

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON FEBRUARY 25TH, 1992, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Director S. Simpson	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Paynter	C.O.R.D.
	Director R. Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director A. Hill	N.O.R.D.
	Director K. Tribes	N.O.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
	Alternate Director P. Field	O.S.R.D.
<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
	R. A. Nickel	Ministry of Environment
	P. Epp	Ministry of Environment
<u>STAFF:</u>	G. Armour	Field Supervisor

Appointments to the Board:

Regional District of North Okanagan

- Director Alan Hill
- Director Klaus Tribes
- Director Eric Hornby
- Alternate Director Al Sterling
- Alternate Director Joan Yardley

Regional District of Central Okanagan

- Director Sharron Simpson
- Director Geoff Paynter
- Director Robert Hobson
- Alternate Director Eain Lamont
- Alternate Director Ben Lee

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

- Director Jake Kimberley
- Director Robert Shewfelt
- Director Tom Shields
- Alternate Director Pat Field

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

The Chairman called the meeting to order, and asked the Field Supervisor to introduce the appointed members of the Okanagan Basin Water Board, the staff, and others present.

The Field Supervisor then called for nominations for the position of Chairman for the 1992 - 1993 term.

Director Paynter nominated Director Simpson for the position and this was seconded by Director Shields.

There being no other nominations, Director Simpson was declared re-elected Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of the Water Board.

Director Hill was nominated by Director Tribes, seconded by Alternate Director Field, for the position of Vice Chairman.

There being no further nominations, Director Hill was declared elected Vice Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

The Chairman began the meeting by asking each Director to outline their perception of the role of the Water Board and its goals and objectives for the current year. She noted that there have been a number of issues which have not received answers as a result of the last two years of work and she would be following up on these. In addition she pointed out that a recent community forum in Kelowna had focused on water quality and quantity concerns relating to rapid growth and development.

Director Shields noted that a recent study of the quality of water in Osoyoos Lake, performed by Okanagan College had raised serious immediate water quality concerns. He stated that the lake is nearing a critical state after which it may be impossible to return it to acceptable status.

Director Paynter related his concerns about prioritization of sewer hookup in areas where this is environmentally imperative. He noted that some areas will not receive Provincial funding at the 50% level, putting more of a burden on local taxpayers. Director Paynter also mentioned that he would like to see involvement of the Indian Bands, who have extensive lakeshore holdings, in alleviation of water quality concerns.

Alternate Director Field said that he was concerned by the use of different criteria by different agencies to define water quality. This is confusing to the public and may give a false impression about lake water quality in the Okanagan.

Director Hobson stated that overall growth management strategy for the Valley remains his primary concern. He noted that the Water Board is set up to perform this function but lacks the technical support. His primary concerns are water quality and quantity and he noted that he remains an advocate of the establishment of standards for storm drainage. On the water quantity side, Director Hobson noted that the volume of water in the tributaries is limited and for large amounts of additional water we will likely have to look to lake drawdown.

Director Tribes commented on the expanded role of Water Board concerns since his prior involvement as a Board Director. He stated that growth management and water supply concerns were primary issues faced by the Valley today.

Director Hill observed that current usage of water will allow expansion of the Valley population by an estimated 150,000 to 175,000 people. There is a finite amount of growth possible with existing supplies. He observed that air quality is an important issue to address as part of a growth management strategy but does not see it as part of the mandate of the Water Board at present due to a lack of time and staff. Director Hill endorsed the establishment of a Master Wastewater Management Plan as a primary goal for the Board and noted that the focus on septic tanks as the culprit in declining water quality may be misplaced. He also noted that we must make our goals known to the public and suggested a press release from each meeting. As a final comment, Director Hill complimented the City of Vernon on their efforts to make the effluent spray irrigation system work.

The Chairman noted that aquatic weeds had not been mentioned once during the course of this discussion. Several Board member commented that the weed control function of the Board has become a routine maintenance item.

Chairman Simpson questioned the status of the new septic tank regulations for environmentally sensitive areas and was informed by Phil Epp of the Ministry of Environment that these have been enacted. He observed that the Ministry of Health should have released the standards to the municipalities.

Director Hill asked for a brief outline of the content of the new legislation and Mr. Epp gave the following highlights:

- the regulations cover only lots created following enactment of the legislation with the potential to apply them to upgrading existing systems for construction of larger structures on existing lots and to reconstruction of malfunctioning systems.

- the table of setbacks is based on soil depth versus percolation rates. Setbacks range from 100 to a maximum of 500 feet.

- setbacks may be reduced by increasing the vertical component of phosphorus removal in the soil with a larger field size, for example. (but not below the 100 foot minimum)

- Provision to reduce setbacks is also allowed with construction of on-site phosphorus removal facilities. As yet there are none of these in the Valley on an individual basis.

The Chairman commented that the Water Board should review the regulations at a subsequent meeting and respond as necessary.

Chairman Simpson noted that foreshore planning should also be a critical issue and the Board has not really addressed this yet. Directors Hobson and Shewfelt were to have reviewed this issue.

The Chairman said that water conservation programs have been discussed but no action has been taken by the Board to date. She questioned the role of the Board in making direct statements to the public through the media and wondered if we should develop a plan of news conferences or public information programs.

Director Hill agreed that failure to provide public information will reduce the Water Board to a weed cutting agency.

Director Hobson observed that the public may educate us and that there is a general feeling that government does not invite input until decisions are already finalized.

Director Shields offered to develop a media strategy to issue press releases from the Board with the Chairman as a referral person.

The Chairman questioned the role of the Water Board in water quantity management.

Director Hobson stated that this is the first concern in growth and development. Questions of availability of water from tributary, lake, and groundwater sources are primary, with water quality issues being management concerns. Director Hobson said that the Board should work with Ministry of Environment staff to identify the work that needs to be done, and the approach the Minister to initiate it.

Director Paynter noted that rates of growth used in regional plans developed fifteen years ago are being far exceeded.

Mr. Maxnuk advised the Board that we should invite Water Management personnel to discuss specific issues at our next meeting.

Director Shewfelt entered the meeting at 11:15 A.M.

Director Hobson suggested inviting Habitat Protection staff as well so we don't obtain solely engineering information.

Director Shewfelt indicated that his primary concern was in the water quality issue, especially for Summerland.

The Board agreed that for the next meeting:

- Water Management and Habitat Protection staff should be invited
- We should begin to develop a Growth Management Strategy for the Valley
- We should involve the Indian Bands in working with us
- The issue of storm sewer discharges should be pursued

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Paynter, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on October 1st, 1991 , be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

Ference Weicker Report:

Mr Armour reported that the Ference Weicker report to Treasury Board on the value of the Aquatic Weed Control Program had not yet been received by the Board as requested in a letter to the previous Minister. This request had been repeated to the new Minister in a letter sent January 13th, 1992. A response from Dr. Newroth to a telephone enquiry to Dr. Kasianchuk's office indicated that the Minister and Treasury Board have not yet reviewed this document and thus it cannot be released.

The Board directed that the matter be followed up with a letter to the Minister and the Chairman indicated that she would attempt to arrange to meet with Dr. J. O'Riordan on a future trip to Victoria.

Work Plan for 1992-93:

Mr Armour stated that a workplan had been submitted as an attachment to our F.Y. 92-93 budget request. He briefly outlined the contents of the plan (attached) and asked the Board for direction concerning work at Swalwell (Beaver) Lake. Approximately \$15,000 has been budgeted for diver treatment of milfoil at this upper elevation lake. Based on surveys conducted last fall, this may not be an adequate amount to ensure control of the infestation.

Mr. Armour reported that the lake is heavily used for fishing, is an egg rearing and collection site for fisheries, and provides water storage for Winfield Okanagan Centre Irrigation District (WOCID). Previous letters as to the importance of weed control to these agencies had brought no response from the irrigation district and a referral to Water Quality Branch from Fisheries.

Moved by Director Tribes and seconded by Director Field:

"That work in Swalwell lake continue at the budgeted level and the Field Supervisor report to the Board during the season as to the success of this management regime and the level of demand for the work."

CARRIED.

Purple Loosestrife:

The Board requested that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Environment requesting an update on the status of Purple Loosestrife and its potential for damage to wetland areas in the Okanagan Valley.

Aquatic Plant Management Committee:

Mr. Maxnuk asked that this item be moved from the later portions of the agenda so that all Aquatic Plant Management business could be completed at this time.

The Field Supervisor advised that the Board as a whole had acted in place of the Committee last year.

Mr. Maxnuk indicated that he felt that technical discussion was sometimes abbreviated by time constraints at full Board meetings, and perhaps the Committee was necessary to deal with these matters and report back to the Board.

The Board agreed to appoint Director Hill, Alternate Director Field, and Chairman Simpson to the Aquatic Plant Management Committee.

Mr. Maxnuk left the meeting.

DELEGATIONS:

Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan:

Mr. Phil Epp and Mr. Dick Nickel of the Okanagan Water Quality Control Project attended the meeting to discuss the Master Wastewater Management Plan

Mr. Armour outlined developments to date:

Terms of Reference for a Valley wide Master Wastewater Management Plan were developed by OK Water Quality Control Project and reviewed by this Board at the last two meetings.

The Board made some changes and sought approval to commit our 25% share of the funding from the three Regional Districts.

This approval was given and with the agreement of the Chairman we:

Requested qualification submissions from eight engineering firms that had prepared WMP's for Valley areas. (Closing Jan. 9th) Six submissions were received.

A "Technical Committee" met on Jan. 22nd to shortlist three submissions for proposal call
This committee was composed of:

Field Supervisor
Phil Epp and Ron Townson of the MOE
Al Harrison, Administrator CORD
Hilary Hettinga, Deputy Admin. CORD
Andy Swetlishoff, Planner RDOS
Dick Vest, City Engineer, Vernon

The purpose of this committee was to get opinions from the administrative/ financial as well as land use and planning aspects; not just the engineering standpoint.

Associated, Reid Crowther, and T. R. Underwood were shortlisted and asked to submit proposals.

Proposals were received Feb 17th and the same technical committee met February 24th to review the submissions and recommend to the Water Board which one to proceed with.

The firm of Reid Crowther was selected. The strongpoints of their Proposal were briefly:

A solid technical team with the expertise to do the Engineering work; Aside from Reid Crowther staff, they propose to utilize Dr. Bill Oldham who has background dating back to the original Okanagan Basin Study.

Land Use /Planning review by David Witty who has undertaken a number of local projects

Administrative perspective from Eugene Lalonde former administrator of CSRD, and also from Chris Woodward former Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs. We felt that an indispensable part of this master plan will be to recommend and put in place, an administrative structure which will enable the plan to function. Otherwise we will have a nice engineering document which may sit on a shelf. Mr. Woodward's extensive experience in government and familiarity with the Okanagan situation could prove invaluable.

