weed problem.

Mr. M. Maxnuk:

Mr. Maxnuk replied that milfoil is a rooted plant and takes its nutrient from the soil. Sewage outfalls do not appear to have a significant affect on the growth of milfoil.

Mr. G. Armour:

Mr. Armour observed that when the City of Vernon began its spray irrigation program, a decrease in the milfoil problem was not noticed, however, water clarity in the area did improve, but the outfall could not be related to milfoil growth.

Honourable L. Hanson:

The Honourable L. Hanson stated that the Ministry of Environment and Parks has the figures on the contribution of

phosphorus to the lake system by the various entities and studies show that milfoil growth is not related to the outfall. The Cities of Kelowna, Penticton, Armstrong, and Vernon all contribute phosphorus to the lakes system. So do septic tanks, forestry, and agricultural practises.

Mr. I. Messmer: Mr. Messmer stated that he had just received a telephone call from the Honourable Bruce Strachan, Minister of Environment and Parks, recognizing the aquatic weed problem in the Okanagan and agreeing to the full \$165,000 Provincial contribution requested by the Board. The Minister has indicated that he is prepared to meet with the Board to discuss its future program.

> Mr. Messmer also noted that the effluent problem in the Okanagan has been studied for many years and Waste Management Plans have been developed recommending what most communities must do to help the lake system. He noted that the City of Vernon has followed its Waste Management Plan.

Mr. C. Serwa:

Mr. Cliff Serwa stated that there is no question that the Okanagan Lakes system is our major asset and advised that the MLA's will continue to work to raise the profile of the Okanagan Basin Water Board. Mr. Serwa commended the Board for the amount of work it has performed with limited funds. He noted that the Provincial Government will continue to be committed to the Okanagan Valley and keep it designated as an environmentally sensitive zone.

Director Frost:

Director Frost asked the MLA's in attendance to convey to the Minister of Environment and Parks the importance of a proper Aquatic Plant Management Program and the need for an agreement on a five-year plan.

Honourable L. Hanson:

The Honourable L. Hanson noted that the cosmetic effects of weed harvesting are good for the tourist industry, however if there is real evidence that rototilling is the long-term answer the government would look at it in a different light and it therefore should be considered as a higher priority.

Director Blattner:

Director H. Blattner asked whether the Ministry of Environment is still looking for a new herbicide to control aquatic

Mr. M. Maxnuk:

Mr. Maxnuk replied that other herbicides are being developed in the U.S.A. but to register such chemicals in Canada is a very expensive process, considering the amount of market which is available in Canada.

After some general discussion, the MLA's and the Minister of Labour and Consumer Services were thanked for their attendance at the meeting and left.

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Blattner:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on May 7th, 1987 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Aquatic Plant Management Committee Minutes:

Moved by Director Hill, seconded by Director Frost:

"That the minutes of a meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Committe held on July 29th, 1987 be adopted and the recommendations contained therein be confirmed."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

PETER JARMAN:

PCB's in Well Pumps:

Mr. Peter Jarman, Head of the Industrial Section, Southern Interior Region, Waste Management Branch, addressed the Board concerning PCB's in well pumps. He noted that the problems of PCB's in well pumps was accidentally discovered in Ontario and surveys revealed that prior to 1977 many pumps on the market were contaminated with PCB's. The British Columbia Government did their own survey to identify which pumps were contaminated, have them removed from service, and test the well water.

Mr. Jarman indicated that the ministry has an extensive list of the brand names of pumps which are contaminated by PCB's. If any member of the public is concerned that their pump may be contaminated, they should call his office and they will advise them whether or not the particular brand does contain PCB's. If a PCB contaminated pump has been identified and is in the possession of the ministry, the water will be tested. He noted that the price for PCB analysis is approximately \$200.

Director Frost left the meeting.

After some questions, Mr. Jarman indicated that pumps between 1/2 to 1 horsepower manufactured prior to 1977 appear to be the ones at risk. The large pumps are not likely to contain PCB's. The pumps which do contain PCB's only contain a few grams. Out of 1/2 million pumps in Ontario, only 2 pumps were found to have contaminated the water supply, but the contamination level was still within health standards.

