

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON  
JANUARY 19TH, 1993, IN THE MEETING ROOM, MAIN FIREHALL, 2255  
ENTERPRISE WAY, KELOWNA B.C., AT 1:30 P.M.**

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|                        |                             |          |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | 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 R. Shewfelt        | O.S.R.D. |
|                        | Alternate Director P. Field | O.S.R.D. |

**ALSO PRESENT:** M. Maxnuk Ministry of Environment

**STAFF:** P. Mackiewich Administrator  
G. Armour Field Supervisor

**Appointments to the Board:**

**Regional District of North Okanagan**

- Director Alan Hill
- Director Klaus Tribes
- Director John Low
- 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

**Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan:**

At 9:30 a.m., prior to the regular Water Board meeting, Reid Crowther & Partners presented information on the second interim report on the Master Wastewater Management Plan. In addition to the Board members and staff, technical representatives from individual waste management jurisdictions were present. (Total Attendance of 35) Directors Kimberley and Low were present for this workshop but not the regular meeting.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:**

The Chairman called the meeting to order, and asked the Administrator to introduce the appointed members of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1993.

**Moved** by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board proceed with election of officers for the 1993 term."

CARRIED.  
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The Administrator then called for nominations for the position of Chairman for the 1993 term.

Director Shewfelt nominated Director Simpson for the position and this was seconded by Director Hobson.

There being no other nominations, Director Simpson was declared re-elected Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1993.

**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 Director Shewfelt.

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

**DELEGATIONS:**

**Okanagan University College: Phosphate Free Detergent Study:**

Two students from the Okanagan University College Business Administration Program, Matt Toma and Robert Paige, presented a marketing study (attached), commissioned by the Water Board and aimed at examining ways to reduce the use of phosphate containing detergent products. Mr. Garth Maguire, Business Administration instructor was also present.

There were a number of questions to the students regarding the findings of their study and the reception by local retailers to the in-store surveys conducted.

The Chairman thanked the group for their excellent presentation and discussion ensued among the Board as to what step should be taken next.

Director Tribes questioned the success on an information pamphlet and suggested placing a sticker on product boxes in the store.

Director Paynter indicated that his experience was that retail chains did not have time to even price individual items nor would the manufacturer be likely to allow "tampering" with their packaging.

Alternate Director Field informed the Board that Naramata will become a phosphate free zone on a voluntary basis. This is possible due to the small size of the community and other measures must be considered for the rest of the valley.

Director Hobson stated that the Board should ask distributors of the detergent products for funding as they are creating the problem.

Director Hill observed that we must have a well designed public information approach and decide which medium will have the most significant impact.

The Board asked the Field Supervisor to clarify, for the next meeting, the impact of phosphates; is it the septic tank users we wish to target or is there an adverse impact on treatment plants as well. The Board will then decide upon a course of action and a budget.

**MINUTES:**

Moved by Director Hill, seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on October 6th, 1992, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**

**Status of F.Y. 1992-93 Budget and Funding for fiscal year 1993-94:**

The Administrator reviewed a meeting he had attended on December 8th, 1992 in Victoria between the Minister of Environment and his staff and members from various aquatic weed control jurisdictions. (summary attached)

He stated that the Province will likely not be able to provide additional operating funds in the amount of \$30,000 which had been promised at the UBCM Convention. He also observed that the Minister was nor optimistic about maintaining adequate funding levels for fiscal year 1993-94.

Mr. Maxnuk indicated to the Board that while funding had by no means been set for the coming year, discussions were based on the following Ministry priorities:

- 1st - Public Information Programs
- 2nd - Control programs which prevent the spread of aquatic weed to other water systems
- 3rd - Local maintenance programs

The Okanagan program would fall into the lowest priority category with the possible exception of Swalwell (Beaver) Lake control work.

Mr. Maxnuk also indicated that budget discussions within his Branch included various scenarios for aquatic weed program funding depending on the severity of Ministry cutbacks. The funding level for the Okanagan could range from \$200,000 down to zero.

Director Shewfelt left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Armour circulated a table of budget information (attached) and explained that the total cost of aquatic weed control could range from full funding of just under \$400,000 to \$267,000. Below that level he felt that all top priority areas in the valley could not be treated and we would have a program that was ineffective and just for show purposes. In view of the gains made in recent years and the general public acceptance of the work, it did not seem sensible to reduce the control effort substantially.

The Field Supervisor reported that there was about \$30,000 remaining in the 1992-93 budget to run until the end of March. Last season with full operation in the months of February and March we spent \$60,000 in that period. He observed that operations could be slowed by the ice accumulation on the lakes this year.

Mr. Mackiewich informed the Board that it was empowered to raise up to one quarter of one mill (\$.036 per \$1000 assessment) for aquatic weed control and that this would generate sufficient money for the full program. It would however, be necessary to requisition the money from the regional districts before the end of February as the regional districts must adopt their budgets by March 31st.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the Board send a letter to the Minister of Environment stating our concerns about lack of funding for aquatic weed control and reminding the Minister of current commitments to this program."  
CARRIED.

The Chairman indicated that the next meeting of the Board would have to be prior to the end of February to consider the reply from the Minister and subsequent course of action. The Board agreed to meet on February 23rd at 9:00 a.m. in Penticton.

**Stability Analysis of Weed Control Equipment:**

The Field Supervisor reported that all harvester and rototilling equipment had undergone engineering analysis for stability. Rototiller #2 required addition of floatation to the stern of the barge. This was done and the cost of all engineering and fabrication work was approximately \$8,000. The Ministry of Environment also incurred costs of engineering work on the harvesters as a result of the Mill Lake capsizes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Mr. G.M. Abbott, Chairman, Columbia Shuswap Regional District:**

A letter proposing a meeting with the Minister of Environment and all aquatic weed control participating agencies to lobby together for adequate Provincial funding was received. The Administrator indicated that he had attended this meeting and the results had been discussed.

**Mr. Pieter Bekker, Ministry of Tourism:**

A reply to the Water Board letter about reduced funding from Ministry of Environment for Weed Control was received. The Board felt that in view of the present situation with aquatic weed control funding another letter should be sent.

**Honourable John Cashore, Minister of Environment:**

A copy of a reply to a Winfield resident regarding weed control in Duck Lake was received by the Board.

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:**

A letter acknowledging receipt of the 1993 Provisional Budget for Aquatic Weed Control was received.

**Honourable John Cashore, Minister of Environment:**

A letter from the Minister of Environment indicating that level of funding for future aquatic weed control is uncertain was received.

The Administrator noted that this subject had been dealt with in the budget discussions.

**Regional District of Central Okanagan:**

The Regional District of Central Okanagan requested aquatic weed control in front of a new park on Wood Lake.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the Board send a letter to the Minister of Environment stating our concerns about lack of funding for aquatic weed control and reminding the Minister of current commitments to this program."

CARRIED.

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**Regional District of Central Okanagan:**

The Regional District of Central Okanagan requested aquatic weed control in front of a new park on Wood Lake.

The Field Supervisor indicated that he had contacted the Parks Superintendent and the area would be added to our schedule.

Mr. Maxnuk left the meeting at 3:30

**Okanagan Regional Council, B.C. Environmental Network:**

Correspondence relating to phosphate detergents and offering to work with the Water Board on the phosphate free project was received.

The Field Supervisor indicated that he had been in contact with Mr. L. Dallas representing the Environmental Network on this topic, and another representative, Mr. A. Purdon, had attended the earlier presentation on the subject.

**T. Wood, Administrator, City of Penticton:**

A copy of the Environmental Strategy for the City of Penticton was received.

Director Hobson expressed interest in reviewing the document and Mr. Armour was asked to provide it.

**B.C. Environmental Network:**

A copy of a letter to L. MacWilliam, M.P. regarding limitation of phosphate in detergents was received by the Board.

**Robin Blencoe, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Housing:**

A reply to the Water Board request for clarification of Provincial funding levels for liquid waste treatment projects was received.

Mr. Andrew MacTaggart of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs was present and dealt with the contents of the Ministry explanation.

**Okanagan Lake Water Quality Society:**

The Board received a letter and report prepared by the Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Society and Okanagan University College detailing nutrient levels in Osoyoos Lake and noting some high faecal coliform counts.

The Field Supervisor commented on the coliform counts and the Board instructed him to contact the Ministry of Health.

**SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:**

**Sewage Facilities Assistance Levy for 1993:**

The Administrator outlined the amount of the Sewage Facilities Assistance levy necessary for 1993. He reported that a levy of \$.17 per \$1000 assessment would generate enough revenue to cover all projected expenditures for 1993 to the full 24% level. The Board can levy a maximum of \$.21 which, due to increased assessments, would represent a 43% tax increase. A levy of \$.17 represents a tax increase of approximately 15% .

Moved by Director Tribes, seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the Sewage Facilities Assistance levy for 1993 be set at \$.17 per \$1000 assessment."

CARRIED.  
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**Grant Applications**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| City of Armstrong: | \$32,184.19 |
| RDOS               | 22,003.04   |
| City of Kelowna    | 411,131.95  |

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Alternate Director Field:

"That the Grant Application be approved for payment."

**New Projects:**

Information on two new projects was received by the Water Board:

**City of Armstrong:** The expenditure of \$5.5 million under Armstrong's liquid waste management plan has been approved by the Province. The annual cost to the OBWB will be approximately \$137,000.

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:** The Osoyoos Lake Fringe Sanitary Sewer Project Engineering proposal was received for information. The proposal calls for sewerage of the northwest, southwest, and southeast sectors of Osoyoos Lake fringe at a cost of \$7.3 million.

**NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Nomination of O.K. Water Quality Control Project for Environmental Award:**

Chairman Simpson explained to the Board that she felt the O.K. Water Quality Control Project deserved recognition for their contribution to the preservation of the environment of the lakes of the Okanagan. She asked if the Board would support nomination of the group for an award under the federal green Plan.

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Alternate Director Field:

"That the Okanagan Water Quality Control Project be nominated by the Okanagan Basin Water Board, for a Federal Government environmental award."

CARRIED.

The Chairman offered to obtain the necessary paperwork.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.




