

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON FEBRUARY 2ND, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

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| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Director G.Ockenden | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Ginther | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Hobson | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director W. McGrath | N.O.R.D. |
| | Alternate Director R. Morgan | N.O.R.D. |
| | Alternate Director G. Rieger | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director J. Kimberley | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |

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| <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u> | M.D.Maxnuk | Ministry of Environment |
| | P.R. Newroth | Ministry of Environment |

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| <u>STAFF:</u> | P. Mackiewich | Administrator |
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Appointments to the Board:

Regional District of North Okanagan

- Director Wayne McGrath
- Director Gyula Kiss
- Director Eric Hornby
- Alternate Director Guenter Rieger
- Alternate Director Ron Morgan

Regional District of Central Okanagan

- Director Gord Ockenden
- Director Ron Ginther
- Director Robert Hobson
- Alternate Director Jim Stuart
- Alternate Director Eain Lamont

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

- Director Jake Kimberley
- Director Don Cameron Sr.
- Director Tom Shields
- Alternate Directors Ed Sims, Rick Wilson, Sue Whittaker

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

The Administrator called the meeting to order, and introduced the appointed members of the Okanagan Basin Water Board, the staff, and others present.

The Administrator then called for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1994.

Director McGrath nominated Director Hobson; Director Shields was nominated by Alternate Director Rieger.

Following tabulation of the votes, Mr Mackiewich declared Director Hobson elected Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:

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

Director Kimberley nominated Director Shields for the position, and there being no further nominations, Director Shields was declared elected Vice Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1994.

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Kimberley:

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

CARRIED.

MANDATE OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD:

The Administrator outlined the history of the Water Board and described the limits of its powers under Supplementary Letters Patent held by the regional districts, to raise funds through taxation for sewage facilities assistance grants and for aquatic weed control.

Director Kimberley commented that following the Council of Councils meeting, the Valley Growth Management Steering Committee agreed to examine the appropriateness of the Okanagan Basin Water Board to deal with growth related issues on a regional scale.

Director McGrath reported that Vernon Council supports the current mandate of the Water Board but did not see a role for the Board in dealing with issues on a valley wide scale.

There was some discussion of the Okanagan Valley Master Liquid Waste Management Plan.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger and seconded by Alternate Director Morgan:

"That the Master Liquid Waste Plan be reviewed by the new Board before being carried any further."

CARRIED.

The Board asked that information on the Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants be circulated relating to the source of funds collected and those who have benefitted.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

1994/95 Budget and Workplan:

The Administrator suggested that in the absence of the Field Supervisor Mr. Maxnuk inform the Board regarding aquatic weed control work and costs projected for the next fiscal year. Mr. Maxnuk reviewed the proposed budget submitted by the Water Board and outlined where the work will be done.

Status of Fiscal Year 1993/94 Budget:

The Administrator reported that funds available for the current fiscal year had been spent and approximately \$20,000 would be needed to complete the fiscal year. (end of March) This shortfall was a result of reduced Provincial allocations to the program.

Mr. Maxnuk observed that if the weed control work is not done now, it will have to be done in the summer.

Director Kimberley raised the question of the availability of the provincially owned equipment which has been on loan to our program.

Dr. Newroth indicated that the intention of Water Quality Branch is to maintain the loan arrangement and promote shared use of the equipment throughout the province where feasible. He informed the Board that staff of all user agencies will meet this month to work out details of shared use of equipment.

Dr. Newroth explained that only some 10% of the total weed infested area in the Okanagan was treated. This program was reasonably adequate and the potential existed to spend huge amounts of money treating additional sites of low priority. He indicated that while the status of the provincial budget for 1994/95 is unknown, he is hopeful that the Water Board will receive the full amount requested.

Mr. Maxnuk showed the Board a video on the various weed control methods currently used and explained, by means of overhead graphs, the historical budget trends and the shift in recent years, from purely cosmetic harvesting to derooting.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Ginther

"That the 1993/94 aquatic weed control program continue and the shortfall in funds, up to \$20,000, be taken from the Water Board capital reserve fund."

CARRIED.

Agreement for Cost Shared Weed Control:

Dr. Newroth indicated that his branch hopes to circulate a draft of a new agreement by the middle of the month.

Chairman Hobson reported that a meeting with the Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks at the UBCM had resulted in agreement to a 50/50% cost sharing and a commitment, in principle, by the province to examine a longer term funding strategy than the current one year arrangement.

Director Cameron stated that we should respond that we approve of this scheme and will commence the work upon receipt of such an agreement.

Director Kimberley, who attended the same meeting at the UBCM, confirmed that this was also his understanding of the Ministers position.

Moved by Director Kimberley and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board correspond with Minister Sihota, and ask for re-affirmation of the commitments discussed at the UBCM meeting with respect to level of funding and a multi year agreement."

CARRIED.

Other Aquatic Plant Management Business:

Chairman Hobson outlined several items which he suggested be discussed at the next meeting of the Water Board:

Master Liquid Waste Plan

Board Mandate: Following deliberations of the Growth Management Steering Committee

Water Conservation

Drainage Management

The Chairman also indicated that the Board should meet monthly to endeavour to get issues off the table.

Director McGrath stated that he felt this board should not initiate studies, but should coordinate the expertise already available through various government offices and municipalities.

Director Cameron agreed that we should make use of and benefit from the expertise of others and not create new committees.

The Board discussed the issues of domestic water conservation and irrigation requirements and the need to provide some funding to educate users.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be scheduled for March 2nd, 1994, and be restricted to the topics of the Board's mandate and the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan.

CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT

DR.D.A. KASIANCHUK: No Confirmation on Aquatic Weed Control Funding
Receive and File

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT: No Additional Funding for F.. 93/94
Receive and File

1994 B.C. SUMMER GAMES SOCIETY: Request for Harvesting in Duck Lake

Mr. Maxnuk pointed out to the Board that there may be a problem with access for our equipment to the lake with the extensive development which has taken place.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger, seconded by Alternate Director Morgan:

"That the Water Board approach Holiday Park Resort for financial assistance with Duck Lake aquatic weed control."

CARRIED.

OSYOOS CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION: Osoyoos Lake Water
Quality

Receive and File

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT: News Release Concerning New Agreement
Receive and File

CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN: Correspondence with Minister of
Agriculture regarding Purple Loosestrife

Receive and File

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN: Addition of Purple Loosestrife to
Noxious Weed List

Receive and File

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Status of Purple Loosestrife

The Board discussed the correspondence relating to purple loosestrife and expresses concern over the rapid spread of the plant. It was suggested that staff speak to Mr. Al Peatt at the Ministry of Environment in Penticton regarding control information.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT: Lake Water Quality Monitoring

Director Ginther reported that Peachland is utilizing Okanagan University College to perform a study in this area. He indicated that he would bring the results to the next meeting.

Director Cameron informed the Board that Summerland is also starting a water quality monitoring program.

Director Ockenden reported that beachfront changing facilities are being constructed in the Westbank area and stated his concern that the resultant septic effluent could be polluting the lake.

The Board asked that Phil Epp of the Ministry of Environment be invited to attend the next Board meeting when the Master Liquid Waste Plan is discussed.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and support provincial funding grants in fiscal year 1994-95, for the extension of sewage systems into rural areas of Osoyoos."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Ginther and seconded by Director Ockenden:

"That a letter be sent to the Hon. G. Clark and copied to the Hon. D. Marzari, suggesting that input from the Okanagan Basin Water Board be provided regarding decisions on infrastructure grants to be made under the federal governments' new infrastructure renewal program."

CARRIED.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT: Information on updating the City of Vernon Liquid Waste Plan

Receive and File

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN: Appointment of First Nations Representatives to the Water Board

The Administrator explained the taxation rules regarding lands under Indian Band jurisdiction, and circulated notes (attached) on the rationale for First Nation involvement in the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

The Board had some concerns over representation without financial commitment.

Director Kimberley explained that the issue of land claims and taxation is being dealt with by the Treaty Commission of the Federal and Provincial Governments. Director Kimberley felt the Water Board should wait for resolution of these issues prior to allowing First Nations to sit as voting members of the Board. Until that time, he suggested First Nations being invited to participate in the Okanagan Basin Water Board as non-voting members.

Director Ockenden explained a number of taxation problems on First Nation lands, and complications which could result in loss of government grants.

Director Cameron indicated that First Nations should be invited to participate on the Okanagan Basin Water Board subject to the same rules applied to other members.

Director Kimberley summarized his position that First Nations should be invited as non-voting members and if voting privileges are extended, the same rules should apply to all members.

Moved by Director Ockenden, seconded by Alternate Director Morgan:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board invite one representative from each Indian Band in the basin watershed, to participate as non-voting members of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

CARRIED.

DISTRICT OF COLDSTREAM: Status of the Valley Liquid Waste Plan

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Alternate Director Morgan:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board reply to the District of Coldstream and other valley municipalities and regional districts, stating that the Board will be reviewing its position on the liquid waste plan and will get back to them as soon as possible."

CARRIED.

Director Cameron raised the issue of communities such as Summerland, who have paid into the grant fund since its inception, and never drawn from it. He said that his community likely does not require installation of a sewage treatment and collection system, but is undertaking studies to determine if nutrient pollution is taking place. He remarked that it did not appear fair that no money was available for this purpose.

Mr. Mackiewich informed the Board that money could be raised for such studies under the current Supplementary Letters Patent, with the unanimous consent of the parent regional districts.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board request the three valley regional districts to reconsider the policy of not allowing the use of sewage facilities funds for study

purposes."

CARRIED.

Director McGrath left the meeting

W.A. KASTELEN, DIRECTOR SOUTHERN INTERIOR REGION, B.C. ENVIRONMENT:

Financial Assistance not Available for a Valley Water Management Strategy
Receive and File

Black Mountain Irrigation District - Commendation of the Okanagan Basin
Water Board efforts to establish a valley water management strategy.

SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

Grant Applications: None at this time

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENT OF SIGNING OFFICERS:

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director Morgan:

"That all cheques drawn on the general account of the Okanagan Basin Water Board be signed on its behalf by any two of the following: Chairman Robert Hobson, Administrator Peter Mackiewich, Director Wayne McGrath, and Regional District of North Okanagan Chairman Earl Shipmaker."

CARRIED.

Alternate Director Rieger left the meeting.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Moved by Alternate Director Morgan and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the aquatic plant management committee consist of the whole Okanagan Basin Water Board ."

CARRIED.

Alternate Director Morgan left the meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL MUNICIPAL DIRECTOR TO THE WATER BOARD:

Moved by Director Ginther, and seconded by Director Ockenden:

"That the discussion of the appointment of an additional municipal director to the Okanagan Basin Water Board be deferred until discussion of the Board's mandate has taken place."

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON MARCH 2ND, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN, 101 MARTIN STREET, PENTICTON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

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|------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Director G.Ockenden | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Ginther | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Hobson | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director W. McGrath | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director G. Kiss | N.O.R.D. |
| | Alternate Director G. Rieger | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director J. Kimberley | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |

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| <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u> | Alternate Director E. Sims | O.S.R.D. |
| | Alternate Director S. Whittaker | O.S.R.D. |

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| R.A. Nickel | Ministry of Environment |
| P. Epp | Ministry of Environment |
| M.D.Maxnuk | Ministry of Environment |

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

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Kiss:

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

CARRIED.

Director McGrath noted an error in the section entitled Other Aquatic Plant Business as this item did not refer to aquatic plant control.

The Field Supervisor concurred and agreed to correct this mistake.

MASTER LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Chairman Hobson summarized that the chief purpose of this meeting was to familiarize the new Water Board with the Liquid Waste Plan commissioned by the preceding Board

and to make changes or re-affirm the recommendations of that group before carrying the process further.

Mr. Armour indicated that the Board Directors have:

Background information on the Waste Management Plan commissioned by OBWB in the form of an eight page handout contained in the agenda.

A second handout with recommendations of the Water Board (from the 1993 term), and comments from Municipal Government and Regional Districts on the consultant's Final Report.

Reid Crowther & Partners final report.

Mr. Armour stated that his objective was to review the position of this Board on the final report and determine if these are the recommendations we want to present to the three Regional Districts in the valley.

He explained that the Liquid Waste Plan can go no further without the unanimous endorsement of the regional districts and may require changes to their Supplementary Letters Patent.

The Field Supervisor and Mr. Epp presented information in the form of overheads to outline some of the contents and objectives of Plan, and the philosophy of the previous Board.

He explained that this condensed summary was intended to form the basis of a presentation to the regional districts, once the current Board agreed to the content.

Copies of the overheads presented are attached.

There was an extensive discussion regarding the content and purpose of the plan and Mr. Armour and Mr. Epp replied to numerous technical questions.

The advantages of the Okanagan Basin Water Board presenting a coordinated request to the province for liquid waste plan funding were debated.

Chairman Hobson felt that this approach might also be beneficial in requesting grants under the Federal Infrastructure Renewal Program.

Director McGrath pointed out that the Federal grants are in place for an eighteen month time period only, and could not be counted on for long term financing of liquid waste

infrastructure.

Director Cameron expressed support for a coordinated approach in making funding requests of senior government, especially for the smaller communities in the valley.

Alternate Director Rieger questioned the phosphorus loading values displayed in the presentation; specifically noting that the "other" component phosphorus source was the largest and asking for clarification of the composition of this number .

Mr. Epp explained that the number was originally derived in the Okanagan Basin Study and represented the remaining amount of phosphorus entering the lake after all other measurable sources had been taken into account. The value is composed of such things as natural erosion, dustfall, groundwater entering the lakes and stormwater run-off. Mr. Armour noted that, with the exception of stormwater, these components were difficult to control.

Chairman Hobson observed that as the level of development increased in the valley, it would become more imperative to deal with stormwater in a more effective way.

Mr. Nickel noted that the City of Bellevue in Washington had implemented a sophisticated treatment system for stormwater which employed in the order of forty people.

The Water Board spent considerable time discussing the Environmental Impact Levy II on septic tanks. The previous Board had agreed that this levy should be made on all septic tank and tile field systems in the valley, not just those located in the Ministry of Environment control zones, as proposed in the Reid Crowther report.

Director Cameron noted that many septic systems located on parcels of sufficient size, appropriate soil type, and at some distance from water, will never cause nutrient pollution problems. He questioned the idea that these property owners should pay. He stated that for those septic systems where a pollution problem does exist, some fee should be levied.

Alternate Director Rieger agreed that if there are "offenders" they should pay a charge. He emphasized, however, that he is opposed to a universal charge to all septic users.

Director Ockenden wondered about the means of identifying the "offenders".

The Chairman informed the Board that similar discussions had led the previous Board to target all septic tanks for an Environmental Impact levy.

Director Cameron asked if the Ministry of Environment had identified these sensitive zones.

Mr. Epp replied that this had been done for the Okanagan Valley.

Director McGrath wondered why new developers should be required to pay into a fund which would benefit other areas of the valley, as well as pay local government development Cost Charges.

Chairman Hobson indicated that the significant problem was the inadequacy of local sources of funding to pay for major sewage treatment plant upgrades. DCC's are raised as development occurs; not necessarily when the population threshold is reached at which plant expansion takes place. The community is forced to borrow money and under the Municipal Act, the interest paid on this funding cannot be factored into the DCC's.

Mr. Nickel commented that the idea is to implement a plan of self-sustainability for the valley, where we are not as dependent on shrinking sources of money from senior government.

Director McGrath questioned the merits of a coordinated plan in terms of what each community would gain. He asked if the Ministry was suggesting that money would not be available to individual communities without a regional plan.

Mr. Epp answered that the OK Water Quality Control Project had been initiated to "bail out" areas in the valley using 75% Provincial funding to rectify some serious environmental problems in liquid waste management. Future capital expansions would have to take place without the benefit of this high level of senior government assistance.

Director McGrath remarked that some of the approvals given by the Ministry had left local government with environmental problems.

The Chairman asked the Administrator to detail the Okanagan Basin Water Board contribution to capital liquid waste works through its Sewage Facilities Grant fund.

Mr. Mackiewich gave a brief explanation of the fund and pointed out that the amount currently being collected was committed to servicing the debt on existing works.

Director Cameron indicated that many Summerland residents were aware of the need to fund treatment works in other areas of the valley in order to preserve the water quality of the lake system as a whole.

Alternate Director Sims stated that in his opinion, the Ministry of Health may have contributed to some of the problems which the MOE has "bailed" us out of.

Director Kimberley commented that this discussion reflected on the concept of the

mandate of the Okanagan Basin Water Board - Why should one area assist another? At this time, all areas face increasing environmental problems and the spirit of cooperation is needed more than ever. He suggested that the Board not lose its focus on this objective.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board eliminate the Environmental Impact Levy II on septic tanks from the proposed Master Liquid Waste Plan, and replace any lost revenue with a proportionate increase to the General Levy."

Alternate Director Whittaker observed that the major contributors to the Sewage Facilities Fund in the past had benefitted, through the various grants, from seven cent dollars in local expenditures. She stated that now that it was time to assist rural areas, they proposed to attach a levy to septic tanks. She did not feel this could be justified and expressed her agreement with the motion.

Director Shields said that the proposed levy on septic tanks was not onerous in order to maintain the lifestyle we enjoy with high water quality in the valley

Director Kimberley agreed and remarked that a high percentage of homeowners in the valley are willing to pay for maintenance of quality environmental standards. He stated that he could not support the motion.

Director McGrath indicated that existing septic tank users should not pay toward improvements which would benefit developers coming into the valley. He expressed support for the existing general levy as it assists in correcting problems which were originated earlier.

Director Kiss agreed that new development should pay for itself but as septic systems do contribute in the order of 17,000 kilograms of phosphorus to the lakes, a charge is justified.

Alternate Director Sims indicated his agreement with the motion, saying that the phosphorus input from septic systems is within acceptable limits and these systems were originally approved by the province. The users should therefor not be penalized with a levy.

Director Ginther disagreed and explained that because a septic system has been in place for a number of years does not mean that perceptions have not changed; people are now more aware of environmental concerns and would pay to take steps to avoid them.