The number of billable hours in the R/C proposal was 15% higher than the second choice.

The company is valley based and should be responsive to direction from the Board and its designates.

The Field Supervisor concluded that he would like the Water Board's permission to confirm acceptance of this proposal and:

- **Establish the "Steering Committee"** used to evaluate the proposals as the group who will deal on a regular basis with the consultant.

- **Endorse the formation of a technical group** composed of a representative from each jurisdiction with a WMP in place or in progress; the Ministry of Municipal Affairs; the Ministry of Health; and the Native Indian Bands who have jurisdiction over lands in the watershed. This group would meet perhaps three or four times during the development of the Master Plan to both provide information to the consultant and to relay information back to their jurisdictions so that everyone is part of the process and not left in the dark to receive a report at the end.

The Chairman asked that Mr. Nickel provide some background on the development the the Plan for the benefit of the new Board members.

Director Hill asked Mr. Armour about the status the Submission of Qualifications from Dayton and Knight.

Mr. Armour replied that their Submission had not been shortlisted and while many of the personnel assigned to the project were very competent in the view of the steering committee, their expertise lay in field of works construction and not planning.

Alternate Director Field expressed appreciation that this far-sighted approach was taking place and wondered whether this might not apply to water quantity matters as well.

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Alternate Director Field:

"That the Water Board accept the recommendation of the steering committee in favor of the proposal from Reid Crowther & Partners and notify the company of this acceptance pending official approval of the funding from the Ministry of Environment. In addition, that the Board recognize the Steering Committee and the Technical Committee as proposed by the Field Supervisor."

CARRIED.

Director Hill opposed.

Director Hill said that he could not support recommendation of a proposal without having had the opportunity to read it.

Director Tribes enquired as to who was the second choice and was informed by Mr. Armour that it was Associated Engineering Ltd.

Mr. Nickel questioned whether there should be political representation from the Board on the Steering Committee.

Chairman Simpson expressed concern about Director Hill's opposition.

Director Hill stated that he endorsed the project without reservation but not the selection process.

Director Tribes echoed Director Hill's concern, but said that due to his recent involvement with the project, he must go along with the recommendation.

Directors Hill and Field asked to review the proposals before the initial client meeting. The Field Supervisor agreed to provide the documents.

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman represent the Water Board at the client meeting with Reid Crowther & Partners."

CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1:15 P.M. and reconvened at 2:15 P.M.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Water Management Division - Sustaining the Water Resource:

The Field Supervisor informed the Board that this document from Water Management Division was distributed to Board last fall, and comments although due in October would still be welcomed.

Minister of Environment - Treasury Board Evaluation of Aquatic Weed Control Program:

The Board agreed that this item had already been discussed.

Dr. D.A. Kasianchuk - Approval To Purchase Derooting Equipment:

Mr. Armour explained that at the previous meeting the Board approved purchase of this equipment from Water Board funds providing the machine checked out mechanically and a suitable arrangement could be worked out with the MOE to charge back capital costs.

This occurred and we will be using the machine shortly. Its main advantage lies in rapid coverage of previously rototilled areas where weed growth is already greatly reduced. We used to operate the Bombardier/cultivator for this but went to contract when that machine was no longer serviceable.

District of Coldstream - Storm Sewer on Northeast Side of Kalamalka Lake:

Mr. Armour outlined correspondence referred to the Water Board from residents on the Northeast shore of Kalamalka Lake concerning weed growth around a storm sewer outfall entering the lake at that point.

Mr. Maxnuk had replied to a written request for funds to extend the pipe stating that for weed control purposes would be costly and of limited usefulness.

Director Hobson asked whether the inflow of nutrient from this pipe could be responsible for enhanced aquatic weed growth.

The Field Supervisor replied that this was possible although there were weeds along the length of the pipe, not just at the terminus.

The Board directed that a letter be sent to the District of Coldstream indicating that weed control at this location would be performed as a part of our regular program.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Alternate Director Field:

"That a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment urging that the quality of water from storm drains be regulated."

CARRIED.

Minister of Environment (former) - Confirmation of results of discussion at UBCM:

Received and filed by the Board

Westbank Indian Council - Native Government involvement in Water Board:

A copy of a letter to R.D.O.S. Director T. Takacs from the Westbank Indian Band was received, expressing interest in sitting on the Water Board.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the Supplementary Letters Patent of the Water Board be amended to allow inclusion of the Indian Bands in the Okanagan Basin Water Board."

Director Hobson speculated that this might not be as simple as indicated in the motion as it would likely require changes to the Municipal Act.

Director Shewfelt asked that the motion be amended to request the necessary changes to the Municipal Act.

The motion was **deferred** to the next meeting for clarification of the requirements for changing representation on the Water Board.

Ministry of Environment - Response to request to continue 75% funding assistance:

Alternate Director Field stated that he was concerned that the Ministry would arbitrarily set a limit on the size of community which would be able to receive 75% funding assistance for sewage treatment works. He observed that there were small communities whose population exceeded 1000, within which there were areas where establishment sewage systems was imperative but beyond the ability of local taxpayers to afford.

Moved by Alternate Director Field, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment outlining the concern of the Water Board regarding the establishment of an arbitrary limit of 1000 population size in a community to receive 75% funding for sewage treatment works."

CARRIED.

Regional District of North Okanagan - Copy of correspondence to Minister of Environment:

A letter asking that Okanagan Water Quality Control Project be extended until all recommendations of wastewater management plans are implemented was received from the North Okanagan Regional District.

BX Water Committee - Groundwater in BX area of North Okanagan:

A copy of a letter to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment concerning potential depletion of groundwater in the BX area of the North Okanagan Regional District was received.

Mr. Armour advised that there was concern among residents of this area about groundwater depletion as a result of removal and export of bottled mineral water.

Director Hill informed the Board that he would be attending a meeting concerning this issue and would report back on the outcome.

Director Hobson noted that this is indicative of the need for a centralized approach to water quantity management.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen - Request Water Board to approach member Regional Boards regarding increase to Sewage Facilities Assistance Levy:

The Board asked that the current status of the fund be updated for the next meeting as significantly more money is being collected with the expanding tax base in the Valley. It was also noted that the request from R.D.O.S. should be clarified as to the amount of increase sought.

Regional District of North Okanagan - Approval of Water Board participation in Master Wastewater Management Plan.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen - Approval of Water Board participation in Master Wastewater Management Plan.

Regional District of Central Okanagan - Approval of Water Board participation in Master Wastewater Management Plan.

The above three letters were received and filed by the Board

Holiday Park Resort - Copy of correspondence directed to Ministry of Highways:

Correspondence questioning the impact of highway improvements on Duck Lake water levels, and reply from Ministry of Transportation and Highways was received by the Board.

Holiday Park Resort -

The Field Supervisor advised the Board that he had talked to MOE in Penticton regarding approval given last fall for this construction. Addition of material in terms of total volume of lake is small; the fill is porous so the volume reduction is lessened; the material will stabilize erosion of the steep slope; main control on lake level is Vernon Creek at the North end. (Bill Michaels)

The main problem from Highways side seems to be that Holiday Park is built on Indian Land and not subject to flood plain zoning restrictions and setbacks. From the side of the Resort, the south end of the lake where flooding normally occurs during times of high water, has been filled with a substantial amount of material for the new route of the highway.

The Board asked that information be obtained on flood plain regulations for the next meeting.

Rural Ratepayers (Electoral Area "A") of Osoyoos - Advise Water Board of dissatisfaction with lack of progress in sewerage rural areas surrounding Osoyoos Lake:

The letter expressing dissatisfaction with lack of progress in sewerage this area surrounding Osoyoos Lake was received by the Board.

The Chairman enquired as to the necessity of sewerage all areas of this type.

Alternate Director Field suggested that the group become familiar with the Master Waste Management Plan as well as their local plan.

Minister of Environment - Response to Board letter requesting that discharge of storm waters directly into Okanagan Lakes system be discouraged:

The letter which indicates that the Ministry will require stormwater discharge plans from Municipalities by 1995 was received.

Economic Development Corporation of Osoyoos and Area - Report on Water Quality of Osoyoos Lake:

The Field Supervisor reported on a meeting he had attended at which copies of a report on the Water Quality of Osoyoos Lake were distributed. The report was prepared by Okanagan College for the E.D.C.O.A. and while perhaps not as technically thorough as might be desired, did point out some serious water quality questions about the lake.

Alternate Director Field and Director Shields both said that they would attend a meeting at which this report would be released to the public.

SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

Grant Applications:

City of Vernon	\$179,790.82
City of Armstrong	29,648.30

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the Grant Application be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Appointment of Signing Officers:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Regional District of North Okanagan Chairman, and the Administrator act as signing officers for the Board."

CARRIED.

Attendance of Alternate Directors at Meetings:

Alternate Director Field asked the Board's approval for Alternate Directors to sit as non voting members at all regular meetings.

The Board agreed to send the meeting information package to the Alternates and stated that they were welcome to attend as observers.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.


CHAIRMAN


SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON JUNE 16TH, 1992, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Director S. Simpson	C.O.R.D.
	Director R. Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Paynter	C.O.R.D.
	Director A. Hill	N.O.R.D.
	Director K. Tribes	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
	Director J. Kimberley	O.S.R.D.
	Alternate Director J. Yardley	N.O.R.D. (Observer)

<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
	P. Epp	Ministry of Environment
	R. Townson	Ministry of Environment

<u>STAFF:</u>	P. Mackiewich	Administrator
	G. Armour	Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on February 25th, 1992, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

Reid Crowther & Partners Ltd. - Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan:

Mr. Gerry Stevens and Mr. Ray Bilevicius of Reid Crowther & Partners Ltd. outlined progress with development of the Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan.

The Stage 1 report, or data collation phase is almost complete and will be distributed prior to the June 25th workshop sessions. The primary item for discussion at the workshops will be the criteria for prioritizing future treatment works. Mr. Stevens pointed out that it will be essential for all parties to agree on these criteria.

Director Paynter entered the meeting.

Chairman Simpson asked whether health aspects were to be considered and Mr. Bilevicius confirmed that they will be addressed where an environmental concern is posed. Local concerns will presumably be corrected by health authorities.

Director Hobson questioned the percentage of criteria set out to deal with existing plan versus those aimed at future growth related problems. Mr. Bilevicius indicated that both would be considered. Director Hobson stated the a growth management strategy is of primary importance when dealing with future development and criteria for funding should require that the works fit into the overall strategy.