Mr. Jarman was thanked for his presentation.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NORTH OKANAGAN REGIONAL DIST.:

Administration of Water Licences:

Moved by Director Blattner, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the request of the North Okanagan Regional District to express concern to the Province of British Columbia over the drawbacks in the present administration of water resources in the Province and particularly the inability of improvement districts and municipalities to retain water licences needed to serve future populations be endorsed and a letter be forwarded accordingly."

CARRIED.

TUG-UL NUIT REHABILITATION COMMITTEE:

Copy of Letter to Water Management Branch requesting assistance in lake rehabilitation:

Mr. Maxnuk advised that he met with the Committee regarding the rehabilitation of Tug-Ul-Nuit Lake. He noted that there is not much of an aquatic weed problem in the lake, but the lake is teeming with carp which makes the lake turbid. Carp are very hard fish to kill and the approved chemicals are not very effective in killing carp. A proposal made was that a commercial fishery be introduced in the lake, then to stock the lake with bass to feed on carp fry.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS:

Request aquatic weed control at Paul Lake Provincial Park:

A letter was received from the Minister of Environment and Parks requesting that the Okanagan Basin Water Board again provide services to harvest aquatic weeds at Paul Lake Provincial Park and the ministry will reimburse all of the Board's costs.

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Hermiston:

"That whereas the required harvesting is done in the off season and does not affect the Okanagan Basin Water Board's program, the Okanagan Basin Water Board provide aquatic weed harvesting to the Ministry of Environment and Parks at Paul Lake Provincial Park at the expense of the ministry.

CARRIED.

VILLAGE OF OLIVER:

Copy of letter from Mr. C. A. Waters - Study of waterway from Shuswap Lake to Osoyoos Lake:

A copy of a letter from Mr. C. A. Waters was received from the Village of Oliver, which letter recommended that a study of our total waterway from Shuswap Lake to Osoyoos Lake at the B.C. border be undertaken.

Moved by Director Blattner, seconded by Director Hermiston:

"That Mr. C. A. Waters be advised that a study was done some years ago of connecting Shuswap Lake with Okanagan Lake.

CARRIED.

Correspondence:

Moved by Alt. Director Friesen, seconded by Director Blattner:

"That the following correspondence be received and filed:

- a) Minister of Environment & Parks Provincial contribution to 75/25 aquatic weed control \$147,000 and notification of Provincial intent to renegotiate agreement next year;
- Minister of Environment & Parks Reply to brief presented by Mayor Frost at June 3rd meeting in Victoria;
- Minister of Environment & Parks Reply to N.O.R.D. letter of April 22nd urging adequate funding of aquatic weed control;
- P. M. Brady, Director, Water Management Branch Copy of petition from forty City of Kelowna lakeshore residents expressing concern over cutbacks in weed control funding;
- Mr. E. J. Hall Letter of thanks for thorough weed removal on Kelowna foreshore;
- Holiday Park Resort Letter of thanks for harvesting and
- offer to assist in any longer term control method;
 Ministry of Environment & Parks Copy of reply to
 Kelowna Water Ski Club letter thanking O.B.W.B. for harvesting of Ellison Lake."

CARRIED.

SEWERAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

The Administrator advised that the current limit of 1.5 mills for the Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants will not be sufficient to meet the demands on the fund when all of the projects under the environmentally sensitive designation are completed.

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The Administrator also noted that the Regional Districts of Central Okanagan and North Okanagan have refused to have the mill rate limitation increased to an equivalent of $2.0\,$ mills.

Moved by Director Hermiston, seconded by Director Hill:

"That the Administrator provide the Board with the following information covering the Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants:

- a) The percentage of the amount which the Province pays which could be paid without increasing the mill rate using the existing debt and with the addition of the known new expenditure;
- b) The mill rate which would need to be applied to continue to pay 24% of the amount the Province pays using the existing debt and the known additional expenditures."

CARRIED.

Approval of Grants:

Moved by Director Blattner, seconded by Director Hermiston:

"That the following Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants be approved for payment:

City of	Armstrong:	Jan	- June/87	\$ 17,810.70
City of	Kelowna:	Jan	- June/87	\$ 368,907.65
City of	Penticton:	Jan	- June/87	\$ 76,181.58
City of	Vernon:	Jan	- June/87	\$ 189,798.84
Village	of Oliver:	Jan	- June/87	\$ 34,343.33."

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:55~p.m.