The Chairman commented that the Board had lost its focus on the limitations of DCC's to provide adequate funding for major sewage works expansions.

Director Ockenden asked if there was information on how many households were on septic systems in the valley and what incentive there would be for a person on septic disposal and paying a nominal yearly fee to hook up to a sewer system at many thousands of dollars in cost.

Mr. Epp estimated that within a range of 5000, there might be 40,000 houses in the valley on septic systems.

The Chairman informed the Board that on the Westside in Kelowna, a parcel tax similar to the Environmental Impact Levy I is already being collected.

Director Kimberley related that high DCC's in municipalities are forcing development outside to rural areas. We, therefore, do not know the potential impact of eliminating the EIL II on septic systems in the future.

Chairman Hobson suggested that the Board re-focus on how we wish to proceed with our recommendations concerning the liquid waste plan to the regional districts.

The Administrator suggested that this Board may wish to review many of the positions of its predecessor prior to "selling the plan" to the regional districts.

Director McGrath pointed out that there are numerous new councils following the November election and agreed with Mr. Mackiewicz.

Director Kiss asserted that he felt his appointment to the Okanagan Basin Water Board meant that he represented his council. It would not be practical to have all councils attend meetings.

Director Cameron indicated that he had a philosophical difficulty in selling the levy on all septic systems, and indeed did not feel the levy could be justified.

Alternate Director Rieger remarked that if one item in the overall concept is highly questionable, then it may jeopardize the entire plan.

Moved by Director Kiss, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the motion to eliminate the Environmental Impact Levy II on septic tanks from the proposed Master Liquid Waste Plan, and replace any lost revenue with a proportionate increase to the General Levy be tabled pending review of all recommendations contained

in the Plan."

CARRIED.

There was a discussion of a request made at the February Okanagan Basin Water Board meeting that information be collected regarding how much each area had paid into the Sewage Facilities Fund since its inception.

The Administrator explained that to provide this information all three regional districts have to refer to archive documents.

Director Cameron said that he did not urgently require this information .

Director Kimberley felt that the Board's prime concern should be where we go from here, not who benefitted the most in the past.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That information be collected on the source of Sewage Facilities Funds collected since 1977, and the amount of benefits received by each municipality and regional district."

DEFEATED.

Alternate Director Rieger and Director McGrath supported the motion.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Chairman Hobson inquired if the Board felt it should play a facilitating or supporting role in approaching the Provincial government for grants under the joint Federal Infrastructure renewal program.

Moved by Director Kimberley and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board correspond with valley municipalities and regional districts and offer to support applications to the joint Federal-Provincial Infrastructure Renewal Program for liquid waste works identified as high priorities in the individual local Liquid Waste Management Plans. There should be an indication of the urgency of the approaching deadline for applications."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT:**

Mr. Nickel informed the Board that the Provincial staff of the Aquatic Weed Control Program had been placed under jurisdiction of the Regional Environmental Protection Branch and would now report to him rather than Peter Newroth. As this development had occurred only days earlier, Mr. Nickel was not yet in a position to provide other details.

NEW AGREEMENT FOR AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL:

Mr. Mackiewich reported that a draft of a new five year agreement for aquatic weed control had been received from the Province. He said that he had serious concerns with provisions of the draft document, and could not recommend that it be signed without significant revision. He stated that the draft received did not reflect the spirit of the fifty - fifty partnership announced by the Minister in October and that no "floor" amount of funding was specified; meaning in any year the program could receive zero Provincial funding.

Mr. Nickel asked that the Board indicate the areas of concern, rather than scrap the entire agreement.

Moved by Director Kimberley, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the draft agreement for Aquatic Weed Control be received and comments be directed back to the Ministry of Environment specifying the sections where the spirit of the Minister's October announcement was breached."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT - A copy of a reply to a letter received by the Minister from Holiday Park Resort on Ellison Lake was received. The letter from the resort asked that the Minister consider funding for aquatic weed control in Ellison (Duck) Lake.

Mr. Armour informed the Board that he had delayed acting on a resolution from the February meeting to ask Holiday Park Resort to contribute toward weed control in Ellison Lake, until this current correspondence was considered.

Moved by Director Kimberley and seconded by Director Ockenden:

"That the discussion of aquatic weed control in Ellison Lake be tabled until clarification on Okanagan Basin Water Board funding from the Province is received and our schedule of priorities developed."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS

SHARRON SIMPSON & ASSOCIATES - A proposal was received from Sharron Simpson & Associates Consulting Services, offering to develop and present a summary of the Master Liquid Waste Plan to the Regional Districts.

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the proposal from S. Simpson & Associates to present the summary of the Master Liquid Waste Plan to the Regional Districts be deferred until the Okanagan Basin Water Board completes review of the recommendations of the Plan."

CARRIED.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN - Comments from the Regional District of Central Okanagan, regarding involvement of First Nations representatives on the Okanagan Basin Water Board were received.

The Chairman asked if any response had been received to the letter sent out to the Indian Bands inviting their participation in the Okanagan Basin Water Board as non voting members.

He was advised that no replies had been received.

Alternate Director Rieger commented that if First Nations representation is realized and collection of funds is required, the Board should ensure that monies are received.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That discussion of First Nations representation on the Okanagan Basin Water Board be deferred until replies are received to the Board's letter inviting Bands to participate as non-voting members."

CARRIED.

SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

Grant Applications: A list (attached) of Grant Applications for amounts payable for 1993 was circulated by the Administrator.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the 1993 Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants, listed in the attached table, be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

The Chairman asked if any reply had been received to the Board's request for the regional districts to re-visit the policy of not paying for liquid waste plan studies.

The Administrator reported that the North Okanagan Regional District Board had considered the request and resolved that the policy should remain unchanged as all previous grant recipients had been required to pay for their own studies.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MANDATE OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD -

Information pertaining to the current mandate of the Okanagan Basin Water Board was circulated to the directors, and this topic was scheduled for discussion at the next regular meeting.

REVISED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1994-95 -

A revised Okanagan Basin Water Board budget for fiscal year 1994-95 (attached) was circulated and the Administrator explained that two items needed correction from the original budget:

The deficit of \$29,000 includes the 25% cost of the Water Board Okanagan Valley Liquid Waste Master Plan. (\$25,000) The expenditure of this amount was approved by the three regional districts in 1992.

Non shareable administration includes an additional sum of \$12,000 as the Okanagan Basin Water Board is now paying its Directors for attending meetings rather than leaving this to the individual regional districts.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That a letter be sent to each of the three regional districts explaining the revisions to the Okanagan Basin Water Board budget and the basis for the total assessment."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the revised Okanagan Basin Water Board budget for fiscal year 1994-95 be approved as presented."

CARRIED.

LETTER TO DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS -

The Administrator reported that he had sent a letter to the Deputy Minister of Transportation and Highways as a result of an incident which took place on February 4th at the Laidlaw Weighscale near Hope, B.C.

He explained that, in his estimation, the conduct of the Scale Supervisor in dealing with the Okanagan Basin Water Board truck driver, warranted notification of and action from a higher level.

The Board agreed with the action taken and did not propose any additional follow up pending receipt of a satisfactory response.

OTHER MATTERS:**APPOINTMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL MUNICIPAL DIRECTOR TO THE WATER BOARD:****Moved by Director Kimberley, and seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:**

"That the issue of the appointment of an additional director to the Okanagan Basin Water Board be referred to the regional districts for their opinion along with an explanation of the positions of the Central Okanagan and Okanagan-Similkameen regions ."

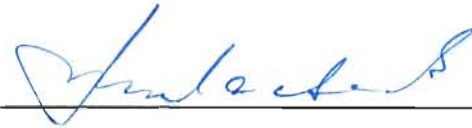
CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

**OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD
1993 SEWAGE GRANTS**

| | 1993 PAYMENT ON OLD DEBT | 1993 PAYMENT OK WATER | TOTAL AMOUNT | 24% OF TOTAL | LESS \$PAID | 1993 BALANCE PAYABLE |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|
| ARMSTRONG | 134,031.37 | 262,955.00 | 396,986.77 | 95,276.72 | 63,424.02 | 31,852.70 |
| COLDSTREAM | 368,260.00 | 12,251.38 | 380,511.38 | 91,322.73 | 0.00 | 91,322.73 |
| KELOWNA | 2,758,812.96 | 406,216.45 | 3,165,029.41 | 759,607.05 | 342,099.00 | 417,508.05 |
| RDOS-OK FALLS | 159,036.71 | 0.00 | 159,036.71 | 38,168.81 | 18,889.44 | 19,279.37 |
| RDCO WESTBANK | 0.00 | 352,883.69 | 352,883.69 | 84,692.08 | 0.00 | 84,692.08 |
| OLIVER | 306,410.00 | 0.00 | 306,410.00 | 73,538.40 | 0.00 | 73,538.40 |
| OSOYOOS | 232,047.21 | 0.00 | 232,047.21 | 55,691.33 | 0.00 | 55,691.33 |
| PENTICTON | 431,146.07 | 1,440,738.30 | 1,871,884.37 | 449,252.25 | 212,917.00 | 236,335.25 |
| VERNON | 1,097,954.63 | 535,455.51 | 1,633,410.14 | 392,018.43 | 0.00 | 392,018.43 |
| | | | | 2,039,567.80 | 637,329.46 | 1,402,238.34 |

DO WE NEED AN OKANAGAN VALLEY LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

WHY IS LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING IMPORTANT?

- WE SHOULD PLACE PRIMARY EMPHASIS ON PROTECTION OF OUR ENVIRONMENT.
- VALLEY IS AT A CROSSROADS - WE CAN EITHER DEVELOP THE MEANS TO PLAN OUR FUTURE AND PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF PROBLEMS OR REACT TO PROBLEMS AS THEY OCCUR.
- LIQUID WASTE COLLECTION, TREATMENT, AND DISPOSAL IS EXPENSIVE. THE COSTS PROJECTED BY EXISTING PLANS EXCEED \$250 MILLION IN THE NEXT THIRTY YEARS.

WHAT DO WE GAIN FROM A MASTER PLAN?

- WE ARE ABLE TO SUBMIT A COORDINATED VALLEY PLAN WHEN LOBBYING FOR \$ FROM SENIOR GOVERNMENT. MONEY FROM THE PROVINCE MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUAL JURISDICTIONS.
- WE ENSURE A SOURCE OF FUNDS BASED ON THE PROJECTION OF NEEDS FROM INDIVIDUAL LWP'S.
- THE PLAN BELONGS TO THE LOCAL LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT AND REFLECTS OUR WISHES.

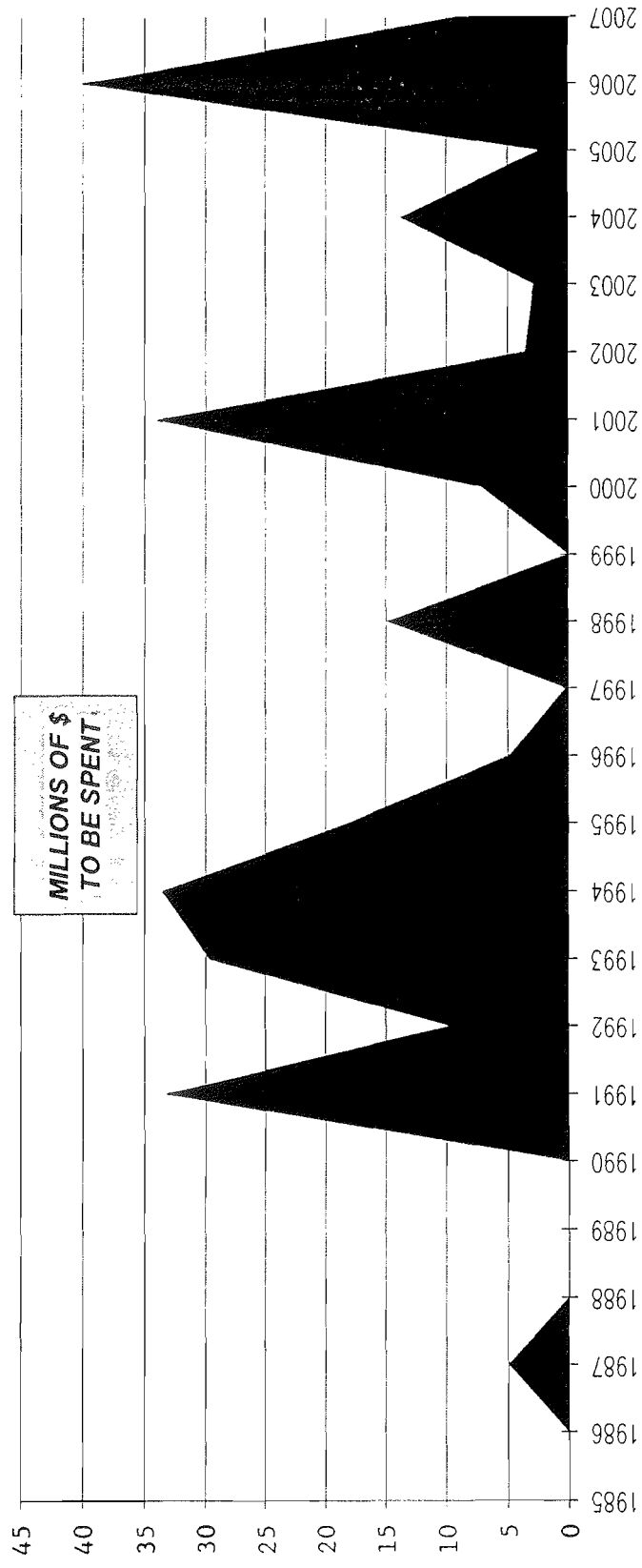
OBJECTIVES OF MASTER LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

- CONSOLIDATE INFORMATION ON COSTS AND PROJECTED WORKS FROM SIXTEEN INDIVIDUAL PLANS.
- ENSURE THAT THE NECESSARY \$ ARE AVAILABLE.
- RECOMMEND AN ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE TO COORDINATE THE PLAN.
- DEVELOP A LIST OF PROJECTS WHICH INDICATES THE RELATIVE VALUE OF EACH TO THE MAINTENANCE OF THE VALLEY ENVIRONMENT.

MORE PEOPLE, MORE SERVICES, MORE COSTS!

- THE OKANAGAN BASIN STUDY, COMPLETED IN 1974, PROJECTED 291,000 PEOPLE IN THE VALLEY BY 2020. IN REALITY, WE ARE 20 YEARS AHEAD OF THIS PACE AND OUR POPULATION MAY EXCEED 500,000 BY 2020.
- AS POPULATION INCREASES, PERIODS OF MAJOR EXPENDITURE ON LIQUID WASTE COLLECTION AND TREATMENT FACILITIES OCCUR:

CUMULATIVE COST BAR GRAPH



**THE PRESENT CONDITION OF OUR LAKES AND THE MEANS TO MAINTAIN IT INTO
THE NEXT CENTURY**

- WE HAVE SPENT OVER \$63 MILLION SINCE 1980 IN UPGRADING SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES IN THE VALLEY.
- THE RESULT IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE TREATMENT SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD, COMBINING TERTIARY METHODS SUCH AS LAND DISPOSAL THROUGH SPRAY IRRIGATION AND BIOLOGICAL NUTRIENT REMOVAL PLANTS.

■ **TABLE 1 - Summary of Total Phosphorus Loading From All Sources**

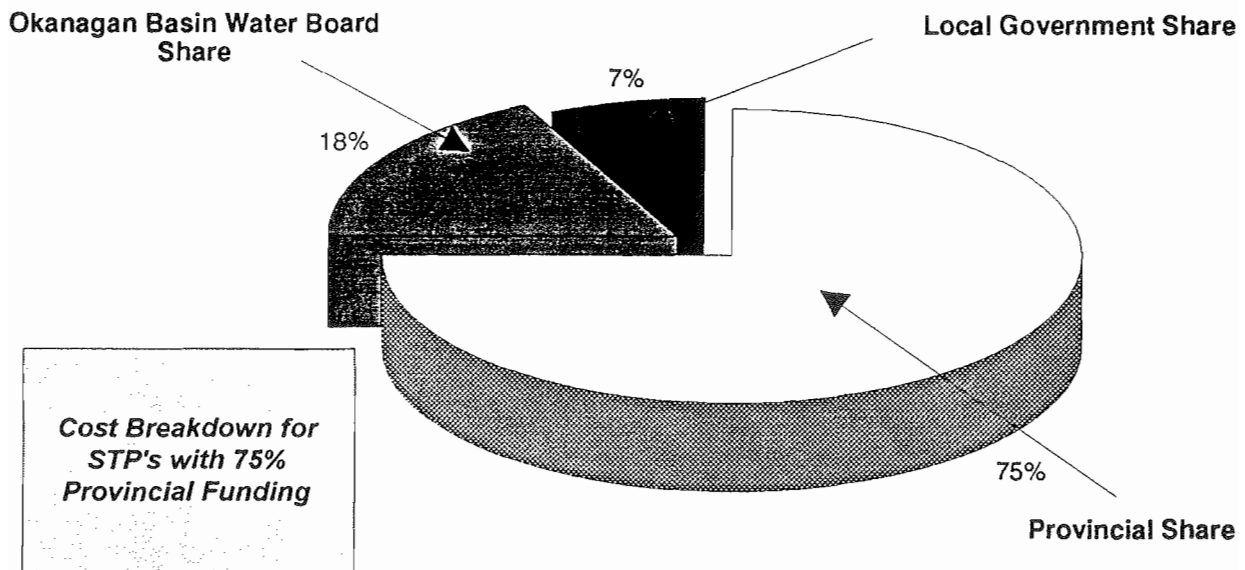
| Phosphorus loading in kg/year | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| SOURCE | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 |
| Treatment Plants | 59,000 | 19,000 | 8,000 |
| Septic Tanks | 8,000 | 11,500 | 17,000 |
| Agriculture | 4,500 | 12,000 | 2,500 |
| Forestry | 8,500 | 8,500 | 8,500 |
| Other | 42,000 | 42,000 | 42,000 |
| Total | 122,000 | 93,000 | 78,000 |