Mr. Stevens pointed out that the purpose of their presentation was the stage 1 objectives and that the challenge of dealing with a growth management strategy would occur in stage 2.

Director Tribes enquired as to whether the holders of the individual Waste Management Plans had been contacted to determine departures from the original published plans.

Mr. Bilevicius confirmed that they had through individual interviews.

Chairman Simpson questioned the targeting of phosphorus as the primary problem.

Mr. Stevens stated the phosphorus loading is the focus of all of the Waste Management Plans. It may be that future evidence will indicate that other nutrients such as nitrogen should be dealt with, but it is not within the scope of this study to do this work.

Director Shields indicated that an Open House for the public had been requested for the Oliver Osoyoos area in addition to those proposed for Vernon, Kelowna, and Penticton.

Director Hill asked whether the Master Plan would identify such phosphorus reduction initiatives as a ban on phosphorus containing detergents proposed by the Water Board several times in the past.

Mr. Bilevicius reported that part of stage two would address this.

Director Hobson referred again to the focus on phosphorus in the prioritization criteria and questioned the cumulative impact of pathogens and trace elements in wastewater discharges.

Mr. Stevens indicated that he felt the subject of pathogen removal had been well addressed at the treatment plant level but not with on site disposal systems.

Director Hobson expressed his concern about the lateness of proposed involvement of the public and indicated that their input should be sought and included at a much earlier point.

The Chairman explained that the Water Board has adopted a schedule and can make changes to it. The cost of additional meetings must be kept in mind.

Director Hobson reiterated that the development of the prioritization criteria is crucial to the process and the public must agree.

Director Kimberley suggested that the June 25th workshops should be open to the public.

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the afternoon session of the June 25th Master Plan workshop be opened to the public for their information but that public input be sought at a future meeting."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the technical meeting to be held in the morning of June 25th also be open to the public but due to limitations of space, not be advertised."

CARRIED.

The Chairman indicated that the later public workshop would be held in a suitable venue and advertised. She then thanked the staff of Reid Crowther for their update to the Board.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**Cutback of Aquatic Weed Control Funds:**

The Field Supervisor confirmed that the Province has reduced the allocation to the weed control program by \$70,000 - this is the 75% share. The total cut would be \$93,000 if we continue on the 75/25% basis and make the corresponding reduction in our share.

Current status of F.Y. 92-93 Budget:

\$230,000 Provincial share means a total budget of \$306,667

To end of May we have spent \$99,000

Last F.Y. we spent \$380,000

Mr. Armour outlined options for dealing with the shortfall of funds:

- 1) Live with the reduction of \$93,000:
 - Stop all derooting activities Oct. to end of Feb. Save \$96,000
"mothball" equipment which was recently purchased for 50% of operating season
Lose ground on winter derooting so that summer harvesting must be increased
 - Stop Beaver Lake work - Save approx. \$20,000
Risk losing control of the weeds so that no amount of effort will return the situation to a controllable level
 - Cutback Summer Harvesting in all but highest priority areas - Save \$25,000 to \$40,000
- 2) Lobby Provincial Ministry of Env. to restore funding
 - most effective time is now when weed growth is a problem
- 3) Supplement funding for this F.Y. with 100% Water Board \$.
 - good chance that the province will wish to change the 75/25% sharing for the future
- 4) Stop Water Board involvement in program:
 - question must be asked "do we have an effective program at the reduced level"
 - if used as threat, must be prepared to back it up
 - if serious, consequences are that there may be no weed control for a minimum of one year

The Administrator informed the Board that the Agreement for weed control requires that the Minister ask the Legislature for the money requested by the Water Board. This did not appear to have been done.

Mr. Maxnuk indicated that the Ministry had requested the money from Treasury Board, and that the request had been refused. He also outlined the amount of funding cut from the Water Management Division and explained that the Aquatic weed control programs had been reduced by a total of \$170,000.

Director Hobson suggested that the Board focus on useful alternatives in order to continue work. He stated that funding cutback were widespread and although we should continue to lobby for restitution of the money, we should focus on work reduction as the only useful option. He questioned the consequences of an increased local contribution.

The Administrator reported that the Board could not go back to the Regional Districts for additional funding this year as budgets were already set. Reserves were not sufficient to cover a shortfall of this magnitude.

Director Tribes observed that the shortfall amounted to \$70,000 if the Board contributed the 25% share which had already been collected.

Director Paynter stressed that he is opposed to stopping derooting work as it appears to be the more effective of the control methods currently employed. He pointed out that we may need to consider going to a user pay or fee for service arrangement for summer harvesting.

Director Shields agreed, saying that harvesting was a very visible, messy alternative which was done in the peak of the tourist season.

Mr. Maxnuk reported that his Ministry did not intend to depart from the weed control agreement which runs through 1996 and that the current situation reflected this years fiscal state only. He voiced his agreement that the increased winter derooting of the past two years should enable a reduction in summer harvesting.

The Chairman suggested that the Board needed to prioritize the parts of the program in order to set some direction. She also expressed concern that reduction in summer work might encourage some citizens to use inappropriate or illegal weed control methods. She stated that an education program would be required.

Moved by Director Tribes and seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the priorities for the Aquatic Weed control program be as follows:

- Derooting
- Cosmetic harvesting of public beaches and high use recreation areas

and that any remaining funds be allocated as needed.

In addition, the Board would try to augment funding and provide an alternative on private foreshore by instituting a fee for service policy for harvesting."

CARRIED.

Director Hill suggested that the Minister of Tourism should receive the letter of May 20th that went to the Environment Minister and the Board agreed.

Mill Lake Accident

The Field Supervisor reported that an aquatic weed harvester on loan from the Ministry of Environment to Abbotsford-Matsqui capsized at Mill Lake and the operator was killed. WCB and the Transportation Safety Board of Canada are investigating and the shutdown of the other three similar machines used by the Water Board has been ordered. Engineering certification of stability is being obtained. The registered owner, the Ministry of Environment is paying for this.

Mr. Armour reported that the program now has one harvester which can be used and we do not know at this time when or if use of the others will be permitted.

Mr. Maxnuk confirmed that the Ministry will be paying for the work necessary to comply with the WCB orders but also indicated that funds for weed control were finite and he could not guarantee that the program would not be affected.

Expenditure Over-run for Last F.Y. (91-92)

Mr. Armour reminded the Board that the Province took \$20,000 from their allocation to

our program last fiscal year to hire a consultant to do a cost benefit analysis. He explained that he had neglected to delete the money from our budget as it was not an actual item we paid. The result was that we over spent but we do not need to requisition more money. The difference is made up by the following:

We had collected the Water Board 25% share (\$5,000)

CLPB paid us an outstanding amount for cost shared equipment repair (\$6,000)

We had some revenue from Administration charges on projects done for other agencies

The remainder of the over run (\$6,000) was covered from our surplus

We broke even but are carrying no surplus into the current year

The Chairman commented that we still do not have the consultants report.

Mr. Maxnuk replied that his Ministry was working toward release of the report.

Moved by Director Paynter, seconded by Director Hobson:

"That a letter be sent to Treasury Board expressing the concern of our Board over the lack of response from the Province to our requests for release of the Ference Weicker report."

CARRIED.

Purple Loosestrife:

The Field Supervisor explained that no official response to the Board's letter regarding the status of Purple Loosestrife in the Okanagan had been received. The Board had, however, been provided with some information forwarded by Mr. Maxnuk concerning the noxious wetland plant.

Director Hobson expressed concern that this plant is still being sold at commercial outlets despite our letters to the Ministry of Environment. He suggested that the Water Board might wish to take the initiative and inform these outlets of the problem.

1992 Provisional Harvesting Schedule:

The Field Supervisor presented a provisional harvesting schedule to the Board (attached) and noted that with the reductions proposed by the Board for funding reasons and the shutdown of equipment following the capsized incident, the schedule was in need of revision. Highlights of the schedule are as follows:

- 1) Use of three harvesters rather than four:
 - Increased winter derooting should mean less summer work required
 - In 1991, approximately 50% of the loads were harvested compared to three or four years ago
- 2) Later start for harvesting in areas where increased winter derooting was done.
 - includes Osoyoos (June 29th vs. June 10th)
 - Kelowna Foreshore and Westside (June 22nd vs. June 10th)
 - Vernon Arm, Okanagan Lake (July 13th vs. June 24th)
- 3) Increased number of equipment moves from lake to lake especially if trouble spots show up

Winter Derooting - Preliminary Results:

Mr. Armour presented a brief summary of the Derooting work done in 1991-92. (attached)
He noted that total operating hours were up from 1563 last year to 2592 this season.
(No outside contract work was done this year so increase is not quite as dramatic)

Increases in areas treated have been Valley wide and include:

Vernon Arm
Kelowna Westside
Skaha Lake
Osoyoos Lake

He anticipated that this increased winter and spring activity will permit the reduction in harvesters from four to three.

Correspondence: (Aquatic Plant Control)

Mr. M.D. Maxnuk, Ministry of Environment - Letter Advising Water Board of \$70,000 reduction in Provincial Funding Allocation for F.Y. 92-93

This item had been dealt with earlier in the agenda.

Skaha Estates Improvement District - Request for derooting work at Skaha Estates:

Skaha Estates Improvement District - Letter of thanks for extra work done in April and May 1992:

Mr Armour explained that this request had been dealt with as part of the expanded winter derooting program.

Newport Beach Recreational Park - Letter and Petition From 31 Residents Asking for weed Control Work:

The letter and petition were received by the Board and it was noted that this is residential area on reserve land and not a top priority for weed control work.

District of Coldstream - Acknowledgment of Receipt of Water Board Letter regarding Aquatic Weeds Adjacent to 14174 Tamarack Drive:

Mr. Armour explained that the Board had responded that control of the aquatic weed growth would be done as part of our regular Kalamalka Lake program but that we were not in a position to extend the storm sewer outfall in question.

Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment - Copy of Correspondence concerning Weeds at Blue Water Lodges at Kalamalka Lake:

This area has been treated in the past with bottom barriers and by rototilling and will be surveyed this season and the appropriate treatment determined.

W.A. Kastelen - Director, Southern Interior Region, Ministry of Environment - Copy of correspondence relating to Proliferation of Docks on Lake Shoreline:

The Board received the information from Mr. Kastelen and noted that the completion of shore zone plans incorporated this concern. This process is not complete throughout the valley, and the Administrator noted that new regulations cannot be applied retroactively.

Mr. M.D. Maxnuk - Request for Certificate of Insurance for Aquatic Plant Control Program:

The Field Supervisor advised the Board that the cost of insurance for damage or loss of weed control equipment was being obtained and would add to program costs. We had previously carried only a liability policy.