SECRETARY-TREASURER

PM/las

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE OFFICES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 2903 - 35TH AVENUE, VERNON, B. C. ON OCTOBER 28th, 1987 AT 2:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman E. Lamont C.O.R.D.

Director R. P. Frost O.S.R.D. Director A. Hill N.O.R.D.

STAFF: P. Mackiewich Administrator, O.B.W.B.

G. Armour Field Supervisor, O.B.W.B.

MEETING WITH MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT:

Discussion arose over the topics to be discussed with the Minister of Environment when the Board meets with him in Kelowna on October 30th, 1987.

Director Frost expressed concern that the Provincial Government may be desirous of privatizing the Aquatic Weed Control Program. Director Frost stated that the program is extremely sensitive and **recommended** that it be kept in the hands of the Okanagan Basin Water Board and not be privatized.

The Committee was advised that Mr. Conrad Rioux of Lakescape International Ltd. has approached both politicians and staff and has offered the services of his company to harvest the aquatic weeds. Mr. Rioux alleges that he can harvest the weeds both faster and cheaper than the Okanagan Basin Water Board and has offered to purchase the harvesting equipment from us.

At the present time Lakescape International only owns one machine. When the matter was discussed with Mr. Rioux, it was suggested that his company present a written proposal to the Board and carry out a demonstration project showing the ability of his company to perform, however to date such a proposal has not been received.

The Chairman expressed concern that when private companies get into the business, purchase whatever harvesting equipment available from us, they may then be in a position to charge higher prices as aquatic weed control is a specialized field.

Director Frost noted that the service provided by the Okanagan Basin Water Board is special, the staff is there when they are required to harvest the weeds, and also to clean up the spoils. When discussing production, it is hard to compare production when one is harvesting in Salona Bay versus Vaseux Lake.

Mr. Armour also noted that some contractors are providing misleading information to lakeshore residents when soliciting work. They are stating that the Water Board will not be harvesting and are not picking up their spoils. In addition, water intakes have been damaged by the contractors and the Okanagan Basin Water Board has been blamed.

After some discussion, it was $\underline{\mathsf{moved}}$ by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hill:

"That it be recommended that the Okanagan Basin Water Board state its opposition to private contractors carrying out the Aquatic Weed Control Program unless there can be a substantial cost savings and the contractor's workmanship is of a very high calibre."

CARRIED.

1988/89 PROVISIONAL BUDGET:

The Committee noted that the Minister of Environment and Parks has promised to advise the Board by November 1st, 1987 of the government's participation in the 1988/89 Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program.

The Committee expressed concern that the government is endeavouring to remove itself from financial participation in the aquatic weed harvesting program as noted in the Minister's request to renegotiate the cost sharing agreement and the reduction in our share of provincial funds each time aquatic weeds are found elsewhere in the province.

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hill:

"That when meeting with the Minister of Environment and Parks on October 30th, 1987, the principle item of discussion be the funding and the government's commitment towards the Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program."

CARRIED.

1987 AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING REPORT:

The attached 1987 Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program Report was circulated among the members of the Committee and discussed. It was noted that Vaseux Lake experienced a bad weed problem and pressure is being received for rototilling in this area. Weeds are also growing very rapidly in Duck Lake and pressure is being received for rototilling this lake as well. In addition, rototilling has been requested by the Provincial Parks at Christie Memorial Park and by the Vernon Yacht Club.

Moved by Director Frost, seconded by Director Hill:

"That it be recommended that if the funding request for an additional rototiller is approved by the Provincial Government, then the above request for additional rototilling be favourably considered."

CARRIED.

WINTER TILLAGE SCHEDULE:

The attached Fall 1987/Spring 1988 Winter Tillage schedule was discussed and agreed upon.

OTHER MATTERS:

The Chairman suggested that the Okanagan Basin Water Board should consider becoming involved with water quantities, due to the current water shortage situation.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10~p.m.

to the current water shortage situation.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10~p.m.

CHAIRMAN SECRETARY-TREASU

1987 AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING PROGRAM

Aquatic weed harvesting began June 22nd, 1987 with four machines operating until September 4th, 1987. A total of 1,275 machine loads or approximately 2,500 tonnes of aquatic weeds were removed from six mainstem Okanagan Valley lakes. This represents about 97 hectares of harvested area. Following is a comparison of production figures since 1981.