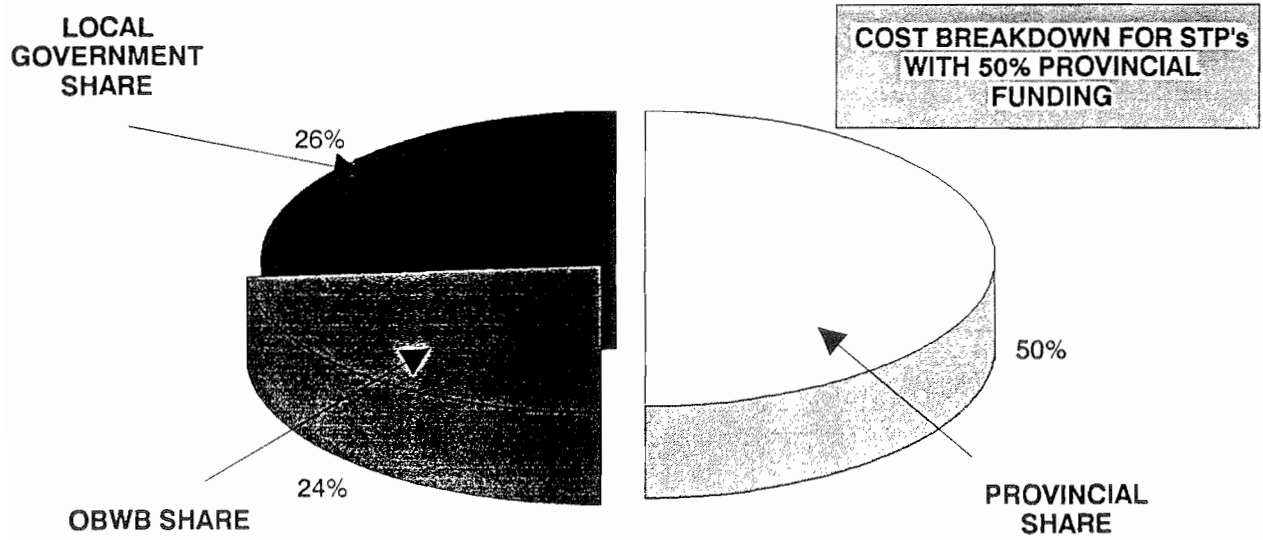
- THE BAD NEWS IS:

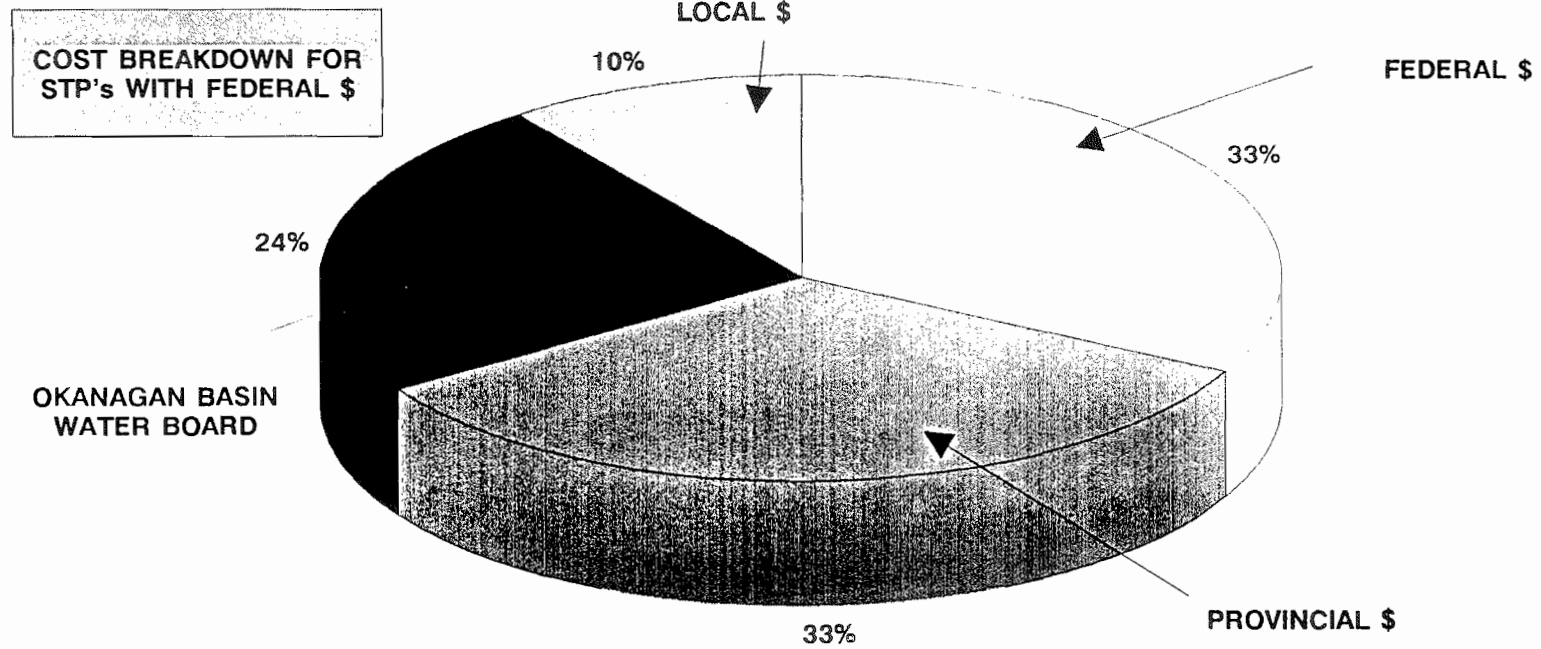
WE MUST BE PREPARED TO SPEND THE \$ SHOWN EARLIER JUST
TO KEEP THE CURRENT STANDARD OF WATER QUALITY

AND

NUTRIENT FROM EXISTING SOURCES MUST BE REDUCED TO
ACCOMMODATE NEW GROWTH OR THERE WILL BE A
DETERIORATION IN LAKE WATER QUALITY.







**\$\$\$\$\$ - A NEW APPROACH IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THE FUNDING IS AVAILABLE
TO PRESERVE THE QUALITY OF OUR LAKES**

- ALL OBWB FUNDS NOW COLLECTED (\$2 MILLION) ARE COMMITTED TO SERVICING DEBT CHARGES OF EXISTING TREATMENT FACILITIES.

SINCE 1977, THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HAS PAID OUT OVER \$15 MILLION TO VALLEY JURISDICTIONS UNDER ITS SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- THE VALLEY HAS HAD 75% FUNDING FROM THE PROVINCE UNTIL NOW. WITH THE ADDITIONAL 18% FROM THE WATER BOARD, LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAS HAD TO PICK UP ABOUT 7% OF THE COSTS.

WITH 50% PROVINCIAL FUNDING, AND THE WATER BOARD SHARE INCREASED TO 24%, THE LOCAL SHARE WILL RISE TO 26%.

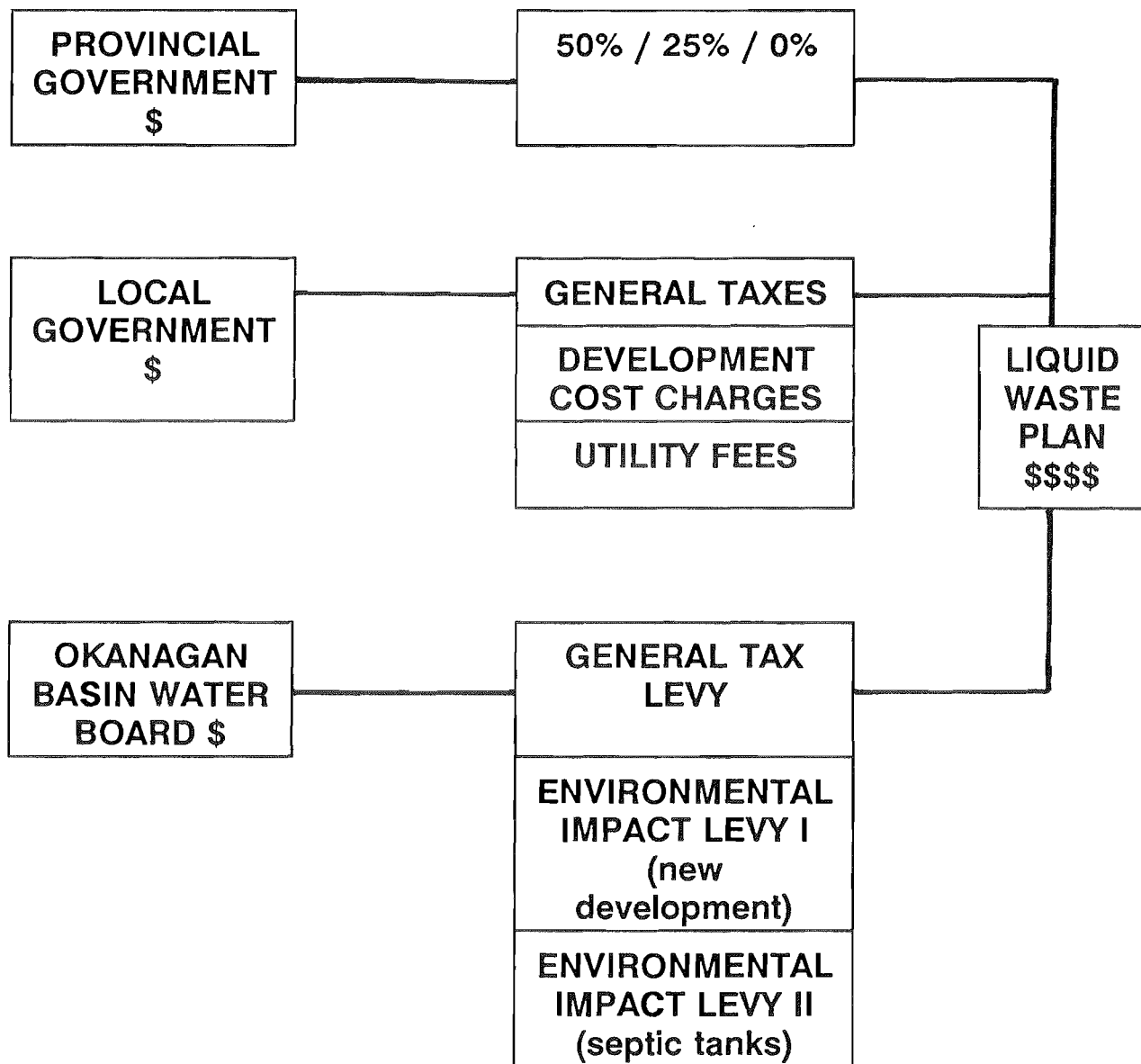
- NEW SOURCES OF FUNDING MUST BE LOOKED AT TO RAISE THE NECESSARY \$:

GENERAL LEVY INCREASE

EIL I - GROWTH PAYS FOR ITSELF

EIL II - SEPTIC TANK USERS PAY (FOR EVERY KG OF PHOSPHORUS ENTERING THE LAKE ONE MUST BE REMOVED FROM AN EXISTING SOURCE.)

\$\$\$\$
**A NEW APPROACH IS NEEDED TO ENSURE FUNDS ARE
AVAILABLE TO PRESERVE THE QUALITY OF OUR LAKES**



OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON MARCH 31ST, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 540 GROVES AVENUE, KELOWNA, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Director G. Ockenden | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Ginther | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Hobson | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director W. McGrath | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director G. Kiss | N.O.R.D. |
| | Alternate Director G. Rieger | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director J. Kimberley | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u> | R.A. Nickel | Ministry of Environment |
| | R. Townson | Ministry of Environment |
| | M.D.Maxnuk | Ministry of Environment |

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

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Kiss:

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

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

AGREEMENT FOR AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL:

Mr. Mackiewich informed the Board that he, together with Mr. Armour, Mr. Maxnuk and Mr. Nickel, had reviewed the Agreement for aquatic weed control and made substantial changes to the original document. He also reported that there remained several areas relating to indemnity and release of the Ministry from responsibility which he felt would not be in the interest of the Water Board to agree to. He stated that the Board could attempt to insure itself against these eventualities, but that costs might be high.

The Field Supervisor asked the Board for direction in dealing with insurance of the

equipment. He indicated that estimates obtained three years ago were very high and would significantly impact the amount of work done. At that time, the Board had elected not to insure the equipment. An updated estimate had been sought from a Vernon based insurer, but not received at the time of the meeting.

Mr. Maxnuk suggested exploring such options as insuring only the most costly pieces of equipment, or insuring equipment for the portion of the year when it was at high risk.

The Board directed Mr. Armour to obtain a current estimate for insurance for consideration at the next meeting.

Mr. Armour indicated that the liability coverage carried by the weed program was for one million dollars and wondered if this amount should be increased.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Kimberley:

"That the liability insurance coverage carried by the Okanagan Basin Water Board for the aquatic weed control program be raised from its present level of one million dollars to five million dollars."

CARRIED.

Alternate Director Rieger entered the meeting at 10:30 A.M.

Director McGrath wondered if the Board had explored all possibilities of contracting out weed control work. He noted that the media in Vernon had reported on a local contractor performing weed control work in Egypt and Africa.

Mr. Armour noted that the Board had entered into a contact with the company referred to by Director McGrath, to do weed control work at Kalamalka Beach a few years ago, and that the work was marginal at best in its effectiveness. In addition, the contractor had indicated he could not continue to do work at the price he was paid for that job.

Mr. Armour summarized that the policy of the Okanagan Basin Water Board required any contractor or inventor to perform an unpaid test for the Board to prove the effectiveness and environmental suitability of his method. If the effectiveness of weed removal met or exceeded that achieved by our methods, and the price was better than our cost, we would recommend that the contractor be retained.

Director Cameron agreed that the Board should remain open to the approach of private contractors.

Mr. Mackiewich advised that the Water Board could not fund the development of equipment by contractors and that technology considered by the Board needed to be of proven capability.

Mr. Nickel and Mr. Mackiewich left the meeting to discuss the Weed Control Agreement further.

Alternate Director Rieger questioned the philosophy of disturbing the lake bottom by such methods as rototilling and possibly suspending phosphorus in the water column.

Mr. Maxnuk observed that aquatic plant growth recycles bound phosphorus if left untreated and that wave action constantly had the effect of suspending lake bottom sediments.

Mr. Maxnuk put forward a request that the Water Board consider assisting the Ministry with a shortfall of \$12,000 in the amount of funding available for aquatic weed control at Christina Lake and Nanaimo. He explained that requests for funding totalled \$462,000 and only \$450,000 was allocated. He stated that these projects were considered high priority by his Ministry and were continuing to receive 75% funding and asked that the Okanagan Basin Water Board agree to make up half of the shortfall with the remainder coming from the Columbia Shuswap Regional District program.

The Chairman remarked that the Okanagan Basin Water Board had made a substantial increase in local funding commitments in moving to 50/50 funding for 1994-95 and noted that this increase had been time consuming and difficult to sell to the regional districts. He felt that to suggest that we cutback our program at this late date was completely unacceptable.

Director Kimberley asked if the Province had continued to explore alternate sources of revenue for weed control funding discussed at earlier meetings, which could perhaps assist them in meeting this shortfall.

Director Cameron related that the residents of Summerland had been faced with and accepted a 21% increase in the requisition to support the Okanagan Basin Water Board and he felt it was inappropriate to go back and alter this.

Chairman Hobson indicated that the Province has saved money by reducing its contribution to programs to 50% and this was the only reason that there were some funds available for new control programs. He also stated that he was surprised to learn that certain programs were still eligible for 75% funding as he understood we were all subject to the same funding restrictions.

CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT**SKAHA ESTATES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT - Request for Aquatic Weed Control**

Mr. Armour told the Board that some rototilling had been done in this area on the east side of Skaha Lake in recent years and there appeared to be positive results. The residents would like to see the work continued and we have scheduled machine time for the area. Mr Armour indicated that the area is not totally residential, but contains a lakefront neighbourhood park.

The Board received the letter.

MONTANE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INC. - Proposal to Undertake Bio-Control Research Program for Purple Loosestrife

A proposal (attached) from Mr. Glen Johnson of Montane Resource Management Inc. of Kelowna was received by the Water Board.

The Chairman explained that this proposal had been received earlier that day and he had a brief conversation with the author.

Mr. Armour indicated that he had been contacted by Mr. Johnson the previous day with respect to the possibility of the Water Board supporting follow up work on a release of a potential biocontrol agent for Purple loosestrife. Mr. Armour suggested submitting details for the Board's consideration but as he had not yet reviewed the proposal he was unfamiliar with its content.

Mr. Armour reviewed the involvement of the Okanagan Basin Water Board with the Purple loosestrife issue over the past few years and suggested that if the biocontrol research were promising, the Board might wish to lobby for financial support.

Director Cameron wished to clarify the parties involved in the research effort prior to asking for senior government support.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Montane Resource Management Inc. proposal to undertake bio-control research program for Purple Loosestrife be referred to the Ministry of Environment for review and comment, following clarification of the participants in the control research performed to date."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS**TOWN OF OSOYOOS - Okanagan Valley Master Liquid Waste Plan**

Director Shields explained that the Councillors of the Town of Osoyoos were interested in receiving a presentation on the details of the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan and also in showing the members of the Okanagan Basin Water Board the problems with the current quality of water in Osoyoos Lake.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN - Okanagan Valley Master Liquid Waste Plan

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen requested a joint meeting of the three valley regional districts at which recommendations pertaining to the Master Liquid Waste Plan could be presented.

The Chairman commented that a presentation to the Valley Growth Management Steering Committee would reach representatives of all regional districts.

Director Cameron said that he sensed a need for all boards and councils to identify a representative of the Okanagan Basin Water Board with presentation of information on this plan.

Director Kiss observed that once the position of the current Board evolves, we can present the recommendations to as many groups as we wish.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Shields:

"That a presentation of the recommendations of the Okanagan Basin Water Board concerning the Okanagan Valley Liquid Waste Management Plan be made to each regional district board at a regularly scheduled meeting, so that we contact the maximum number of representatives possible."