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CHAIRMAN




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SECRETARY-TREASURER




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CHAIRMAN




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SECRETARY-TREASURER

## AQUATIC WEED CONTROL PROVISIONAL BUDGET (APRIL 1993 TO MARCH 1994)

| Expenditure                       | Full Operation (\$)                                   | Minimum \$ for Useful Program                        | 1992-93 to Date (Budgeted)                       | 1991/92 Actual Costs (\$)                               |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Harvesting                        | 67,500<br>(2 machines)<br>3rd prepared<br>limited use | 40,000<br>(1 machine)<br>2nd prepared<br>limited use | 49,991<br>(52,500)                               | 81,126  |
| Derooting                         | 183,500<br>16 machine months                          | 121,500<br>10 machine months                         | 130,300<br>(153,000)                             | 176,051   |
| Special Projects<br>(Beaver Lake) | 29,000<br>6 weeks diver<br>control work               | nil<br>no intensive control<br>work                  | 30,052<br>(20,500)                               | 20,091  |
| Administration                    | 110,200   | 105,200  | 87,211<br>(104,500)                              | 94,792  |
|                                   |   |  |  |   |
| <b>Total Cost</b>                 | 390,200   | 266,700  | 296,554<br>(330,000)                             | 372,061   |
| Provincial Share                  | 292,650<br>(75%/25)                                   | 200,000<br>(75%/25)                                  | (230,000)<br>Reduced from<br>\$285,000 requested | 265,000<br>\$20,000 cutback<br>for evaluation<br>report |
| OBWB Share                        | 97,550  | 66,700   | (100,000)  | 107,061   |

### NOTES:

There has been no confirmation from the Province of what their level of contribution to aquatic weed control is likely to be in 1993-94. Indications are that the amount will be substantially reduced from that allocated in 1992-93 (\$230,000.) (Letter from Dr. D.A. Kasianchuk stating that amount will be no greater than \$200,000.) There is a possibility that the amount will be zero as the Ministry has ranked "cosmetic" weed control as low priority. The Water Board may wish to consider raising the necessary funds locally to sustain a reasonable level of aquatic weed control. Present Supplementary Letters Patent allow the Board to raise up to 0.25 mils for aquatic weed control which would generate between \$330,000 and \$400,000 annually, depending upon the assessments. The cost per household, of raising funds for a full control program would be about \$5 or \$6 annually.

The minimum dollars needed to run any sort of effective control program is around \$260,000. This allows a minimal harvesting clean-up in the summer and derooting by rototilling or other means of most major beach sites. All high priority sites cannot be treated under a program with less funding and we begin to trade off one tourist site against another. The \$390,000 program allows the Water Board to continue to utilize the equipment fully and provide what has been a publicly acceptable level of service.

The aquatic weed control program can be compared with any sort of recreational facilities maintenance. The monies allocated determine the level of service and the Water Board can then direct activities in the most productive manner.



OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON  
FEBRUARY 3RD, 1993, IN THE BOARDROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH  
OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.

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|                        |                               |          |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | Director S. Simpson           | C.O.R.D. |
|                        | Director G. Paynter           | C.O.R.D. |
|                        | Director A. Hill              | N.O.R.D. |
|                        | Alternate Director J. Yardley | N.O.R.D. |
|                        | Director J. Low               | N.O.R.D. |
|                        | Director R. Shewfelt          | O.S.R.D. |
|                        | Director T. Shields           | O.S.R.D. |
|                        | Director J. Kimberley         | O.S.R.D. |

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. J. O’Riordan, Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment  
J. Azar, Acting Director, Water Quality Branch  
Dr. P.R. Newroth, Ministry of Environment  
M.D. Maxnuk, Ministry of Environment

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

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**

**Funding for fiscal year 1993-94:**

Dr. O’Riordan explained the financial priorities in his Ministry for fiscal year 1993-94. The Ministry is facing a ten percent cutback which equates to about \$25 million dollars. In addition the Ministry has been directed to address several new environmental initiatives such as the Protected Area Strategy. This has led to a great competition for the available dollars.

Dr. O’Riordan stated that the Ministry has a province wide responsibility for aquatic weed control and has prioritized the program as follows:

First Priority: Control of the spread of Eurasian water milfoil by public information

Second Priority: Study of the effect of milfoil on fisheries habitat

Third Priority: Control of infestations with the potential for downstream spread.

Fourth Priority: Cosmetic control

He indicated that at present there had been a total of \$250,000 allocated for all cost shared programs and with the priorities cited above the Okanagan program would likely receive no funding.

Chairman Simpson asked about the control of milfoil in upper elevation lakes of the Okanagan such as Swalwell Lake.

Dr. Newroth indicated that funding for this project could not yet be confirmed.

Mr. Mackiewich questioned the priority of Kalamalka Lake.

Dr. Newroth explained that although this lake is still in good condition with respect to the amount of weed growth, it is still an annual maintenance program.

The Chairman noted that one option open to the Board would be to shut down the program. She asked what the Ministry felt the effects of having no aquatic weed control program would be.

Dr. Newroth stated that in his opinion, the effects would not likely result in great public outcry until 1994. There would also be a more rapid spread of weeds to upper elevation lakes and to other lake systems as the amount of milfoil in the Okanagan increased.

Dr. O'Riordan observed that budgets are not yet set at the Provincial level and that he was here to have a dialogue with the Board and subsequently with other milfoil control agencies. The options appeared to be stopping the program, having a locally funded program, or continuing to cost share at the Provincial level at the expense of other programs.

Director Shewfelt commented that as Mayor of Summerland he could not accept the first two options but perhaps an interim reduction in Provincial funding might be acceptable.

Mr. Azar pointed out that with only \$250,000 allocated at present there is no possibility for a cost shared program even at reduced levels of funding.

Director Paynter indicated that there would be a heavy cost to the Province associated with not having any program.

Chairman Simpson raised the question of the pool of equipment utilized by this program and shared by others. Much of this equipment was owned outright by the Province or cost shared 75/255 with local government.

Dr. O'Riordan answered that preliminary discussions indicated that equipment could be turned over to local government.

Director Kimberley observed that the value of the Okanagan as a tourist resource was not being recognized by the Province. In addition as Mayor of Penticton, he found the idea of downloading of this responsibility to the local taxpayer to be completely unacceptable.

Discussion regarding methods to initiate a self sustaining business plan to fund the program ensued. Other sources of funds were deliberated including taxation of boat licences; the proceed of which could be put into a fund such as the sustainable environment fund to be drawn on for aquatic weed control.

The delegation from the Ministry of Environment left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

The Water Board continued the discussion of options for funding of the aquatic weed program.

Moved by Director Kimberley and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Water Board advise the Ministry of Environment that, while we endorse their priorities with respect to prevention of spread of milfoil, the only alternative acceptable for the Okanagan is to continue cost shared funding at an acceptable level in 1993-94 and cooperate to identify a long term means to sustain the program."

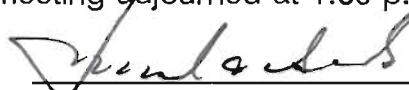
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CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

  
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CHAIRMAN

  
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SECRETARY-TREASURER

## OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON MARCH 2ND, 1993, IN THE BOARDROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B.C. AT 9:30 A.M.

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**PRESENT:**

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Director S. Simpson   | 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 J. Low       | N.O.R.D. |
| Director R. Shewfelt  | O.S.R.D. |
| Director J. Kimberley | O.S.R.D. |
| Director T. Shields   | O.S.R.D. |

**ALSO PRESENT:** M. Maxnuk Ministry of Environment

**STAFF:** G. Armour Field Supervisor

### **AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**

#### **Funding for Aquatic Weed Control for Fiscal Year 1993-94:**

Chairman Simpson informed the Board that no official response had been received from the Ministry of Environment regarding funding for the next fiscal year. The Ministry feels that a written response is premature as budgets are not yet approved.

The Chairman indicated that Assistant Deputy Minister J. O'Riordan had confirmed that the amount available from his Ministry would be around \$100,000. This would be far short of the \$292,500 requested in our provisional budget submission.

Director Shewfelt stated that we must try to get through the year with whatever the province can commit as he cannot accept downloading to local government with the expectation that the same level of service can be provided. This may mean that for a year our program is reduced in scope and provides reduced service.

Director Hill questioned whether we should indicate the prospect of reduced service to the Ministry and ask for additional dollars.

Chairman Simpson wondered if we are merely backsliding and will face a further reduction in the Provincial allocation next year. She suggested that we try to pursue additional sources of revenue over the course of the next year.

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Low:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board requisition the same amount of money from the Regional Districts as for Fiscal Year 1992-93 and cutback services according to the amount contributed by the Province."

CARRIED.

Director Tribes asked about the effects of a one year cutback in aquatic plant control efforts.

Mr. Armour explained that the plant growth had spread to most areas of the valley lake over the past twenty years and an increase in weed infested area was not likely. An increase in density of plant growth in areas not treated could be expected but a season or two of full operation could rectify this.

Mr. Maxnuk commented that perhaps the Board should consider local funding of the program in view of the severe cutbacks in the Environment Ministry.

Director Kimberley asserted that he could not accept raising local taxes with little or no notice and without the opportunity to work with the Ministry to explore ways of raising revenue by other means. Once the program is funded locally, we will not be able to go back into a cooperative effort of any sort with the Province. He also said that the amount of money in question is not large for the Province to come up with and expressed his support for the motion.

Director Paynter observed that people had been conditioned to a high level of service in weed control and would perhaps have to reduce their expectations somewhat.

Director Tribes commented that it seems obvious that the Province wishes local government to take over the aquatic weed control program and we must resist now to prevent this.

Director Shields stated that we are trying to delay the inevitable, that is that local government will have to pay. He raised the question of the feasibility of direct payment from private areas.

Director Hill remarked that the deficit situation in government is such that perhaps many program will have to suffer cutbacks.

Director Paynter asked how the Board would propose to coordinate the collection of funds from private foreshore owners as it is obvious we cannot randomly jump from site to site. He also commented that if we do not provide some sort of alternative for weed control, the private resident will take matters upon themselves using methods including herbicides.

The Chairman raised the point that if the equipment on loan to our program from the Province is not utilized here then other areas may wish to acquire it. We could not then resume operations after a season if the equipment was not available.

Director Low agreed that this is a first step toward the Province withdrawing from the aquatic weed control program. He said that he would like to see the fee for service proposal dealt with as a separate issue.

Moved by Director Low, seconded by Director Tribes:

"That the Water Board continue to perform aquatic weed control on public beach areas to the extent permitted with funds available from the Province and explore means of charging private beachfront properties on a fee for service basis for additional weed control."

CARRIED.

The Field Supervisor was directed to prepare information on the pros and cons of performing weed control on a fee for service basis for the next meeting.

Director Hill advised that the Board should make clear to the public, the areas to be treated and the timing of operations so that sites done on a fee for service basis could be coordinated with the public program.

Director Kimberley wondered if collection of funds from lakeshore property owner compromised the previous motion by indicating to the province that there was another source of revenue.

