

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HELD IN THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN BOARD ROOM, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B. C. HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1988 AT 3:50 P.M.

**PRESENT:**

Chairman E. Lamont	Central Okanagan Reg. Dist.
Director A. Horning	Central Okanagan Reg. Dist.
Director A. Hill	North Okanagan Reg. Dist.
Director K. Tribes	North Okanagan Reg. Dist.
Alt. Director M. Friesen	North Okanagan Reg. Dist.
Director J. Kimberley	Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.
Director M. Radi	Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.
Director R. Shewfelt	Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.

**STAFF:**

P. Mackiewich	Administrator
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The purpose of the meeting was to review the 1988 staff salaries. The Administrator advised that the salary increases of the Okanagan Basin Water Board employees have traditionally followed the salary increases received by the employees of the Regional District of North Okanagan as they work from the same office.

In 1988 the employees of the Regional District of North Okanagan received a 2% salary increase with no adjustment in benefits. The current salary of the Water Board employees is as follows:

Field Supervisor: \$2,666.67 per month;  
Driver: \$ 12.73 per hour;  
Operator: \$ 12.22 per hour;  
Dive Pay: An additional 10¢ per hour;  
Labourer: \$10.62 per hour.

The Administrator noted that an equivalent position to Mr. Armour's with the Ministry of Environment being Mr. Mel Maxnuk is paid \$3,043.83 per month.

Moved by Director Horning, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That effective January 1st, 1988, the staff salaries be increased by 2% per month and the Field Supervisor's salary be increased by \$200.00 per month."

CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

3:55 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

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Moved by Director Horning, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That effective January 1st, 1988, the staff salaries be increased by 2% per month and the Field Supervisor's salary be increased by \$200.00 per month."

CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

3:55 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

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 JUNE 9, 1988 AT 12:20 P.M.

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<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairman E. Lamont	C.O.R.D.
	Director M. Radi	O.S.R.D.
<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	Director R. Shewfelt	O.S.R.D.
	M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
<u>STAFF:</u>	P. Mackiewich	Okanagan Basin Water Board
	G. Armour	Okanagan Basin Water Board

1988 PROPOSED HARVESTING SCHEDULE:

The Committee reviewed the attached proposed Aquatic Weed Harvesting Schedule for 1988.

Discussion arose over the possibility of adding the Ministry's harvester to the schedule so that the southern lakes, particularly Vaseux and Skaha Lakes, which appear to be ready at the same time, can be harvested at the same time and later on releasing one of our machines to the Shuswap area.

After some discussion, the Committee **recommended** that if the Ministry's machine is available that it be employed either in Skaha or Vaseux Lake.

HARVESTING PROPOSAL - LAKESCAPE INTERNATIONAL LTD.:

A proposal from Lakescape International Limited to provide harvesting to Skaha Lake was reviewed. The company proposed to provide two harvests of Skaha Lake for a proposed price of \$14,999 based on 249 harvester loads or a cost of \$57.74 per load. They also estimated that they could complete the work in 14 days.

It was noted that the Board's cost to harvest Skaha Lake in 1987 were \$12,179.22 or \$47.39 per load. The harvest took 36 days and produced 224 machine loads of aquatic weeds.

Mr. Maxnuk indicated that the Ministry would like to see a viable and credible harvesting contractor established in the area because we do not have enough equipment to service the lake system, however a contractor needs an economic base to stay in business.

He wondered what would happen to our program if the existing equipment wears out and needs to be replaced.

Mr. Armour expressed concern that if we step into contracting it would be difficult to get out and our flexibility would be lost. In addition, the cost for supervision and administration would continue. It would also be difficult to measure productivity because of the difference in densities of the weeds in the area.

The Administrator **recommended** that if the Board is serious about contracting out its harvesting program, terms of reference should be established and tenders should be invited for the work.

The Chairman expressed concern that if the contractor fails we are still responsible and will receive the brunt of the complaints.

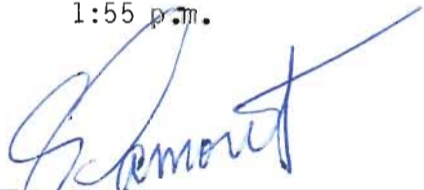
After much discussion, it was finally agreed to **recommend** that based on the interest expressed by contractors to perform aquatic plant control services in the valley and to allow the Okanagan Basin Water Board sufficient time to establish its terms of reference relating to the possible invitation to tender, the Board further consider the matter at its next regular meeting.

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - HARVESTER:**

The Committee **recommended** that we employ the Ministry of Environment harvester at Vaseux Lake early in the season and that we consider loaning a harvester to the Columbia-Shuswap Regional District when our harvesting program winds down later in the year.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

PM/las  
Attach.