CARRIED.

Mr. Nickel and Mr. Mackiewicz returned to the meeting and reported on the results of their discussion of Draft 6 of the Agreement for Aquatic Weed Control. (presented to the Water Board at this meeting)

The Administrator advised that his areas of concern centred on the "release" and indemnity sections, and we required a legal interpretation of exactly what these clauses committed our Board to.

The Board agreed to receive Draft 6 of the Agreement and refer it to legal council for an opinion on the items listed above. The Board withheld ratification of the agreement pending receipt of this legal advice.

Mr. Nickel reiterated the earlier request for assistance in covering the Ministry \$12,000 shortfall by reducing the Okanagan Basin Water Board and Shuswap programs by \$6,000 each.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment explaining that the Okanagan Basin Water Board has taken on a greatly increased financial role in aquatic weed control under the new agreement and cannot accept a reduction in the service provided to valley residents by a cutback at this time."

CARRIED.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT - Funding for Aquatic Weed Control

The Minister of Environment replied to the Water Board letter of February 10th, 1994 and stated that his Ministry remains committed to funding this program for five years.

The Field Supervisor noted that this letter did not confirm the promised funding level of \$200,000 per year and left the Board in the position of commencing the new fiscal year (April 1st) without real assurance of the extent of senior government support.

Mr. Maxnuk indicated that a follow up letter had been drafted which should give a greater degree of assurance that adequate funds have been allocated to meet the program needs.

Chairman Hobson observed that the Okanagan Basin Water Board would proceed with the weed control program on good faith that the Provincial dollars would be forthcoming. He said that in recent conversations with Assistant Deputy Minister Jon O'Riordan he had received reassurance that the funds had been set aside.

MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS - Letter Acknowledging Receipt of Okanagan Basin Water Board Support for Sewer Extension Project in Osoyoos

The Board received the above correspondence and Director Shields thanked the Board for its support.

**CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF PEACHLAND - Okanagan Basin Water Board
Support of Infrastructure Grant Application**

The District of Peachland stated that they would advise the Okanagan Basin Water Board of the nature of any grant applications under the Federal Provincial Infrastructure Renewal Program and likely take advantage of the Boards's offer of support.

**DISTRICT OF COLDSTREAM - Okanagan Basin Water Board Support of Infrastructure
Grant Application**

The District of Coldstream advised that funding for two projects was being applied for under the **Federal Provincial Infrastructure Renewal Program**, and although the District did not have a completed liquid waste management plan, support for this work from the Water Board would be appreciated.

HON. GLEN CLARK - MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS -

The Minister provided general information on the Infrastructure Grant program in response to a letter from the Okanagan Basin Water Board suggesting there could be a role for the Board in ensuring that projects funded in the Okanagan were those which would be of greatest benefit to the valley.

Chairman Hobson informed the Board that the Minister had told him that ratification of the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan might have put the valley in a strong position in competing for allocation of funds.

The letter was received by the Board.

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN - Appointment of an Additional
Director to the Okanagan Basin Water Board**

Correspondence from the Regional District of Central Okanagan was received indicating that they supported the addition of another representative from each region to the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Mr. Mackiewicz pointed out that restructuring of the Board may occur as a result of the development of the Growth Management Strategy. The Board of the North Okanagan Regional District had discussed the addition of a fourth director and felt the Water Board should wait until the directions of the Regional Growth Management Strategy have been established and the means of implementation is known.

Director Shields observed that with First Nations involvement and an additional regional

director, the size of the Okanagan Basin Water Board could become cumbersome.

Director Kimberley agreed with the Administrator, and said the RDOS concerns that their practice of appointment of three mayors to the Board could be changed to give rural representation.

DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS - Response to Okanagan Basin Water Board Letter Regarding Conduct of Weighscale Supervisor

The Board received a reply to correspondence sent to the Deputy Minister of Transportation and Highways. The letter thanked the Board for pointing out this situation and stated that vigilance in performing duties did not excuse inappropriate handling of clients.

The Board received the letter noting that the reply did not really address the specifics of the incident.

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF PEACHLAND - Request for Support of Drinking Water Quality Testing by Okanagan Basin Water Board

The Board received a request from the District of Peachland asking for support of a request for Ministry of Municipal Affairs funding to carry out drinking water quality testing in community water system storage areas.

Director Ginther explained that the increased amount of logging and recreational activity within watershed areas had given rise to concern about detrimental effects on water supply quality.

Director Shields said he supports the proposal to utilize Okanagan University College based on the experience of Osoyoos with a college project involving water quality monitoring of Osoyoos Lake.

Director Cameron stressed that the Okanagan Basin Water Board should ensure that such studies are coordinated with other agencies doing monitoring work so that efforts are not duplicated.

The Chairman pointed out that this type of coordinating role is part of the mandate of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Mr. Nickel said that the Ministry of Environment has a Water Quality Branch and a recently appointed director. He advised that it might be appropriate for the Board to invite the Director, Mr. Prad Khare, to a meeting to outline Ministry objectives. The Board

agreed to extend this invitation.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That a letter be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs supporting the study of drinking water quality in the Peachland area watersheds providing this work coordinates with other monitoring and meets Ministry standards."

CARRIED.

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF PEACHLAND - Request for Okanagan Basin Water Board to Undertake a Comprehensive Watershed Study

Director Ginther explained that his council had grave concerns about deterioration of watersheds throughout the valley as a result of increasing industrial and recreational activity. They felt that some control of practices within watersheds was necessary on a valley wide basis.

Alternate Director Rieger supported the Okanagan Basin Water Board taking the initiative to get local government involved in the policies of the Province with respect to watershed management practices.

The letter was received by the Board and it was noted by the Chairman that the topic was appropriate for discussion with the Director of Water Quality Branch.

The meeting adjourned for a brief lunch.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OKANAGAN VALLEY MASTER LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN -

The Chairman reviewed the decision of the Board to revisit the recommendations made by the previous Board on the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan. He noted that three meetings had been invested in reviewing the consultants recommendations but stressed that the Board must agree on its position with respect to this document.

Mr. Armour outlined the material which had been circulated and asked how the Board wished to proceed in its review and discussion.

Director McGrath wondered if the discussion of the Plan should be delayed until local Liquid Waste Plans are updated. He advised the Board that the City of Vernon plan would likely see major changes in being updated, and cost projections could vary widely from

the original forecasts.

Mr. Nickel commented that the flexibility to enter such changes and modifications into the Master Plan at any time was there. The idea was to begin the process as soon as possible.

Chairman Hobson stated that the need for the Master Plan was based on the inability of present methods of funding to support future infrastructure made necessary by growth in the valley.

Alternate Director Rieger noted that the proposed levy on septic tanks was the subject of disagreement at the last meeting and wondered if the Directors had reviewed their positions. He said that he supported lakeshore property owners contributing to solving the problems they create, but could not support any charge to upland properties whose on-site systems probably never would negatively impact the lakes.

Mr. Townson commented, that in general, costs of sewage treatment facilities would tend to escalate and not decline. He cited the example of the Westbank plant which had been sized to accommodate future growth but was already being used to capacity.

Director Kiss observed that this plan is not only concerned with raising money, but also with predicting the future environmental effects of growth on the valley.

Director McGrath remarked that communities would eventually draw the same amount of dollars from the Master Plan as they contributed.

Mr. Townson replied that the issue is one of timing; a pooling of resources through a Master Plan will ensure that money is available when needed, especially in the case of large capital expenditures.

Director Kimberley asserted that we must take action now to have a chance of dealing effectively with impacts of current growth in the valley. We can not afford to wait and discover that we do not have the resources to deal with the problems which will come.

Chairman Hobson summarized that the Master Plan had been commissioned by the Board with the agreement of all three regional districts. We are obligated to present the recommendations of this Board to the regions.

Director Shields observed that no-one likes to pay taxes but most valley citizens are prepared to pay for the preservation and maintenance of a quality environment.

There was a discussion of the previous Boards' recommendations:

Assimilative Capacity of the Lakes:

Mr. Armour reviewed the position of the previous Board that agreed with the consultants report: that any increase in phosphorus input into the lakes would result in a degradation of water quality. In addition, to accommodate growth, there must be a reduction in phosphorus input from existing sources.

Director McGrath questioned the focus on phosphorus as the limiting nutrient in effects on lake water quality. He noted that in some cases, nitrogen or salts may be limiting factors.

Mr. Armour replied that this was a case where the opinion of experts such as Dr. Oldham of the University of B.C. was relied on, as well as the evidence of improvement in the lakes since the implementation of phosphorus reduction measures. He added that both BNR treatment plants and effluent irrigation systems were effective in achieving high levels of nitrogen removal at the same time as lowering phosphorus.

The Board agreed that there is no room to increase phosphorus loading in the Okanagan Lake system without there being undesirable degradation in water quality.

Maintenance and preservation of wetlands, marshes, and swamps:**Moved by Alternate Director Rieger and seconded by Director Ginther:**

"That the Board strongly supports the preservation of marshlands and recognizes the importance of these areas in purification of run-off water. This recommendation should be communicated, by letter, to regional districts, municipalities, first nations, and wildlife associations, and should include any technical information available from the Ministry of Environment."

CARRIED.

First Nations Lands:

The Board agreed that it wishes to see First Nations lands within the basin develop in a manner that addresses the preservation of water quality, and deals with liquid waste disposal in an environmentally appropriate manner.

Moved by Director Kiss and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board correspond with the Ministry of Indian Affairs and

the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs to stress the need to cooperate in ensuring that uniform and adequate standards are applied to all lands surrounding the Okanagan watershed."

CARRIED.

Sources of Nutrient Loading:

The Board agreed with the recommendations made earlier:

- That there be an increased focus on reduction of phosphorus loading from forestry and agriculture.
- **Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Cameron:**

"That it be recommended there be no further new development approved by municipalities or regional districts in areas identified as environmental control zones."

CARRIED.

- **Moved by Director Kiss and seconded by Director Ginther:**

"That the concept of integrated watershed planning on a valley wide basis be supported by the Board and added to the recommendations endorsed in the Master Liquid Waste Plan."

CARRIED.

Lake Water Quality Monitoring:

The Okanagan Basin Water Board agreed that the Ministry of Environment water quality monitoring program should be maintained, and that shorelines in specific areas identified by the Ministry and/or local government be added to existing programs. The Board added that duplication of study efforts should be avoided by coordinating all proposals through the Ministry Water Quality Branch.

Land Use Planning:

Mr. Armour reviewed the position of the previous Board on the issue of OBWB involvement in land use issues. He said that the Board had opposed any land use authority being granted at this time and recommended the issue of regional land use jurisdiction be referred to the Growth Management Strategy process. The Board supported the individual land use planning steps contained in the consultants report as concepts for consideration under regional growth management.

Moved by Director Ockenden, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board supports the establishment of a single land use planning coordinating agency with the intent of seeking standardization of land use planning policies and procedures within the Okanagan Valley. This would not attempt to limit the mandate of existing planning authorities but would provide a forum for dialogue which should lead to a more uniform approach to land use planning in the valley."

CARRIED.

OTHER MATTERS:

The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board was scheduled for 10:00 A.M. April 28th, 1994 at the North Okanagan Regional District.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON APRIL 28TH, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Director G. Ockenden | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Ginther | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Hobson | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director W. McGrath | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director G. Kiss | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director E. Hornby | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |
| <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u> | Alternate Director G. Rieger | N.O.R.D. |
| | P. Epp | Ministry of Environment |
| | M.D. Maxnuk | Ministry of Environment |
| | T. Louie | Osoyoos Indian Band |
| <u>STAFF:</u> | P. Mackiewich | Administrator |
| | G. Armour | Field Supervisor |

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Ockenden:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on March 31st, 1994, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Director Ginther entered the meeting.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

AGREEMENT FOR AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL:

Mr. Mackiewich informed the Board that he had obtained a legal opinion pertaining Draft #6 of the agreement for aquatic plant control proposed by the Ministry of Environment. This confirmed that the agreement did not reflect a partnership between the Province and Okanagan Basin Water Board, but is similar to an agreement that the Province might have with a contractor.

The Administrator also indicated that the indemnity sought by the Province would extend to virtually every act of negligence on the part of the Water Board employees, and this was unacceptable as a certain amount of risk was inherent in the performance of the Services defined in the agreement.

Mr. Maxnuk questioned whether the Water Board would want a true partnership with involvement of MOE in daily operations. He reminded the Board that the Minister's October announcement had said the programs would be locally directed. He also informed the Board that the incident involving the death of the operator of a weed harvester at Mill Lake was being taken to B.C. Supreme Court by the father of the deceased. This action was directed at the MOE and furthered the resolve of his Ministry to indemnify themselves against being considered responsible in operations where they had no control over day to day activities.

Mr. Armour agreed that this was a Contractor type agreement but wondered if this arrangement was acceptable to the Okanagan Basin Water Board as he felt it unlikely that the Province would accept any sort of partnership agreement. He indicated that it was not unusual for them to give funding and not accept any responsibility, although in this case, the resource in question is Crown Land and we are contributing half of the cost of maintaining the resource.

On the question of liability, Sections 6.4, 10 (Release), and 11 (Indemnity) ensure that the Water Board and its insurers will carry 100% of the liability whether or not equipment involved is owned by the Province or not. Mr. Armour felt that section 6.4 was acceptable in that it is fairly restricted and defined; Section 11 is broad and could open Water Board to 100% of the costs of many routine program occurrences, ie. damage to water lines etc., however our insurance will cover major expenses. We might wish to specify that insurance premiums, deductible amounts etc. are 50/50 cost sharable for such occurrences.

Negligence refers to actions a reasonable person might take to prevent accident or damage, where gross negligence implies a wilful or wanton disregard for safety. (Gross negligence is defined as behaviour substantially higher in magnitude than simple inadvertence, but falls short of intentional wrong.)

Mr. Armour stated that again, our insurance covers all but deductible amount, or successful lawsuits in excess of our coverage. He reported that as instructed by the Board, he had increased the amount of third party liability insurance from one million to five million dollars. The premium had increased from \$800 to \$1450 per year.

In summary, the Field Supervisor indicated that the risk to the Board would be in the

event of loss or extensive damage to equipment for which we do not presently carry insurance.

A quote on all perils insurance for all equipment used in the program came in at \$35,000 per year. A second quote from another insurer of 1% of value was received, with the suggestion of using actual cash value rather than replacement. The agreement specifies replacement value, however. This policy would be \$5000 deductible and in the area of \$10,000/year.

Insuring some of the equipment for part of the year is not acceptable to the insurer.

Mr. Armour reported that we have yet to lose or severely damage a piece of equipment in thirteen years of operation and asked the Board for input on an acceptable level of risk.

Moved by Director Kiss and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That Mr. Armour and Mr. Maxnuk work out acceptable terms and wording of the agreement to cover the shareability of cost of loss or damage to equipment and bring a recommendation back to the next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board. "

CARRIED.

REPLACEMENT OF WORK TRUCKS:

The Field Supervisor informed the Board that it presently has two 1980 GMC pick-ups with over 400,000 kms on each. There is a need to replace these vehicles with something more reliable. The trucks are used for transportation of crew, parts, fuel, and service equipment. (welder etc.)

Mr. Armour advised that he would like to get one 4 wheel drive for access to upper elevation lakes, winter use and access to equipment on beach areas to perform repairs. He suggested that used vehicles had been purchased in the past and would be acceptable.

Past practice in capital purchases under the joint program has been to take funds from our equipment reserve and charge a monthly rental until the Provincial share is recovered.

Director Hornby wondered if the amount of use seen by these truck made the purchase of new vehicles advisable and also asked about the disposition of the existing trucks.

The Administrator told the Board that the old trucks were not likely to be suitable trade

in material and the Board agreed to leave disposition of these vehicles to Mr. Mackiewich's discretion.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Shields:

"That Mr. Armour be authorized to purchase two work trucks with funds from the equipment reserve. Used trucks would be acceptable. "

CARRIED.

CONTRACTING OUT:

Mr. Armour explained that there had been interest from Mr. Ron Jensen, a resident of Kelowna in contracting work with an owner operated derooting machine, and noted that this equipment might be useful in sites too small for our equipment or if we run short of equipment time this year.

Mr. Armour asked if the Board would need to go through tendering process or could small jobs be commissioned at discretion of the Field Supervisor and Mr. Maxnuk?

Director Cameron asked for an approximate dollar figure for such a contract and clarification on the number of such contracts to be let.

Mr. Armour said that he was thinking of amounts of \$5000 or less and a single contract. He pointed out that he could then report back to the Board on whether this contractor was a viable option for future use.

Mr. Maxnuk noted that Mr. Jensen was, to his knowledge, the sole available derooting contractor.

Director Ockenden commented that Mr. Jensen had a private contract with a residents association at Westside Cays, near Westbank, for weed control.

Director McGrath entered the meeting.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Field Supervisor be authorized to enter into a one time agreement for an amount not exceeding \$5000 for contract derooting work, and that after completion of this work he report the results to the Okanagan Basin Water Board."

CARRIED.

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING OF WATER QUALITY BRANCH DIRECTOR:

Mr. Armour informed the Board that he had contacted Mr. Prad Khare, the new director of the Ministry of Environment Water Quality Branch, and he had indicated that he would be pleased to attend a meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board to discuss issues of mutual interest. Mr. Khare said that June 1st would be a suitable date.

The Board agreed to meet June 1st in Penticton, and issue an invitation to the Director to attend.

CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS**REQUESTS TO SUPPORT LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPLICATIONS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL GRANTS:**

Mr. Armour informed the Board that the following request to support applications for funding under the Federal Provincial Infrastructure Renewal Program had been received:

| | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| RDOS | Osoyoos Lake Sewer | \$1.681 million |
| | | 2.904 million |
| | | 2.653 million |
| | Gallagher Lake Sewer | \$1.805 million |
| RDCO | Winfield Sewer extension | \$6.0 million |
| | Sunnyside - | 1.8 million |
| | Oyama Irrigation District - | 1.8 million |
| Coldstream | Sewer lift stations - | \$.337855 million |
| Penticton | Sewer Main Replacements - | \$.254000 million |
| | Alberni Lift Station - | .500000 million |
| | Lakeside South Lift Station - | .165000 million |

Director McGrath indicated that information regarding the City of Vernon application was available from City Engineer, Dick Vest.