Columbia Shuswap Regional District Planning Committee Meeting:

Mr. Armour informed the Board that he had attended the CSRD Planning Committee Meeting. Of interest was the fact that charges were being contemplated against the Regional District by Federal Fisheries for destruction of salmon spawning habitat.

Mr. M.D. Maxnuk - Report on the 1991 Weed Control Activities at Swalwell (Beaver) Lake:

This report was received for information by the Water Board.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:00 P.M. and reconvened at 1:15 P.M.

The Chairman suggested prioritizing the remaining agenda items to ensure that the most important matters were covered before the Directors had to leave.

Discussion of Document entitled "Sustaining the Water Resource":

The Chairman indicated that a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment, Dr. Jon O'Riordan, would take place in Kelowna on July 15th. It was agreed that the meeting would begin at 9:30 A.M. and that it would continue through lunch. The site would be determined. The meeting would focus on a discussion of the contents of the Ministry publication circulated to the Directors entitled "Sustaining the Water Resource". She asked the Board to provide input as to specific concerns for discussion at this meeting.

Alternate Director Yardley informed the Board that the Vernon Water Conservation Committee is very concerned about groundwater extraction in the North Okanagan and the potential depletion of this resource. In addition she stated her concerns over the lack of specific Provincial water quality standards.

The Chairman referred to a brief conversation she had recently had with Dr. O'Riordan in which the subject of "downloading" of responsibilities for water management to the local level was discussed.

Director Kimberley observed that there was often confusion over which Ministry has jurisdiction over a particular watershed management issue. He referred to suggestions that all responsibility be given to one Ministry or that some of the responsibility be delegated to the local level. Director Kimberley indicated that he could foresee large costs associated with assuming this kind of authority locally. He also asked that the state of water licensing of the lake and tributaries in the Okanagan system be discussed. He also said that water quality standards are low in comparison with the rest of the country and outlined a situation in the City of Penticton where a conflict in the Municipal Act posed difficulties in correcting health concerns with domestic water supply.

Director Paynter commented that the Provincial Ministries with water management authority were all in different cities. (Forestry, Environment, and Highways)

Director Hobson advised the Board that the water quantity issue of flood protection versus habitat concerns needed to be addressed. He also indicated that the ownership and management of dykes in the Kelowna area is a concern.

Director Hornby asked that the issue of improvement districts and the possible assumption of control by regional government be raised.

Director Kimberley left the meeting.

Correspondence: (Other Business)

Minister of Environment - Reply to Water Board letter regarding funding available to small communities for sewage collection and treatment:

The reply referred the Board to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs as the source of funds for such projects.

Minister of Health - Reply to Water Board letter asking that Information in the New Septic Tank Regulations be made Readily Available to Local Governments:

The reply indicated that efforts would be made to give wider distribution to the documents as soon as a practical method was found to copy the 250 maps. The new regulations are currently available at the Health Units and the Regional Districts.

The Board expressed its wish to obtain the documents for discussion at the next meeting and proposed that Phil Epp of the Okanagan Water Quality Control Project be invited to attend.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen - Request that Water Board Review its Policies Concerning Funding for Wastewater Management Plans:

The request from R.D.O.S. asked that the Water Board review its policy regarding the provision of funds for Waste Management Plan development.

The Administrator informed the Board that this could be done with agreement from all three Regional Districts, but that the last time this request had been put forward two of the three regions had turned it down.

The Chairman asked if the Board wished to change its current policy of not funding Waste Management Plan studies.

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the policy of the Water Board remain that Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants are not used to fund the preparation of Waste Management plans."

CARRIED.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen - Copy of letter Authorizing Stanley Associates Engineering Ltd. to Develop a Wastewater Management Plan for Areas E and F:

This letter detailing the plans for which funds were requested was received for information.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen - Request that Water Board Support a Resolution from the Town of Osoyoos re: Removal of Phosphates:

A copy of the actual resolution was not received but Director Shields explained that it dealt with support for the legislated removal from sale of Phosphate containing products.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the Water Board support a legislated ban on phosphate containing detergent products from sale in the Okanagan Valley and that a resolution to this effect be sent for presentation to the U.B.C.M. The letter would indicate possible improvements in water quality and weed control to be gained from this action."

CARRIED.

BX Community Association -Copy of a letter to the Environment Minister asking that the BX - Tillicum Area be designated as a "Water Conflict Area":

Alternate Director Yardley explained that support is needed to designate the BX - Tillicum area as a groundwater conflict area.

Moved by Director Tribes and seconded by Director Hill:

"That a letter be sent to the Ministry of Environment urging designation of the BX- Tillicum area as a ground water conflict area."

CARRIED.

North Okanagan Environmental Networking System - Letter to the Water Board expressing concern over degradation of the Watershed and request to be kept informed on progress of the Master Wastewater Management Plan:

Moved by Director Hill, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That a letter be sent to Daphne Wilson of the North Okanagan Environmental Networking System, informing her of the Master Wastewater Plan workshops to be held on June 25th."

CARRIED.

Earthcare - Request to make a Presentation to the Board:

The Chairman indicated that correspondence had been received the day prior to this meeting, from Earthcare, asking to make a presentation to the Water Board. She had informed them that due to the amount of material already on the agenda and the lateness of the request we could not accommodate them at this meeting.

The Board indicated that a letter should be sent to Earthcare confirming their presentation for the next meeting.

Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants:

Update on Current Financial Status of Fund and Projected Capital Needs for the Immediate Future:

Current Financial Status of Fund:

	1992 (Est.)	1991 (Actual)
Requisition	\$1,959,037	1,832,020
Interest Earned	65,000	63,140
Surplus (Prior Year)	<u>14,571</u>	<u>17,610</u>

	<u>2,038,608</u>	<u>1,912,770</u>
Grants:		
Westbank (24%)	86,160	86,158 (24%)
Others (23.93%)	<u>1,952,448</u>	<u>1,812,041 (22.619%)</u>
	<u>2,038,608</u>	<u>1,898,199</u>

Grant Applications

i)	City of Armstrong	\$14,879.87
ii)	District of Coldstream	84,847.62
iii)	City of Kelowna	389,452.28
iv)	RDOS (O.K. Falls)	21,205.57
v)	RDCO (Westbank)	86,157.89
vi)	Town of Oliver	69,306.80
vii)	Town of Osoyoos	29,798.44
viii)	City of Penticton	230,675.54
ix)	City of Vernon	207,638.57

Moved by Director Tribes and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the above Grant Applications as listed, be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

New and Unfinished Business:**Native Government Involvement in the Water Board:**

Chairman Simpson offered to follow up on this issue with a letter to the Tribal Council and to try to involve Native Government

Other Matters:**Staff Salaries for F.Y. 1992-93:**

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Paynter:

"That effective April 1, 1992, Okanagan Basin Water Board employees be awarded the same wage increase as approved for staff of the North Okanagan Regional District, being five percent."

CARRIED.

Next Water Board Meeting:

The next regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be held in Penticton, on August 4th.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON
AUGUST 4TH, 1992, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-
SIMILKAMEEN, 101 MARTIN STREET, PENTICTON, B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairman S. Simpson	C.O.R.D.
	Vice Chairman A. Hill	N.O.R.D.
	Director K. Tribes	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
	Director J. Kimberley	O.S.R.D.
	Director R. Shewfelt	O.S.R.D.
	Alternate Director E. Lamont	C.O.R.D.
 <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	 Alternate Director P. Field	 O.S.R.D.
	M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
 <u>STAFF:</u>	 G. Armour	 Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Hornby, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on June 16th, 1992, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

B.C. Environmental Network:

Mr. Lionel Dallas, Ms. Judy Artur, and Mr. Gordon Rutley, representing a coalition of environmental interest groups known as the B.C. Environmental Network, made a presentation to the Water Board dealing with a number of issues.

Mr. Dallas acted as spokesperson on behalf of Mr. Lloyd Manchester who is the president of the Network. Mr. Dallas presented a letter from the Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Group, expressing concern over the effect of the cutback of funding for the aquatic weed control program. (Attached)

Mr. Dallas also submitted a written summary of a presentation concerning the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan (attached) and outlined the contents for the Board. The main requests of the group are that a fourth public open house be held in Oliver in addition to the three planned for Vernon, Kelowna, and Penticton; and that a representative from the environmental organization be invited to attend steering committee meetings and workshops. He offered the help of the environmental organization in issuing information releases on the progress of the Plan to the media and the public.

Chairman Simpson described the process being used to develop the Master Plan and agreed to explore the possibility of involving the Environmental Group.

Alternate Director Field agreed with the need to publicize the efforts of the Liquid Waste Master Planning Project, but indicated that participation from the public is needed. He stated that at recent solid waste plan public meetings, attendance had been extremely low.

The Chairman pointed out that after the request at the June Board meeting to make the June 25th workshops public, no one had shown up.

Mr. Kirk Cartwright:

Mr. Cartwright, who is the operator of Coyote Cruises, submitted a written presentation to the Board (attached) concerning the detrimental effect of Eurasian water milfoil growth in the Okanagan River Channel on the rafting tourist attraction.

Director Kimberley informed the Board that this business has become an attraction of major proportions in the Penticton area and supported this initiative both from a tourism standpoint and water flow concerns.

Alternate Director Lamont also indicated his support for some control measures to be implemented in the River Channel.

The Field Supervisor indicated that the Channel had been considered low priority from a recreational point of view and that the only previous control work had been south of Vaseux Lake for flood control purposes. He also said that the low water levels and rocky substrate made the use of Board harvesters and derooting equipment impossible.

Mr. Armour noted that in telephone conversations with Mr. Cartwright, the previous week, the possibility of encouraging Fisheries to do more work with spawning bed enhancement was discussed but the indication from fisheries was that the funds were not available.

Mr. Armour recommended that the trial use of bottom barriers be considered as an alternative to hand removal or diver dredging, if the Board decided to become involved in weed control work in the channel.

Mr. Maxnuk observed that a test of bottom barrier control would be utilizing a method that was not applicable to the entire problem by virtue of its cost and lack of acceptability to Fisheries.

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Alternate Director Lamont:

"That the Water Board commit up to \$1200 in labour and materials, plus technical advice to work with Mr. Cartwright to develop a control which would later be suitable for use in larger areas of the Penticton River Channel."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

Ference Weicker Report:

The Board discussed the contents of the Ference Weicker Report which was released at the July 15th meeting with Dr. J. O'Riordan, Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment.

Moved by Director Hill and seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment endorsing the recommendations and conclusions of the Ference Weicker Report."

CARRIED.

Phosphate Content of Detergents:

The Board agreed to discuss this agenda item at this time. The Chairman referred to a memo she had circulated to the Board stating that we should take the initiative to seek voluntary cooperation of grocery and convenience stores in promoting the sale of phosphate free laundry and dishwasher detergent products.

Director Shewfelt questioned whether a tax on phosphate containing products would achieve the results we wanted.

Director Tribes felt that the Water Board should seek the authority to pursue controls on phosphate containing products at the Regional District level.

Alternate Director Field agreed, noting that a Province wide ban on phosphate containing products would not fit well in areas where attempts to increase lake productivity are being made through addition of nutrients.

Director Kimberley commented that previous Board approaches to the Province on this subject have indicated that they are not likely to ban products. He agreed that a tax on phosphate containing detergents might be the best route.

Alternate Director Field suggested that the Board apply to the Sustainable Environment Fund for money to promote local awareness of this issue.

Director Hill suggested that a letter be sent to the manufacturers of detergent products making them aware of the problem and asking for their cooperation.

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Water Board commence a public awareness program to encourage local initiative in promoting the use of phosphate free laundry and dishwasher detergent products."

CARRIED.

Director Kimberley left the meeting at 11:30

Status of Harvester Stability:

Mr. Armour reported that the three Aquamarine harvesters were not yet certified by Workers Compensation Board to return to service. Engineering work has been completed and a report submitted by the consultant to the Ministry of Environment and WCB but no orders have yet been issued based on this information.

Mr. Maxnuk confirmed that he had met with WCB and the engineering firm on July 31st.

Mr. Armour indicated that his interpretation of the report was that the machines were stable if operated and maintained correctly.

Director Tribes commented that in view of the present date, it seemed unlikely that these machines would see service this season.

Mr. Armour agreed and reported that the weed growth in many areas of the valley was far lighter this year than in most. The plants seemed to be weighted down by an accumulation of marl (limestone) and algae deposits, and in some cases already appeared to be senescing or nearing the end of their growth season. The one harvester in operation seemed to be keeping up with demand. He stressed that this is not likely to occur in future years and the lack of weed growth is a product of unusual environmental conditions in this particular season.

Equipment Insurance:

Mr. Armour informed the Board that he had received quotations for insuring the aquatic weed control equipment against loss and damage. The Board has always carried liability

insurance but the machines, some of which are owned 100% by the Province and some which have been jointly purchased are uninsured. The quotes ranged from two to three dollars per hundred dollars of value, which would put the cost of insuring all equipment used by the program at \$24,000 to \$36,000. Mr. Armour indicated that he could not foresee circumstances in which the complete loss of equipment was likely to occur.

Director Tribes asked if the Province would cover the machines.

Mr. Maxnuk reported that the Province does not carry insurance.

Alternate Director Field said that the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen also does not insure equipment due to the cost.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the information on cost of insuring weed control equipment be received but that no action be taken at this time."

CARRIED.

Budget for Fiscal Year 1993-94:

The Field Supervisor outlined a provisional budget for aquatic weed control for fiscal year 1993-94. (attached)

Alternate Director Field requested that the document be copied and circulated to the Board for further discussion following the lunch break as this was a very important item and he found it difficult to deal with without a copy of the budget.

The meeting adjourned for lunch and reconvened at 1:35 P.M.

Chairman Simpson asked that the Board consider having lunch brought in to future meetings so work could continue.

The Board instructed Mr. Armour to delete the cost of insuring equipment for damage and loss from the provisional budget.

Mr. Armour noted that he had not included any capital requests in the budget but that one of the recommendations of the Ference Weicker report was for acquisition of another machine.

Director Hill observed that since the Board had endorsed that report, it had endorsed the recommendation to acquire additional equipment.

The Board agreed to ask for shared purchase of an additional piece of derooting equipment. The subject of biological control experimental work was also discussed and Mr. Maxnuk reported that there was an on-going biological control research program in the Ministry for which it had not yet been necessary to ask for local funding.

The Chairman stated that the Board wished to express their support for this work and would do so in the covering letter transmitting the budget. She also said that the letter should ask for a report to the Board on the current status of biological control research.

Alternate Director Field recalled that at the July 15th meeting with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment, it was made clear that the 75/25% funding formula was not acceptable to Treasury Board. He wondered what funding alternatives were available in the event that the formula was to change.

Director Hill said that the Board should maintain an optimistic view until further discussions with the Ministry indicated that a change actually was to occur.

The Chairman suggested that we write to the Regional Districts and ask them to support our budget request and the Board agreed.

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Alternate Director Field:

"That the Provisional Budget for Fiscal Year 1993-94 be amended to include cost shared purchase of a new piece of derooting equipment and \$50,000 in additional operating funds, and that this budget be submitted to the Ministry of Environment."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE: (AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL)

South Okanagan Similkameen Circle Route:

Mr. Armour informed the Board that this group is represented by 9 Municipalities and Chambers of Commerce on their Board. The letter expresses concern over effects of the weed control budget reduction.

Press Release from Ministry of Environment on Ference Weicker Report:

The Board received the press release accompanying the Ference Weicker Report and noted the discrepancy in the amount of the cutback as stated by the Ministry (\$35,000) compared to the actual reduction from the Provisional Budget of \$70,000.

Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment:

A reply from Dr. J. O'Riordan to the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce stating that additional Provincial funds are unlikely to become available for weed control and suggesting that the Chamber consult with the Water Board to raise additional local funds was received.

J. Beattie, MLA, Okanagan-Penticton:

A copy of a letter to a Vancouver resident with property at Vaseux Lake stating that the funding reduction in the weed control budget was due to record deficit left by previous government was received. The resident was concerned about news reports of elimination of harvesting in Vaseux Lake due to lack of funds and urged the Board to recognize the hazard to swimmers and canoeists and also raises the factor of flooding as lake is being held higher in this drought year.

Mr. and Mrs. Tostenson:

A letter enclosing information on "Aquacide" chemical weed treatment was received.

Alternate Director Lamont noted that the question of herbicide use by the public had been raised by this letter and asked that the Board restate its policy on this subject.

Moved by Alternate Director Lamont and seconded by Director Hill:

"That the Board follow up the letter to the resident to indicate that we do not support the use of herbicides for the control of aquatic weed growth."

CORRESPONDENCE: (OTHER BUSINESS)

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:

A copy of a letter to the Minister of Environment asking that O.K. Water Quality Control Project funding be extended beyond March 1993, in view of rapid population growth in the valley was received by the Board.

Regional District of Central Okanagan:

A copy of a resolution supporting a request from the Economic Development Commission for a comprehensive study of Okanagan Valley watershed storage areas to determine potential maximum number of water connections in each area was received.

Kerr Wood Leidel:

A report on a demonstration water metering program in Okanagan was received. The Vancouver based consulting firm requested an opportunity to meet with Board to discuss metering and conservation of water.

Director Tribes observed that the valley is a leader in this regard and has several experts available. He suggested that outside expertise was not required at this time.

Alternate Director Field and Director Hill requested copies of the report.

CHBC-TV:

A proposal to the Water Board for raising public awareness of water conservation by use of spot advertisements of T.V. was received.

Director Tribes advised that it was his experience that such public service campaigns on local media were of limited value and that water conservation was most likely to be achieved by a direct cost to the consumer.

Director Shewfelt wondered if we might incorporate public education regarding phosphorus with the conservation issue.

Alternate Director Lamont stated that Board should explore the possibility of a corporate sponsor for this initiative and not use Water Board funds.

Director Hornby agreed and added that individual utilities should be responsible for their own advertising to promote conservation.

Moved by Alternate Director Lamont, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the Water Board investigate the possibilities for corporate sponsorship of a media water conservation and phosphate reduction education campaign, with no direct cost to the Board."

CARRIED.

Alternate Director Field opposed to the Board refusal to spend its funds. (not to the initiative)

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:

A copy of a request to Municipal Affairs from the Regional District, that under new planning grant programs, the Water Board be allocated \$150,000 to deal with growth planning issues in the valley was received.

Alternate Director Field told the Board that he had initiated this motion at the Regional District. He said that \$500,000 was available in the grants and Vancouver and Victoria have already accessed over \$300,000.

Moved by Alternate Director Field and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen request to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for \$150,000 in funds for growth management planning in the Okanagan, be followed up with a letter of support from the Water Board."

CARRIED.

Association of B.C. Irrigation Districts:

Correspondence relating to the RDCO letter concerning water supply study was received. The Association of B.C. Irrigation Districts supports the request made by the Economic Development Commission for a watershed supply study offered the assistance of their Board.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the correspondence described above be received and filed"

CARRIED.

Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants:

Grant Applications - None

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Discussion of July 15th Meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment:

The results of discussions held with Dr. O'Riordan and his staff on July 15th were reviewed.

Director Shields commented on the airshed management issue stating that the current structure of the Water Board is not set up to take on this work.

Chairman Simpson observed that our letters patent would have to be changed and the approval of each Regional District given to expand our mandate.

Moved by Director Tribes and seconded by Director Shields:

"That a letter be sent to each of the three valley Regional Districts informing them that discussions were taking place at the Water Board concerning the Airshed Management issue and with the approval of the Regional Districts, the Board will continue to define its role."

CARRIED.

Alternate Director Field added that he would like to ensure that local planners have adequate opportunity for input into water management and environmental protection legislation before the final documents are drafted. He cited a recent case at the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen where the time allocated for comments was far too brief.

Master Liquid Waste Plan - Results of June 25th Open Houses

Mr. Armour informed the Board that a copy of a lengthy letter to Reid Crowther & Partners from Phil Epp had been received just prior to the Water Board meeting.

Mr. Dick Nickel and Mr. Ron Townson of the O.K. Water Quality Control Project were present and indicated that most of the letter dealt with minor errors in the first interim report, but that the main problem area continued to be the prioritization criteria. Mr. Epp had made a suggestion to the consultant in his letter.

The Board agreed to review the correspondence and noted that details would be discussed with the consultant at the next steering committee scheduled for August 20th.

Director Tribes informed the Board that the City of Vernon had concerns over serious omissions in the first report and these had been reported to the consultant and to the M.O.E.

Ministry of Environment:

The report on phosphorus content of laundry and dishwasher detergents had already been dealt with earlier in the agenda.

OTHER MATTERS:

Next Water Board Meeting:

The next regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be held in Kelowna, on October 6th.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER



OSOYOOS LAKE WATER QUALITY GROUP



To: The Okanagan Basin Water Board,
9848 Aberdeen Rd.,
Vernon, B.C.

c/o P.O.Box 251
Osoyoos, B.C.
VOH 1V0

June 12th 1992

Dear Sirs and Madam,

RE: Milfoil Harvesting (Lake Osoyoos)

We understand that the original budget for milfoil removal from our Lake has been effected by a cutback in Provincial Government funding.

Our Group wishes to express its concern and disappointment over this predicted cutback. It seems foolish to have spent so much money on a program that seems to have been effective, only to lose considerable ground by a financial cutback, that in the long run will cause more problems to our Lake and even more funds to catch up.

The clarity and quality of our Lake is of considerable importance, not only to our Group and the Citizens of the Osoyoos area but to all the tourists that are so important to the financial well being of our Town.

We ask that you look seriously at the proposed cut backs to see that there is not some other way that the program could be continued.

Thank you for your considerations of our request.

Yours truly,

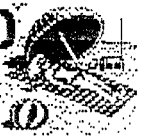
Lionel Dallas
(Editorial Committee)

cc Town of Osoyoos

For info call 495-6196



OSOYOOS LAKE WATER QUALITY GROUP



To: The Directors

THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

Vernon, B.C.

June 16th 1992

Thank you for the opportunity to make a presentation this morning about the Okanagan Basin Wastewater Management Plan.

First, I will identify the public interest groups I am representing, then introduce myself, then speak about the OKANAGAN WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN STUDY and finally make formal requests.

Lionel Dallas and I, are members of the OSOYOOS LAKE WATER QUALITY GROUP. This Group is made up of residents from the Osoyoos area who are concerned about the deterioration of water quality in Osoyoos Lake.

In 1991, with funds raised from concerned Citizens, Okanagan College was hired to carry out water quality studies of the Lake. The results and recommendations of this study was presented at a public meeting in the Legion Hall in Osoyoos on February 27th 1992 with over 150 people in attendance.

The first sentence in the Summary of the Report explains the findings in a "nutshell": "Osoyoos Lake sits like a nutrient cocktail with an abundance of phosphates and nitrates".

These nutrients, of course, support the milfoil and alga growth that causes deterioration of the water clarity and impacts negatively on tourism. The Study advised that 2/3rds of the phosphates and nitrates come from communities upstream of Osoyoos via the Okanagan River. It is noted that high fecal coliform counts were detected at several locations in the Lake.

A second Public meeting was held at the Town Hall on March 5th 1992 to form working committees to encourage implementation of the "Report's" recommendations. Fourteen committees were formed that focused on conditions in or immediately near Osoyoos Lake. the fifteenth committee, which I was to chair, is directed towards the Okanagan Basin. Our objective is to enhance and preserve the water quality of Osoyoos Lake so that its beaches will always be safe for children to play. We believe this objective can be accomplished by supporting the initiatives of Governmental Organizations such as your Board and the Ministry of Environment, that are directed toward reduction or elimination of pollutants entering Okanagan lakes.

For Info call 495-6196



OSOYOOS LAKE WATER QUALITY GROUP



I accepted the "Chair" of the 15th committee because of my experience with the Greater Vancouver Regional District, particularly in the preparation of wastewater and solid waste management plans. In 1989 I retired from the position of Chief Engineer and Manager of Operations after 33 years of service.

Lionel Dallas and I attended a meeting of Okanagan environmental groups on May 30th 1992, that was chaired by Lloyd Manchester of Canadian Earthcare Society. I was asked by those in attendance to speak to you this morning.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board is to be commended for undertaking the preparation of the Master Wastewater Management Plan. The report will be one of the most significant documents ever prepared for the Okanagan Valley, if its recommendations can be implemented in a timely manner.

We note that this "Master Plan" has 5 primary objectives:

#1 to prepare one Master Plan from 16 independent wastewater plans.

#2 to prioritize the projects to be undertaken over the next 20 years.

#3 to propose land use planning and management measures to minimize capital costs.

#4 to prepare financial strategies that will make the costs tolerable to local and the Provincial Government.

#5 to recommend an organization to implement the Master Plan.

Your Consultants in Kelowna, Reid Crowther and Partners prepare a good report. However, libraries are full of good reports. I know from years of experience that community support is an essential ingredient of all successful projects.

We note the Study schedule as originally proposed includes 3 open houses, one each in Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton. to explain the "Master Plan" proposals to the public and solicit their responses. We request that a fourth open house be held in Oliver for the benefit of the Osoyoos/Oliver Communities.

For Info call 495-6196



OSOYOOS LAKE WATER QUALITY GROUP



These "public open houses" are scheduled about one month before the Final Report goes to the printers. We believe that Public knowledge of the Study prior to the "open house" would increase public support for implementation of the Report's final recommendations. Our Osoyoos Committee working together with environmental groups throughout the Valley could carry out this task.

Specifically, we would assemble pertinent information of each stage of the "Study's" progress and get it out to the public in the following manner:

#1 releases to the media and environmental groups

#2 talks to local councils and service clubs

To accomplish this task we would need to work closely with your Board and the Ministry of Environment. We have received the support of the Ministry by letter dated March 30th 1992, a copy of which is attached.

We request an invitation to attend the "Steering Committee meetings" and "workshops" that are included in the project schedule. We assure you that your Board's instruction on timing for the release of specific information would be respected.

We look forward to working with you on this very significant project.

Art Purdon,
Chairperson
Committee #15
Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Group

For Info call 495-6196



Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of
Environment

Suite 201
3547 Skaha Lake Road
Penticton
British Columbia
V2A 7K2
Telephone: (604) 493-8261

March 30, 1992

File(s): 51.4510

Mr. Art Furdon
893, C09, RR1
Osoyoos, B.C.
VOH 1V0

Dear Mr. Furdon:

Re: Master Wastewater Management Plan - Okanagan Basin

Thankyou to Mr. Dallas and yourself for meeting with Mr. Nickel and myself on March 25, 1992 regarding public involvement on the Okanagan Basin Wastewater Management Plan. I'm sure the discussion was mutually beneficial and I look forward to continued involvement on your part.

As promised, enclosed is a copy of the proposal submitted by Reid Crowther. I have left out the resumes from Appendix A. It seemed like a lot of extra copying which I did not think of particular use to you. Please let me know if you need them and I will also have them copied.

Thankyou again for your interest and involvement to date. I look forward to hearing from you again soon.

Yours truly,

P.F. Epp, P.Ag.
Project Leader
Okanagan Water Quality
Control Project

FILE COPY



OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

9848 ABERDEEN ROAD

VERNON, B.C. V1B 2K9

PHONE 545-5368

FAX 545-1445

August 26, 1992

Dr. D.A. Kasianchuk
Executive Director
Water Management Division
Ministry of Environment
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4

Dear Sir:

Attached is a workplan for aquatic weed control activities to be undertaken in Fiscal Year 1993-94. Also enclosed is our budget request for the same fiscal year.

The Water Board is submitting a provisional budget which follows the recommendations of the Ference Weicker Report to Treasury Board. Those recommendations are summarized as follows:

- 1) To continue with the 75/25% cost share formula.
- 2) To place increased emphasis on the derooting portion of our joint program; specifically by acquiring an additional piece of derooting equipment at a cost of \$300,000 and adding \$50,000 in operational costs.
- 3) To reduce the extent of the summer harvesting program down to a budgeted level of \$67,500.

The Water Board has been informed by staff of your division that direct contribution to the biological control research program is not required at this time, but we would like to encourage the continuation of this effort. The Board has asked for an update on progress of this project at its next meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of the provisional budget request and work schedule.

Yours truly,

P. Mackiewich
Administrator

cc: M.D. Maxnuk, Water Quality Branch, Vernon

MEMORANDUM: WORK PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR
1993/94 AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

FROM: GREG ARMOUR

TO: OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

DATE: AUGUST 26TH, 1992



This work plan covers the period April 1st, 1993 to March 31st, 1994, and outlines the activities for aquatic plant control proposed by the Water Board in the attached provisional budget. The outline assumes receipt of funds for acquisition of new derooting equipment and a corresponding increase in the operating allocation.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1) Improve and expand the control of nuisance aquatic plant growth by derooting:

As recommended in the Ference Weicker Report, prepared for Treasury Board, it is proposed to expand derooting capabilities by acquisition of another machine. (Approximate Cost \$300,000)

Additional operating funds are requested in the amount of \$50,000.

Continue operation of rototillers during the periods of April and May, and October through March. (Includes Roto #2, MRV Okanagan, and part use of Roto #1)

Increase the area treated to approximately eighty hectares (40% increase)

Continue operation of the amphibious DUKW for rapid control of reinfestation in previously derooted sites.

2) Reduce summer harvesting of aquatic plant growth:

Cosmetically treat sites that are not derooted or that require clean-up following derooting.

Reduce the number of harvesters operated in the summer to three or two, depending upon the success of derooting.

The funding request for harvesting has dropped to \$67,500, but no net savings will result as the amount of derooting will increase to compensate for the reduction in summer harvesting.

3) Continue Kalamalka Lake intensive control work:

Maintain the weed infestation in Kalamalka Lake at a low level by combined use of derooting methods and application of bottom barriers at specific sites.

An intensive control program is not proposed at this time, however, a comprehensive survey of the lake should occur to determine if an intensive control program is required for the 1994/95 season.

4) Swaiwell Lake:

The control of Eurasian watermilfoil in this upper elevation lake remains a priority of the Water Board.

We propose to assess the effectiveness of 1992 control and implement control measures as required. (Unless assessment reveals expansion of E. w. milfoil growth beyond level which can be controlled by bottom barriers and hand removal)

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

Administration and Aquatic Weed Control

PROVISIONAL BUDGET (April 1/93 to March 31/94)

	<u>1991/92</u> <u>ANNUAL</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>1993/94</u> <u>PROVISIONAL</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<u>REVENUE:</u>		
Province of B. C. (75% Grant)	\$265,000	\$564,908
R.D.C.O. Requisition	111,371	114,566
R.D.O.S. Requisition	47,980	52,076
R.D.N.O. Requisition	38,995	41,660
Transfer from Equip. Reserve	(71,285)	
Previous Year's Surplus (Deficit)		
TOTAL REVENUE:	<u>\$392,061</u>	<u>\$773,210</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>		
Harvesting Operations		
Harvester Operator Wages	\$ 38,791	30,000
Driver's Wages	10,943	8,500
Equipment Transport	4,453	2,500
Pickup Truck Rentals	4,016	3,000
Pickup Operation and Maintenance	5,143	4,000
Travel expenses	1,051	2,500
Crane Rental	2,247	2,000
Fuel and Lubricants (Harvesters)	2,274	2,000
Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies	11,547	10,000
Contract Weed Disposal		2,000
Water Intake Repairs	159	1,000
Harvesting Subtotal:	<u>81,126</u>	<u>67,500</u>
Winter Derooting		
Operator Wages and Contract Work	58,935	104,000
Driver's Wages	12,110	12,500
Contract Derooting	27,891	nil
Equipment Transport	6,816	12,000
Pickup Truck Rental	1,953	8,000
Pickup Operations and Maintenance	6,281	10,500
Travel Expenses	958	2,000
Crane Rental	874	3,000
Fuel and Lubricants	14,657	20,000
Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies	45,575	62,000
Derooting Subtotal:	<u>176,051</u>	<u>234,000</u>

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

Administration and Aquatic Weed Control

PROVISIONAL BUDGET (April 1/93 to March 31/94)

	<u>1991/92</u> <u>ANNUAL</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>1993/94</u> <u>PROVISIONAL</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES (Continued)</u>		
Special Projects		
Wages	\$ 8,603	\$10,000
Dive Pay	6,120	7,000
Pickup Rental and Operation	623	1,000
Fuel and Lubricants	200	1,000
Materials and Supplies	4,545	10,000
Equipment Improvements		nil
Proposed New Equipment		300,000
Biological Control Program		nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Special Projects Subtotal	<u>20,091</u>	<u>329,000</u>
Administration		
Field Supervisor's Salary	43,352	45,050
Payroll Benefits (All Staff)	21,704	32,500
Insurance	473	14,000
Yard Rental and Utilities	13,013	13,760
Office Costs	4,000	4,000
Accounting and Payroll	8,910	10,400
Interest Charges	<u>3,340</u>	<u>3,000</u>
Administration Subtotal	<u>94,792</u>	<u>122,710</u>
Total Operating Costs	<u>\$372,061</u>	<u>\$753,210</u>
Administration (Non-Shareable)	20,000	20,000
Transfer to Equipment Reserve		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$392,061</u>	<u>\$773,210</u>

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON OCTOBER 6TH, 1992, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Vice Chairman A. Hill	N.O.R.D.
	Director K. Tribes	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Alternate Director P. Field	O.S.R.D.
	Director G. Paynter	C.O.R.D.

ALSO PRESENT: P. Epp Ministry of Environment

STAFF: P. Mackiewich Administrator
G. Armour Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Tribes, seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on August 4th, 1992, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Mr. Armour noted that Alternate Directors attending meetings as observers were not permitted to move, second or vote on motions.

On a second item concerning the herbicide "Aquacide", Mr. Armour informed the Board that he had confirmed that the chemical was 2,4-D based and not registered for use in Canada.

DELEGATIONS:

B.C. Environmental Network:

Mr. Denis Seymour, representing a coalition of environmental interest groups known as the B.C. Environmental Network, made a presentation to the Water Board.

Mr. Seymour informed the Board that the B.C. Environmental Network had allowed establishment of an Okanagan Regional Council comprised of some thirty-five special interest groups. An initial project of the group will be to promote the use of phosphate free detergents in the valley.

A press release and letter from the Okanagan Regional Council are attached.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

Budget for Fiscal Year 1992-93:

The Field Supervisor outlined a revised budget for aquatic weed control for fiscal year 1992-93, (attached) reflecting the reduction in Provincial funding from \$300,000 to \$230,000.

To date the Board has spent budget funds as follows: Period April 1st to Sept. 15th

	\$ Spent	\$ Budgeted
Harvesting:	\$50,184.00	(\$52,500)
Derooting:	\$89,810.96	(\$153,000)
Special Projects:		
Beaver Lake	\$29,175.65	(\$20,000)
Kalamalka Lake		
Administration:	\$64,971	(\$104,500)
TOTAL:	\$234,142	(\$330,000)

The Field Supervisor outlined work done for other agencies on 100% reimbursable basis:

Nicola Lake weed control (3 one week blocks/crew of three or four)
 Champion Lake Weed Control (one week/crew of two)
 Harvester operation at Shuswap Lake (two weeks/ one man)
 Paul Lake Provincial Park weed control (one week/crew of two)

Mr. Armour reported that cutbacks in harvesting this summer have resulted in savings of about \$40,000. Machine preparation had already occurred at the time of the Workers Compensation shutdown. One harvester plus the amphibious DUKW were operated for the summer season.

The present budget situation is that we will face approximately 6 weeks of shutdown to save about \$30,000 to make up the total Provincial shortfall in funding of \$70,000. This shutdown would be in addition to the usual mid-December to end of January winter shutdown. Mr. Armour advised that the least damaging time to shutdown derooting would be this fall as spring work is generally more effective.

The Administrator informed the Board that conversations with Assistant Deputy Minister Jon O'Riordan at the UBCM may have some bearing on the funding available as his understanding is that additional funds will be made available to continue the derooting program at full level.

Moved by Director Paynter, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That a letter be sent to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment detailing what the Water Board proposes to do for the remainder of the fiscal year and the amount of additional funds needed to carry out this program."

CARRIED.

Derooting Schedule:

Mr. Armour reported that fall derooting would normally commence in mid-October, but with the shortfall in funding he would recommend waiting for confirmation of additional funds from the Assistant Deputy Minister before starting work.

Status of Equipment Stability:

Mr. Armour reported that auxiliary pontoons or sponsons had been added to one of the Aquamarine harvesters and tested during work done for Parks Branch at Paul Lake in Kamloops. The sponsons did not adversely affect the handling or speed of operation and

did add to the freeboard of the vessel. This addition was paid for by the Ministry of Environment, but if sponsons are added to other harvesters, the funds would come out of the cost shared program.

The Field Supervisor also reported that stability analyses had been conducted on the rototilling equipment at the instruction of the Ministry. While these machines had not been officially shutdown, the Ministry felt it advisable to do the work. The cost of the engineering would be shareable, but the Ministry had allocated extra money for the project. Mr. Armour informed the Board that the engineer had given preliminary assurance that the MRV and the red rototiller met stability criteria. The data on the blue machine had yet to be evaluated.

CORRESPONDENCE: (AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL)

J. Tyabji, M.L.A., Okanagan East: Copy of a letter to the Minister of Environment stating the M.L.A.'s opposed to reduction in aquatic weed control funds.

The letter was received by the Board for information.

Honourable John Cashore, Minister of Environment: A reply from the Minister concerning funding for F.Y.1992-93 was received for information.

Honourable John Cashore, Minister of Environment: A copy of a reply to RDOS regarding weed control program funding was received for information.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen: Information was received concerning weed control equipment from Aqua Research and Development:

The Field Supervisor advised the Board that this was the same equipment which had been contracted for work at Kalamalka Lake two seasons ago, and not found to be as productive or effective as our own derooting machinery.

Moved by Alternate Director Field and seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the information be received and filed."

CARRIED.

Dr. D. A. Kasianchuk: A letter was received stating that it was unlikely that the Provincial contribution to the Aquatic Weed Control budget for Fiscal Year 1993-94 would exceed \$200,000.

Moved by Director Paynter, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That a letter be sent to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment seeking clarification of funding levels for next year in view of Dr. O'Riordan's comments at the UBCM convention."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE: (OTHER BUSINESS)

Honourable Robin Blencoe, Minister of Municipal Affairs: A reply to a Water Board letter regarding funding available to small communities for sewage collection and treatment was received.

The Administrator reviewed the history of Provincial financial involvement in liquid waste management for the Board.

Moved by Alternate Director Field and seconded By Director Tribes:

"That the Minister of Environment be asked to clarify current policies for levels of liquid waste management funding."

CARRIED.

Fact sheet on "Zebra Mussels": An information sheet produced by the Manitoba government was received for information by the Board.

The Field Supervisor summarized information contained in this report and indicated that he would keep the Board advised on the status of this new problem.

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen: A letter was received indicating that the Regional District will pursue with the other Regional Districts, the issue of funding of preparation of liquid waste management plans through the Water Board Sewage facilities Assistance Grants.

The Administrator reported that the North Okanagan Regional District Board had dealt with this request and the response was negative.

Alternate Director Field voiced his concern over the lack of support for this issue and stated that many small communities which have contributed to the fund since its inception have not drawn any money out. He advised the Board to urge the Regional Districts to consider the matter on a valley wide basis.

Mr. Mackiewich reported that Regional Districts have feasibility reserve funds to pay for such studies and he also advised that the three regional district Chairman had agreed to meet to discuss this and other issues including regional planning and airshed management.

Move by Alternate Director Field, seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the letter be received."

CARRIED.

Honourable John Cashore, Minister of Environment: A reply to a Water Board letter expressing concern over the export of groundwater from the BX-Tillicum area was received.

The Administrator informed the Board that one of the companies "mining" and exporting water in the area was using a well which was uncapped and free flowing when trucks were not being filled. Management at Silver Star Mountain Resort had expressed concern about possible depletion of their water supply.

Moved by Director Tribes, seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the company utilizing this well be contacted and urged to cap the well in question in the BX-Tillicum area."

CARRIED.

Mr. T. Neilsen, President, Westside Cays Residents Association: Correspondence was received from the Westside Cays Residents requesting weed control this fall using a combination of a harvester and rototiller.

Mr. Armour reported that in telephone discussions with Mr. Neilsen, the control of weed growth in Westside Cays had been discussed. In previous seasons, the area had been

harvested on a fee for service basis. This was done at reasonable cost when the equipment was in the vicinity and no transport expenses were incurred.

Mr. Armour asked Director Paynter, a resident of the Cays to clarify the status of the area.

Director Paynter said that the land, including the waterway had been sold by the Crown to the Residents Association.

Mr. Armour commented that this placed the site as low priority for weed control compared to public use areas. It would be difficult to offer regularly schedule treatment of the weeds with any guarantee concerning timing. He also noted that the cost for moving a harvester and rototiller to the Cays to perform a special treatment would likely approach \$5,000.

It was agreed that this information would be conveyed to Mr. Neilsen by Mr. Armour.

Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants:

Grant Applications:

(a)	Grant Applications	
	i)	City of Penticton \$178,152.57
	ii)	City of Kelowna 351,481.82

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the Grants listed above be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Phosphate detergent proposals:

Mr. Armour reported that he had solicited proposals for a public education and marketing program to promote the use of phosphate free cleaning products. Only two proposals received from five organizations contacted. These were from Okanagan University College and a Kelowna firm, Creative Resource.

The Field Supervisor summarized the two proposals as follows:

College: Good product in past for minimal price (\$800 contribution to Scholarship Fund.
Lots of leg work on state of public knowledge on subject.
Follow-up on advertising etc. would be up to the Board.

Creative Resource:
Capable of producing professional products.
Expensive by comparison, although the task was made difficult by lack of specification of budget .
Allocated \$72,000 to advertising.

Director Tribes indicated that for spray irrigation disposal of sewage effluent, it would be desirable to leave the phosphate in as the material was being used as a fertilizer.