Director Hill observed that the public outcry at the additional charge would likely generate as many complaints as the reduced work and put further pressure on the Province to give the program higher priority.

Director Kimberley said that the Water Board must maintain control of the program and not allow private citizens to act on their own in an uncoordinated fashion. If this were to occur, the Board would become no more than a policing group.

Chairman Simpson summed up the wish of the Board to implement the reduced program for the upcoming fiscal year and monitor the effects of the reduction. In the meantime the Board would come up with a schedule for treatment of public beaches, and some ideas on timing and costs for use of equipment on a fee for service basis.

The Board agreed to communicate the first motion to the Ministry of Environment and to issue a press release on both motions.

Director Hill suggested a letter to the regional districts describing possible options for generating additional revenue to support the program. He mentioned water license fees, boat trailer licenses, and registration for boats over ten horsepower.

Mr. Maxnuk advised the Board that it may wish to explore with other milfoil control jurisdictions the possibilities for raising additional funds in the future.

The Chairman commented that this could be done on regional district day at the UBCM.

The next meeting was scheduled for April 13th at 9:30 A.M. at the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

  
CHAIRMAN

  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON APRIL 13TH, 1993, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN, 101 MARTIN STREET, PENTICTON, B.C., AT 9:30 A.M.**

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|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | Director S. Simpson   | C.O.R.D. |
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|                        | Director R. Shewfelt  | O.S.R.D. |
|                        | Director J. Kimberley | O.S.R.D. |
|                        | Director T. Shields   | O.S.R.D. |

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

**MINUTES:**

**Regular Meeting - January 19th, 1993**

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on January 19th, 1993, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

**Special Meeting - February 3rd, 1993**

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the minutes of a special meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on February 3rd, 1993, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

**Special Meeting - March 2nd, 1993**

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the minutes of a special meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on March 2nd, 1993, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**

**Discussion of funding for Aquatic Weed Control Program for Fiscal Year 1993-94.**

The Field Supervisor reviewed the history and accomplishments of the aquatic weed control program by means of a video and slide presentation. He emphasized that the program has resulted in improved conditions in a number of high use areas, and while a cutback in services for a short time would not result in a total reversal of gains made; there will be a significant impact on lake use, tourism, aesthetics, and flood control, if the control program were curtailed for a longer period.

Mr. Armour also informed the Board of the results of a door to door survey conducted

There was some discussion on whether the Ministers should be strongly urged to attend a meeting in the Okanagan Valley.

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Hobson:

"That, after securing a meeting in Victoria, the Okanagan Basin Water Board invite the Ministers of Environment, Tourism, and other members of Cabinet and Treasury Board to view the situation in the Okanagan Valley."

CARRIED.

The Chairman asked that information be provided as to the affect on the local taxpayer of assuming various levels of program funding.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Administrator examine the minimum staffing levels necessary to operate the aquatic weed control program, and determine the effect of the reduced 1993/94 budget on keeping the staff expertise."

CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned for lunch and reconvened at 12:45 P.M.

Director Kimberley left the meeting.

**Coroners Inquest Regarding 1992 Harvester Capsize:**

Mr. Armour reported that he had been informed by the Coroners office that he, and Mr. Field (employed as a truck driver by the Water Board) would be subpoenaed be a Coroners Inquest to be held on June 23, 1993. The insurer for the Board had advised that legal council should be sought.

The Administrator confirmed that preliminary arrangements had been made and said that a resolution of the Board permitting the retaining of council would be helpful.

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Hill:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board retain legal council to represent staff in matters pertaining to the coroners inquest scheduled for June 23rd, 1993 ."

CARRIED.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Hill:

"That the Correspondence be received and responded to in an appropriate manner."

CARRIED.

Director Shields asked that copies of replies be sent to the appropriate Board Director(s)

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT MATTERS:**

**Honourable John Cashore, Minister of Environment** - Confirmation of fiscal year 1993-94 funding reduction.

**SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:****Grant Applications (for 1992)**

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| District of Coldstream | \$89,404.88 |
| City of Kelowna        | 15,281.81   |
| RDOS                   | 15,775.90   |
| RDCO (Westbank)        | 74,554.15   |
| Oliver                 | 73,538.32   |
| Osoyoos                | 55,195.29   |
| City of Penticton      | 114,310.16  |

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Hobson:

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

CARRIED.

**NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****Phosphate Free Detergent Report -**

Mr. Armour reported that information indicated that the group to be targeted for maximum benefit through reduction in phosphate content at source would be residents on septic tank and tile field systems. The operation of BNR treatment plants and effluent irrigation systems was not likely to be effected by the amount of phosphorus in influent but by the total volume of influent reaching the plants.

Chairman Simpson reported that Mayor Kimberley had information to the contrary about Penticton's BNR plant operation. She also informed the Board that our resources to undertake a public education program were limited and would likely be in the area of \$5,000.

Director Hobson wondered if the dollars available would be enough to change consumer behaviour.

Director Hill pointed out that no matter what course of action we choose to take, the effect will be positive compared to doing nothing.

Director Shewfelt stated that Board members should take every opportunity to get "free" publicity for this effort in their dealings with the media.

**Representation of Indian Bands on Water Board:**

The Chairman reported that she had met with members of the Westbank Indian Band, who had indicated that they would only be interested in participating as full voting members on the Water Board. The Okanagan Tribal Council is no longer in existence, so we would be dealing with each Band on an individual basis.

The Administrator observed that we would have to obtain the agreement of the Regional Districts to change the Supplementary Letters Patent of the Water Board to allow this.

Director Shields inquired as to whether we were discussing one seat on the Board or one seat per Band.

Director Hobson questioned the basis of representation - would funds be requisitioned from the Indian Bands as is the case with the regional districts.



## OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON JUNE 29TH, 1993, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.**

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|                           |                               |                          |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>    | Chairperson S. Simpson        | C.O.R.D.                 |
|                           | Director G. Paynter           | C.O.R.D.                 |
|                           | Director A. Hill              | N.O.R.D.                 |
|                           | Alternate Director J. Yardley | N.O.R.D.                 |
|                           | Director J. Low               | N.O.R.D.                 |
|                           | Director R. Shewfelt          | O.S.R.D.                 |
|                           | Director T. Shields           | O.S.R.D.                 |
| <br><b><u>STAFF:</u></b>  | <br>P. Mackiewich             | <br>Administrator        |
| <br><b><u>OTHERS:</u></b> | <br>B. Retzer                 | <br>Water Quality Branch |
|                           | P. Epp                        | M.O.E.                   |

### **MINUTES:**

#### **Regular Meeting - April 13th, 1993**

Moved by Director Low, seconded by Director Paynter:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on April 13th, 1993, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

### **DELEGATIONS:**

#### **Joanne Howery - Oasis Creative Group:**

Ms. Howery outlined the contents of a proposal commissioned by local water management officials, to promote the efficient use of water by Okanagan Valley residents. (outline attached)

Director Paynter asked if using the municipalities as a source of additional funds would be fair as they already contribute to the Water Board.

The Chairman commented that there could be private funding sources as well and raised the issue of who should ask for financial support.

Director Hill wondered if it would be possible to divert existing funds from the Vernon Water Conservation Committee.

Alternate Director Yardley offered to take the proposal to the Conservation Committee.

Director Shewfelt commented that the Board needs to look at the south end of the valley as well.

Ms. Howery said that a directory of all groups who would like to become involved could be developed.

Director Low stated that the simplest way to reduce water use is through metering and asked if there could be funding and encouragement to promote the use of meters.

Director Shewfelt observed that the capital cost of the meters is the major problem.

The Chairman added that the use of meters was most easily accomplished on new construction.

Director Shields entered the meeting.

Director Paynter said that the availability of funding needs to be looked at.

Director Shewfelt suggested that Ms. Howery research the amount of funding that could be obtained from other sources and the amount which would be required from the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Ms. Howery observed that she would need an indication from the Okanagan Basin Water Board that the direction and purpose of the proposal was supported, prior to undertaking further research.

The Chairman commented that the Board could request additional proposals or pursue this initiative.

Director Paynter said that if the funds came from the Water Board, we should put the project to tender. If funds were available from other sources, he saw no problem with the Okanagan Basin Water Board being the lead agency. He also questioned the risk being taken by the Oasis Creative Group should sufficient funding not be found.

Ms. Howery said that she was prepared to take this risk if the Water Board supports the proposal and will go to the municipalities to ask for funds.

Mr. Epp remarked that the project sounded exciting and needed to capture the attention of the Valley. Public meetings for the Master Liquid Waste Plan were poorly attended.

Chairman Simpson stated that the issue is strongly related to the Regional Growth Management Strategy.

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board support the proposal outlined by the Oasis Creative Group and ask that Ms. Howery identify potential sources of funding and report back to the Okanagan Basin Water Board."

CARRIED.

Ms. Howery explained that it would be helpful if the Board formed a committee to assist with the project.

Chairman Simpson, Director Shields, and Alternate Director Yardley agreed to serve on the committee.

#### **AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**

##### **Meeting with the Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks:**

Chairman Simpson reported the results of a meeting held June 28th with herself, the Administrator, the Honourable John Cashore, Dr. J O'Riordan, and Mr. J. Azar of the Ministry. She summarized the discussion regarding the cutback of weed control funds by stating that the Ministry would not have additional funds to contribute in this fiscal year and there would be less money as time goes on. She related the Board's concern that this cutback was made with minimal warning leaving the Okanagan Basin Water Board with no alternatives for adequate funding this year.

The Minister did agree to fund the development of a business plan to explore other sources of funding. Chairman Simpson reported that she advised the minister that local government is not prepared to commit the total amount of money we can legally raise to a program that has a strong basis for cost sharing. There was discussion regarding the retaining of a consultant to prepare a business plan which could explore revenue sources such as a green tax, trailer tax, room tax, etc. Hopefully this plan could be in place by September. She expressed concern that these other sources of funding are not under our jurisdiction.

Director Hill mentioned that the Ministry was presently collecting money from lakeshore residents in the Okanagan for the licensing of docks. This amount ranged upwards from \$400 and he felt this revenue should go to the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Director Shields stated that this inactivity was frustrating. He urged the Board to apply for Federal funding in the amount of two million dollars to obtain new equipment and leave at least \$500,000 for research and development of the mechanical control technologies.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board apply for two million dollars in Federal Government funding to acquire new equipment, perform research to maximize the efficiency of existing control methods, and review the status of the water resource in the valley by updating the Okanagan Basin Study. This application should be copied to all local Members of Parliament."

CARRIED.