<u>Year</u>	Loads	Tonnes	Estimated Area (ha)
1981	1,906	4,104	153
1982	1,533	3,207	121
1983	1,458	2,987	114
1984	1,440	2,817	109
1985	1,189	2,294	90
1986	1,430	2,749	107
1986	1,275	2,502	97

The number of loads cut in 1987 decreased by 11% from 1986 but remains relatively consistent with recent years. Areas where significantly fewer loads were harvested include Vaseux Lake, Wood Lake and Kelowna foreshore of Okanagan Lake. In Vaseux Lake, the river channel harvesting, formerly part of summer harvesting, is now a separate project done in the fall or spring. Extensive winter tillage contributed to improved conditions in Wood Lake and Kelowna.

Increases in loads cut were noted in the Vernon arm and Westside areas of Okanagan Lake, possibly because more machine time was available this season to cut lower priority areas.

Troublesome areas include:

- 1. Vaseux Lake Skaha Lake: Both lakes are cut by harvester #1 with Skaha Lake usually receiving first attention. Vaseux Lake supports dense, widespread weed growth but has limited recreational and tourist use and receives only limited cutting in mid-July.
- 2. Duck Lake: Warm, shallow waters produces rapid re-growth of weeds following early season cutting, but scheduling does not include a second cut.
- 3. Okanagan Lake/Westside: Considered a low priority on the harvesting schedule, this area rarely receives attention until late summer.

Harvesting equipment averaged 21% downtime, including shutdowns for inclement weather, machine moving, as well as mechanical breakdowns.

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Expenditures to the end of harvesting season are as follows:

	1	987 Budget	19	87 Actual	_	1986
Machine Operators Wages Truck Driver Wages (Machine moving & weed disp.)	\$	32,000 8,250	\$	27,385 8,614	\$	37,801 7,492
Equipment transport		3,000		6,217		4,456
Vehicle rental		4,000		2,769		3,997
Vehicle fuel & maint.		3,000		3,179		2,870
Travel expenses		2,000		406		2,062
Crane rental		3,000		1,752		1,987
Fuel & lubricants		4,000		3,596		4,629
Maintenance & repair		18,000		9,878		17,514
Contract weed disposal		7,000		625		
Water intake repairs		1,000		773		1,086
	\$	85,250	\$	65,199*	\$	83,897

^{*} Additional costs for equipment maintenance & repair will follow

TABLE 1

HARVESTING PRODUCTION SUMMARY - 1987

UNIT NUMBER	LOADS HARVESTED	TONNES	ESTIMATED AREA
H65015 (Harv. #1)	351	597	24.7 ha
H65028 (Harv. #2)	545	926	38.4 ha
H65035 (Harv. #3)	170	289	12.0 ha
H-11-1100 (Altosar)	209	690	22.0 ha
TOTAL	1,275	2,502	97.1 ha

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TABLE 2

HARVESTING PRODUCTION BY LAKE - 1987

LAKE	LOADS HARVESTED	TONNES	ESTIMATED AREA
0soyoos	174	574	18.3 ha
Vaseux	148	252	10.4 ha
Skaha	189 (Harv. #1) 35 (H-11)	436	17.0 ha
0kanagan	548	931	38.6 ha
Wood	88	150	6.2 ha
Duck (Ellison)	93	158	6.6 ha
TOTAL	1,275	2,502	97.1 ha

HARVESTING OPERATIONS RECORD - 1987

	Harv. #1	Harv. #2	Harv. #3	<u>H11</u>
Total Hours	438	500	424	400
Operating Hours	319.4	423.4	312	333.2
Downtime	118.6 (27%)	76.6 (15.3%)	112 (26%)	66.8 (16.7%)

H65015 (Harv #1)

	Location		Date	Harvested	Loads
1.	Okanagan Lake:	WestsideCays Green Bay	June June		2 12
2.	Vaseaux Lake:	South end Provincial Park		25-July 8 9-15	114 34
3.	Skaha Lake:	Okanagan Falls Sunny Bay Skaha Estates EastsidePenticton Okanagan Falls	July Aug Aug	16-30 31-Aug 6 7-19 20-21 25-Sept 4	78 22 38 9 37

H65028 (Harv #2)

Location		Date Harvested	Loads
1. Duck Lake:		June 24-July 13	93
2. Okanagan Lake:	Paddlewheel Park Northshore Beachcomber Bay Westside	July 14-23 July 24-Aug 14 Aug 17-18 Aug 19-Sept 4	98 263 16 75