PROPOSED AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING SCHEDULE - 1988

The 1988 Harvesting Program will again give priority to public beaches, recreational areas, and resorts. Cutting will begin in Mid-June depending on plant growth rates as determined by lake levels and weather conditions and will end on September 2.

Winter derooting has been effective in reducing plant density in areas such as Kelowna foreshores, Okanagan Landing, Skaha Lake (Okanagan Falls), and Osoyoos Lake, but some harvesting clean-up remains.

Four aquatic weed harvesters will be serviceable for the 1988 season and will be based as follows:

Note: Start dates are approximate but reflect anticipated low lake levels and good growing conditions.

1. South Okanagan: Altosar H11-1100

Osoyoos Lake: (based in Osoyoos all summer)

June 6 or 13: Motel Row, Civic Park, Starlite Marina to Inkameep Resort. Note - the shallow portion of Motel Row was again cultivated in the spring to reduce the amount of harvesting required

Civic Park north to Willow Beach, Willow Beach area  
Note - the amount of time spent at Willow Beach should be reduced, due to rotovating work done in spring

Central and South Basins

Repeat cutting of sites as necessary.

Skaha Lake: Aquamarine Harvester #1

June 6 or 13: North End: Public Beach, Marina, and Boat Launch

June 20: Kaleden Area: Resorts, Public Beach, and Boat Launch

June 27: Okanagan Falls: Provincial Beach, Boat Launch, and Resort Area

July 5: East side: Sunny Bay, Skaha Estates, Southeast Penticton.

Vaseux Lake: Aquamarine Harvester #1

July 11: South shore - motel and river channel if required to improve water flow

July 18: Provincial Campground and Resort, East shore residential, if time permits. / . . . 2

Okanagan Aquamarine Harvester #1

Lake South:

Aug. 2: Public Beaches at Penticton, Marina, Provincial Picnic Sites, Sunoka Beach, Trout Creek area, Summerland Beaches, Naramata Marina and Beaches. Repeat cutting of Skaha Lake to end of season.

2. Central Okanagan

Wood Lake: Aquamarine Harvester #3

June 13 South End motels, marina, and resorts  
to West side resorts and view areas  
July 5

Note: Area cut may be reduced at south end of Wood Lake due to winter tillage work.

Okanagan Lake:

July 11 Westside at Kelowna: Westbank Park, Boat Launch, and  
to Aug. 1 Government Marina

Residential area, if time permits, including Westside Cays and Green Bay

Kelowna Foreshore: Cook Road Launch, Hot Sands Beach, Yacht Club, Rotary Beach North to Bridge with priority given to Public Use areas

Note: Rototilling and cultivation in spring will reduce harvesting required

Aug. 2 Peachland foreshore to Antler's Beach

Aug. 8 Westbank sites - second cut

Harvester may do a second harvest of Kelowna sites or move to Wood Lake for a second cut.

3. North Okanagan:

Ellison Aquamarine Harvester #2

(Duck) Lake:

June 6 or Water Ski and Holiday Park Resort  
13 June 27:

Okanagan Aquamarine Harvester #2

Lake North:

July 5 Vernon Arm - Paddlewheel Park area, marinas, Kin Beach

July 18 Vernon Arm - Residential areas on east and west side. Second priority

Aug. 2 Westside: Naswhito Creek, Six Mile, Whiteman Creek, Estamont, Fintry (will be harvested only if time permits).

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 THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1988 AT 2:00 P.M.

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PRESENT: Director E. Lamont Central Okanagan Reg. Dist.  
Director K. Tribes North Okanagan Reg. Dist.  
Alt. Director M. Friesen North Okanagan Reg. Dist.  
Director M. Radi Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.  
Director R. Shewfelt Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.  
Director J. Kimberley Okanagan-Similkameen Reg. Dist.

ALSO PRESENT: M. Maxnuk Ministry of Environment

STAFF: P. Mackiewich Administrator  
G. Armour Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Radi:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on February 23rd, 1988 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Further moved by Director Radi, seconded by Alt. Director Friesen:

"That the minutes of a meeting of the Board in Committee of the Whole held on February 23rd, 1988 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

REPRESENTATIVES: Lakescape International Ltd.:

Mr. Conrad Rioux of Lakescape International Ltd. appeared before the Board to present his proposal to harvest aquatic weeds in Skaha Lake.

He showed the Board slides of the equipment he proposes to use in the harvesting program and reviewed the schedule and costs of performing the work which would be \$57.74 per harvester load. The total cost is estimated to be \$14,999 and the work is to take 14 days which includes two cuttings.

Director Tribes expressed concern over the per load fee because it is only estimated what the total cost would be and it is not known what the final price would actually be.