Chairman Simpson expressed concern that this initiative would indicate to the Province that we are prepared to take over the aquatic weed control function.

Director Hill stated that the Okanagan Basin Water Board would be assuming on-going annual operating costs and also questioned the necessity of purchasing new equipment.

Director Shewfelt asked what the Board stands to lose by pursuing this course. He indicated that this initiative would send a message to the Province that we are prepared to do whatever is necessary to get the job done.

Director Shields reiterated that something must be done at the south end of the valley as the deteriorating situation cannot be allowed to continue any longer.

Director Low asserted that the Water Board will need to obtain a source of operating funds.

The Chairman said that the business plan would hopefully generate the operating funds, but we would have to look to other sources for capital purchases.

#### **Swalwell Lake Update:**

Brian Retzer of the Vernon Water Quality Branch reported on the current status of Swalwell (Beaver) Lake. Mr. Retzer indicated to the Board, the unique situation with this lake being the only plateau lake in the Okanagan currently infested with Eurasian watermilfoil. He informed the Board that the lake has a high level of use for fishing (second only to Okanagan lake), a lot of trailered boat traffic, and a Provincial fisheries egg collection program. The Ministry of Environment places a high priority on the Swalwell Lake milfoil control effort and would like it continued as it has proven effective since starting in 1988.

Chairman Simpson reported that this situation had been a subject of discussion in the meeting with the Minister the previous day. She had advised Mr. Cashore and his staff then, that the Okanagan Basin Water Board would need to decide on allocation given to our limited funds this year and Swalwell Lake was not included in our 1993 priorities.

Mr. Retzer suggested that the alternative to the intensive diver control program in Swalwell Lake would be a maintenance program using conventional mechanical methods. These could not easily be applied in this lake due to the rocky, log strewn lake bottom. The other alternatives which the Ministry might look at to restrict spread of the plant could include such measures as closing of the public launch ramp.

Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board proceed with the program outlined in the revised 1993-94 budget which did not include funds for Swalwell Lake, and advise the Ministry that it should take whatever steps it deemed necessary to control the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil."

CARRIED.

**1993-94 Harvesting Program:**

The Administrator reported that a reduced program of harvesting would be implemented as outlined at the April meeting, with two machines being used as required.

The Chairman indicated that approximately 40% of the available funding had been spent to date.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

**CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL**

**Envocon Biological Research and Consulting:**

A proposal requesting Okanagan Basin Water Board funding to research potential insect biological control agents was received.

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That Envocon Biological Research and Consulting be advised that the Okanagan Basin Water Board does not have sufficient funds in its current budget to give favourable consideration to this proposal."

CARRIED.

**Bion Research Inc.:**

A request for support for a grant application to the B.C. Science Council to research fungal and bacterial pathogens for aquatic weed control was received, along with the reply from the Field Supervisor.

**W.D. Curwen:**

A letter supporting maintenance of funding for weed control was received for information.

**Mr. and Mrs. V.L. Love:**

A letter expressing concern that reduced weed control is unacceptable in Skaha Lake was received for information.

**CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL**

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:**

A copy of a response to the Osoyoos Chamber of Commerce and follow up correspondence to the Minister of Environment supporting need for weed control was received for information.

**Dr. J. O'Riordan:**

Copies of responses addressing concerns about reduced weed control raised by Mr. Little, Okanagan Falls; Mrs. Fourt, Osoyoos; Economic Development Commission, Penticton; Chamber of Commerce, Osoyoos; Chamber of Commerce, Kelowna; Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Society were received for information.

**CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS**

**Westbank Indian Council:**

A response to an Okanagan Basin Water Board letter concerning participation of the Westbank Indian Band on the Water Board was received.

**Regional District of Central Okanagan:**

A response to an Okanagan Basin Water Board request for approval to pursue First Nations representation on the Water Board was received.

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:**

A request for clarification concerning First Nation representation on the Water Board was received.

**Regional District of North Okanagan:**

A request for clarification concerning First Nation representation on the Water Board was received.

Some discussion took place regarding the above listed correspondence.

Chairman Simpson had discussed the prospect of representation of First Nations on the Water Board with the Westbank Indian Band. She indicated that they are concerned about the water resources of the Valley and if they participate the likely representative would be the Resource Officer for the Band, Mr. Barry McDougal.

Director Shields informed the Board that he had talked to the Osoyoos Indian Band who also advised that they would be interested.

Director Low relayed concerns expressed by the Regional District of North Okanagan about funding arrangements.

Chairman Simpson replied that the Regional District of Central Okanagan supplies sewer services to the Westbank Band and some Okanagan Basin Water Board grants may, as a result be used on Band lands. The issue is whether the Okanagan Basin Water Board would fund sewage treatment facilities on band lands. The funds are an issue but Indian Bands could participate in water management issues.

Director Low asked how the Board would mesh its responsibilities with federal, provincial and band responsibilities.

Director Shewfelt observed that our supplementary letters patent do not take in native peoples and we have no jurisdiction on band lands.

The Administrator reviewed the current status of regional district representation and taxation on indian band lands. He stated that natives and non-natives on band lands vote in their respective electoral areas and are represented the same as all other citizens. The regional districts can tax only non natives living on band lands and that only if the indian bands themselves do not enter the taxation field.

Chairman Simpson stated that she feels strongly that Water Management must be an inclusive process for all groups. Unless we "build bridges" we cannot hope to survive the next century and to this end we cannot exclude the owners of large portions of land around the lakes.

Moved by Alternate Director Yardley and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board send a follow up letter to the three regional districts to determine if, as a general philosophy, they want to include indian band representation on the Water Board; secondly, asking the regional districts to identify issues which the Water Board would try to resolve with the indian bands; and finally asking that if the regional boards agree in principle, they ask the indian bands in their areas for a representative so that one band member may be appointed from each region."

CARRIED.

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen:**

A copy of a resolution from the RDOS Board expressing interest in bidding on the administration contract for the Okanagan Basin Water Board was received.

Mr. Mackiewich reviewed the terms of the current Okanagan Basin Water Board administration contract with NORD and outlined the facilities, staff, and operation of the Board.

Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the administration contract for the Okanagan Basin Water Board remain with the Regional District of North Okanagan based on the information provided by the Administrator."

CARRIED.

**Mr. Alan Hill:**

Information from Director Hill on the Austrian ring system of sewage collection was received and discussed by the Board.

Director Hill reviewed his knowledge of the system and wondered about its application in the Okanagan.

Mr. Epp stated that the system is technically feasible and poses minimal difficulty in obtaining easements.

Chairman Simpson informed the Board that this system had been proposed for sewer extensions into Okanagan Mission in Kelowna and had met with considerable opposition.

Director Hill suggested that studies be undertaken comparing the costs and benefits of inground and submerged systems.

Moved by Director Hill and seconded by Alternate Director Yardley:

"That the Ministry of Environment be asked for information on the current use of the ring system or comparable alternatives in Canada and the feasibility of using this method as an option when preparing liquid waste management plans."

CARRIED.

**SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:**

A grant application from the City of Penticton was not included in the list of 1992 grants approved at the April 13th meeting. The grant in the amount of \$160,920.84 requires approval.

Moved by Director Paynter and seconded by Director Shewfelt:

"That the Grant Application listed above be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

**NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan:**

The status of the Plan was summarized as follows:

RDOS: written comments have been received

RDCO: Has referred the report to Kelowna and Peachland for comment

RDNO: Has also referred the report to its member municipalities for comment

Mr. Epp said that from the Ministry point of view, the report will sit on the shelf until some valley consensus is reached. If the valley wishes to work together on this he would hope the Okanagan Basin Water Board would adopt the plan and submit it to the Ministry for approval. He suggested that an implementation committee might assist in getting things moving.

Director Hill indicated that clarification of the funding available from the Province would aid in deciding which of the financial strategies to implement.

The Administrator reported that Director Kimberley had suggested that the Plan be referred to the consultant undertaking the Regional Growth Management Strategy to be incorporated into that study.

The Chairman stated that she felt the Okanagan Basin Water Board has a definite role to play in the management of liquid waste and we must adopt a position on this report, otherwise it will end up on the shelf. At this time we have only received the report and not taken a position.

Director Hill agreed that the Water Board should take a position and then go to the regional districts.

Moved by Director Paynter, seconded by Director Shields:

"That Okanagan Basin Water Board staff prepare a list of recommendations contained in the Master Liquid Waste Plan and the Board meet in workshop format on July 20th, 1993 at the Regional District of Central Okanagan at 10:00 a.m.

CARRIED.

**OTHER MATTERS:**

**Per Diem Allowance for Okanagan Basin Water Board Directors:**

Moved by Director Low and seconded by Director Hill, that Okanagan Basin Water Board follow the policies of the Regional District of North Okanagan with respect to payment of per diem allowances when on Water Board business."

CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

  
CHAIRMAN

  
SECRETARY-TREASURER



## OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON JULY 20TH, 1993, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.**

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|                        |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | Chairperson S. Simpson | 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 J. Low        | N.O.R.D.         |
|                        | Director T. Shields    | O.S.R.D.         |
|                        | Director J. Kimberley  | O.S.R.D.         |
| <br>                   |                        |                  |
| <b><u>STAFF:</u></b>   | P. Mackiewich          | Administrator    |
|                        | G. Armour              | Field Supervisor |
| <br>                   |                        |                  |
| <b><u>OTHERS:</u></b>  | R.A. Nickel            | M.O.E.           |
|                        | P. Epp                 | M.O.E.           |
|                        | L. Deuling             | N.O.R.D.         |
|                        | R. Weslake             | City of Kelowna  |

#### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the recommendations of the Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan and come to some agreement on the position of the Okanagan Basin Water Board with respect to the specifics of the plan.

#### ***Updating of Liquid Waste Plans:***

The Field Supervisor indicated that the current status of the individual liquid waste management plans was listed in the material circulated to the Board. Three areas had plans which were not complete and it would be of benefit to those areas to complete their plans in order to be on the priority list for receipt of funding.

Mr. Epp provided information that of the three incomplete plans, Spallumcheen is now complete, O.S.R.D. will soon complete theirs, and the City of Vernon update of their plan is the key to the completion of the N.O.R.D. plan.

Director Hill informed the Board that the City of Vernon Plan must cover the Greater Vernon area, under terms for funding set out by the Minister of Environment, Lands, and Parks. He also noted that the North Okanagan Regional District had requested that the Minister provide that all parties comprising the Greater Vernon Area participate in development of the plan.