H65035 (Harv #3)

Location		Date	Harvested	Loads
1. Wood Lake:	South Shore Westside North Shore South Shore	July July	22-July 7 8-10 13-16 19-20	54 11 17 6
2. Okanagan Lake	Hot Sands Beach Seaplane Base Poplar Point Vimy Ave. Cedar Ave. Cooke Ave. Shelter Bay Green Bay Westside Cays Westbank Peachland Provincial Park Summerland Trout Creek Penticton Naramata Westbank Cooke Ave.	July July July July Aug Aug Aug Aug Aug Aug Aug Aug	24 27 28 29-Aug 4 5-6 7-12 13-18 19 20-21 24 25-26 27-28 31-Sept 1 2	4.5 4 3 3 4 8.5 4 15 6 1 3 1 8.5 1 0.25 1.5

Hll-1100 (Altosar)

	Location		Date	Harvested	Loads
1.	Osoyoos Lake:	Willow Beach Motel Row Solana Bay Central Basin Willow Beach Motel Row Central Basin	June July July July July	25-26 29-July 2 3-7 8-13 14-28 29-Aug 5 6-10	9 14 9 10.5 93 13.5 6
2.	Skaha Lake:	Rec West Skaha Est-Kaleden EastsidePenticton	_	11-12 13-18 19-21	4 21.5 9.5
3.	Osoyoos Lake	Willow Beach Motel Row	Aug Sept	24-31 1-4	14 5

WINTER TILLAGE SCHEDULE:

Fall 1987 to Spring 1988

ROTOTILLER #2: (O.B.W.B. OWNED)

Oct. 20 to Dec. 11/87 (1) WOOD LAKE: South Shore

Dec. 12/87 to Feb. 1/88 Winter Shutdown:

(2) KALAMALKA LAKE: North Shore Feb. 1 to 19/88

> including Palfrey Creek & Country Club

Oyama Canal: Feb. 20 to 27/88

Blue Water Lodges:

Sandy Beach Feb. 28 to March 25/88 (3) OKANAGAN LANDING:

Bridge to Watt Rd. March 27 to May 13/88 (4) KELOWNA FORESHORE:

BOMBARDIER: (O.B.W.B. OWNED)

(1) OSOYOOS LAKE: Motel Row Feb. 8 to 12/88

(2) SHUSWAP LAKE: Dates Not Confirmed

Bridge to Watt Rd. (3) KELOWNA FORESHORE: May 16 to 27/88

(shallow zone) (4) WOOD LAKE:

Shallow Zone May 28 to June 3/88

(5) OKANAGAN LANDING: Sandy Beach June 4 to 10/88

(shallow zone)

ROTOTILLER #1: (Ministry of Environment Owned)

Shuswap Lake: completed Dec. 8/87

Maintenance: Vernon Yard

Nanaimo: Jan 4 to Feb. 12/88 Maintenance:

Feb. 15 to 19/88

(1) SKAHA LAKE: Rec. West Marina/ Feb. 22 to April 1/88 Skaha Beach

Okanagan Falls

(2) OSOYOOS LAKE:

Willow Beach April 4 to May 6/88

Motel Row

Maintenance:

May 9 to 13/88

(Vernon)

Cultus Lake:

May 16 -

Additional Areas Where Rototilling Has Been Requested:

Vaseux Lake Skaha Lake

Skaha Estates

Christie Memorial Park:

O.K. Falls

Duck Lake Westside Cays Green Bay

Okanagan Lake

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD IN THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN OFFICES, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B. C., ON OCTOBER 30th, 1987 AT 10:15 A.M. WITH THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS AND THE OKANAGAN M.L.A.'S

PRESENT:

Director A. Horning

Director A. Hill

Director E. R. Hermiston

Central Okanagan Reg. Dist. North Okanagan Reg. Dist.

Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.

ALSO PRESENT:

The Honourable B. Strachan Minister of Environment and Parks

The Honourable L. Hanson

Minister of Labour and Consumer

Services, MLA, Okanagan North

Mr. C. Serwa Mr. L. Chalmers

Mr. I. Messmer Mr. J. Hewitt

Mr. T. Johnson

MLA, Boundary Similkameen MLA, Boundary Similkameen

Deputy Minister, Environment and Parks

MLA, Okanagan South

MLA, Okanagan South

Also Present

Ministerial Executive Assistants

STAFF:

P. Mackiewich

G. Armour

Administrator Field Supervisor

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the role and commitment of the Provincial Government in the Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program and the acquisition of additional weed harvesting equipment.

Director Hill advised that in order for the Okanagan Basin Water Board to look ahead, it must be able to determine the amount of money it will have available from both its own sources and the provincial government.

Mr. Armour advised that it is well known that aquatic weed harvesting is a purely cosmetic control effect. Rototilling, however, appears to have many advantages. First of all it provides root removal and it is done during the time of the year when the lakes are not intensely used. Rototilling does not interfere with the tourist season and the weed growth becomes stabilized, however it is a more costly procedure.

It was pointed out that for the Okanagan Basin Water Board to properly plan its work and carry out a program, it must know what funds are available and whether or not the government is committed towards supplying funds for a proper program to be carried out.

Mr. Johnson replied that the government is trying to be mindful of the long term needs of the Aquatic Weed Program and is looking into the management and ownership of the equipment. To stay as we are will require recapitalization as equipment becomes worn and is required to be replaced. Mr. Johnson indicated that the government appears to have three alternatives:

- 1. Stay as we are;
- 2. Move to have the private sector provide the aquatic weed harvesting;
- 3. Transfer ownership of the equipment to the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Members of the Okanagan Basin Water Board expressed concern over private individuals carrying out its Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program and indicated that when water mains are torn up, etc., the Water Board is then blamed.

Mr. Johnson noted that privatization has appeal. It does not require capitalization and if we stay as we are there will be a severe competition for funding.

The Minister of Environment and Parks was asked whether or not there is any intention of the provincial government to back out of funding the Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program as it has indicated that it wishes to renegotiate the cost-sharing agreement and so on.

The Minister replied that there is no intention of the government to do so however all government ministry expenditures are being reviewed and funding for the aquatic weed control program is not escaping such a review.

The Honourable L. Hanson indicated that the government has a contract with the Okanagan Basin Water Board to provide 75%/25% funding and will honour that commitment, but pointed out that there will be a dollar limit placed on that commitment.

Mr. J. Hewitt noted that the environment in this area is extremely sensitive and 2,4-D cannot be used to control Eurasian water milfoil and recommended that the government maintain its 75%/25% cost sharing.

Mr. C. Serwa noted that there are 250,000 people residing in the Okanagan which contribute greatly to the economy of British Columbia. There are also five major lakes in the Okanagan Lakes system which are a tremendous drawing card for tourism and therefore funding levels for aquatic weed control must be maintained.

It was pointed out to the Minister of Environment and Parks that originally the Aquatic Weed Control Program had a budget of \$1.5 million dollars which has now been reduced to \$200,000 per annum. In addition, the Okanagan valley has been designated as an Environmentally Sensitive Area.

The Honourable B. Strachan agreed that the Provincial Government has recognized the Okanagan to be a unique area and will not ignore its needs.

Mr. Hewitt noted that the milfoil problem has been stabilized and to keep it so the budget should not dramatically be increased, but should be increased for inflation. He stated that the program must be maintained.

Director Horning advised that at the present time the Okanagan Basin Water Board has at its disposal one rototiller and a second machine is shared with other parts of the province and the availability of the second machine to the Board is reduced each time weeds are found elsewhere in the province. In short, we cannot keep up an adequate rototilling program with one machine. A second machine is drastically required.

The Administrator noted that the Minister had earlier agreed to advise the Board by November 1st, 1987 of the Provincial financial participation in next year's program and that this information is required in order for the Board to determine its level of financial participation and commitment towards the program.

The Minister indicated that he is not prepared to provide a commitment at this time as his ministry's estimates are still being reviewed and asked whether or not the Okanagan Basin Water Board would be prepared to commit more than 25% towards the Aquatic Weed Harvesting Program.

Members of the Board indicated that in all probability the Okanagan Basin Water Board would agree to cost share on a 50%/50% basis for the acquisition of a new rototiller, however it is unlikely that they would agree to pay more than 25% towards the cost of a harvesting program.

After a general discussion, the Minister of Environment and Parks agreed to discuss the entire Aquatic Weed Control Program with the area M.L.A.'s and to advise the Board accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

PM/las