Director Ginther said that he would obtain specifics of any application made by

Peachland.

An additional letter from the Township of Spallumcheen was submitted by Alternate Director Rieger asking for Board support for a grant application in the amount of \$2.371 million for extension and expansion of Armstrong treatment facilities to Spallumcheen.

The Coldstream application for a new effluent irrigation facility was discussed.

Mr. Epp noted that Coldstream's liquid waste management plan is not at a finalized stage 3 report, but will be in the very near future and therefore could be considered as part of an approved plan.

Director McGrath observed that support of the Coldstream application may not result in the best use of dollars as capacity already exists in the City of Vernon facility.

Director Hornby stated that he could support all projects in approved liquid waste plans and trust that the Ministry of Environment will consider such factors as pointed out by Director McGrath in developing their priorities.

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board support applications for Infrastructure Renewal Grants for liquid waste treatment works which would be eligible for funding under the Board's sewage facilities assistance program as protecting the water quality of the Okanagan."

CARRIED.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN:

The Board received a letter from the Regional District of North Okanagan indicating that they do not support the addition of a fourth director from each region to the Water Board at this time, but would like to allow the role of the Water Board in regional growth management to be clarified first.

MONTANE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INC. - Proposal to Undertake Bio-Control Research Program for Purple Loosestrife

Mr. Armour referred to the proposal from Montane Resource Management Inc. of Kelowna received at the April 2nd meeting.

He explained that he had obtained information on the subject from the Ministry of Environment indicating the release of the beetle bio-control agent done last year was performed by a U.B.C. entomologist (Judy Myers), with the lead role from Ministry of Agriculture. No funding for follow up was available for this season.

Mr. Armour reported that he had sent a letter of support to the Public Assistance Fund, Wildlife Branch, MOE, not specifically supporting this proposal but supporting continuation of biocontrol work done last year.

Moved by Director Ginther, seconded by Director Kiss:

"That a letter be sent to the Ministry of Agriculture proposal expressing concern that funding had not been made available to follow up on purple loosestrife bio-control work started last year."

CARRIED.

FIRST NATIONS INVOLVEMENT ON THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD:

Notification of appointment of delegates from the Westbank and Osoyoos Indian Bands to the Okanagan Basin Water Board were received. They are Mike Watts and Steven Alex, respectively.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OKANAGAN VALLEY MASTER LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN -

The Chairman reminded the Board that discussion at the last meeting of the recommendations of the previous Board relating to the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan had concluded at the land use planning section. He noted that there seemed to be some agreement that, although the Water Board would not seek authority over local land use decisions, it could act to pull together information and expertise to advise on best practices. He added that further discussion of this could take place at the Growth Management Steering Committee meeting scheduled for May 26th in Penticton.

Director Ginther observed that in the Peachland area, it appears that people are not always informed of regulations governing work around streams and also that regulations are sometimes not enforced especially in more isolated sites. He stressed the need for a central 'clearing house' for information, to reduce the confusion with many ministries responsible.

Mr. Epp agreed that standards need to be communicated to the public and to local government.

Director Ockenden commented that regulations are not always uniform or clearly interpreted for local government.

The motion from page 13 of the minutes of the March 31st board meeting was discussed and amended as follows:

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the motion of the Okanagan Basin Water Board contained on page #13 of the minutes of the March 31st meeting relating to land use be amended to read:

That the Okanagan Basin Water Board supports a single centralizing and coordinating agency with the intent of seeking standardization of land use planning policies and procedures within the Okanagan Valley. This would not attempt to limit the mandate of existing planning authorities but would provide a forum for dialogue which should lead to a more uniform approach to land use planning in the valley."

CARRIED.

Director Kiss observed that manpower is needed to perform this coordinating job and there is a reluctance to create additional bureaucracy.

Director Cameron stated that a start should be made toward making information understandable and available but we do not need to set a firm policy that a new level of government is required; it may be that the task could be handled by the Growth Management group, the Okanagan Basin Water Board, or the Province.

The Field Supervisor outlined the recommendations concerning prioritization of liquid waste projects:

- Expansion of treatment plants and effluent irrigation systems will not be prioritized as these must go ahead when the populations level dictates.
- Allocation of funding for extension of sewer systems into presently unsewered areas would be prioritized in the event that the demand on the fund exceeded the dollars available in a specific year.

-
- The proposed method of ranking projects incorporates the total phosphorus removed, the cost effectiveness (cost per kilogram), and local switches or factors such as health concerns that would raise the priority of a specific project.

Director McGrath questioned the need to prioritize liquid waste projects observing that the Province already does this.

Director Kiss stated that the Province is moving toward regionalization of many issues to avoid dealing with an overwhelming number of individual jurisdictions.

Director Cameron noted that we are competing for limited dollars from Victoria and a coordinated plan might carry more weight at the political level.

The Administrator was asked to review the current policy for allocation of sewage facilities grants by the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Mr. Mackiewich said that the Water Board shares in any works which receive provincial funding including treatment plants, trunk mains, lift stations.

Mr. Armour commented that the Master liquid waste plan was intended to raise funds to ensure the maintenance of high standards in the face of declining sources of revenue from the Province. The plan would still incorporate a general levy, as well as the Environmental impact levies on new growth and septic tanks.

Director Ginther noted that in his area, there is a tremendous resistance to doing anything that raises taxes, as Peachland citizens are paying some of the highest rates in the valley.

Director McGrath stated that it is the responsibility of the Province to identify problem areas. He remarked that a small but long term discharge of low quality effluent equates to a temporary major failure in a larger community in terms of the net input into the lake system. He said the former situation would be tolerated by the Province but the latter would be a violation of the permit.

Mr. Epp explained that the Province has stopped short of declaring an environmental emergency in areas like Peachland, Summerland, and Okanagan Landing. These areas are high priority for action but the actual health hazard required for an emergency does not exist.

Moved by Director Ginther and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the prioritization criteria for liquid waste works contained in the consultants report be

endorsed by the Okanagan Basin Water Board."

CARRIED.

Mr. Armour outlined the recommendation of the Board that a review of liquid waste plans be carried out at five year intervals.

Moved by Director Ginther, seconde by Director McGrath:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board recommend a review of completed liquid waste plans at five year intervals and plans be updated as necessary."

The Board discussed the funding of plan updates.

Moved by Director Ginther and seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the role of the Okanagan Basin Water Board in funding of liquid waste plan update will be examined, but the primary focus of Water Board dollars should continue to be the reduction of phosphorus input into the lakes."

CARRIED.

The recommendations concerning the administrative structure were endorsed by the Board.

A description of the function of the technical planning committee which used to make use of local and provincial expertise was given by the Administrator.

Moved by Director Ginther, seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the re-establishment of a Technical Planning Committee be endorsed by the Okanagan Basin Water Board."

CARRIED.

The Chairman suggested that the Field Supervisor collate the recommendations of the Okanagan Basin Water Board with respect to the liquid waste master plan and present this information at the next meeting. The Board agreed.

OTHER MATTERS:

NORTH OKANAGAN SEPTIC DISPOSAL SITE FAILURE:

The Administrator informed the Board of a problem at the septic disposal site operated by the North Okanagan Regional District. Effluent was in danger of spilling over the confines of the site and arrangements had been made with the City of Vernon to process material while the problem is rectified.

The Chairman commented that this may be a form of sewage treatment facility not dealt with in the consultant's report. he asked the Administrator if the Water Board could obtain a policy statement from the Regional District on this issue.

OSOYOOS INDIAN BAND:

Mr. Louie thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate in the meeting and suggested that the Board might wish to schedule a session on its agenda to discuss native issues.

Mr. Louie reported that the Osoyoos Band were in the planning stages for a major development on the shores of Osoyoos Lake and would like to ensure that impacts on lake water quality were minimized.

The Board expressed its pleasure in having First Nations participation in this meeting and agreed that native involvement should be addressed in a timely manner.

The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board was scheduled for 10:00 A.M., June 1st, 1994 at the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.



CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON JUNE 29TH, 1994, IN THE WOODHAVEN BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 1540 KLO ROAD, KELOWNA, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

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| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Robert Hobson | C.O.R.D/OBWB |
| | Vanessa Sutton | R.D.O.S. |
| | Terry Mori | N.O.R.D. |
| | Ken Ostraat | Summerland |
| | Bill Brown | Peachland |
| | Bob Carter | Summerland |
| | Terry Underwood | Osoyoos |
| | Joe Ukyrn | Osoyoos |
| | Harold Reay | C.O.R.D. |
| | Al Harrison | C.O.R.D. |
| | Blake Kimura | Vernon |
| | Bernd Fehrmann | Vernon |
| | Tom Szalay | Oliver |
| | Tim Wood | Penticton |
| | Ron Born | Kelowna |
| | Peter Mackiewicz | N.O.R.D/OBWB |
| | Greg Betts | Coldstream |
| | Barry Gagnon | Armstrong |

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| <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u> | Dick Nickel | Ministry of Environment |
| | Phil Epp | Ministry of Environment |
| | Greg Armour | Field Supervisor/ OBWB |
| | Neil Goldie | Ministry of Municipal Affairs |

Robert Hobson, the Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board outlined the reasons the Board had asked the meeting of regional district and municipal administrators be convened. He stated that there was a need to discuss potential changes in the funding formula for sewerage facilities grants in view of two recent events:

The Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Works Grants have changed the percentage of funding available from senior government for liquid waste projects. In addition, if all projects applied for from the Okanagan Valley are approved, the Okanagan Basin Water Board may not have sufficient revenue to provide its traditional share of support. Therefore a change in the formula for funding and in the order of priorities may be necessary. Secondly, the Okanagan Basin Water Board is finalizing its recommendations concerning the Okanagan Valley Master Liquid Waste Management Plan. The Plan recommends several alternative means of financing the debt for liquid waste projects included in local Liquid Waste Management Plans. Each of these alternatives has

WATER BOARD MEETING OF VALLEY ADMINISTRATORS - JUNE 29, 1994

implications for municipal and regional government and it is the Water Board's intent that its final recommendation support the requirements of local governments.

Mr. Hobson asked Mr. Mackiewich to address the subject of the Sewerage Facilities Assistance Fund.

Mr. Mackiewich, who acts as Administrator for the Okanagan Basin Water Board as well as the Regional District of North Okanagan gave an overview including the following points.

- established in 1977 in Supplementary Letters Patent held by Regional Districts.
- Approximately \$15 Million has been given out in grants since 1977.
- Originally set up to give an incentive to valley communities to move to advanced wastewater treatment. (tertiary treatment)
- and
- To accumulate a reserve which could be allocated to assist Okanagan Valley liquid waste treatment projects.
- The Okanagan Basin Water Board can collect 21¢ per \$1000 assessment. This can generate about \$3.2 million annually, at current assessments.
- In 1994-95 we collected 15.4¢ as this generates sufficient funds to service debt on all current projects. (\$2.4 million)
- Community sewer systems must be designed and operated to process effluent to a tertiary level. Both plants and collection systems are eligible for assistance.
- Communities will first pay the equivalent mill rate as prescribed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to the Revenue Sharing Act, on the net annual sewerage debt charge.
- All projects qualifying for provincial assistance will also qualify for Okanagan Basin Water Board funding.
- The Water Board will pay 18% of the net annual sewerage debt in excess of the amount referred to in point 4. Net annual sewerage debt costs are based on the assumption that 100 percent of the project qualifying for provincial funding is financed by borrowing amortized over 20 years at current MFA interest rates.

WATER BOARD MEETING OF VALLEY ADMINISTRATORS - JUNE 29, 1994

- If the amounts to be paid are greater than the funds available for distribution, the 18% will be reduced proportionately such that all recipients are reduced by the same percentage save those noted below.
- Where a community has not qualified for assistance from the Board previously, the reduction will not apply for the first three years and any shortfall will be born proportionately by the other qualifying communities.
- Grants require debt to be incurred. Under current Okanagan Basin Water Board practice, if a community pays costs up front, they are not eligible for Sewerage Facilities Assistance Grants.

Mr. Hobson asked that Mr. Armour review the proposals of the Master Liquid Waste Management Plan. He commented that this plan had been commissioned at the request of the three regional districts and explained that the Okanagan Basin Water Board wished information from this group on the need to access new sources of funds to address liquid waste costs.

Mr. Armour summarized the general recommendations of the plan:

- The cost of the consolidated recommendations of local LWP's (within plan horizons) approaches \$250 million in 1992 dollars.
- The lakes are at or close to their limit for nutrient input. As additional nutrient is generated by growth it must be accommodated in treatment and disposal systems and nutrient from existing sources must be reduced.
- Regional coordination and standardization of liquid waste planning is required. To preserve lake water quality, a broadening of perspectives is needed both in liquid waste management and land use planning.
- There is a need to prioritize projects to ensure that funds are applied where they will have the greatest benefit. (Treatment plant and effluent disposal expansions cannot be subject to prioritization as they must proceed when capacity is reached.)
- There is a need to collect funds from additional sources. This is based on acceptance that there are escalating costs of sewerage infrastructure and lagging revenue from the Province to support them; and that conventional methods used by local governments to generate utility revenues (DCC, user fees, frontage/parcel tax, and general levy) are proving inadequate to raise sufficient funds at the time required to address infrastructure costs. This is particularly the case in the start-up period when costs have been incurred and the debt amortized, but the revenues have not reached the break even point.

Proposed Additional Sources of Revenue:

WATER BOARD MEETING OF VALLEY ADMINISTRATORS - JUNE 29, 1994

Development Impact Levy I - new growth pays for cost of servicing
Development Impact Levy II - Septic systems in Environmental Control Zones
are sources of nutrient contamination entering the lakes and would pay
a surcharge.

Mr. Born commented that there is a resistance in Kelowna towards additional taxation burdens on development. He felt that there may be a role for the Okanagan Basin Water Board to play in standardizing these cost in the valley.

Mr. Wood expressed agreement with the proposed Environmental (Development) Impact Levies as representing an opportunity to get revenue from the growth putting increased pressure on infrastructure. He supported the levy on septic systems in sensitive areas as taxing polluters. Mr. Wood agreed that there was a need to draw from a source of funds to address start up funding problems with sewage infrastructure but said he favoured a parcel tax approach. He also stressed that valley jurisdictions must compete on an equal level for these funds.

Mr. Szalay was in favour of a continued Okanagan Basin Water Board subsidy, especially in Oliver where new local service areas have come on stream and require continued support. He felt that the EIL makes sense but that valley DCC charges need to be standardized.

Mr. Fehrmann said the City of Vernon was not in favour of a regional levy. Each community should be free to establish and collect their own revenue and the EIL system would remove this power to control the communities own destiny.

Mr. Kimura observed that as the subsidies from the province decline we may need to re-assess the whole system, and therefore, it might be advisable to wait before considering a new revenue generating scheme.

Mr. Harrison emphasized that we all would require financial help in the future as problems with the scarcity of provincial dollars continue and responsibilities are downloaded. He agreed with previous comments that a parcel tax might be fairer and said that he anticipated a lot of inherent problems with the EIL as described. He also suggested that DCC's be examined on a valley wide basis with a goal of achieving some standardization. He felt that municipal and regional government should ultimately look after their own financing.

Mr. Ukryn commented that Osoyoos would hope to draw on Okanagan Basin Water Board funds in the future and agreed that contributors of nutrient pollution to the lakes should pay.

Mr. Betts observed that the proposed levies would go to communities which encouraged growth and thus needed the infrastructure to service it. This is not acceptable to

WATER BOARD MEETING OF VALLEY ADMINISTRATORS - JUNE 29, 1994

Coldstream where the policy is that development pays for all the costs of servicing it. He questioned the need for any region wide assistance.

Mr. Gagnon supported the present funding assistance from the Okanagan Basin Water Board but indicated that the levy on septic systems would not receive acceptance in his area.

Mr. Carter said that Summerland needs to secure funding for its proposed treatment system and he is in favour of a simple means to generate the revenue, that is, an increase to the general levy. He agreed that standardized DCC's bear looking at and that we should try to recover as much as possible from growth. He expressed concern that any pollution should be allowed.

Mr. Brown added that the proposed levies compete with local government financing tools. He said that perhaps some extended servicing approach needs to be explored. The fund could be innovative, perhaps on a rotating loan basis which addressed the cash flow start up problems associated with sewerage infrastructure. He stated that he had not seen as yet, a regional commitment towards adopting this plan.

Mr. Carter said that he would not like to see a large bureaucracy associated with the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Mrs. Sutton observed that the rural areas contribute substantial funding to municipalities to improve lake water quality and at some point new growth occurring in these areas must pay for itself. She wondered if the Okanagan Basin Water Board should play a regulatory role in dealing with on site disposal systems in environmental control zones.

Mr. Nickel reviewed the involvement of the MOE through the O.K. Water Quality Project. He commented that as growth continues in the valley, we must have a mechanism in place to get growth to pay. If this does not happen, we will end up looking at senior government to bail us out again or suffering the consequences. Mr. Nickel added that this plan promotes a coordinated request from the valley to senior government for the limited funds available.

Mr. Epp informed the group that the original intent of the Okanagan Basin Water Board sewerage grants was to upgrade valley liquid waste treatment to tertiary or land disposal methods. The residents of the area have benefitted from improvements to water quality, but do not wish to support the cost of growth driven upgrades and expansions. The EIL I targets new growth for the money to pay for this expansion. The EIL II targets the problem septic tanks which have historically been present and impact on the lakes through transmission of phosphorus. They are assessed to pay for dealing with the nutrient at this or alternative sources to reduce the total input.

Mr. Szalay noted that of funds spent to date, a significant amount have been to correct

WATER BOARD MEETING OF VALLEY ADMINISTRATORS - JUNE 29, 1994

past mistakes. He felt that rural areas should continue to pay their share.