**Moved by Director Hill and seconded by Director Shields:**

**"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write a letter to the Minister of Environment and the City of Vernon supporting updating of the liquid waste management plan on a regional basis and endorsing the Regional District of North Okanagan recommendation that all parties comprising the Greater Vernon area participate in the preparation of the plan."**

**CARRIED.**

Director Tribes was opposed stating that outlying areas should not receive sewer until they had paid their full share of the costs.

Director Paynter informed the Board that local governments receive substantial government and Okanagan Basin Water Board grants and as a result Westbank had chosen to help sewer outlying areas.

***Section 3: Wastewater Management Plan Updates***

Director Hill observed that the amount of phosphorus attributed to "other" sources was very high. He also wondered how much phosphorus is good in a lake system and when does it become detrimental.

Mr. Epp briefly explained that the "other" amount for phosphorus had been determined during the Okanagan Basin Study and the resources had not been available since to repeat the work. Excessive phosphorus increases productivity in a lake to a degree where negative characteristics are exhibited such as algal blooms, odours, and lack of clarity.

Mr. Weslake asserted that there should be a category specifically addressing stormwater.

Director Low questioned the relationship of plant growth and phosphorus levels and also the effects of urbanization and "upgrading" of streams on the amount of nutrient entering the lakes. He emphasized the value of wetland ecology to the system.

Mr. Nickel raised the issue of development on Indian Band lands on the Vernon and Armstrong Arms of Okanagan Lake and the lack of regulations covering such developments.

Mr. Mackiewich pointed out that the Federal Ministry of Health has jurisdiction but has taken little action saying that regulations are being met. He added that another example would be the development on the north end of Ellison Lake.

**The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed to send a letter to the Federal Ministries of Health, Environment, and Indian and Native Affairs, recommending that areas on Native Lands comply with the enhanced Provincial septic regulations for environmentally sensitive areas. The letter should go to the Indian Bands as well.**

Mr. Nickel asked Director Tribes if the City of Vernon would contemplate servicing the Sandy Beach Trailer Park.

Director Hill wondered if the Federal Government might contribute to adding areas such as this on to existing sewer systems.

The Chairman pointed out that such an agreement already exists between the Westbank Indian Band and C.O.R.D.

**The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that Valley communities need to continue to aggressively pursue the removal of phosphorus entering the lakes from septic tank sources in high transmissivity areas.**

**The Board also emphasized that the soil transmissivity maps produced by the Ministry of Environment should be used, more extensively, as a planning tool.**

Director Tribes stressed that we need water quality monitoring as an indicator of our success when upgrading systems.

Mr. Nickel told the Board that at present most monitoring stations are deep water, not shoreline.

**The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that there should be an ongoing program of water quality monitoring and that the Ministry of Environment should be requested to add shoreline sampling stations to update and confirm septic tank phosphorus data.**

#### *Section 5: Land Use Planning*

Mr. Armour advised that the most common objection voiced by municipal and regional government was whether the Okanagan Basin Water Board should be involved in land use planning. O.S.R.D. had suggested that this function be administered by the Growth Management strategy group.

Director Kimberley outlined the O.S.R.D. opposition to land use planning being part of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Mr. Mackiewich commented that at present, this group is loose knit with no formal standing or legal authority, while the Water Board is a legally constituted body. He said that perhaps altering the representation on the Board would help.

Alternate Director Eain Lamont entered the meeting.

Director Kimberley noted that there is strong opposition to the Okanagan Basin Water Board raising more money through taxes, but agreed that there was a problem and the function had to be performed by someone. He added that the Ministry of Environment has the structure in place and O.S.R.D. suggests a joint Board with local representation to administer the Plan.

Alternate Director Lamont cautioned against giving up the authority it took so long to obtain with the presence of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Director Hill said that we must get past the parochial system where local interests are represented on the Board rather than Valley wide concerns.

Director Kimberley asserted that we need one authority to deal with water issues, not just liquid waste management, and this authority should be through the Ministry of Environment. Consent for the Okanagan Basin Water Board as presently constituted, to levy additional taxes will not be given by O.S.R.D.

Mr. Deuling commented that whoever performs this function will need expertise and that expertise presently rests with the Ministry of Environment.

Director Hill said the representation of the Water Board could be changed to include non partisan members and a permanent member from the Ministry of Environment.

Director Tribes questioned the authority of the Board in matters of local concern such as subdivision approval.

Director Paynter doubted that each local government would be willing to give up land use planning authority.

The Chairman suggested that Land Use issues be deferred until specific recommendations contained in this section were discussed.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Director Paynter and Alternate Director Lamont left the meeting.

The specific land use recommendations contained on pages 5-29 to 5-31 of the report were endorsed by the Okanagan Basin Water Board, with the exception of the termination of zoning for country residential. The Board was opposed to this recommendation as it felt dividing blocks of land into five acre parcels to be wasteful.

Some wording changes were incorporated into the recommendations.

**The Board recognized and endorses the priority of the foreshore planning process and recommends that it should be acted on immediately by local government.**

Director Tribes felt that revamping of zoning bylaws to ensure that all development is fully serviced was a major point providing it referred to lot sizes of less than half acre.

Mr. Epp commented that if all land use authorities followed this policy it would go a long way toward solving liquid waste problems up and down the valley.

As an overall policy the Okanagan Basin Water Board supported the individual land use steps on pages 5-29 to 5-31 but suggested that land use issues on a valley wide basis be addressed under the Growth Management Strategy.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m. and the next meeting was scheduled for August 17th, at C.O.R.D. for 10:00 a.m.

  
**CHAIRMAN**

  
**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

## OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON AUGUST 17TH, 1993, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.**

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|                        |                              |                  |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | Chairperson S. Simpson       | 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 J. Low              | N.O.R.D.         |
|                        | Director T. Shields          | O.S.R.D.         |
|                        | Alternate Director R. Perrie | O.S.R.D.         |
| <br>                   |                              |                  |
| <b><u>STAFF:</u></b>   | P. Mackiewich                | Administrator    |
|                        | G. Armour                    | Field Supervisor |
| <br>                   |                              |                  |
| <b><u>OTHERS:</u></b>  | R.A. Nickel                  | M.O.E.           |
|                        | P. Epp                       | M.O.E.           |

#### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussion of the recommendations of the Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan.

Discussion at the July 20th meeting had adjourned at section 6 of the Consultants report. and the Chairman circulated a memo (attached) outlining the position taken by the Okanagan Basin Water Board on the various recommendations of the report to that point.

Director Tribes questioned whether the Board would become involved in specific water related issues and gave as a example the possible consideration of Swan Lake as a wildfowl refuge. He explained that increased boating activity could be detrimental to a wetland area frequented by wildfowl.

The Administrator said that the Federal Government has delegated authority for regulation of boating activity to the Province and restrictions could be imposed.

Director Hobson observed that land use around the perimeter of the lake may also impact on the natural uses of the site. He stated that Municipalities have recently been empowered to regulate land use in fragile areas.

Director Low asked if the Okanagan Basin Water Board makes general recommendations or would deal with site specific issues as he is also concerned with the disruptive effects on natural habitat caused by channelling of streams entering the lakes.

The Chairman suggested that the Board focus its response to the recommendations of the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan and perhaps later develop action plans for problem areas.

***Section 6: Project Priorization***

The Board discussed the recommended priorization approach using the phosphorus removal/ cost effectiveness approach.

Director Hobson indicated that the Board should use the Master Plan as one tool to link land use planning and new development. The process must fit into an overall growth management strategy and if we focus on liquid waste disposal it may lead us to spend dollars in areas where provision of other services is not cost effective. He stated that we have to look at extension of services to new areas of development, not just solving of existing problems.

Mr. Nickel said that we must, in the course of the development process, clean up old problems.

Chairman Simpson asked if the Board felt the report did not go far enough in making specific recommendations for project priorization.

Director Hill said that this was his feeling and that the report must incorporate the "local switch" factors to give a realistic picture.

It was agreed that the consultants report does not go far enough in identifying valley priorities for funding liquid waste projects. The Okanagan Basin Water Board and Ministry of Environment will identify the local factors and develop a list of high, medium, and lower priority projects for funding within a specific time frame.

With respect to the updating of completed liquid waste plans the Board agreed that a review of the plans should be done at a target time of five years but that this review might only involve confirmation that the original plan was still valid. In addition the possibility of an Okanagan Basin Water Board role in funding Plan reviews would be looked at.

Mr. Epp pointed out that technology changes and new treatment options become available. Plan revisions could range widely in scope.

Director Tribes cautioned that Okanagan Basin Water Board dollars should go to the practical job of keeping phosphorus out of the lakes and expenditures on plan updates should be secondary.

Mr. Nickel maintained that dollars spent on front end planning usually show up in savings on the practical end.

***Section 7: Administrative Structure***

**The present nine member composition of the Board was discussed.**

Chairman Simpson reported that some municipalities feel they should be represented. Also, the question of Indian Band representation is before us.

Alternate Director Perrie reviewed the position taken by R.D.O.S. in which the Board indicated that they supported four representative from each region, two rural and two municipal.

Director Low observed that with First Nations representation this would bring the total number of members to fifteen and the Okanagan Basin Water Board might have to consider a system of subcommittees.

Director Shields reported that in Osoyoos, the Indian bands may be entering a phase of major development which could impact on water quality and he would like to see them at the Board table. He also stated that he felt they should be paying an appropriate share.

Mr. Mackiewich informed the Board that with the Westbank Indian Band entering the taxation field directly, we are now collecting less money than with previous taxation by the Regional District. He also explained that an advantage of having First Nation participation on the Board would be in influencing activities and types of development on reserve lands.

Alternate Director Perrie questioned why we would permit non paying members to vote on money issues.

Director Tribes indicated that Band representatives could have voting privileges on money issues only if they are paying into the Okanagan Basin Water Board function.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board recommended that First Nation representation be added to the structure of the Board but that regional representation remain as is. It was noted that all meetings are open to elected representatives to participate with observer status.

The consultants recommendation for **three year appointments** to the Board was reviewed.



The Administrator noted that municipal appointments to the Regional Boards are for one year only and it would be impossible to ensure longer continuity.

The Board agreed to delete this recommendation and noted that Regional Districts recognize the advantage to having some continuity of representation on the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Hiring of professional support staff for the Board was reviewed.

Mr. Mackiewich said it was his feeling that this could be necessary in the future if the mandate of the Okanagan Basin Water Board was expanded, but at present the contracting of services from the regional districts was working well.

Chairman Simpson observed that it was difficult to take on technical projects and change the role of the Board without adequate staff.

Director Low asserted that the idea of additional full time staff would not be accepted by local jurisdictions until it is apparent that the scope of work is there to justify it.