Mr. Epp answered that the program should be geared toward property owners with on-site disposal systems as both B.N.R. and spray irrigation methods of liquid waste disposal are not adversely affected by the amount of phosphate entering the treatment plant.

Alternate Director Field questioned the amount of phosphorus recycled by aquatic plant growth and wondered if the reduction which could be achieved by implementing a campaign to promote phosphate free products would be significant.

Director Tribes observed that people want information on how to be good environmental citizens. He stated that the Board should direct such information to the areas where the impact will be most beneficial.

Moved by Director Tribes, seconded by Alternate Director Field:

"That a study on the benefits of, and ways to implement an education program to promote the use of phosphate free cleaning products be undertaken by Okanagan University College and be paid for by a contribution to that institutions scholarship fund."

CARRIED.

Discussion of Meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment:

Results of meeting at the UBCM with Ministries of Environment and Municipal Affairs were outlined by the Vice Chairman and the Administrator.

The Ministry of Environment observed that the Water Board might be a useful vehicle to carry out inter-regional activities in the Okanagan. Chairman Simpson had agreed to contact the three regional districts and arrange to meet with Ministry staff in workshop format to discuss prospects of an expanded mandate for the Water Board. This would take place in late October.

Alternate Director Field stated that we need to discuss things we can work on cooperatively, such as growth management, airshed management, and transportation.

Director Tribes indicated that he felt that a good cross section of representatives would include municipal government officials as well as regional district.

Storage Yard Lease:

The Field Supervisor reported that the lease on the storage yard and building used for the aquatic weed control program equipment was up at end of August. The owner has offered a new 3 year term and has asked for an increase to \$933 per month from \$800 per month.

Mr Mackiewich commented that this represented an approximate 5% per year increase over the previous three year term.

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the lease on the storage yard with Field Investments Ltd. be renewed for a three year term at a monthly rate of \$933."

CARRIED.

Master Liquid Waste Plan:

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held August 24th were circulated with the agenda.

The Field Supervisor informed the Board that the two main points which arose from the meeting were as follows:

The prioritized list of works to be funded will not be compiled until all liquid waste plans are complete.

Secondly, the committee agreed to recommend that land disposal of effluent be given identical status with regards to phosphorus removal as tertiary treatment plants.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

PRESS RELEASE**OKANAGAN REGIONAL COUNCIL**

of the
B.C. ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

Embargo until October 6th 1992

The B.C. Environmental Network (BCEN) has given support in principal for the establishment of the OKANAGAN REGIONAL COUNCIL (ORC) of the BCEN. This body of organizations will be comprised of groups throughout the Okanagan Valley, from Salmon Arm to Osoyoos. The ORC has adopted the BCEN guidelines for formation and is working with the BCEN Caucus Development Committee to improve the communication between this "regional" body and the "issue caucuses" of the BCEN.

The ORC recognizes the environmentally sensitivity of the Okanagan Bio-Region. As such the ORC is supporting the Okanagan Basin Water Board in their desire to see phosphates banned from use in detergents that will enter into Okanagan Lake and its' accompanying chain of lakes.

Lionel Dallas, Chairman of the ORC stated:

In forming the ORC the opportunity for some 35 environmental groups in the Okanagan Valley will have a unique position in that a large number of dedicated people who are concerned with the environment will be able to come together on certain subjects and make their strong voice be heard by the Public, the Governmental agencies both local, Provincial and Federal.

Such is our first major public awareness concern involving the use of phosphates in laundry and dishwasher detergents. They currently are estimated to represent some 13.5% of ALL the phosphorus loaded into our Lake system. These detergents account for some 60% of phosphorus contained in domestic waste waters.

There are alternatives: most "phosphate free" detergents only have "trace" amounts of phosphorus and are strongly recommended for household and as many retail and commercial establishments as possible, until we can obtain a total ban on products using phosphorus by the Provincial Government. It is pointed out that elimination of phosphorus is the major cost in liquid waste plant systems.

The ORC will interchange information, technology and resources for the overall betterment of our total environment and to contribute to the successes of each group. We may well be able to project a louder voice and more uniform approach to many important issues.

Sub. by Denis Seymour

The Soc For the Preservation
of Kalamathka Lake

or Lloyd Manchester
Earth Care

512-4122

Tel: (604) 861-4788 or 495-3341 or 764-4338
Fax: (604) 868-3710 or 495-3392 or 861-8696



OKANAGAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



of the
B.C. ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

Embargo to October 6th 1992

c/o P.O.Box 1810
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 8P2

To:

Ms Sharon Simpson, chairperson and Directors
The Okanagan Basin Water Board
9848 Aberdeen Road,
Vernon, B.C. V1B 2K9

You may recall we had the opportunity to introduce the British Columbia Environmental Network to you following a presentation to you in August this year. This organization, made up of over 500 interest groups and part of a larger Canadian Environmental Network, is a made up of public interest, non-profit groups concerned with environmental integrity.

They have now allowed the first "regional" caucus to be established to be known as the Okanagan Regional Council (ORC) of the BCEN. The first general meeting will be held in Winfield on October 24th 1992. The ORC will involve some 35-40 environmental groups from Salmon Arm and the Shuswap-down to Osoyoos.

We hope to be able to use all the resources, technology and dedicated people, to come together on important issues, even though many of the groups are pursuing special interests of their own. Such an "issue" is that of trying to ban the use of phosphates in detergents, both in residential and commercial use and to educate the public in using alternative "phosphate free" products. We have an estimated 13.5% of phosphates entered into our Lake system through domestic use. There are no figures on commercial use but we learn that it is substantial.

We applaud your resolution concerning such a ban and will embark on a public awareness program ourselves following our next meeting.

It is also hoped that our new ORC will have the opportunity of working with your "Board" on other issues of mutual concern and will make ourselves available if we can help.

Yours truly,
Lionel Dallas
Lionel Dallas
Chairman

Sub by D. Seymour The Soc For
the Preservation of Kel Lake

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OKWAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

Administration and Aquatic Weed Control

PROVISIONAL BUDGET (April 1/92 to March 31/93)

	<u>1991/92</u> <u>ANNUAL</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>1992/93</u> <u>PROVISIONAL</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<u>REVENUE:</u>		
Province of B. C. (75% Grant)	\$285,000	\$230,000
R.D.C.O. Requisition	111,371	67,188
R.D.O.S. Requisition	47,980	29,136
R.D.N.O. Requisition	38,995	23,676
Transfer from Equip. Reserve		
Previous Year's Surplus (Deficit)		
TOTAL REVENUE:	<u>\$483,346</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Harvesting Operations

Harvester Operator Wages	\$ 37,500	20,000
Driver's Wages	11,000	5,500
Equipment Transport	3,000	3,000
Pickup Truck Rentals	5,000	2,000
Pickup Operation and Maintenance	6,000	3,000
Travel expenses	1,000	1,500
Crane Rental	2,000	1,000
Fuel and Lubricants (Harvesters)	4,500	1,000
Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies	19,000	14,000
Contract Weed Disposal	5,000	1,000
Water Intake Repairs	<u>1,000</u>	<u>500</u>
Harvesting Subtotal:	<u>95,000</u>	<u>52,500</u>

Winter Derooting

Operator Wages and Contract Work	78,000	78,000
Driver's Wages	10,500	8,500
Equipment Transport	7,000	8,000
Pickup Truck Rental	6,000	5,000
Pickup Operations and Maintenance	8,500	7,500
Travel Expenses	1,000	1,000
Crane Rental	3,000	3,000
Fuel and Lubricants	12,000	14,000
Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies	<u>44,000</u>	<u>28,000</u>
Derooting Subtotal:	<u>170,000</u>	<u>153,000</u>

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

NOTES OF A MEETING HELD IN THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, VICTORIA, ON DECEMBER 8, 1992 AMONG REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD, COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT, THOMPSON NICOLA REGIONAL DISTRICT, THE CULTUS LAKE PARKS BOARD AND THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, LANDS AND PARKS.

Present: The Honourable John Cashore, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks
Ms. Shannon O'Neill, M.L.A.
Mr. Jim Doyle, M.L.A.
Dr. J. O'Riordon
Dr. D. Kasianchuk
Representatives from Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Representatives from Thompson Nicola Regional District
Representatives from Cultus Lake Parks Board
Mr. P. Mackiewich, Okanagan Basin Water Board

Mr. George Abbott of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District outlined the importance of the milfoil control program and its value to tourism and the ecology.

Representatives from Thompson Nicola Regional District advised the Minister that milfoil is in its infancy in Nicola Lake and that it must be controlled so that it will not progress. It is also critical to harvest milfoil for flood plain control.

The Cultus Lake Parks Board representatives noted that their area is quite a tourist area which started with a budget for milfoil control of \$100,000, which it is now down to \$25,000.

The Honourable J. Cashore stated that the Government is trying to contain its deficit, which will be a very challenging job. He asked how the 75/25 cost-sharing formula was arrived at. He stated that clearly the benefits of the milfoil control are to the people in the region. He noted that when you stack up the milfoil control program with other programs which need funding, it will be quite a challenge to convince Treasury Board to provide additional funding.

Mr. P. Mackiewich outlined the position of the Okanagan Basin Water Board covering milfoil control, and noted that to sustain a minimal program requires a contribution of \$300,000 from Government. Currently Government has agreed to contribute not more than \$200,000 for 1993, which is insufficient to carryout the program. He emphasized the value of the control program to the tourist industry and to the ecology and noted that the Okanagan Basin had approximately \$2 Million for milfoil control at one time, which is has been whittled down to \$230,000 in 1992.

The Minister replied that he would go to Treasury with everyone's budgetary request, but he is not optimistic that funding will be approved because of the fiscal restraint program.

Dr. O'Riordon observed that the Government has a timing problem in that its fiscal year is different from that of the Regional Districts. The Government will not know until February what funding it will have to spend on milfoil control. It may be necessary to reduce cosmetic cutting.

Dr. O'Riordon offered to visit the four Regional Districts and the Cultus Lake Parks Board when it is known how much money the Ministry has for milfoil control. It is hoped that these meetings could be held during the first week of February.

Following the formal part of the meeting, a private meeting was held with Dr. O'Riordon, Dr. Kasianchuk and Mr. Peter Mackiewich to discuss the additional 1992 funding for milfoil control, which was promised during the U.B.C.M. Convention in September. The Doctors replied that it is unlikely that the promise can be delivered as a result of the severe restraints placed on the expenditures. However, they will review the Okanagan Basin Water Board's request on Friday, December 11, 1992, and would reply to the Board's letter requesting an additional \$30,000.