Mr. Maxnuk observed that Lakescape International harvested Paul Lake and the area they claim to have harvested was measured to be about half of what was actually claimed. Mr. Maxnuk noted that to make up the total acreage claimed, one would be out in 80 ft. of water.

Mr. Armour advised that he has analyzed Mr. Rioux's written submission and has compared his estimated costs of harvesting Skaha Lake to the actual 1986 and 1987 costs incurred by the Okanagan Basin Water Board. He noted that in 1986 the Okanagan Basin Water Board spent \$16,515.97 harvesting in the Skaha Lake area; cut 466 tonnes of aquatic weeds at a cost of \$60.27 per load. In 1987 the cost dropped to \$12,179.22; 436 tonnes were harvested at a cost of \$47.39 per load. In both years it took 36 days to harvest the weeds.

Mr. Rioux was asked how many hours per day his machine would operate and his reply was 10 hours per day, being the same hours operated by the Okanagan Basin Water Board crew.

Mr. Rioux noted that the spoils would be removed by a trailer and conveyer rather than a truck.

After some discussion, Mr. Rioux was thanked for his presentation and was advised that the Board would consider the proposal later in the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE:

MINISTER OF  
ENVIRONMENT  
AND PARKS:

Provincial Funds not available for 50/50 cost share on  
new rototiller:

A letter was received from the Minister of Environment and Parks indicating that Provincial funds are not available for the 50/50 cost sharing of a new rototiller and that a review of the Aquatic Plant Management Program may result in changes to the 75/25% cost sharing formula.

Mr. Maxnuk noted that the Columbia-Shuswap Regional District has offered to purchase rototilling equipment on its own provided that the Ministry would enter into a five year commitment to provide 75% of the operating costs, however to date the Ministry has not responded.

Director Radi stated that if the Province is serious over the aquatic weed problem and the sensitivity of the Okanagan Lakes system, the Board should not accept the answers as received and, if anything, the Province should be requested to provide more funds.

Director Kimberley agreed and noted that the environmental issue is not a local issue and that 50/50 equipment cost sharing is as low as the Board should go.

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Radi:

"That a letter be written to the Minister of Environment and Parks strongly emphasizing that his position to not cost share 50/50 for a new rototiller and to review the Aquatic Plant Management Program which may result in changes to the cost-sharing is not acceptable and to restate the seriousness of the weed problem in the Okanagan Basin and, further, that he be asked to reconsider this position."

CARRIED.

NORTH OKANAGAN  
UNION BOARD  
OF HEALTH:

Designate Lakes within Union Board of Health as "Sensitive  
Waterways":

A copy of a letter from the North Okanagan Union Board of Health to the Minister of Environment requesting that he designate lakes within the boundaries of the Union Board of Health as "sensitive waterways" was received for information.

LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY:

Orders of the Day - Commendation of Board:

A copy of the Orders of the Day for February 23, 1988 covering the remarks of M.L.A. Ivan Messmer commending the Okanagan Basin Water Board for its efforts to combat milfoil was received for information.



NORTH OKANAGAN  
UNION BOARD  
OF HEALTH:

Endorsement of Okanagan Basin Water Board:

Correspondence from the North Okanagan Union Board of Health endorsing the Okanagan Basin Water Board's efforts to maintain lakewater quality in the Okanagan was received and filed.

DISTRICT OF  
COLDSTREAM:

Urge Increased funding - Harvesting:

A copy of a letter from the District of Coldstream to the Minister of Environment and Parks urging the Minister to provide increased funding for mechanical methods of weed control in the Okanagan was received and filed.

EDWARD J. HALL:

Root removal - Kelowna foreshore:

Correspondence was received from Edward J. Hall, spokesman for the foreshore property owners south of the floating bridge at Kelowna, requesting rototilling early in the year.

Mr. Armour advised that this area has already been treated in 1988.

CENTRAL OKAN.  
REGIONAL DIST.:

Eligibility of Westbank Sewage System for funding:

A letter from the Central Okanagan Regional District requesting that the Westbank sewage system qualify for Board funding was tabled pending resolution of the funding for the sewage facilities assistance funds.

LAKESCAPE  
INTERNATIONAL:

Harvesting Proposal:

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Radi:

"Based on the interest expressed by contractors to perform aquatic weed plant control services in the valley and to allow the Okanagan Basin Water Board sufficient time to establish its terms of reference relating to the possible invitation to tender, the Board further consider the matter at its next regular meeting."

CARRIED.

The Chairman suggested that the Directors discuss the matter of contracting out with their respective Regional Boards to obtain input.

SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

The Administrator advised that in 1988, all but approximately 7% of the committed sewage facilities assistance fund grants can be met.