Alternate Director Perrie reported the R.D.O.S. could take no position on this until the Growth Management Strategy Group role is identified.

Director Hobson commented that we need to assemble the requirements that will be made of local government as senior government reduces financial commitments.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that there is a need to clarify the role of the Board and the Growth Management Strategy Group before consideration is given to engaging additional staff.

Mr. Nickel suggested that we explore using Ministry of Environment staff to assist in supervising a transition period.

It was recognized that the **Okanagan Basin Water Board needs to meet more often** in order to be a proactive body.

The recommendation that the Okanagan Basin Water Board move toward a portion of more regional authority was endorsed with the provision that this would not extend directly to the land use domain. It was noted that allocation of funding could be used to assist best land management practice decisions.

The recommendation concerning promotion of water quality testing by the Water Board was endorsed.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

The formation of a **Technical Planning Committee** was endorsed.

Discussion returned to the first recommendation of Section 7 concerning the role of the Okanagan Basin Water Board as the coordinating body for the Master Plan.

The Chairman indicated that she felt the Board must agree on a position and take this back to the regional districts to review and respond. She asked if the members endorsed a higher profile and expanded mandate for the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Mr. Epp reminded the Board that Director Kimberley had taken the position at the previous meeting that the Okanagan Basin Water Board was not the appropriate authority to do this job.



The Chairman said she felt that creation of a second parallel Board to perform the same function would serve no purpose.



The Directors concurred that the Okanagan Basin Water Board should remain intact and serve as the coordinating body for water and other related issues.

It was decided to leave discussion of the financial recommendations of the report to the next meeting and this was set for September 9th at 10:00 a.m. at the Central Okanagan Regional District Boardroom.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. and the next meeting was scheduled for September 9th, at C.O.R.D. for 10:00 a.m.

  
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**CHAIRMAN**

  
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**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

## OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9TH, 1993, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.**

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|                        |                               |                  |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | Chairperson S. Simpson        | C.O.R.D.         |
|                        | Director R. Hobson            | C.O.R.D.         |
|                        | Director A. Hill              | N.O.R.D.         |
|                        | Alternate Director J. Yardley | N.O.R.D.         |
|                        | Director J. Low               | N.O.R.D.         |
|                        | Director T. Shields           | O.S.R.D.         |
|                        | Alternate Director R. Perrie  | O.S.R.D.         |
| <br>                   |                               |                  |
| <b><u>STAFF:</u></b>   | P. Mackiewich                 | Administrator    |
|                        | G. Armour                     | Field Supervisor |
| <br>                   |                               |                  |
| <b><u>OTHERS:</u></b>  | R.A. Nickel                   | M.O.E.           |
|                        | P. Epp                        | M.O.E.           |

#### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussion of the recommendations of the Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan.

Discussion at the August 17th meeting had adjourned at section 8 of the Consultants report. The remaining sections on Finance and the Summary of recommendations were discussed.

Mr. Epp described the situation requiring the exploration of new sources of funding for liquid waste management where expanding population in the Okanagan will make expansion of treatment plants necessary at a tremendous cost. With declining sources of revenue from senior government, it is necessary to look at other means of raising dollars to protect water quality.

Director Low asked Mr. Mackiewich to explain the problem in using Development Cost Charges to fund sewage treatment works.

The Administrator explained that D.C.C.'s are specific to a project and usually do not provide sufficient funds to front end the entire cost of a sewage upgrading project. A municipality is also required to provide an assist factor when determining the level of D.C.C.'s

Director Hobson pointed out the apparent inequity of collecting a Development Impact Levy from a jurisdiction which has been collecting D.C.C.'s, as opposed to one who has

not. Communities collecting D.C.C.'s would be "penalized" by paying into a fund which would subsidize those who have not collected D.C.C.'s.

Director Hill commented that the taxes facing the homeowner for roads, sewer, parks, and such was becoming excessive.

Mr. Mackiewich remarked that D.C.C.'s cannot be imposed until the system is in place and costs have been incurred and the D.I.L. would give the ability to accumulate a pool of resources that could be used to cause certain environmentally necessary projects to take place.

Chairman Simpson observed that it was probably advisable to agree on the philosophy of imposing the DIL I charge and sort out the details later.

Director Shields stated that he had no trouble supporting the concept of growth paying for itself.

Alternate Director Perrie also supported the concept of the DIL I charge but said he did not favour the name.

It was agreed that the term "Environmental Impact Levy" was preferable.

**The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed in principle with the Environmental Impact Levy but advised that the mechanics of its implementation should be examined to ensure that no duplicate taxation occurs.**

**Discussion of the DIL II took place.**

Director Hobson questioned the message sent by imposing a levy on septic tank - tile field systems in environmentally sensitive zones. Are we attempting to deter development in these areas. Is the fact that some of these zones will never be serviced by sewage systems recognized?

Mr. Epp pointed out that the general levy also charges people who may never receive direct benefits, but who will benefit indirectly from the maintenance of high water quality standards in the valley. Each septic tank contributes to the degradation of water quality in the valley lakes and some 80 million dollars is identified in liquid waste plans to be spent in sewerage new areas in the future. The DIL II funds will presumably be used to offset this cost. He informed the Board that about twenty percent of the valley septic systems are in the environmental control zones.

Director Low stated that he could not support this levy as it does not differentiate between those who maintain their systems and thus do not contribute to nutrient problems in the lakes.

Mr. Epp commented that even a well maintained system will contribute nutrient to the lake when the field is located in close proximity to a watercourse.

Director Hill contended that the charge proposed did not seem unreasonable to him to offset the detrimental effect of nutrient entering the lake from a septic system.

Alternate Director Yardley said that she felt the cost of the DIL II should be spread over a wider base than covered by the Environmental Control Zones.

Mr. Nickel observed that government currently charges fees to industry and municipalities for discharges but not to septic tanks.

Chairman Simpson agreed that we are talking about a waste permit fee for septic tanks and the revenue generated might be used elsewhere in the valley to remove phosphorus pollution.

Director Shields argued that there is no onus on the property owner to maintain and properly service a septic system, where if a municipal system fails, there are penalties.

Director Hobson asserted that the DIL II charge must be tied to a service which could involve some sort of regular inspection of septic systems to improve the quality of operation. He also stated that this is again overlapping into the area of land use and government may need to recognize that we do not wish to sewer environmental control areas and encourage growth.

Director Hill questioned who would perform the inspections.

Mr. Nickel said there is a problem in just pumping out septic tanks to promote better function as a properly functioning tank in transmissive soil will still contribute nutrient pollution to the lake.

Director Hill wondered if funds could be used to develop new technology to improve septic systems.

Director Hobson added that public education represented another potential use of funds. He asked what the consultant's view of the purpose of the DIL II was.

Mr Epp replied that it was merely another method of raising money.

**The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that the Environmental Impact Levy II should be in the form of an annual fee on all septic tank and tile field systems and that municipal jurisdictions should look closely at the effects of development in unsewered Environmental Control Zones prior to approving new development.**

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

**Section 9: Ancillary Issues**

The Okanagan Basin Water Board discussed the various **other sources of phosphorus** input into the valley lakes.

Director Hobson focused on the role of the Water Board in examining the impact of stormwater runoff on the lakes and speculated on possible participation in funding methods of reducing this input. These might include development and preservation of natural marshlands, and construction of retention ponds to reduce particulate matter. He indicated that there should be a valley wide effort to improve methods of dealing with stormwater.

Mr. Nickel noted that the Province has developed guidelines for runoff control but these are very broad at present. He informed the Board that the City of Bellvue, Washington (population 90,000) has 40 people working on stormwater problems. He concluded that stormwater should definitely be addressed through the waste management planning process in this Province.

Director Hobson added that we should try to tie in Habitat funding, wetland preservation and stormwater control and treatment.

**Source Control Bylaws**

Director Hobson said that these should be standardized throughout the valley so that people affected do not merely move development outside the area of control.

**Section 10 : Conclusions**

The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that Liquid Waste Management Plans should be standardized in format and planning horizons, and also that stormwater treatment should be added to the scope of all plans. A twenty year horizon with five year updates seems appropriate.

Mr. Epp commented that the differences in plan format may have resulted from the style adopted by the various consultants preparing the documents.

On the subject of **water supply**, Director Hobson asserted that the Okanagan Basin Water Board needs to identify benchmark levels of acceptable water use in tributaries and lakes to preserve the concerns of the Board in managing water use.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that, as a principle, we should work toward living within the limits of the supply of water within the Okanagan watershed and not rely on the prospect of water from other areas.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m. and the next meeting was scheduled for October 19th, at C.O.R.D. for 10:00 a.m.



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

**OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON  
OCTOBER 19TH, 1993, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF  
CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B.C., AT 10:00 A.M.**

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|                        |                              |          |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | Chairperson S. Simpson       | 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 J. Low              | N.O.R.D. |
|                        | Director R. Shewfelt         | O.S.R.D. |
|                        | Alternate Director R. Perrie | O.S.R.D. |
|                        | Alternate Director E. Lamont | C.O.R.D. |

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

|                       |             |        |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------|
| <b><u>OTHERS:</u></b> | R.A. Nickel | M.O.E. |
|                       | P. Epp      | M.O.E. |

**MINUTES:**

**Regular Meeting - June 28th, 1993**

**Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shewfelt:**

**"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on  
June 28th, 1993, be adopted as circulated."**

**CARRIED.**

Minutes of three special meetings held to discuss recommendations of the Okanagan Valley Liquid Waste Management Plan were received by the Board:

Liquid Waste Plan Meeting - July 20th, 1993  
Liquid Waste Plan Meeting - August 17th, 1993  
Liquid Waste Plan Meeting - September 9th, 1993

Alternate Director Perrie pointed out that the vote endorsing the establishment of the EIL II levy on septic tanks was not unanimous and asked that his opposition be recorded.

Mr. Armour asked the Board's permission to move discussion of the Okanagan Basin Water Board acceptance of the consultants report to the first part of the meeting in view of the attendance of Mr. Nickel and Mr. Epp. He noted that two summaries had been circulated (attached) describing the recommendations endorsed by the Okanagan Basin

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Water Board from the consultants report and the areas in which the Board wished to make changes. The next step would be to present these recommendations to each regional district.

Chairman Simpson asked for any omissions or corrections from the Board in the summary lists and stated the need to make a clear and convincing case for adoption of the plan to each regional board.

Mr. Epp commented that endorsement is needed in two critical areas; the expanded role of the Okanagan Basin Water Board in coordinating this plan, and the methods proposed to raise additional funds for liquid waste management. Other recommendations are less significant and could be modified later. Mr. Epp suggested that once the plan is accepted at the regional level, an implementation committee be formed to oversee steps required to enact necessary legislation etc.

The Chairman noted that the timing of presentation to regional boards could be critical with the November 20th election coming up. She wondered if we should be dealing with the present boards or waiting for new officials to take office.

Director Hobson observed that few people will want to make significant decisions which will affect future Boards at this late time.

Chairman Simpson expressed her feeling that this Board had worked hard on the Liquid Waste Plan and should pass on its recommendations. She questioned the role of the Ministry of Environment in the next step.

Mr. Nickel observed that he saw a need for more work in putting across the rationale and need for a valley wide plan to the regional level.

Discussion ensued as to the most effective and timely way to present the Okanagan Basin Water Board recommendations to the three regional districts.

Mr. Nickel felt that the final recommendations should also be presented to the Growth Management Strategy meeting to be held in January. He said that he felt the rationale for cooperating on a valley wide basis needed to be reinforced as there is a perception that systems are in place to deal with major issues by individual jurisdictions.

Director Low indicated that we should get the information package together and request permission to present it to the regional boards. They may then choose to leave this presentation until after the elections and the Growth Management Strategy meeting.

**Moved by Director Low and seconded by Director Hobson:**

**"That Mr. Armour assimilate the recommendations endorsed by the Okanagan Basin Water Board and identify the overall rationale for the Valley Liquid Waste Plan as well as the rationale for the individual recommendations in a document for presentation to the Regional Boards."**

**CARRIED.**

The Board agreed to meet on November 16th at 10:00 A.M. in Kelowna to review the document. In addition the Board instructed that a letter be sent to each Regional District stating that a review of the Valley Liquid Waste Plan has been completed and the Okanagan Basin Water Board and we would like the opportunity to present our recommendations at a meeting in late January, 1994.

Alternate Director Lamont entered the meeting at 11:15 A.M.

**Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Alternate Director Perrie:**

**"That the presentation of the recommendations of the Okanagan Basin Water Board concerning the Okanagan Valley Liquid Waste Management Plan be made to the Growth Management Strategy meeting in January, 1994."**

**CARRIED.**

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**

**Financial Status of Aquatic Weed Control Program:**

Mr. Armour reviewed the provisional budget submitted to the Ministry of Environment for Fiscal Year 1994-95. The request is based on the amount needed to run a full program of aquatic weed control (\$408,000) in the Okanagan and reflects the 75/25% cost share arrangement. The Field Supervisor indicated that following the meeting at the UBCM between the Minister of Environment and agencies involved in aquatic weed control, we had, at the Minister's request, submitted a statement outlining our funding shortfall for the current fiscal year. (attached)

Chairman Simpson informed the Board that discussions with Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment, Dr. Jon O'Riordan, indicated that no additional funds would be forthcoming for 1993.

Mr. Mackiewich advised the Board that there was about \$60,000 remaining in the budget for the current fiscal year. He also outlined the Regional District requisitions needed to fund the aquatic weed control program, at various levels.

The figures are approximate as assessments are not yet available:

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 25% local / 75% Province: | 0.9¢ per \$1000 assessment |
| 50% local / 50% Province  | 1.5¢                       |
| 75% local / 25% Province  | 2.3¢                       |
| 100% local                | 3.06¢                      |

Mr. Mackiewich pointed out that the Okanagan Basin Water Board can raise up to 3.6¢ per \$1000 for aquatic weed control under current Supplementary Letters Patent.

Discussion took place as to how the funds remaining in the current fiscal year should be allocated.

Mr. Armour indicated that with full funding derooting would occur from mid October to winter shutdown, and from February to the end of the fiscal year. (March 31st) The funds remaining were insufficient to cover this much work his recommendation was that the most effective period would be in February and March.

Several Board members indicated that by doing no work in the fall period, this window of opportunity for control work was lost.

**Moved by Director Shewfelt, seconded by Director Hobson:**

**"That aquatic weed control derooting work continue through the fall 1993 season and if necessary the Board review the budget status early in the new year."**

**CARRIED.**

**1993 Harvesting Program and 1992-93 Derooting Summary:**

The Field Supervisor briefly outlined the results of harvesting conducted in the summer of 1993, and derooting done in 1992-93. (summaries attached)

**Eurasian water milfoil Infestation in Darke Lake:**

Mr. Armour informed the Board that Eurasian water milfoil has been found in Darke Lake, also known as Fish Lake, in the Summerland area. The situation is described in the attached memorandum from B. Retzer of B.C. Environment.

**Purple Loosestrife:**

Chairman Simpson referred to a press release made by a Victoria based Ministry of Environment biologist concerning the potential for tremendous negative impact on Okanagan water resource from Purple Loosestrife.

The Board directed that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Environment to obtain details of what is being done about this problem; if the plant has been declared a noxious weed; and methods that can be used to control it. Concern was expressed that the Okanagan Basin Water Board had contacted the Ministry several years ago about the presence of this plant in the Okanagan Valley, and it appeared that little action had been taken.

The Administrator noted that each regional district could add Purple Loosetrife to its own list of noxious weeds, and the Board agreed that a letter should be sent to the three regions asking that this be done.

**CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL**

**L. MacWilliam, M.P. Okanagan-Shuswap -**

A letter acknowledging receipt of a copy the OBWB request for Federal funding for aquatic weed control was received.

**J. Whittaker, M.P. Okanagan-Similkameen-Merritt -**

A letter acknowledging receipt of copy of request for Federal funding for aquatic weed control was received.

**J. Whittaker, M.P. Okanagan-Similkameen-Merritt -**

A copy of a letter to the Federal Environment Minister supporting OBWB funding request was received.

**D. Brox - Environment Canada -**

A letter acknowledging receipt of the Water Board funding request for aquatic weed control was received.

**Dr. P.R. Newroth - B.C. Environment -**

Minutes of the August 18th meeting, held at Columbia Shuswap Regional District, to discuss an aquatic weed funding business plan were received.

**Dr. P.R. Newroth - B.C. Environment -**

Information regarding the North American Lake Management Society meeting to be held in December in Seattle was received.

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen -**

A copy of a reply from the Environment Minister concerning reduced weed control funding was received.

**Mr. Art Street -**

A copy of a letter to the Environment Minister outlining effects of reduced aquatic weed control work in Skaha Lake in 1993 was received.

**Dr. J. O'Riordan - B.C. Environment -**

A copy of a reply to the Okanagan Similkameen Tourist Association regarding funding reduction for weed control was received.

**I. Cichon -**

A copy of a letter to Premier Harcourt expressing concern about increased aquatic weed growth in the Penticton area was received.

**CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS**

**Regional District of Central Okanagan -**

A reply to the OBWB letter about First Nations representation on the Okanagan Basin Water Board was received.

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen -**

A reply to the OBWB letter about First Nations representation on the Okanagan Basin Water Board was received.

The Board discussed the next step to be taken in the process to explore First Nations representation.

**Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Hill:**

**"That the Regional Districts be asked to identify issues to be resolved with representatives of the Indian Bands, and the Okanagan Basin Water Board invite First Nations representation from each region in 1994. At this time the concerns of the Regional Districts would be dealt with."**

**CARRIED.**

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**The Honourable M. Collins, Federal Minister of Health -**

A reply to the Water Board letter asking that Health Canada staff apply the enhanced Provincial septic tank guidelines to development on reserve lands in environmentally sensitive areas was received.

**SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:**

**Grant Applications:**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| City of Penticton                         | \$212,917.00 |
| City of Kelowna                           | 342,099.00   |
| Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen | 18,889.44    |

**Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Director Tribes:**

"That the Sewage Facilities Grant Applications listed above be approved for payment."

**CARRIED.**

**NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Okanagan Valley Master Wastewater Management Plan:**

This item was dealt with in the first part of the meeting.

**Amendment to Province - OBWB Agreement**

The Administrator explained to the Board that, after consultation with Chairman Simpson, we had contracted with the Regional District of Fraser Fort George to perform weed harvesting work at Tabor Lake. The Province, as owners of the equipment had agreed to allow use of the machine but required both parties to sign a modification to our agreement for weed control.

**Moved by Director Tribes, seconded by Director Shewfelt:**

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board enter into an agreement to perform aquatic weed harvesting work for the Regional District of Fraser Fort George."

**CARRIED.**

**Rates of Pay for Water Board Directors**

Mr. Mackiewich explained that Board members from different regional districts received varying rates of compensation and vehicle mileage allowances for attending Okanagan Basin Water Board meetings.

**Moved by Director Shewfelt and seconded by Alternate Director Perrie:**

**"That to ensure consistency, Okanagan Basin Water Board rather than the parent Regional Districts, pay its directors at the rate of one hundred dollars per meeting and reimburse vehicle mileage at the Provincial Government rate, effective January 1st, 1994."**

**CARRIED.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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



**CHAIRMAN**



**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

## **MASTER LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **SECTION 6 - PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**

- The consultants report does not go far enough in identifying specific valley priorities for funding of liquid waste management projects. Local factors or "switches which upgrade the priority of certain projects may should be identified and a list of high, medium, and low priority projects developed.
- The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that updating of completed liquid waste management plans should be done at a target time of five year intervals, but noted that some updates may only involve confirmation that the original plan is still valid.
- The role of the Okanagan Basin Water Board in funding of plan updates will be examined but the primary focus of Water Board dollars should continue to be the reduction of phosphorus input into the lakes.

### **SECTION 7 - ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

- The Okanagan Basin Water Board wishes to include First Nations representation in its structure. The Regional District representation should remain the same in the view of the Board.
- The appointment of Board members to three year terms was not deemed practical as regional district appointments are for one year only.
- Consideration to the hiring of additional professional staff by the Water Board will not be given until the roles of this Board and the Growth Management Strategy Group are clarified.
- The Board agreed that more frequent meetings are needed. The current schedule calls for a bi-monthly meeting. Monthly meetings are desirable.
- The Directors agreed that the Okanagan Basin Water Board should move toward a position of regional authority and serve as the coordinating body for water management and related issues. This authority would not extend to land use issues.
- The formation of a technical planning committee was endorsed

### **SECTION 8 - FINANCE**

- The Board recognized the need to put in place means to raise revenue to support recommendations of individual liquid waste plans for future works. There was agreement on the implementation of an Environmental Impact Levy I (EIL I) to be assessed on all new lots created in the valley.



The Board disagreed with the concept of the EIL II directed at septic tank - tile field systems in environmentally sensitive areas only. The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that the Environmental Impact Levy II should be an annual levy on all septic tank and tile field systems in the Valley, and further, that local municipal jurisdictions should examine closely the effects of development in unsewered Environmental Control Zones prior to approving new development.

## **1993 AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING PROGRAM**

Aquatic weed harvesting began July 17th, 1993 and was completed on August 30th. One machine was used to remove weeds in Skaha, Osoyoos and Okanagan Lakes, with a second used for a brief period only in the North Okanagan in Vernon Arm.

The amount of harvesting done was at an all time low. Several factors contributed to this:

- In general, work was concentrated in public use areas only. Private foreshore was not treated. As a result, the amount of time spent moving equipment increased.
- The growth of weeds in areas which have been derooted for many years, was sparse, a harvesting served mainly to touch up these sites. Since a record amount of area was derooted in 1992, extensive harvesting was not required.
- Growth of weeds in did not reach nuisance levels in 1993. The high rainfall in the month of July resulted in the plants being well below the surface in many sites. In addition there appears to be a definite decline in the extent and density of Eurasian water milfoil growth in many areas. There is insufficient information to state if this is due to external influences such as climate or insect damage, or a growth cycle of the plant.

To summarize the growth conditions by lake :

- Osoyoos Lake - 1992 and 1993 derooting left only minor cleanup necessary. The major problem with Osoyoos Lake water quality appears to be the extensive algal blooms which occur and result in poor clarity. A decline in the infestation of aquatic weeds at Inkameep Campground was noted and is not accounted for by any previous derooting.
- Vaseux Lake - Weed growth was extensive but no harvesting was done due to low recreational priority of the lake.
- Skaha Lake - Minimal harvesting needed due to effective derooting the past two seasons. Some regrowth at Okanagan Falls in private areas not derooted in 1993.
- Okanagan Lake (Kelowna) - Conditions were generally good from past derooting work. There was some growth of native species of plants especially in the inshore areas as these were not treated in 1993. Observations south of Mission Creek indicated reduced growth of M. spicatum in sites where no treatment has been conducted.

Okanagan Lake (Vernon) - Only two harvester loads were cut in 1993. Most of the plants remained well below the surface. Kin Beach, Sandy Beach, and Philp's Corner sites were all derooted with the private foreshore having been treated prior to 1993 budget cuts.

- Wood Lake - Weed growth did not reach the surface in many sites which are not derooted; most notably, the margin of the lake along the highway and the Northeast corner. (including the insect study site)
- Kalamalka Lake - Areas of the Coldstream foreshore had fairly extensive growth of native species of plant likely because these sites were not derooted in 1993. Kekuli Boat launch now supports a dense population of M. spicatum which should be dealt with this operating season.
- Ellison Lake - No work was done in 1993 and the lake had a surfacing mixed population of weeds throughout the summer, with the exception of high water periods. Access to this lake for equipment is very difficult now because of development along most of the north foreshore.

#### HARVESTING EXPENDITURES

|                           | <u>Spent 1990</u> | <u>Spent 1991</u> | <u>Spent 1993</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Operators' Wages          | \$34,220          | 38,772            | 9,226             |
| Transport Op. Wages       | 10,271            | 11,369            | 2,593             |
| Equipment Transport       | 6,325             | 3,140             | 467               |
| Pickup Truck Rentals      | 2,036             | 4,010             | 817               |
| P/U Operation and Maint.  | 4,709             | 3,316             | 1,886             |
| Travel Expense            | 784               | 1,820             | 532               |
| Crane Rental              | 2,120             | 2,246             | 1,142             |
| Fuel and Lubricants       | 3,057             | 1,840             | 973               |
| Repairs and Maintenance   | 10,980            | 10,097            | 2,510             |
| Spoils Disposal           | 75-               | nil               | nil               |
| Water Intake Repairs      | <u>458</u>        | <u>nil</u>        | <u>nil</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>\$76,883</b>   | <b>\$82,656</b>   | <b>\$20,147</b>   |

**TABLE 1  
HARVESTING PRODUCTION SUMMARY 1993**

| UNIT #              | LOADS CUT | TONNES       | ESTIMATED AREA ha |
|---------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|
| H65015 HARV#1       | 63        | 107          | 4.4               |
| H65028 HARV#2       | 2         | 3.4          | 0.15              |
| H65035 HARV#3       | not used  | n/a          | n/a               |
| H65055 HARV#5       | not used  | n/a          | n/a               |
| H11-1100<br>ALTOSAR | not used  | n/a          | n/a               |
| <b>TOTALS</b>       | <b>65</b> | <b>110.5</b> | <b>4.6</b>        |

**TABLE 2  
HARVESTING PRODUCTION BY LAKE 1993**

| LAKE          | LOADS CUT | TONNES       | ESTIMATED AREA ha |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|
| OSOYOOS LAKE  | 30        | 51           | 2.1               |
| VASEUX LAKE   | 0         | 0            | 0                 |
| SKAHA LAKE    | 24        | 40.8         | 1.7               |
| OKANAGAN LAKE | 11        | 18.7         | 0.8               |
| WOOD LAKE     | 0         |              | 0                 |
| DUCK LAKE     | 0         |              | 0                 |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>110.5</b> | <b>4.6</b>        |

**TABLE 3  
HARVESTING OPERATIONS RECORD 1993**

|                 | HARV#1 | HARV#2 | HARV#3 | HARV#5 | H11-1100 |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| TOTAL HOURS     | 264    | 30     | 0      | 0      | 0        |
| OPERATING HOURS | 125    | 27     | 0      | 0      | 0        |
| DOWNTIME        | 139    | 3      | 0      | 0      | 0        |
| PERCENT         | 52%    | 10%    | n/a    | n/a    | n/a      |



## OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

9843 ABERDEEN ROAD  
VERNON, B.C. V1B 2K9  
PHONE 545-5368  
FAX 545-1445

September 27, 1993

The Honourable Moe Sihota  
Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Minister:

Thank you for providing time in your busy schedule to meet with us at the UBCM Convention, and to discuss our concerns regarding the future of aquatic weed control.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board budget for aquatic weed control for the current fiscal year (1993/94) is attached and totals \$203,333 in operating costs. This was reduced from the original operating budget request which totalled \$382,000 when the Ministry of Environment decreased its allocation to \$100,000.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board has proceeded with a program based on the \$100,000 Provincial allocation and the \$103,333 available from monies requisitioned from the three valley regional districts for the original cost shared program. To date we have spent about \$140,000 of the \$203,000 available with fifty percent of the year remaining.


Some of the work performed at a reduced level this year, or eliminated completely cannot be recouped at this date. The harvesting season has passed as has the time for control of weed growth at upper elevation lakes. Most of the remaining work will be derooting using rototillers. With the reduced funds available the Okanagan Basin Water Board had planned a complete shutdown of fall activities in order to conserve remaining funds for February and March of 1994. (We have usually spent in the order of \$60,000 in those months) In addition, some machine maintenance and upgrading have been allowed to lapse to conserve money and it would be necessary to bring this area up to standard to resume full operation.

In summary, we estimate that to resume full weed control operation until the end of the fiscal year will require an additional two months of funding for derooting: total \$60,000; and \$25,000 in funds for refurbishing of rototilling machinery and transport equipment.

②

We appreciated your commitment to provide an early indication of the level of funding your Ministry will provide in the future and we hope that you will give favourable consideration to this request for an additional \$85,000 for the current fiscal year.

Sincerely yours,

  
for Sharron J. Simpson  
Chairman

cc: L. F. Hanson            MLA  
      Hon. B. Barlee        Minister of Small Business, Tourism and Culture  
      J. Beattie             MLA  
      J. Tyabji              MLA  
      C. Serwa                MLA  
      Dr. J. O'Riordan      Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

Administration and Aquatic Weed Control

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

**1993/94  
PROVISIONAL  
BUDGET**

REVENUE:

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Province of B. C. (Grant)         | \$100,000  |
| R.D.C.O. Requisition              | 56,833     |
| R.D.O.S. Requisition              | 25,833     |
| R.D.N.O. Requisition              | 20,667     |
| Transfer from Equip. Reserve      | 20,000     |
| Previous Year's Surplus (Deficit) | <u>nil</u> |

**TOTAL REVENUE:** \$223,333

EXPENDITURES:

**Harvesting Operations**

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Harvester Operator Wages          | 15,000     |
| Driver's Wages                    | 5,000      |
| Equipment Transport               | 2,000      |
| Pickup Truck Rentals              | 1,500      |
| Pick-up Operation and Maintenance | 2,000      |
| Travel expenses                   | 1,000      |
| Crane Rental                      | 1,000      |
| Fuel and Lubricants (Harvesters)  | 2,000      |
| Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies    | 5,000      |
| Contract Weed Disposal            | nil        |
| Water Intake Repairs              | <u>500</u> |

**Harvesting Subtotal:** 35,000

**Winter Derooting**

|                                   |               | <b>Additional \$</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Operator Wages and Contract Work  | 40,000        | 78,500               |
| Driver's Wages                    | 7,500         | 15,500               |
| Contract Derooting                | nil           | nil                  |
| Equipment Transport               | 4,000         | 7,000                |
| Pickup Truck Rental               | 2,000         | 4,500                |
| Pickup Operations and Maintenance | 3,000         | 5,000                |
| Travel Expenses                   | 1,000         | 2,000                |
| Crane Rental                      | 2,000         | 3,000                |
| Fuel and Lubricants               | 7,000         | 11,000               |
| Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies    | <u>20,000</u> | <u>45,000</u>        |

**Derooting Subtotal:** 86,500 171,500

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

Administration and Aquatic Weed Control

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

1993/94  
PROVISIONAL  
BUDGET

EXPENDITURES (Continued)

Special Projects

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Wages                       | nil        |
| Dive Pay                    | nil        |
| Pickup Rental and Operation | nil        |
| Fuel and Lubricants         | nil        |
| Materials and Supplies      | nil        |
| Equipment Improvements      | nil        |
| Proposed New Equipment      | nil        |
| Biological Control Program  | <u>nil</u> |
| Special Projects Subtotal   | nil        |

Administration

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Field Supervisor Salary (8 months) | 31,933       |
| Payroll Benefits (All Staff)       | 17,000       |
| Insurance                          | 1,000        |
| Yard Rental and Utilities          | 14,500       |
| Office Costs                       | 14,000       |
| Accounting and Payroll             | 10,400       |
| Interest Charges                   | <u>3,000</u> |

Administration Subtotal 81,833

Total Operating Costs \$203,333

Administration (Non-Shareable) 20,000

Transfer to Equipment Reserve nil

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$223,333