Mrs. Sutton agreed with this practice for past situations, but stated that rural areas would not wish to pay for future new development.

Mr. Born asked if the purpose of the proposed new levies was to address to financial shortcomings of DCC's or to funnel money into priority projects.

Mr. Epp said that the primary purpose was the former; to make sure the money was available when needed.

Mr. Born commented that DCC's are there to collect the cost of growth driven infrastructure, but they are not proving adequate as now legislated. He suggested that the legislation be changed and wondered if the Okanagan Basin Water Board might have a role in encouraging adequate and standardized development cost charges.

Mr. Epp asked if DCC's could be charged prior to project commencement.

Mr. Born said they could.

Mr. Hobson summarized that there was a general consensus that the existing Okanagan Basin Water Board levy should continue and deal with current problems; it should not subsidize the cost of servicing new growth.

Mr. Goldie explained that the province is sharing the cost of servicing new growth, but the outlook is not good; there are more projects and less dollars to go around. Provincial priorities remain health and environmental concerns, not the servicing of growth driven projects.

Mr. Hobson asked Mr. Goldie how the Okanagan could access the maximum amount of provincial assistance.

Mr. Goldie replied that a regional plan which prioritized projects would help, but we would still be subject to the ranking explained above.

Mr. Nickel asked if the prospect of changing legislation to make DCC's more able to pay for growth driven infrastructure had been considered.

Mr. Goldie advised that DCC's are what is classed as "present tools" and are structured in a general way to adapt to the differing requirements of various municipalities. The classification of "future tools" has not addressed this subject.

Mr. Wood mentioned that the City of Penticton had brought up the issue of the failure of DCC's to address interest costs in 1992 and the answer was that it would create an

WATER BOARD MEETING OF VALLEY ADMINISTRATORS - JUNE 29, 1994

administrative nightmare, and that latecomer agreements which can include interest costs targeted this problem. He added that we might look at securing a dedicated source of funding at the provincial level which goes into lake water quality preservation.

Mr. Born stated that the ability to factor in interest charges to DCC's for sewer projects would be an enormous benefit to local government.

Mr. Betts commented that the province wishes to get out of funding this type of project since local government is the master of its own destiny with respect to growth related projects.

Mr. Mackiewich asked if the legislation were changed to reflect the ability to factor in interest costs to DCC's for sewerage infrastructure, would the Water Board need to collect the special levies proposed in the Master Plan?

The consensus was "no".

Mrs. Sutton and Mr. Hobson both raised points that additional funds collected might be used to address water quality improvements in other areas such as stormwater discharge treatment and improvements to forestry practices.

Mr. Nickel observed that these subjects will be dealt with in the next generation of liquid waste plans. He said that growth should also pay for part of these initiatives.

Mr. Harrison speculated that the opportunity was there for the Okanagan Basin Water Board to approach the province on the second generation of the O.K. Water Quality Control Project. Infrastructure grants now available are over a two year period only.

Mr. Goldie said that infrastructure grants should be announced by the end of July.

Mr. Szalay pointed out that should the amount of grants received drive the Okanagan Basin Water Board levy above 21¢ it may be an option to restrict funding to projects which correct old problems, not those which deal with growth.

Mr. Mackiewich asked for direction on the practice of the Okanagan Basin Water Board in paying only when debt is incurred.

Mr. Gagnon commented that this encourages the valley to go into debt.

Mr. Carter suggested that if sufficient funds are raised through DCC's, then growth is paying and the Water Board will not have to.

Mr. Szalay replied that this penalizes those who have collected DCC's and rewards those who have not.

WATER BOARD MEETING OF VALLEY ADMINISTRATORS - JUNE 29, 1994

The majority agreed that the Okanagan Basin Water Board should pay the same percentage to all projects, irrespective of whether costs are financed or paid up front.

Mr. Hobson summarized the apparent recommendations of the group for actions by the Okanagan Basin Water Board :

- Define growth related sewerage projects and those relating to correction of past problems.

- Use the general levy to address correction of past mistakes but not to pay for infrastructure costs of growth driven projects.

- Take an active role in enabling local government to have the means to raise the necessary money to deal with funding infrastructure.

- Survey valley DCC's including the calculation methods and any pertinent background information.

Mr. Hobson thanked everyone for attending and expressing their views. He said a report on the discussion would be prepared for the Water Board and results related back to this group.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON AUGUST 16TH, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 1450 KLO ROAD, KELOWNA, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Chairman R. Hobson | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director G. Ockenden | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Ginther | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director W. McGrath | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director E. Hornby | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director G. Kiss | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director J. Kirnberley | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |

ALSO PRESENT: R.A. Nickel Ministry of Environment

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

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on June 3rd, 1994, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

DEROOTING SUMMARY 1994:

The Field Supervisor gave a slide presentation on the results of derooting in 1993-94. A written summary was also circulated. (attached)

Mr. Armour informed the Board that a total of 1444 machine hours were spent derooting, up from the previous season when we had a very limited amount of money, but well down from the peak year two seasons ago when equipment operated 2500 hours.

The program started late in the spring as we had to wait for money from the budget for F.Y 94-95 to become available April 1st, accounting for most of the lost operation time.

He also said that many sites which have been subject to repeated annual derooting, now require substantially fewer operating hours to achieve acceptable results.

Mr. Armour noted that Eurasian milfoil appears to be making a comeback after a couple of "off years" of growth. Wood Lake showed a noticeable increase in the amount and density of E. watermilfoil present. Some sites where native species of pondweed had predominated the last two seasons, Eurasian watermilfoil had now re-assumed dominance.

The main problems continue to be in confined sites such as marinas and around obstacles (wharves, intakes, etc.) Discussion ensued as to the importance of recognizing factors contributing to aquatic weed growth in the foreshore planning process.

Moved by Director Kimberley and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to the Provincial Ministries having jurisdiction over foreshore structures as well as the federal Ministry of Indian Affairs re-stating the potential impact of foreshore construction on aquatic plant growth."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to local government, and re-confirm the importance of including aquatic weed concerns in the foreshore planning process."

CARRIED.

HARVESTING 1994:

Mr. Armour provided a one page handout on the current status of harvesting and special projects. (attached) He also updated the budget for the aquatic weed control program to June 30th, indicating that \$130,000 was spent in the first quarter of the year from a operations budget of \$400,000. The spring and summer are the most financially demanding times of the year and Mr. Armour indicated that costs are on schedule.

STAFF SALARY REPORT:

The Field Supervisor reported that acting on direction from the Board at the June 3rd meeting he had obtained the approval of the Administrator to promote one of the weed program staff Mr. Ian Horner, to a position of "second in command." This was done in order to facilitate supervision of aquatic weed control activities in the absence of Mr. Armour through involvement of the Water Board in other water management areas, or through routine occurrences such as holidays.

OTHER AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

WORKPLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995-96:

Mr. Armour explained that a workplan for the next Fiscal Year was due by October for the Ministry to prepare their budgets. He asked that Board directors communicate any specific concerns or request to him for inclusion in that workplan, by mid-September.

CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - CULTUS LAKE MILFOIL CONTROL PROGRAM

The Board noted that this program is still under 75/25% cost sharing with the Ministry, but is expected to shift to 50/50% next year.

Mr. Armour informed the Board that it has insured the shared rototiller and will apportion this cost with all users based on operating hours at the end of the year, as is currently the practice with repair and maintenance costs.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - REQUEST TO ASSIST MOE WITH LAKE SURVEYS

Director Shields observed that this could deplete our weed control budget.

Director Cameron stated that if we were already working in a lake the cost would be minimal.

Director Hornby observed that there may be a savings in preventing a future cost burden on the Water Board if new infestations are detected and dealt with at an early stage.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Shields:

"That a reply be sent to the Ministry of Environment expressing the agreement of the Okanagan Basin Water Board to assist with surveys of lakes where we are already conducting weed control work and indicating that in other lakes we would be pleased to

contract to do this work at 100% reimbursement, as our staff time permits."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - PRIVATE SEWAGE UTILITIES:

A request for comments on a discussion paper concerning how to handle discharges from private sewage disposal facilities was received.

The paper suggests there be more local government control and input in issuing of permits to systems operated by private residential developments.

The problems are that many existing facilities routinely do not meet the criteria of their permits and lack the resources or will to remedy the situation. Legal recourse is time consuming, costly, and does not immediately remedy the problem.

Problems are usually one of two types:

1) Faulty Design - An engineered design is required but this does not cover faulty construction, operation and maintenance of the facility. The suggestion of the brief is that facilities be required to be inspected and approved by the design engineer prior to commencement of discharge.

2) Inadequate Operation and Maintenance Funds - It is not acceptable to shutdown facility and "evict" residents.

Other Problems Include:

Enforcement - non compliance with conditions of a permit is, in most cases, not remedied by legal action. In many cases there are no assets, there is the time and cost to litigate, and the problem is not solved.

Cost recovery - There is presently no method for the province to recover costs of operation or repair of a disposal facility from the residents.

Regulation - Existing private facilities are subject to permit requirements only, that is, the discharge criteria. The private operator is not regulated on such matters as

charges to be levied on users.

Liability - The Province is not prepared to undertake the inspection and approval role of individual facilities.

Land use planning - Permits for liquid waste discharge are issued without consideration of broader land use issues. If a site meets acceptable physical criteria, approval is given. (Local government may require a permit as a condition of approval of the development)

Suggested Options:

- All permits should be held by local government
- If the permits are not held by local government, require permittee to post security.
- Require instead of the above, or in addition, all properties using the facility to have registered against them, an encumbrance or charge to form a fund for operation and maintenance, and permit the province to recover cost of remedial work.

The Administrator outlined the practice of the Regional District of North Okanagan where privately operated systems are not allowed. The regional district acts as co-permittee for properly engineered systems. This gives a recourse through the residents of the specified area to pay for remedial work if necessary.

Director McGrath stated that the Ministry should be the authority on issuing of permits but local government should be the only permittee. This leaves local government in the position on having the final say on whether a particular development proceeds.

Mr. Nickel commented that some areas may lack the expertise to adequately scrutinize a disposal system from an engineering standpoint.

Mr. Mackiewicz replied that an engineer can always be hired on a consulting basis. He then informed the Board that existing developments must form a service area for local government to take over a system. New development requires only one signature to create a specified area and then local government can require whatever is deemed necessary from the developer by way of security.

Moved by Director Kiss and seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorse the approach that local government be

the sole holder of permits for liquid waste utilities and this comment be communicated to the Ministry of Environment."

CARRIED.

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN - LIQUID WASTE PLAN FOR
AREAS E AND F:**

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the Liquid Waste Plan for Area E and F of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen be received and incorporated into the information contained in the Master Liquid Waste Plan."

CARRIED.

SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

GRANT APPLICATIONS:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| City of Penticton | \$212,160.86 |
| City of Vernon | 133,530.00 |

Moved by Director Hornby and seconded by Director Shields:

"That Sewerage Facilities Grant applications listed above, be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

Director McGrath questioned whether it was necessary to bring routine grant applications to the Board for approval as the money has already been allocated and the project approved.

Mr. Mackiewich answered that this was a practice of the Board and could be changed at any time at the behest of the directors.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**WATER QUALITY MEETING - JULY 19TH, 1994**

Mr. Armour summarized the minutes (attached) of the water quality meeting which took place at the Ministry of Environment office in Penticton.

He reported that 23 people met, representing approximately 15 interest ranging from government to private concerns. Each group outlined its current activities and objectives with respect to water quality in the Okanagan Valley.

Okanagan University College proposed that the group be assigned task force status and be co-chaired by the Okanagan Basin Water Board and the Ministry of Environment. They also offered to act as a repository for water quality information.

Director Kimberley left the meeting at 12:50

Director Shields commented that there is a need to coordinate water quality information and make it available and he approved of the offer from the university college to act in this capacity.

Director Cameron asked if the Ministry of Environment was on a reactive basis only, when problems have already occurred.

Mr. Nickel replied that this task group would meet to determine work which needs to be done to ensure water quality standards are met, and who should do it.

Director Ginther said that he had hoped for an indication from the meeting of a resolution of the Peachland situation. If no funds are available for monitoring in the near future, the project could be on hold through next summer.

Mr. Nickel stated that no money is currently available from his ministry, but that in the event of a documented problem, it would be dealt with quickly.

Director Ockenden observed that water quality monitoring in the valley lacks coordination and wondered if the Okanagan Basin Water Board should be involved in remedying this situation. He also asked what group would be in a position to take corrective action.

The Chairman noted that the first meeting of this group did not accomplish the objectives of the Water Board.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board approve the motion from the meeting to give the group task force status with the Ministry of Environment and the Water Board acting in the capacity of co-chairs. Further that the goals of the water quality group as seen by the Okanagan Basin Water Board be:

- Act as a coordinating group for water quality work in the Okanagan Valley
- Ensure that water quality information is accessible
- Identify gaps or overlaps in water quality work being performed
- Identify sources of funding for water quality work
- Identify priorities for future water quality research."

CARRIED.

Director Hornby noted that one of the reasons for the initial meeting was to resolve Peachland's concerns. He wondered if this group was capable of doing this.

Director Ginther noted that a funding request submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs had been turned down.

Director Ockenden suggested that the proposal from Dr. Owen needs identification of firm objectives to give the study direction and purpose. He stated that he could not support funding the work until this is done.

The Chairman asked Director Ginther to update the Water Board on Peachland's needs, at the next regular meeting.

Director Ockenden left the meeting at 2:00 P.M.

OKANAGAN VALLEY MASTER LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN - Meeting of Municipal and Regional District Administrators - June 29th, 1994

The Administrator reviewed the discussion which took place at the meeting held June 29th to discuss financial aspects of the Master Liquid Waste Plan. (minutes attached)

Mr. Mackiewicz commented on the current practice of the Board to pay Assistance Grants on debt only.

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board pay the same percentage in Sewerage Facilities Grants to all approved projects, irrespective of whether costs are financed or paid up front."

There was discussion on the motion relating to the percentage which would be paid by the Water Board with varying amounts of senior government funding and the Administrator offered to report back to the Board at its next meeting on the impact of the motion.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the motion to amend the practice of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of paying sewerage grants on project debt only be deferred until a report is prepared by the Administrator on the impact of this change."

CARRIED.

Director McGrath left the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

The Chairman outlined the other recommendations arising from the meeting of valley administrators. These were:

- Define growth related sewerage projects and those relating to correction of past problems.

- Use the general levy to address correction of past mistakes but not to pay for infrastructure costs of growth driven projects.

- Take an active role in enabling local government to have the means to raise the necessary money to deal with funding infrastructure.

- Survey valley DCC's including the calculation methods and any pertinent background information.

Mr. Armour commented that if the only advantage on a coordinated valley master liquid waste plan was to collect the needed dollars, the change in D.C.C. legislation would accomplish that and leave local government in the more familiar position of controlling their own funding. He wondered if it would be worthwhile to draw on the experience of the Greater Vancouver Regional District who had developed a similar plan and had

received a large portion of the funding available from senior government. He remarked that the GVRD Administrator, Mr. B.E. Marr, was formerly the deputy minister of Environment and was familiar with the Okanagan Valley situation.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board extend an invitation to Mr. Marr of the GVRD to meet with the Board, possibly at the U.B.C.M. convention at Whistler, to discuss the advantages of a coordinated regional liquid waste plan. "

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Ginther and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board arrange to meet with the Minister of Municipal Affairs at the U.B.C.M. convention at Whistler, to address the question of incorporating interest charges into sewage infrastructure DCC's. "

CARRIED.

OTHER MATTERS:

SIGNING OFFICER FOR MUNICIPAL INVESTMENT PLAN:

Mr. Mackiewicz recommended to the Board that the Deputy Treasurer for the North Okanagan Regional District be authorized as signing authority for Okanagan Basin Water Board investments in the municipal pooled investment plan.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board authorize Mr. Terry Mori, the Deputy Treasurer of the North Okanagan Regional District, as signing authority for investments in the municipal pooled investment plan."

CARRIED.

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE BIOCONTROL PROPOSAL:

The chairman circulated an update on the status of purple loosestrife biocontrol research, prepared by Mr. Glen Johnson. He said that Mr. Johnson would like the support of the

Board in pursuing funding to continue research begun last year by the Ministry of environment.

The Board agreed to write a letter of support.

NEXT MEETING:

The Chairman suggested that the next meeting be held following the U.B.C.M.

Director Hornby indicated that it would be preferable from a scheduling perspective, if meetings were set for a particular day of the month.

The Board agreed to meet the first Tuesday of each month commencing October 4th.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.


CHAIRMAN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON OCTOBER 4TH, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Chairman R. Hobson | C.O.R.D |
| | Director W. McGrath | N.O.R.D. |
| | Alternate Director G. Rieger | N.O.R.D. |
| | Alternate Director R. Morgan | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |

ALSO PRESENT: M.D. Maxnuk Ministry of Environment

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

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on August 16th, 1994, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

SCHEDULE OF WATER BOARD MEETINGS:

The Chairman referred to the attached proposed schedule for meetings of the Okanagan Basin Water Board. The dates are for the first Tuesday of each month. It was agreed to proceed with these dates for future meetings, and the next regular meeting would be held November 1st.

HARVESTING SUMMARY 1994:

The Field Supervisor reviewed the results of 1994 harvesting circulated in the attached report.

Director Cameron questioned the relatively low amount of Eurasian watermilfoil harvested in Okanagan Lake versus some of the smaller lakes.

Mr. Armour replied that many of the large infested sites in Okanagan Lake had been successfully treated by derooting and required only minimal summer harvesting. These areas included the Kelowna foreshore and the Vernon Arm. He added that the amount of weeds cut did not directly reflect the total infested area in a particular lake in that only priority areas are cut.

WORKPLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995-96:

Mr. Armour informed the Board that the Province required a workplan and a provisional budget by the end of October for the next fiscal year. (beginning April 1, 1995)

He circulated a draft provisional budget and commented that the ceiling for 50/50% cost sharing totalled \$400,000. The aquatic weed control program was on track to spend that full allotment in the current fiscal year and it remained only to decide if there needed to be any re-allocation of funds between budget categories. The \$37,000 assessment for non-sharable administration cost of the Water Board was identical to the current year and would be included in the requisition to local government.