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

"That the following 1987 Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants be paid:

City of Kelowna	Dec. 31/87	\$ 360,339.04;
City of Vernon	Dec. 31/87	\$ 119,610.17."

CARRIED.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

SEWAGE FACIL.  
ASSISTANCE  
FUND:

The attached memorandum from the Administrator dated January 12, 1988 and June 1, 1988 respectively, were circulated among members of the Board for discussion.

It was noted that the Okanagan Similkameen Regional District has authorized an increase in the maximum allowable levy towards the fund, however the North Okanagan and Central Okanagan Regional Districts have, so far, declined to do so.

Moved by Director Kimberly, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the attached memorandum be circulated among the three Okanagan Regional Districts and it be recommended that they authorize an increase in the maximum allowable levy which may be raised towards the Sewage Facilities Assistance Fund and that the North Okanagan and Central Okanagan Regional Districts be advised that the Okanagan Similkameen Regional District has previously agreed to an increase in the levy for the fund."

CARRIED.

AQUA RESEARCH  
& DEVELOPMENT:

Testing of Aquatic Weed Rototiller at Duck Lake:

Mr. Maxnuk advised that Aqua Research & Development is testing an aquatic weed rototiller at Duck Lake. He circulated photos showing the machine which is similar to the rototiller used by the Board with different cutting heads and technology governing the elevation of the tiller.

HARVESTING  
SCHEDULE:

1988:

The Board agreed that the Harvesting Schedule as presented be adopted for 1988 and that five harvesting machines be employed early in the season and the program be curtailed earlier in the fall.

RENEWAL  
OF LEASE:

Vernon Water Management Branch Office:

Moved by Director Radi, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board renew the lease with 118485 Holdings Ltd. and J.D. Appliance Repairs Ltd. covering the premises located at 4320 - 29th Street in the City of Vernon for use by the Vernon Water Management Branch office and that the Ministry of Environment and Parks reimburse the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 100% of the lease fees."

CARRIED.

UPDATE:

Grass Carp Weed Control:

Mr. Maxnuk circulated a memorandum covering a meeting he attended on May 26 & 27, 1988 to review the triploid grass carp research at the University of Washington in Seattle. Seven lakes, six in Washington and one in Oregon, were stocked with the carp and feeding preferences and consumption rates were studied. It was found that the carp didn't prefer to eat milfoil, but preferred native weed species.

Mr. Maxnuk noted that the release of these fish is still prohibited in British Columbia and can only be released with the approval of the B. C. Wildlife Branch.

In any event, the effectiveness of the carp would have a limited control in British Columbia water. Weed treatment with the fish appears to only be feasible in closed systems where one wants to remove most of the vegetation.

EMPLOYMENT:

Temporary Help:

Moved by Director Radi, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That a temporary employee be hired for the Ministry of Environment, provided the Ministry reimburses the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 100% of the salary and benefits."

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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CHAIRMAN

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SECRETARY-TREASURER

PM/las  
Attach.

M E M O R A N D U M  
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To: Okanagan Basin Water Board  
From: P. Mackiewich, Administrator  
Date: June 1st, 1988  
Re: Sewerage Facilities Assistance Fund

Two meetings were held among the Okanagan Valley municipal and regional district treasurers to review the state of the Sewerage Facilities Assistance fund and to recommend a future method of apportioning the funds.

The treasurers reviewed the attached correspondence and memorandum dated January 12th, 1988 relating to the subject and all agreed that the monies which can be generated towards the sewage facilities assistance fund will not meet the current nor future requirements.

The following questions arose:

Is it fair to bring in new debts incurred by member municipalities and reduce the commitment towards the existing debt?

Should only the old debt be funded?

Do away with the Sewerage Facilities Assistance Fund altogether?

After a lengthy debate on the pros and cons of the various options presented and the questions posed, it was **agreed** that it certainly would not be fair to not provide funds towards new debt when a particular area may have contributed towards the fund without ever having collected in the past.

It was finally agreed to **recommend** that:

a) The Okanagan Basin Water Board review the adequacy of the existing level of funding and request the Regional Districts to authorize an increase in the maximum allowable levy;

b) Maintain the existing formula for distribution of funds and calculate the new debt fund based on the amount the Okanagan Basin Water Board would have paid if the province had not provided the grants up front but had amortized them over a twenty year period;

/ . . . 2

c) Include all new debts in the distribution formula and reduce the percentage paid to the amount of funds which may be available for distribution;

d) For 1988, reduce the level of funding to ensure that the fund does not go into a deficit position.

The Committee noted that the following monies have, or will have been, spent on sewage facilities under the Okanagan Water Quality Control Program and are eligible for funding if the above recommendations are approved:

Armstrong	\$ 3,000,000
Vernon	\$ 6,000,000
Kelowna	\$ 500,000
Westbank	\$ 2,400,000
Penticton	\$ 12,000,000
Osoyoos	\$ 1,200,000.

PM/las

Attachments

M E M O R A N D U M  
\*\*\*\*\*

To: Okanagan Basin Water Board  
From: Administration  
Date: January 12th, 1988  
Re: Sewerage Assistance Fund Formula

4 Questions Posed:

- A. What "tax rate" is required to raise sufficient funds to pay out the current SAF grants?
- B. What percentage of provincial aid can be paid out from the tax rate maximum (\$0.21) for current SAF grants?
- C. What "tax rate" is required to raise sufficient funds to pay out current plus new SAF grants?
- D. What percentage of provincial aid can be paid out from the current tax rate maximum (\$0.21) for current plus new SAF grants?

ASSUMPTIONS & GIVENS:

1. We currently pay out \$1,600,000 in SAF grants annually.
2. This represents 24% of provincial grants.
3. The current assessment for the Basin is \$5,600,000,000.
4. At the current tax rate max. (\$0.21/1,000) we can raise \$1,176,000 annually.
5. There are projects in process towards which the Provincial up-front money will amount to \$20,000,000. Spread over 20 years, this adds \$1,000,000 per year of "provincial aid" of which the O.B.W.B. currently makes grants at 24% or \$240,000 per year.

/ . . . 2

A. What tax rate will pay out current grants?

$$\text{TAX RATE} = \$ \frac{1,600,000}{\$ 5,600,000} = \underline{\$0.2857/1,000.}$$

B. What percentage will current tax rate pay out?

$$\text{Current provincial grants } \$ 1,600,000 \quad 24\% = \$6,667,000$$

$$\text{PERCENTAGE} = \$ \frac{1,176,000}{\$ 6,667,000} = \underline{17.64\%}$$

C. What tax rate will pay out current plus new grants?

$$\text{Current grants} = \$ 1,600,000$$

$$\text{New grants} = \quad \underline{240,000}$$

$$\underline{\$ 1,840,000}$$

$$\text{TAX RATE} = \$ \frac{1,840,000}{\$ 5,600,000} = \$ \underline{0.3286/1,000}$$

D. What percentage will current tax rate pay of current plus new grants?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Current plus new provincial grants} &= \$1,840,000 \quad 24\% \\ &= \$ \underline{7,667,000.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{PERCENTAGE} = \$ \frac{1,176,000}{\$ 7,667,000} = \underline{15.33\%}$$

E. What if \$20 million up front money from Province was amortized over 20 years @ 11%

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Provincial Grant} &= \$ 2,511,513 \text{ per year} \\ \text{Okanagan Basin Water Board } 24\% &= \$603,000 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Tax rate of new only} \quad \$ \frac{603,000}{\$ 5,600,000} = \$ 0.1077/1,000$$

F. What tax rate will pay for current and new grants?

Current provincial grants	\$ 1,600,000
New grants	\$ <u>603,000</u>
	\$ 2,203,000

$$\text{TAX RATE} = \frac{\$ 2,203,000}{\$ 5,600,000} = \$ 0.3934/1,000 *$$

G. What percentage will current tax rate pay of current plus new grants?

$$\text{Current plus new grants} = \frac{\$ 1,176,000}{\$ 9,178,513} = 12.81\%$$

\* For those Directors who relate to mill rates:

\$0.14/1,000 = 1 mill for Okanagan Basin Water Board purposes.



OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD IN  
THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN BOARD ROOM, 101 MARTIN STREET,  
PENTICTON, B. C., ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1988 AT 2:30 P.M.

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PRESENT:

Chairman E. Lamont	Central Okanagan Regional District
Director N. Oystryk	Central Okanagan Regional District
Director A. Hill	North Okanagan Regional District
Alt. Director M. Friesen	North Okanagan Regional District
Alt. Director H. Norris	North Okanagan Regional District
Director J. Kimberley	Okanagan-Similkameen Regional Dist.
Director M. Radi	Okanagan-Similkameen Regional Dist.
Director R. Shewfelt	Okanagan-Similkameen Regional Dist.

ALSO PRESENT:

P. Newroth	Ministry of Environment
M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
D. Dobson	Ministry of Environment
J. Lambe	Chairman, O.S.R.D.
M. Murton	Director, O.S.R.D.
Wm. Barten	Director, O.S.R.D.
G. Norton	Director, O.S.R.D.
V. Sutton	Administrator, O.S.R.D.
B. Barlee	M.L.A., Okanagan Similkameen

STAFF:

P. Mackiewich	Administrator
G. Armour	Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on June 9th, 1988 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Further moved by Director Radi, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the minutes of a meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Committee held on June 9th, 1988 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

HONOURABLE B. STRACHAN:      Cost-Shared Aquatic Plant Management:

Mr. Newroth gave a brief report on the contents of a letter from the Minister of Environment relating to cost shared aquatic plant management. He also commented that at present Christina Lake has a small amount of milfoil which the Ministry wishes to keep under control. April 1, 1989 is the date for a new five-year agreement to become effective.

Director Radi enquired as to the availability and amount of government funding.

Mr. Newroth noted that the new agreement provides for a 75/25% funding formula to a ceiling of \$1.5 million over five years, and that equipment be funded 100% by local agencies.

Director Kimberley was concerned about being stuck with five or six pieces of equipment when the money runs out.

Mr. Newroth commented that he would like to see the justification for spending money on new equipment purchases.

Mr. Barlee, M.L.A, Boundary Similkameen, stated that he has written the Minister of Environment requesting 50/50 funding for equipment, but received no direct response. He expressed surprise with this answer and hopes the situation doesn't worsen with funds provided.

Moved by Director Oystryk, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That correspondence from the Honourable Bruce Strachan, Minister of Environment, relating to cost sharing of the Aquatic Plant Management Program be received and filed."

CARRIED.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT:

Copy of Reply to Letter to Mr. Cliff Serwa, M.L.A., Okanagan South:

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Radi:

"That a copy of a letter from the Honourable Bruce Strachan, Minister of Environment, to Mr. Cliff Serwa, M.L.A., Okanagan South, advising that a review of the aquatic plant management program is in process and recognizing that a good job is being done of aquatic weed control with limited resources, be received and filed."

CARRIED.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT:

Confirmation of 1988/89 Budget:

Moved by Director Oystryk, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That correspondence from the Honourable Bruce Strachan, Minister of Environment, approving the 1988/89 budget based on the existing 75/25% formula for the fiscal year 1988/89, and advising that up to \$165,000 will be provided by the Province, be received and filed."

CARRIED.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT:

Review of Aquatic Plant Management Program in progress:

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That a letter from the Honourable Bruce Strachan, Minister of Environment, advising that a review of the Aquatic Plant Management Program is underway, be received and filed inasmuch as new information has now been received."

CARRIED.

MR. B. BARLEE M.L.A.:

Copy of letter to the Honourable Bruce Strachan urging Ministry to agree to cost share on new rototiller:

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That a copy of correspondence from Mr. B. Barlee, M.L.A., Boundary Similkameen, urging the Ministry of Environment to agree to cost share on a new rototiller be received and filed."

CARRIED.

MRS. B. D. MCKAY:

Express thanks - rototilling of milfoil at Blue Water Lodges (Kalamalka Lake):

Moved by Director Oystryk, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That correspondence from Mrs. B. D. McKay expressing thanks for rototilling of milfoil at Blue Water Lodges (Kalamalka Lake), be received and filed."

CARRIED.

MRS. N. AUCKLAND:

Compliment O.B.W.B. on improvement to conditions in Skaha Lake at Okanagan Falls:

Moved by Director Oystryk, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That a letter from Mrs. N. Auckland complimenting the Okanagan Basin Water Board on improvement to conditions in Skaha Lake at Okanagan Falls be received and filed."

CARRIED.

DR. FERGUSON:

Thanks - Kelowna foreshore:

The Board was informed that Dr. Ferguson telephoned and thanked the Okanagan Basin Water Board for milfoil control at the Kelowna foreshore.

LETTERS OF COMPLAINTS:

Green Bay Home Owners Association and Marchand Beach:

Mr. Armour advised that several letters were received from the Green Bay Home Owners Association and residents in the Marchand Beach area complaining over weeds in their respective areas. He said that he responded to the letters explaining that there are limited funds available for aquatic weed control and that priorities for harvesting areas are public use areas, resorts, and lastly private housing. He also advised the residents that the Water Board has asked the Ministry of Environment to share the cost of purchasing and operating additional weed control equipment in order to increase control capabilities.

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

"The letter from Mr. M. Maxnuk, Water Management Branch, advising that Mr. Ackles of Aqua Research & Development Ltd. has asked that the tests of his derooting equipment be declared invalid due to mechanical difficulties and not be released, be received and filed."

CARRIED.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

POLICY:

Contract Weed Control Services:

Mr. Armour outlined the staff recommendations relating to a contracting out policy, as attached.

Director Kimberley said he is opposed to contracting out for many reasons as outlined in the report.

Mr. Armour advised the Board that the cost of operating our harvester was \$51.50 per hour last year compared with \$192 per hour by a U.S. contractor or \$260 Canadian per acre in the United States based on harvesting a single lake. In 1986 our cost was \$343 per acre and in 1987 our cost was \$283 per acre.

Moved by Director Radi, seconded by Director Oystryk:

"That in view of the fact that our own administration satisfies the harvesting needs of the Basin, the fact that we have received letters indicating the Okanagan Basin Water Board is doing a satisfactory job, and inasmuch as the Water Board already has the necessary harvesting equipment, the Okanagan Basin Water Board not contract out its weed control services."

CARRIED.

RE-WRITING: Province/O.B.W.B. Agreement:

Moved by Director Hill, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the draft agreement of the proposed new cost-sharing agreement for aquatic plant management between the Province and the O.B.W.B. be tabled to the next regular meeting of the Board in order that it may be analyzed."

CARRIED.

SCHEDULE: 1988/89 Winter Tillage:

Mr. Armour discussed the 1988/89 Winter Tillage schedule with Board members. He stated that the Columbia-Shuswap Regional District has requested use of the rototiller from September to October.

AUDITED  
FINANCIAL  
STATEMENT:Year ended March 31, 1988:

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

"That the Audited Financial Statement of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for the year ended March 31, 1988 be received."

CARRIED.

OTHER MATTERS:PROVISIONAL  
BUDGET:1989/90 Fiscal Year:

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Oustryk:

"That \$25,000 be provided for capital reserves in the 1989/90 Budget and the 1989/90 Provisional Budget be adopted as submitted."

CARRIED.

BEAVER LAKE:Milfoil:

Mr. Maxnuk advised the Board that for the first time there is milfoil in Beaver Lake. It was first noticed in the upper elevations. The Ministry of Environment will be completing a survey in the upcoming week and will try to do something this year.

Mr. Maxnuk asked if there is a need or desire to control upper lakes? Does it affect angling, resort industry, fishing, etc., and who will pay for the control program?

GRANTS:Waste Management Studies:

The Board was advised that the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen has requested cost sharing on a Waste Management Study being conducted for Electoral Areas "A", "C", and "D", the total cost of which is estimated to be \$50,000. The Ministry of Environment has agreed to fund 75% of the estimated cost and \$9,000, being 24% of the Provincial grant, is being requested from the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

The Administrator advised that monies for studies have not been raised in the past but the provisions of the Supplementary Letters Patent enable the Water Board to participate financially in surveys, investigations, or projects on behalf of municipalities, electoral areas, or regional districts, provided the three Okanagan Regional Districts authorize such participation.

Monies for studies cannot be taken from the Sewage Facilities Assistance Fund and must come from operating revenue.

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Radi:

"That pursuant to the provisions of Supplementary Letters Patent, the three Regional Districts be asked to authorize the Okanagan Basin Water Board to participate financially or otherwise in surveys, investigations, or projects on behalf of municipalities, electoral areas, or regional districts."

CARRIED.

ALT. DIRECTOR NORRIS OPPOSED.

FUNDING:

Sewage Facilities Assistance:

The Administrator outlined the history of the Sewage Facilities Assistance Fund and noted that on January 12th, 1988 and on June 1st, 1988 a memorandum covering the adequacy of the fund and containing administrative recommendations was circulated among the three Okanagan Regional Districts and members of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

The memorandum showed that the current tax rate maximum of 21¢/1,000 will not raise sufficient funds to pay out our share of the current plus new debts.

The three regional districts were asked to request an amendment to their respective Supplementary Letters Patent to raise the maximum tax levy sufficiently to sustain the fund. The Okanagan Similkameen Regional District has agreed with the request however the North Okanagan and Central Okanagan Regional Districts have not.

Directors Shewfelt, Kimberley and Norton expressed very strong feelings over the refusal of the North and Central Okanagan Regional Districts to a tax rate levy increased and recommended that they be asked to reconsider their respective positions.

Alt. Director Norris stated that he voted against an increase because the municipality of Spallumcheen currently pays the equivalent of 1.5 mills which may be considered as an environmental tax. It is a rural community and has absolutely no way of tapping into a sewage system.

Director Hill noted that he had several reasons for voting against an increase but if a good sewage system was provided he would favour funding, but will never favour providing monies towards a deep water outfall. He said that the Okanagan Basin Water Board has a responsibility to look after the quality of water and yet terrible things are happening.

Alt. Director Friesen stated that he voted against the tax increase because of the policy of the City of Vernon that electoral areas cannot connect into their sewage system unless they become part of the city.

Director Shewfelt expressed disappointment that when the District of Summerland comes to put in a sewer system there may not be any funds available for it and stated that his municipality wants the same shake as the other communities have received in the past insofar as funding is concerned.

NEW FORMULA:      Sewage Facilities Assistance Grant:

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

"That the following formula be adopted as the formula to be used for calculating contributions by the Okanagan Basin Water Board towards community sewage facilities:

1. That the existing eligibility criteria approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs on September 14th, 1978 be maintained.
2. That the communities pay the first 35¢/1,000 (2.5 mills) of the net annual sewage debt charges.
3. All projects qualifying for provincial assistance will also qualify for Okanagan Basin Water Board funding.
4. Original 75/25% Provincial/Municipal Cost-Sharing of Debt Charges

Maintain the existing formula for distribution of funds, being 24% of the amount of the debt shared by the province, but reduce the percentage payable proportionately by the Okanagan Basin Water Board to the funds available.

5. Okanagan Water Quality Control Projects:

Province funds 75% up front

Calculate on the basis as if 100% of the project debt is amortized over a period of twenty (20) years at current Municipal Finance Authority interest rates and the Water Board to pay 18% of the amount that the debt charges would have been over the term of the debt incurred by the community not to exceed 20 years, but the percentage payable be reduced proportionately by the funds available.

6. Projects qualifying for percentage of Provincial funds up front (currently 25%):

Calculate on the basis as if 100% of the project debt is amortized over a period of twenty (20) years at current Municipal Finance Authority interest rates and the Water Board to pay 18% of the amount that debt charges would have been over the term of the debt incurred by the community not to exceed 20 years, but the percentage payable be reduced proportionately by the funds available.

7. Communities which have not previously received Okanagan Basin Water Board Sewage facilities Assistance funding:

The formulas outlined in Section 5 and 6 to be applicable except that for the first three years of the debt charges the Okanagan Basin Water Board funding will not be reduced below 18% of the amount calculated under Sections 5 and 6."

CARRIED.

Director Shewfelt left the meeting.

**SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:**

Moved by Director Oystryk, seconded by Director Radi:

"That the following Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants be approved:

City of Armstrong	June 30/88	\$ 17,031.31;
City of Armstrong	Dec. 18/87	\$ 15,840.51;
City of Kelowna	June 30/88	\$ 372,504.00;
Village of Oliver	June 30/88	\$ 34,318.28."
City of Penticton		\$ 58,219.47;
City of Vernon		\$ 196,547.85;
District of Coldstream		\$ 33,265.63."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Radi:

"That Page Six of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on February 23rd, 1988 be corrected as follows:

**Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants:**

District of Coldstream	Jan. - June/87	\$ 35,144.72;
District of Coldstream	July - Dec./87	\$ 60,989.48;
Village of Oliver	July - Dec./87	\$ 39,429.32;
Town of Osoyoos	July - Dec./87	\$ 34,255.19;
O.S.R.D.	July - Dec./87	\$ 38,394.65;
City of Penticton	July - Dec./87	\$ 65,493.17;
City of Armstrong	July - Dec./87	\$ 15,840.51."

CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING: The Board agreed that the next regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board be held at the Central Okanagan Regional District offices.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

PM/las

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

PM/las

## POLICY FOR CONTRACT AQUATIC WEED CONTROL SERVICES

A. Does Okanagan Basin Water Board want to contract out portions of, or all of, the Aquatic Weed Control Program?

### Pros:

- Competition among contractors could reduce cost;
- May gain expertise of contractor leading to new and innovative ideas;
- O.B.W.B. would not incur direct capitalization costs (especially for program expansion);
- O.B.W.B. would not require storage/maintenance facilities
- Administration could be streamlined;
- O.B.W.B. could require performance bond to ensure completion and quality of work (as well as cover damage to property).

### Cons:

- O.B.W.B. would be paying contractors' profits and capital depreciation;
- O.B.W.B. would have to maintain supervisory staff and administrative capability;
- Reduced program flexibility in dealing with yearly changes in weed growth;
- Few contractors available - may lead to higher cost;
- Difficulties in reinstating our own program if necessary:
  - Time to mobilize equipment;
  - Loss of experienced operators;
  - Availability of another contractor;
- Money paid to contractor may leave the valley;
- Poor performance affects major resource - tourist industry;
- O.B.W.B. already has equipment to carry out basic control program.

Okanagan Basin Water Board is not interested in receiving contract proposals. End.

Or

If Okanagan Basin Water Board would like to receive proposals:

#### 1. Invitation to Tender:

- Advertise for contracting out of all or part of program and see what we get;
- Significant amount of time may be invested in drafting specifications of work and showing areas to prospective bidders.

#### 2. Unsolicited Proposals:

- Receive and file until service is required.



**B. Types of Proposals:**

1. Proven Technology - Harvesters, dredges of commercial manufacture, bottom barriers, O.B.W.B.-type rototillers.
  - These methods do not require testing and evaluation.
2. Unproven Technology - De-rooting machines, 'exotic' ideas, etc..
  - Must undergo performance test by Ministry of Environment or by an independent consultant suitable to Okanagan Basin Water Board.