The Field Supervisor indicated that the program for the current fiscal year would probably not spend the full allocation made to harvesting, however, the derooting amount was probably low. The two would then offset. He informed the Board that activities will continue as in the past season with focus on derooting; maintenance of low level of weed growth in Kalamalka L.; the use of two harvesters in the summer; spot control work at Beaver Lake; survey and monitoring work in the Okanagan; and some investigation of new technologies presented to us.

Discussion arose regarding the need to set up a reserve fund for replacement of aging equipment. Director Cameron favoured the incorporation of an equipment replacement plan in the regular budget.

Mr. Mackiewicz noted that this was a usual way of doing business for local government and he suggested that the Board might consider the option of setting aside funds generated by new growth in such a reserve.

Chairman Hobson asked Mr. Armour to provide a schedule of equipment replacement needs for the next Board meeting. It was also noted that these funds could be invested in new mechanical technologies which might become available.

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Provisional Budget for fiscal year 1995-96 be approved and the appropriate workplan be completed and submitted to the Ministry of Environment."

CARRIED.

Some discussion on the workplan took place with reference to performing work on a fee for service basis.

The Board noted that with the current funding level, most of the priority treatment sites were being dealt with. It was in the two years of reduced provincial funding in which consideration of fee for service work became necessary.

Mr. Armour commented that there were one or two small scale private operators to whom he could direct requests for work beyond the scope of the current Water Board control program.

Director Cameron observed that the weed growth was generally on Crown Land and the public was reluctant to pay directly for control work on property they did not control and which was used by others.

CORRESPONDENCE: AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - RESPONSE TO LETTER REGARDING FORESHORE PLANNING:

The Board Received a letter from Minister Sihota indicating that its concerns regarding foreshore construction practices which encourage the growth of aquatic plants was recognized and such practices would be reviewed by Ministry personnel.

The Chairman reported on the Regional District of Central Okanagan schedule for foreshore plans to be adopted for Wood and Kalamalka lakes. He noted that to be effective, it should be a joint plan with the Regional District of North Okanagan.

Mr. Maxnuk commented that the direction from his Minister in the correspondence might also have been copied to Parks.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That a letter be sent to the Ministry of Environment Regional Manager stating that the

Okanagan Basin Water Board is pleased with the response from the Minister regarding foreshore construction practices and would appreciate hearing in due course of the specific steps to be taken to address this situation."

CARRIED.

BOREAL INSURANCE - CIVIL LITIGATION RESULTING FROM HARVESTER CAPSIZE:

Mr. Armour reported that the Water Board's insurer (for liability) had informed the Board that a civil lawsuit had been instigated naming the Ministry of Environment relevant to the death of an operator of aquatic weed harvesting equipment at Mill Lake in Abbotsford. The insurer wished to be informed immediately of any correspondence or request for information received by the Board on this matter.

The Board asked Mr. Armour to provide a copy of this letter which was not included in the agenda package.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - ALGAL BLOOM IN OKANAGAN LAKE:

The Field Supervisor reported on a bloom of a filamentous green algae, *Hydrodictyon*, which had caused problems in the Vernon Arm of Okanagan Lake from the end of July to the present time. He informed the Board that while previous algal blooms occurred in this area, this was the first he had noted in at least ten years. The growth of algae requires nutrient, and additional sources may have been made available with the removal of Eurasian water milfoil. In addition, the low flows of water and the warm temperature may have combined to yield conditions conducive to algal growth.

Director McGrath commented that the input of nutrient from septic systems may also have contributed.

The Board asked if we had been able to offer any advice or assistance in control of this problem and Mr. Armour replied that we had not. Our equipment for harvesting of rooted plants is not suited to picking up filamentous algae. He added that he hoped that conditions next season would not be such that algal growth would thrive.

Director Shields asked if this was the same species of algae found in Osoyoos Lake.

Mr. Armour said that this was not likely. Osoyoos Lake often experiences growth of blue green algae, perhaps not to the extent of an algal bloom, but involving several species.

DIRECTOR, WILDLIFE BRANCH, MOE - PURPLE LOOSESTRIPE BIOCONTROL:

The Board received a reply to its letter supporting the proposal of Mr. G. Johnson to follow up on purple loosestrife biocontrol release in the Okanagan. The Director, D. Ray Halladay indicated that this proposal is beyond the terms of reference of his branch.

Chairman Hobson stated that he felt there was a need for someone to take on a coordinating role for the control of purple loosestrife. He wondered if the aquatic weed control agreement with the Province extended to plants other than Eurasian watermilfoil.

Mr. Maxnuk indicated that any correspondence should be sent to the Regional Director for the Ministry, Mr. W. Kastelen.

Director Shields remarked that perhaps a program to draw labour from those receiving social assistance or performing community service work was required to hand remove this nuisance weed in critical areas.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board send a letter to Regional Director W. Kastelen, suggesting that the local Environmental Protection Office become involved in the control of purple loosestrife and that the Ministry consider options for partnering with the Water Board in this effort."

CARRIED.

The Field Supervisor asked if the Board wished additional information on the biology of purple loosestrife, its potential impact in the Okanagan and the options for control now available. The Board agreed that Mr. Armour should seek a suitable spokesman to clarify these issues at a future meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: OTHER BUSINESS**OKANAGAN VALLEY TREE FRUIT AUTHORITY - PUBLIC FORUM:**

Notice was received of a public forum on water and land use in agriculture sponsored by the Okanagan Valley Tree Fruit Authority. The forum is to be held on October 28th in Summerland and will include the Ministers of Agriculture and Municipal Affairs.

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN - PENTICTON INDIAN BAND
PARTICIPATION ON WATER BOARD:**

The Chairman of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen reported interest expressed by the Chief of the Penticton Indian Band in participating on the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Mr. Armour indicated that the Penticton Band had been included in the invitation extended to all Indian Bands with jurisdiction over lands containing lake foreshore in the Okanagan, to participate in Water Board regular meetings. He added that he had followed up with another letter to Chief Archie Jack, confirming that this invitation was still open.

MEETING OF WATER QUALITY GROUP:

The Board was informed that a second meeting of the water quality group has been scheduled for Oct 13th at OUC North Kelowna Campus.

SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:**GRANT APPLICATIONS:**

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen | \$19,084.56 |
| City of Armstrong: | 157,668.06 |

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That Sewerage Facilities Grant applications listed above, be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

The Chairman asked the Administrator to prepare a list of grant applications to be paid out in the next fiscal year. He said that this would be valuable in explaining where the funds requisitioned from his regional district were to be used.

Alternate Director Rieger asked for clarification on the eligibility of Spallumcheen for OBWB grants when they connect to Armstrong's system.

The Administrator said that it is not a requirement that local government operate their own individual disposal facility, only that they utilize a form of tertiary treatment. Spallumcheen would be eligible for grants.

Mr. Maxnuk left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS (UBCM):

Mr. Mackiewich outlined the results of a meeting between Water Board directors, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and senior staff which took place at UBCM.

The purpose of the meeting was to address the shortcomings of development cost charges in dealing with capital costs of sewerage infrastructure. Mr. Mackiewich reported that the Minister and staff indicated that it was a policy of that Ministry that interest costs not be factored into DCC's and she directed Mr. Al Tamblyn, the Deputy Inspector of Municipalities to explore alternatives to solve this problem.

Mr. Mackiewich said the meeting had a positive tone and that as soon as he received the information from Mr. Tamblyn, he would report to the Board a recommend that a second meeting of local government administrators and financial staff be convened.

The Chairman noted that there was concern in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs about DCC's becoming excessive.

Alternate Directors Morgan and Rieger left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

OTHER MATTERS:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

ADMINISTRATION AND AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

1995/96 BUDGET

REVENUE:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Province of B. C. (50% Grant) | \$200,000.00 |
| R.D.C.O. Requisition | 138,784.00 |
| R.D.O.S. Requisition | 63,222.00 |
| R.D.N.O. Requisition | 50,375.00 |
| Transfer from Equip. Reserve | |
| Previous Year's Surplus (Deficit) | (15,381.00) |
| TOTAL REVENUE: | <u>\$437,000.00</u> |

EXPENDITURES:**Harvesting Operations**

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Supervisor Wages | \$10,300.00 |
| Harvester Operator Wages | 25,000.00 |
| Payroll Benefits | 7,200.00 |
| Driver's Wages | 8,500.00 |
| Equipment Transport | 2,500.00 |
| Pickup Truck Rentals | 3,000.00 |
| Pickup Operation and Maintenance | 4,000.00 |
| Travel expenses | 2,500.00 |
| Crane Rental | 2,000.00 |
| Fuel and Lubricants (Harvesters) | 2,000.00 |
| Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies | 7,000.00 |
| Contract Weed Disposal | 1,000.00 |
| Water Intake Repairs | <u>1,000.00</u> |

Harvesting Subtotal: 76,000.00

Winter Derooting

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Supervisor Wages | 32,000.00 |
| Operator Wages and Contract Work | 95,000.00 |
| Driver's Wages | 12,500.00 |
| Payroll Benefits | 19,500.00 |
| Equipment Transport | 9,000.00 |
| Pickup Truck Rental | 4,000.00 |
| Pickup Operations and Maintenance | 7,000.00 |
| Travel Expenses | 1,000.00 |
| Crane Rental | 3,000.00 |
| Fuel and Lubricants | 18,000.00 |
| Maintenance, Repairs, Supplies | <u>49,000.00</u> |

Derooting Subtotal: 250,000.00

1994 AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING PROGRAM

Two machines were used in the 1994 aquatic weed harvesting program which began June 16th in Wood Lake, and June 21st in Duck Lake. All work was completed by the first week of September.

A total of 421 machine loads or 716 tonnes of aquatic weeds were removed from the six mainstem valley lakes. This is far less than the amount of harvesting done in peak years, during which the number of loads cut usually exceeded 1400. Most of this is attributable to the shift in emphasis in the program to winter derooting work which has reduced the density of weeds in many areas. The annual totals of weeds cut are shown in Table 1.

The decline in weeds harvested in 1992 is attributable to a shutdown of equipment forced by

Table I

W.C.B. after a fatal accident involving similar equipment at Mill Lake. In 1993, plant growth was slow and weeds did not reach the surface of the lake in many locations. This appeared to be a natural decline and not a result of control efforts. The current season saw a resurgence in growth, most notably in Wood Lake. Plants were generally healthier, showed less signs of insect damage, and grew more vigorously than in 1993. The effects of reduced winter derooting following funding restrictions last fiscal year were noted with heavier than usual infestations at Kelowna, Wood Lake, and Skaha Lake where derooting work was curtailed in 1993 due to lack of funds. It is hoped that a full season of operation in 1994/95 will reverse this trend.

The percentage of budget apportioned to harvesting versus derooting has changed from 1982 when about 80% of program funds went to harvesting to the current year when derooting costs will be well over double those for harvesting. The policy of the Okanagan Basin Water Board is that derooting is the preferred method of control both from the standpoint of effectiveness, and the decreased interference with water based recreation.

| YEAR | LOADS | TONNES | COST (\$) |
|------|-------|--------|-----------|
| 1978 | 557 | 947 | |
| 1979 | 1642 | 2791 | |
| 1980 | 1475 | 3212 | |
| 1981 | 1906 | 4104 | |
| 1982 | 1533 | 3207 | |
| 1983 | 1458 | 2987 | |
| 1984 | 1440 | 2817 | 123,735 |
| 1985 | 1189 | 2294 | 98,875 |
| 1986 | 1430 | 2749 | 114,785 |
| 1987 | 1356 | 2640 | 89,697 |
| 1988 | 1209 | 2315 | 96,272 |
| 1989 | 1012 | 1868 | 96,427 |
| 1990 | 723 | 1367 | 98,560 |
| 1991 | 792 | 1434 | 98,000 |
| 1992 | 57 | 188* | 72,685 |
| 1993 | 63 | 107 | 32,187 |
| 1994 | 421 | 716 | 60,000 |

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD**HARVESTING 1994**

Expenditures to the end of August for the 1994 harvesting program are listed below .
Additional costs will accrue as invoices are received.

| | <u>Budget 1994</u> | <u>Spent to Date</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Supervisor Wages | \$11,352.00 | \$2,286.60 |
| Operators' Wages | 30,000.00 | 22,479.21 |
| Transport Op. Wages | 8,500.00 | 3,173.69 |
| Equipment Transport | 2,500.00 | 3,801.46 |
| Pickup Truck Rentals | 3,000.00 | 2,590.80 |
| P/U Operation and Maint. | 4,000.00 | 4,336.16 |
| Travel Expense | 2,500.00 | 1,366.53 |
| Crane Rental | 2,000.00 | 1,565.16 |
| Fuel and Lubricants | 2,000.00 | 1,435.62 |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 10,000.00 | 7,730.78 |
| Spoils Disposal | 2,000.00 | 648.27 |
| Water Intake Repairs | <u>1,000.00</u> | <u>1,488.57</u> |
| TOTAL (end August) | \$86,052.00 | \$55,575.94 |

Table 2 lists the harvesting production by machine in 1994. Estimates of area are based on the number of loads cut in a test site and are accurate for comparative purposes only. (Data for sparsely infested sites is the least accurate) The area information also includes repeat harvesting of some sites.

TABLE 2
HARVESTING PRODUCTION SUMMARY 1994

| UNIT # | LOADS CUT | TONNES | ESTIMATED AREA |
|---------------|-----------|--------|----------------|
| H65028 HARV#2 | 103 | 175 | 7.25 |
| H65035 HARV#3 | 318 | 541 | 22.40 |
| TOTAL | 421 | 716 | 29.64 ha |

**MEMORANDUM : REGULAR WATER BOARD
MEETINGS**

FROM: FIELD SUPERVISOR

TO: WATER BOARD DIRECTORS

DATE: October 10, 1994



Regular meetings of the Okanagan Basin Water Board are proposed for the first Tuesday of each month. The schedule for the immediate future would then be as follows:

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|------|-----------|
| ▪ | October 4th, | 1994 | Vernon |
| ▪ | November 1st | | Penticton |
| ▪ | December 6th | | Kelowna |
| ▪ | January 3rd, | 1995 | Vernon |
| ▪ | February 7th | | Penticton |
| ▪ | March 7th | | Kelowna |
| ▪ | April 4th | | Vernon |

Please check your schedules and be prepared to advise of any conflicts with these tentative dates and/or locations, at our next meeting.

Thanks.

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON NOVEMBER 1ST, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN, 101 MARTIN STREET, PENTICTON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Vice Chairman T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director W. McGrath | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director G. Kiss | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director E. Hornby | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Ginther | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director J. Kimberley | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director G. Ockenden | C.O.R.D. |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u> | M.D. Maxnuk | Ministry of Environment |
| | R.A. Nickel | Ministry of Environment |

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

MINUTES:

Moved by Director McGrath, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on October 4th, 1994, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Director Kiss commented that although he had not been able to attend the October 4th meeting, the subject of the algal bloom in the Vernon Arm of Okanagan lake was of interest to him. He noted that the last time algal blooms were noted in this area, a feedlot was present adjacent to Kin Beach. The area no longer serves as a feedlot but contains a 150 lot subdivision with an on site sewage treatment and disposal system which has failed and caused problems. He speculated that this was a source of increased nutrient input into Okanagan lake which could have contributed to the algae bloom.

Director Kiss further pointed out that developments such as the Kestrel proposal above Kalamalka Lake could have an adverse impact on the water quality of that lake. Kalamalka Lake serves as a drinking water source for some 20,000 to 30,000 people in the Vernon and Coldstream area. He suggested that we must learn from our mistakes and exercise caution in the vicinity of our lakes.

There was some discussion of the role of the Ministry of Health in approving on site disposal systems in areas where there could be a cumulative impact on a water body

from nutrient pollution.

Director McGrath observed that the Regional Districts are the zoning authority for development in unorganized areas and could require connection to an off site treatment and disposal system prior to allowing subdivision of a property.

There was some dialogue regarding the authority of local government to override permits issued by the Ministries of Environment and Highways.

Mr. Mackiewich informed the Board of discussions held with the Minister of Highways pertaining to a proposal before the UBCM for Regional Districts to be the approving authority for subdivisions. He added that there were details to be worked out about liabilities from past practices and approvals, but that the North Okanagan Regional District had offered to take on this role as a pilot project.

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Kiss:

That the Okanagan Basin Water Board send a letter to the Minister of Transportation and Highways urging delegation of rural subdivision approval to those regional districts in which desire to assume such responsibility."

CARRIED.

Director Kimberley entered the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

WORKPLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995-96:

Mr. Armour informed the Board that the workplan and provisional budget for fiscal year 1995-96 had been forwarded to the Ministry of Environment. He added that he had received some input from directors on specific requirements for treatment and that minor changes in scheduling could be anticipated in view of the number of variables involved such as weather and changes in amount of plant growth.

The Field Supervisor asked the Board for input as to the most effective method of publicizing the work accomplished by the program.

Director Cameron suggested that production of a short video be looked into for eventual distribution to local councils, ratepayers associations, and other interested parties.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board look into production of a video summary of the results of the aquatic plant control program."

CARRIED.

Mr. Maxnuk stated that the Province also wished to see the Water Board assume more of a role in the prevention of spread of Eurasian watermilfoil within the watershed. He said, due to financial constraints, the Province was no longer able to maintain surveys of upper elevation lakes, and the continuation of this work by the Board would prove cost effective in the long run as the need for control programs in new lakes would be reduced or delayed.

Director Hornby asked for information on the ability of the plant to flourish in nutrient poor waters.

Mr. Maxnuk explained that upper elevation lakes while not receiving the nutrient input from human sources that the valley bottom lakes are subject to, are often nutrient rich from natural sources. Milfoil is well adapted to take nutrient from either the water column through its leaves or the sediment through the root structure.

Mr. Nickel observed that the prevention message could be a part of the video being contemplated by the Board.

It was agreed that the Water Board would maintain signs at boat launches and staff would work with Mr. Maxnuk to identify and carry out surveys in lakes which were identified as being most likely to receive plant fragments through boat traffic.

WATERSHED RESTORATION VIDEO:

Mr. Nickel presented a short video on the Watershed Restoration program being administered by his Ministry and informed the Board that Mr. Phil Epp is coordinating the program for this region and would be pleased to provide additional details at a future meeting.

Director Cameron said that it would be advantageous to have Mr. Epp present the video to local government councils and boards.

Mr. Nickel commented that the video could certainly be made available, but time constraints might limit staff involvement.

Director Ockenden asked if funds were available to assist local groups wishing to embark on restoration projects.

Mr. Nickel said that money had been collected from stumpage fees for this purpose.

Director Kiss referred to new legislation governing forest practices and noted that this program was intended to address mistakes made in the past. New logging must follow strict guidelines.

Director Hornby wondered if the focus of the program was on all watersheds or primarily those used for domestic water supply purposes.

Mr. Nickel said that the program had been put forward by the fisheries component of his Ministry, and stressed that aspect in the video. He added that Mr. Epp's background in soils would serve to broaden the focus of the Watershed Restoration Program.

AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL EQUIPMENT:

The Field Supervisor reviewed the inventory of equipment operated by the Water Board in the aquatic weed control program. (summary attached) He noted that the amount of work performed annually had stabilized and he did not foresee the need for sizeable expansions of control work in the immediate future. Conversely, Mr. Armour noted that recent years of reduced work due to budget constraints had shown that a reduction in the level of work caused unacceptable increases in nuisance plant growth.

It is probable that the weed control program will require an ongoing annual operational budget of around \$400,000. Options for providing dollars for establishment of a reserve fund for replacement or major refurbishing of control equipment are limited.

Director Cameron stated that he is not prepared to recommend another increase to local taxpayers and he favoured diversion of a small percentage of operational funds to an equipment reserve.

Director Kimberley noted that we are once again in the familiar dilemma of a shortage of funds for weed control. He observed that the Sustainable Environment Fund collected by the Province had not delivered programs at the local level. He suggested that the Board should look for additional funds on both the local and provincial front in order to meet the necessity of an adequate equipment reserve.

The Administrator indicated that the Regional District of North Okanagan was also not satisfied that the SEF levies are being used for their intended purpose but are being used primarily for administration. The Board had asked the Minister to ensure that the fund is used for delivery of programs.

The Board engaged in a discussion regarding the increased dollars available from the

Okanagan Basin Water Board levy, as the taxation base increases in the valley.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment indicating that the Okanagan Basin Water Board is prepared to collect additional local funds for an equipment reserve fund if the Province provides matching funds from the Sustainable Environment Fund or a suitable source not affecting the allocation to operations."

CARRIED.

The Board agreed to maintain the current tax rate levy for weed control and that additional dollars generated by the assessment of new growth, be placed in the equipment reserve fund.

Mr. Nickel advised the Board that Mr. Don Fast, the Director for Administration, for the Ministry, should be copied on the letter to the Minister.

CORRESPONDENCE:

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS - LETTER REGARDING SEWAGE INFRASTRUCTURE DCC'S:

The Board Received a letter from Minister Marzari indicating that as a result of meeting with Okanagan Basin Water Board Directors at the UBCM, Mr. A. Tamblin of her Ministry would supply information relating to the proposal to factor interest costs into DCC's.

Mr. Mackiewicz informed the Board that this information had been received late the previous day and he had not reviewed it in detail. He suggested convening another meeting of valley administrators to discuss the matter.

Director McGrath suggested, that as a cost saving measure, the information be forwarded to the administrators to see if a meeting would be required. The Board agreed.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN - COPY OF LETTER REGARDING REGULATION OF SMALL WATERCRAFT:

The Board received a request to support correspondence directed by the Regional District of Central Okanagan to Canada Coast Guard, concerning the lack of regulation of small watercraft such as seadoos and jet skis.

The letter pointed out that these craft were not required to display any identification or

registration numbers, and a lack of specific regulations governing their operation made enforcement and control difficult. The letter asked that the regional district be informed of any action or direction to be taken regarding this safety hazard.

Moved by Director Kiss, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write a letter to Canada Coast Guard in support of the request for action made by the Regional District of Central Okanagan."

CARRIED.

CIVIL LITIGATION RESULTING FROM HARVESTER CAPSIZE:

Mr. Armour reported that the civil lawsuit which had been instigated naming the Ministry of Environment relevant to the death of an operator of aquatic weed harvesting equipment at Mill Lake in Abbotsford, had been withdrawn. The father of the deceased was recently killed in an accident and the surviving family had chosen not to pursue the suit.

SEWAGE FACILITIES ASSISTANCE GRANTS:

The Administrator reviewed a motion tabled from a previous meeting calling for the Okanagan Basin Water Board to provide the same funding assistance to qualifying local government sewerage projects regardless of whether costs were paid up front or debt incurred. He said that current practice was to pay only when debt was incurred but this could force local government to borrow and create debt when the necessary funding was in place. His analysis of the situation indicated that there would be no cost impact to the Water Board in paying the same percentage to local government which was able to finance a project up front. The amount paid would still be an annual payment as if the cost were a debt amortized over a twenty year period.

Moved by Director Kiss and seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the motion stating that the Okanagan Basin Water Board pay the same percentage in Sewerage Facilities Grants to all approved projects, irrespective of whether costs are financed or paid up front, be taken from the table."

CARRIED.

Director Cameron asked if it was the intent of the Water Board to financially assist those who were already able to fund a project.

Director Hornby noted that Armstrong had been impacted by this policy, in that

construction of their liquid waste treatment facility had been planned in advance and could have been funded up front. In order to qualify for Water Board assistance the community was forced to incur a debt.

The Chairman called for a vote on the original motion which was carried.

Director McGrath commented on the future of the Water Board Grants, noting that expansion of treatment and collection facilities made necessary by new growth should be paid for by DCC's. He suggested the Board consider projects qualifying for assistance to include only those proposed for presently unsewered areas that have not previously drawn on the fund.

Director Hornby questioned if areas such as the currently unsewered parts of Kelowna would then be eligible. The Board agreed that they would as these types of sites related to past problems.

Moved by Director McGrath and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board use its sewerage facilities assistance fund to meet existing obligations, to fund qualifying projects servicing established areas not presently sewered, but not fund growth driven treatment and collection expansions."

CARRIED.

Amendments to the Sewerage Facilities Assistance funding formula require approval of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. The above resolution will be submitted for approval to the Inspector of Municipalities.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NORTH OKANAGAN REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY:

The Administrator reported that the letters patent were received last week dissolving the Vernon Irrigation District and transferring all assets and liabilities to the North Okanagan Regional District. The Water Authority was established to operate the largest irrigation district in the province, supplying over 10,000 residential and agricultural customers. The new authority is will supply bulk water to the City of Vernon, the District of Coldstream, part of the Township of Spallumcheen, and electoral areas B,C, and D and will also distribute all irrigation water and residential supplies to the electoral areas.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON DECEMBER 6TH, 1994, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 1450 KLO ROAD, KELOWNA, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| <u>PRESENT:</u> | Chairman Robert Hobson | C.O.R.D. |
| | Vice Chairman T. Shields | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director G. Kiss | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director E. Hornby | N.O.R.D. |
| | Director R. Ginther | C.O.R.D. |
| | Director D. Cameron Sr. | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director J. Kimberley | O.S.R.D. |
| | Director G. Ockenden | C.O.R.D. |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u> | M.D. Maxnuk | Ministry of Environment |
| | P. Epp | Ministry of Environment |

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <u>STAFF:</u> | G. Armour | Field Supervisor |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the motion on page 7 of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on November 1st, 1994, be amended to read as follows:

That the Okanagan Basin Water Board use its sewerage facilities assistance fund to meet existing obligations including those proposals currently before the Board; to fund qualifying projects servicing established areas not presently sewered; but not to fund future growth driven treatment and collection expansions."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on November 1st, 1994, be adopted as amended."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

Director Kimberley entered the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

SUMMERLAND RESEARCH STATION - XERISCAPE AND WATER CONSERVATION

Mr. Brian Stretch, Gardens Manager for the Agriculture Canada Research Station at Summerland, presented information on conservation of water through various methods including xeriscape, or the use of indigenous plant species requiring low amounts of water.

He provided the Board Directors with an information package on this subject.

Mr. Stretch stated that the purpose of his presentation was to:

- promote the establishment of valley wide coordinated water conservation efforts.
- further the implementation of xeriscaping in the Okanagan.
- obtain financial support for the test xeriscape garden at Summerland.

Director Cameron asked whether the Ministry of Transportation and Highways used xeriscape methods to any extent.

Mr. Stretch replied that Highways had attempted several projects but had been stopped by lack of availability of appropriate amounts of suitable plant types.

Director Ockenden pointed out that agriculture is the largest user of water and domestic savings through xeriscape methods might seem small by comparison.

Mr. Stretch indicated that new agricultural irrigation methods result in substantial savings in water use but there is a lack of incentive for the farmer to spend money on these systems, and a general resistance to change. He also stated that there might be a need for pricing deterrents to promote water conservation in agriculture.

Director Kiss commented on Vernon's use of reclaimed wastewater for irrigation and noted that difficulties had been encountered in the past in obtaining sufficient land base for this disposal method. He said that as reclaimed water became more accepted for irrigation, the demand would increase.

There was a discussion regarding bacterial content of reclaimed wastewater and associated health concerns. The idea of dual water delivery systems was also discussed; one to meet domestic needs and a second to provide irrigation water which did not require the same quality characteristics.

Director Kimberley reported on the expensive filtration system being installed in the City of Penticton noting that only 6 to 8% of the volume is for domestic consumption. He added that by 1995, all parklands will be irrigated with reclaimed wastewater and that in the future, the City will look to orchard irrigation by this method. He said that Penticton was undertaking a concerted effort to educate people about the need and means to conserve water.

Chairman Hobson observed that considerable promotion of water conservation is done by water utilities, however, this is on an individual basis and is not coordinated throughout the valley. He added that he felt funding for conservation initiatives should come from the purveyors where the consumer would pay through utility fees.

Director Shields offered to report on an program begun by the previous Board to coordinate water conservation efforts in the valley.

Director Kiss suggested that it would be expedient to coordinate the efforts of the various water conservation groups already established in communities throughout the valley.

Chairman Hobson agreed and felt this idea, in addition to providing a coordinated program, would allow some division of tasks and provide the opportunity to do some research. He suggested the role of the Okanagan Basin Water Board might be to coordinate a workshop of persons involved in water conservation to hear what is currently being done and explore a cost effective, cooperative approach.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to officials with the Provincial Water Management Branch and request their assistance in coordinating a workshop involving water conservation groups in the Okanagan Valley."

CARRIED.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Stretch for his informative presentation and said that a potential outcome of the workshop could be funding for the xeriscape gardens.

PEACHLAND WATER SAMPLING PROPOSAL

Mr. Bruce Owen, Councillor for the District of Peachland, presented a proposal (attached) on behalf of the Peachland Voters Association, asking for funding for a water quality sampling program in the Peachland/Westbank area of Okanagan Lake.

Mr. Owen indicated that funding for the \$66,450 project had been unsuccessfully sought

from the Ministries of Environment and Health. He added that the proposal had been reviewed by the Water Quality Task Group and their suggestions incorporated.

Director Ockenden referred to a Kelowna Capital News article outlining a water quality sampling program being conducted in Mission Creek, funding for which had apparently come, in part from the Ministry of Environment. He stated that this was another example of the lack of coordination among researchers in this area.

Director Shields left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Director Kiss commented that should the Okanagan Basin Water Board approve funding for the Peachland study, there were many other projects which would then also petition for money. He said that we do not have these resources and that health concerns should be dealt with by that ministry and funded by them.

Mr. Armour explained that the Water Quality Group had received the proposal and presentation from Mr. Owen on Wednesday, November 30th, and although technical suggestions were offered, there was no consensus regarding the necessity of the work other than confirmation that no detailed sampling was scheduled for this area by any of the participants in the group.

Director Ginther informed the Board that Peachland Council is aware that some sampling is being done by other groups but on a limited basis only. He added that council had not seen this specific proposal, nor the dollars required.

Mr. Owen confirmed that the question of local council funding had not been raised as he was under the impression that the mandate of the Okanagan Basin Water Board included funding studies such as this.

The Chairman stated that he would like to have the Water Quality Task Group comment on whether this project was necessary and appropriate and have the question of local funding through Peachland and Westbank explored. He asserted that if the Okanagan Basin Water Board were to fund projects such as this, it would have to be on a rationale applicable to the entire valley.

Moved by Director Ginther and seconded by Director Ockenden:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board elicit the Water Quality Task Group comment on whether the Peachland water quality project was necessary and appropriate and have the question of local funding through Peachland and Westbank answered."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Ockenden and seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the proponents of the water quality project in Mission Creek be contacted and invited to brief the Okanagan Basin Water Board on the project at its next regular meeting."

CARRIED.

WATERSHED RESTORATION

Phil Epp of the Ministry of Environment offered additional information of the Watershed Restoration program. He said that the work is being done under Forestry Renewal B.C. using funds from increased stumpage fees. Approximately \$150 million has been collected this year, and annual totals are expected to reach \$400 million.

Mr. Epp explained that each forestry region has two watershed restoration coordinators; one from the Ministry of Forests and one from the Ministry of Environment. In this region there are five projects currently being funded. Most projects originated with the Province this year due to the limited time for local consultation, but in subsequent years, it is expected that local partnerships will be formed.

Director Ginther commented that considerable damage to the watershed in his area was due to misuse of roads by recreational vehicles.

Mr. Epp agreed that there is an expectation in some areas that once an access road is created, it should remain open.

Director Cameron wondered how the restoration guidelines would be integrated into current and new forestry approvals so that we are not continually repairing mistakes of the past.

Mr. Epp observed that the Forestry Practices code imposes more comprehensive regulations governing new approvals but concurred that new approvals must have some integration with efforts to repair past damage.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:**EQUIPMENT REPAIR EXPENSES:**

Mr. Armour informed the Board that he had hoped to update current fiscal year budget expenditures at this meeting but the information was not available. He indicated that he would provide the information for the next meeting.

FISCAL YEAR 1995/96 PROVISIONAL BUDGET:

The Chairman suggested to the Board, that the resolution from the November 1st meeting dealing with the equipment reserve needed to be clarified.

Amendments were made as follows:

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board establish an equipment reserve fund by maintaining the current levy for aquatic weed control and allocating additional funds generated by the assessment of new growth to this fund."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Kiss:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board request funding from the Province to match the increased local contribution to the equipment reserve."

CARRIED.

Mr. Armour informed the Board that Mr. Maxnuk had noted that the Okanagan Basin Water Board could apply for 50% provincial funding up to \$220,000 in any year of the agreement. Our provisional budget request was for \$200,000. The availability of additional funds would depend on the requests from other jurisdictions. Mr. Armour suggested that the Board utilize this alternative and asked for agreement of the Board to submit a revised provisional budget to the province.

Moved by Director Kiss and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board submit a revised request to the province for funding for aquatic weed control in the amount of \$220,000, with the additional \$20,000 to be designated for the equipment reserve."

CARRIED.

Mr. Armour also advised that the Regional District of North Okanagan was requesting a 5% increase to their non-sharable administration charge for the next fiscal year. The purpose of the increase would be to cover rising staff wages. He said this would amount to about \$1,500 for the next fiscal year.

The Chairman said that he would prefer that such increases were incorporated into the provisional budget and discussed prior to presentation of that document to each regional board.

CORRESPONDENCE:**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - SWALWELL LAKE AQUATIC WEED CONTROL**

Correspondence was received from the Ministry of Environment, the owners of Beaver Lake Lodge, and Winfield Okanagan Centre Irrigation District pertaining to Eurasian watermilfoil control in Swalwell Lake.

Mr. Armour noted that this was the first indication from the irrigation district that aquatic plant growth was a concern from the water supply point of view.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN - SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT FUNDS

A copy of a letter from the regional district to the Minister of Finance was received. The letter asked for an explanation of the disbursement of revenues of the Sustainable Environment Fund, and specifically why these funds were not available for the Okanagan Basin Water Board aquatic weed control program.

STANDARD SAMPLING MANUALS

Mr. Armour reported that three manuals had been received by the Water Quality Task Group from the Ministry of Environment, detailing the proper methods for sampling freshwater, sediments, and biological elements.

These manuals could be made available to anyone conducting water quality research to ensure that data collected was scientifically valid.

WATER QUALITY TASK GROUP

Minutes of a meeting of the Water Quality Task Group held November 30th, 1994 were received.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT - POLLUTION FROM HOUSEBOATS

A copy of a reply to the Okanagan Mission Residents Association from the Ministry of Environment to complaints about sewage pollution from houseboats was received.

The Chairman stated that he was dissatisfied with the reply from the Ministry which indicated that perhaps the Okanagan Basin Water Board should coordinate regulation of houseboat sewage disposal. He felt that there are Federal and Provincial regulations applicable to this situation.

Director Hornby suggested that the houseboat industry and licensing authorities should bear part of the costs if new disposal facilities are required.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to the Federal Minister of Transport and the Provincial Minister of Environment and suggest that the two regulating authorities coordinate resolution of concerns about houseboat sewage disposal on Okanagan Lake."

CARRIED.

MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS - FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

A letter was received acknowledging the support given by the Water Board for projects applying for infrastructure grants.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT - REGULATION OF SMALL WATERCRAFT

The Chairman apprised the board of a meeting between Regional District of Central Okanagan representatives and senior Ministry staff to discuss the problems caused by lack of regulation of seadoos and jet skis.

He proposed that the Board invite Mr. Jack Hall, Executive Director of Lands Branch, to discuss actions which might be taken to resolve these problems and safety concerns.

The Water Board agreed to invite Mr. Hall to the next regular meeting.
He proposed that the Board invite Mr. Jack Hall, Executive Director of Lands Branch, to discuss actions which might be taken to resolve these problems and safety concerns.

The Water Board agreed to invite Mr. Hall to the next regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER