

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON OCTOBER 1ST, 1996, AT THE BOARDROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, VERNON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Director W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Director E. Lamont	C.O.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.

<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	M. 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 Ockenden:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on AUGUST 7TH, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

1996 Harvesting Report:

The Field Supervisor presented a report (attached) on the 1996 aquatic weed harvesting program. He commented that 145 machine loads had been cut which represented a mop up operation compared to the amount cut in the 1980's. He noted that this in large part reflected the success of rototilling operations.

The season was somewhat unusual with high water levels causing plants to take longer to reach the surface. After they did and the lakes dropped, there were thick mats of vegetation in some areas. Vaseux Lake not cut as weeds were not up at the time of the scheduled cut in late June.

One contract job removing algae at the Kelowna Glenmore landfill in a pond constructed to contain groundwater seepage was completed prior to start of the regular work season.

Director Shields asked about the late start (July 22) in Osoyoos Lake and if this was strictly due to late onset of weed growth. Mr. Armour confirmed that it was.

Director Ockenden wondered about the control of milfoil on the U.S. side of the border.

Mr. Armour recalled that a chemical control program had been used by the State Department

of Ecology in the 1980's but this was discontinued. He said that the American portion of the lake seemed from aerial observation to be relatively clean.

Mr. Maxnuk added that the State had voluntarily ceased the use of 2,4-D herbicide in response to an environmental court protest.

1996 Derooting Report:

The Field Supervisor also provided a summary of 1996 Derooting work and noted that approximately 300 hours harvesting took place this year compared to 1664 hours derooting.

Moved by Director Hornby, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the reports on harvesting and derooting work conducted in 1996 be received."

CARRIED.

Ministry of Environment Aquatic Weed Control Funding

Mr. Maxnuk reported that the proposal to implement a boat trailer license fee surcharge to fund aquatic weed control programs was proceeding to the Provincial Fee and Licenses Committee.

The Chairman reported that in casual conversation with the Minister of Environment at UBCM, the Minister mentioned that he supported this initiative.

Director Shields commented that in view of the ranking in the Provincial water quality report of Osoyoos Lake as "poor" he was surprised that the Minister did not have time to meet with the Water Board.

Milfoil Boat Launch Signs:

A summary of Eurasian watermilfoil launch signs maintained at mainstem and upper elevation lakes was circulated. Mr. Armour noted that the MOE prior to the last two years had established and maintained these signs.

Director Ockenden observed that private facilities such as trailer parks which maintain launch facilities should receive attention.

Alternate Director Lamont mentioned Fintry and Bear Creek as two other areas where there are launches but no signs. He wondered if there should be a letter to wharf owners educating them about aquatic plant growth and encouraging common sense.

Mr. Maxnuk stated that the launch sign list was last updated in 1989 and there had undoubtedly been changes since then.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Alternate Director Lamont:

"That a media release take place in May prior to the long weekend reminding the boating public of the dangers of spread of Eurasian watermilfoil."

CARRIED.

Repairs to Rototiller #2 Barge:

The Filed Supervisor summarized that Rototiller #2 was built in 1985. It has been in annual seasonal use since that time and over the years hydraulic components have been upgraded and a cab added. The machine is still mechanically serviceable.

Last winter, the pontoon barge fabricated of 10 ga. sheet metal developed a leak while in service in the lake. The machine was removed, blocked up and several cracks were found in the metal and repaired. This is likely to re-occur as the metal is thin from corrosion and abrasion and subject to repeat expansion and contraction in the water.

Due to weight and stability considerations the old hull bottom must be removed and a new one fabricated. Three quotes have been obtained, all representing essentially the same procedure. He recommended accepting the lowest quote. Sufficient funds are available in the equipment maintenance and repair budget.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Ockenden:

"That repairs proceed to Rototiller #2 according to the procedure outlined by the Field Supervisor."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Darrel Stinson, M.P. Okanagan Shuswap Sewer Connections on Westbank Reserve:

Mr. Stinson confirmed that the three Okanagan Valley MP's who attended the last regular meeting will be working toward a solution to the provision of sewer infrastructure on existing development on IR #9.

Director Shields reported that the tribal council is interested in resolving this situation and perhaps would attend a Water Board meeting.

Alternate Director Lamont recounted a meeting at UBCM with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs at which the Minister had offered to try to facilitate a solution between the parties.

Director Hornby asked about the position of the Indian Band toward sewerage of new development.

Director Ockenden replied that all new development must be sewerage and the band collects fees at the Regional District rate and remits the money to the District.

Director Hornby questioned if there was any broader arrangement for areas outside IR #9.

Director Shields informed the Board that sewer was proposed for any development undertaken by the Osoyoos Indian Band.

Director McGrath advised that issues for a City of Vernon - Okanagan Band agreement had been finalized for IR#6 sewer hookups. He added that the Band would not contemplate further development without provision of sewer.

Moved by Alternate Director Lamont, seconded by Director Shields:

"That a letter be sent to Federal Minister of Indian Affairs, Ronald Irwin, asking that means to resolve sewer infrastructure issues for existing development on First Nation Lands be incorporated into revised Indian Act legislation."

CARRIED.

Director McGrath commented that the federal government must be involved in a solution as they are the only ones with the necessary resources.

Director Shields asked that a reference to the meeting with the three M.P.'s be added to the motion and the Board agreed.

The Board also asked that the letter be copied to the M.P.'s and to Minister John Cashore and that reference be made to Okanagan Basin Study commitments.

District of Peachland

Sewer Project

The District of Peachland informed the Board that work is being carried out on the Peachland sewer project and funding has not been put on hold.

Summit Environmental Consultants Vernon Foreshore Structure and Use Study

The Field Supervisor referred to a letter from a consultant retained to do a structure and use study on public (Crown) foreshore in Vernon.

Mr. Mackiewich advised that the issue of a shore zone plan had been considered some time ago at the regional district level but dropped when the Okanagan Landing area was annexed by the City. He advised that a bylaw would replace existing crown land guidelines and the plan, once signed off by Lands Branch, transfer approval authority to local government.

Director Ockenden suggested that Lands Branch be asked to present information on foreshore planning to the Board following the election and new appointments.

Audited Financial Statements

The audited financial statement for the year ended March 31, 1996 was presented to the Board.

Moved by Director McGrath, seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the audited financial statement for the year ended March 31, 1996 be received by the Board."

CARRIED.

First Nations Salmon Workshop

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission is conducting an Okanagan sockeye salmon restoration workshop October 4th and 5th in Oliver.

Director Shields noted that sockeye spawning numbers have dropped from in the order of

50,000 in the 1950's to 2200 at present.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

Grant Applications:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the applications for a sewage facilities assistance grant be approved for payment to the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen \$19,084.56."

CARRIED.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Water Quality Issues Relating to Drinking Supplies

The Chairman raised the subject of the recent outbreak(s) of cryptosporidiosis in the Okanagan, commenting that there perhaps needs to be closer cooperation between approving official in the Ministries of Health and Environment when dealing with sewage discharges to water supplies.

The Board discussed water purification methods and water quality issues at length.

Moved by Alternate Director Lamont, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the approving agencies for sewage effluent disposal systems be encouraged to work more closely together in providing accurate information on health and environmental concerns."

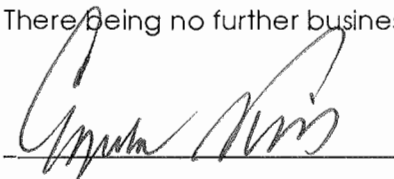
CARRIED.

Director Ockenden observed that as early as last March, the subject of cryptosporidium had been discussed by the Water Quality Task Group and he wondered if that group could be more active in providing information on the subject of drinking water contamination.

Mr. Maxnuk advised that the Ministry of Environment had received funding to put in place ten continuous water quality monitoring stations in the Okanagan.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON MARCH 5TH, 1996, IN THE WOODHAVEN BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 1450 KLO ROAD, KELOWNA, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Alternate Director G. Rieger	N.O.R.D.
	Diorector W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director R. Ginther	C.O.R.D.
	Director R. Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Alternate Director E. Lamont	C.O.R.D.
	Director E. Sims	O.S.R.D.
	Director D. Cameron Sr.	O.S.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.

<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
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<u>STAFF:</u>	P. Mackiewich	Administrator
	G. Armour	Field Supervisor

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Chairman Kiss noted changes in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen appointments to the Board for 1996: T. Shields has been confirmed as Director and R. Wilson as an Alternate; A. Hancock has resigned and has been replaced by E. Sims.

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1996.

Alternate Director Rieger nominated Director Shields for the position of Vice Chair.

Alternate Director Lamont nominated Director Hobson for the position of Vice Chair.

By secret ballot, Director Shields was elected Vice Chair of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1996.

The Administrator and one member of the media acted as scrutineers."

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on FEBRUARY 6TH, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:AQUATIC WEED CONTROL BUDGET 1996-97:

Mr. Maxnuk advised the Board that he had no new information on Provincial funding for aquatic weed control in 1996-97.

Director Shields noted that we will have no recourse to raise additional local money after this month, should the Province reduce its funding to the program.

Alternate Director Rieger commented that the past investment of both the province and local government could be wasted if the program is not funded at a reasonable level. He suggested that the Minister be contacted and reminded of the need for a continuing commitment from the Province to weed control.

Mr. Mackiewich advised that the agreement with the Province contains somewhat more of a legal obligation on the Minister to put forward the request for program funding.

Director Ockenden questioned the purpose of having a five year agreement.

Mr. Armour noted that the Regional District of Columbia Shuswap had been informed of the possibility of a funding shortfall and had indicated that without Provincial involvement there would be no weed control program in Shuswap Lake.

Mr. Maxnuk advised that CSRD feels that the lake is a Provincial resource and provides significant revenue for the Province from tourism.

The Board discussed the implication on long term control of weed growth, of not conducting any program in the absence of sufficient Provincial support.

Director Hobson felt we should continue the program with the local contribution to avoid getting too far behind.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger and seconded by Director Shields :

"That the Chairman telephone the Minister of Environment to determine the status of the 1996-97 aquatic weed control funding and to indicate that the willingness of the Water Board to meet with the Minister in Victoria to discuss this issue."

CARRIED.

Aquatic Weed Program Expenditures 1995-96:

Mr. Armour circulated a spreadsheet bringing the program expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31st up to date.

He outlined the amount spent to February 26th and indicated that because of ice cover on most lakes and a reduced amount of work, there will likely be funds unspent in the budget. Mr. Armour suggested that fixed expenses for 1996-97, such as storage yard rental and equipment insurance could be paid and some spare parts purchased for weed control equipment. He estimated that just under \$50,000 could be left unallocated.

There was some discussion of the possibility of carrying unspent funds forward but under the Provinces Financial Administration Act, this cannot be done.

The Administrator commented that there is more leeway in the municipal sector for carrying forward unspent funds.

Director Ginther entered the meeting at 10:45.

Director Cameron noted that half of the remaining funds were local governments, so in effect only \$25,000 of the Provincial share was not spent.

Director Hobson suggested that the money should be put in reserve towards a capital purchase.

Alternate Director Rieger asked about putting money into reserve to do contract work at a later date.

There was discussion about refitting the 1978 International Tandem Truck or leasing a new truck,

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Sims :

"That any program funds not spent on weed control prior to the end of the 1995-96 Fiscal Year be used to purchase needed replacement parts for control equipment and the remainder put into capital reserves ."

CARRIED.

Proposal from Aquatic Control Services

Mr. Ron Jensen, proprietor of Aquatic Control Services, submitted a proposal to perform weed control on a contract basis. (attached)

Director McGrath proposed that assessment and evaluation of the equipment be conducted to enable its effectiveness to be proven.

Mr. Maxnuk and Director Hobson questioned Mr. Jensen about operating rate of the machine and effectiveness.

Mr. Jensen said that his machine could operate with comparable effectiveness to Water Board rototillers at a rate of about 0.5 hectares per day.

Mr. Armour informed the Board that this equipment had been contracted two years ago for work in Wood Lake and the result had not been effective through the summer. He questioned whether Mr. Jensen's machine could treat an area the size of Kelowna foreshore in the time proposed.

Director Sims asked Mr. Jensen to supply written references from customers.

Director Hobson observed that the references listed indicated the machine was useful in smaller sites. Mr. Jensen confirmed that most work had been done in smaller areas.

Mr. Armour added that there would still be some fixed ongoing cost to the Board in administering a contract. Director Hobson asked that these be defined.

Alternate Director Rieger added that we save replacement cost of our equipment if work is contracted out.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger and seconded by Director Shields :

"That Mr. Armour and Mr. Jensen work out the details of a test which would demonstrate the effectiveness of the Aquatic Plant Control equipment and bring this proposal back to the Board."

CARRIED.

Proposal for Microbial Control of Eurasian Watermilfoil

Mr. Armour informed the Board about a proposal from a Victoria based company to use a microbe to attack Eurasian watermilfoil. While the company had not directly approached the Board, some information had been forwarded from the Osoyoos Lake water Quality Society, and some stories had appeared in the media.

He explained that microbes are small organisms such as bacteria or fungi which are often used in contaminated site remediation. He said that the only case he was aware of where a microbe had been looked at for EWM control was the use of a fungus by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and this test had shown promise in a laboratory situation but had failed in the field.

Director Shields left the meeting at 11:30 .

Mr. Armour added that he had asked the company to provide a written confirmation of the status of this particular microbe with respect to registration in Canada and the need for an aquatic use permit.

The Board asked to be kept informed of this matter.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Regional District of Central Okanagan - Okanagan Lake Bridge Widening Project

Director Hobson explained the contents of a letter from the Regional District of Central Okanagan about the proposed widening of the Okanagan Lake Bridge. The question centres around the need to have a lift or navigable span as part of the project. Director Hobson advised that the increment in cost to incorporate the navigable capacity was large. He said that the Federal Government, which has jurisdiction had indicated that a costly study would be needed before a navigable span were eliminated.

Director McGrath observed that the impact would be on a relatively small number of boat owners and common sense should be applied when addressing large cost increases.

Chairman Kiss wondered if this matter were an issue on which the Water Board should be taking a position.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Alternate Director Rieger :

"That Water Board comment on the need for a navigable capacity in the Okanagan Lake Bridge widening specifications be put off until stakeholder discussions are complete."

CARRIED.

Minister of Environment

Lake Water Quality Issues

A letter from the Minister of Environment was received dealing with several issues raised by the Okanagan Basin Water Board: the status of water quality reports requested by the Board, the impact of stoppage of Hiram Walker cooling water discharge on Wood Lake, and pleasure craft sewage pumpouts.

Mr. Armour reviewed the Board's concerns in these areas and noted that an answer about the amount of provincial funding for sewage pumpouts had not been received.

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Impact of Snow Removal on Lake
Water Quality

Director Hobson reviewed concerns brought to the Board of the Regional District of Central Okanagan, by Director Ockenden, concerning the effect of snow removal practices on lake water quality.

Alternate Director Rieger stated that quantification of the actual impact in the valley would be useful.

Moved by Director Sims and seconded by Director Ginther :

"That Water Board staff survey local government and the Ministry of Transportation and Highways in the valley regarding snow removal practices and assimilate information and report back to the Board."

CARRIED.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

Grant Applications:

The Administrator informed the Board that two grants required explanation. Oliver had submitted an application for \$8,165.00 to cover the Water Board share of project costs exceeding that approved by Municipal Affairs. This is consistent with water Board payments allowed for past projects (example- Armstrong) Secondly, Kelowna had submitted information pertaining to a project dating back to 1987 for which Provincial grants had been approved and received. Kelowna wished to claim the Water Board share retroactive to this time.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the following applications for Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants be approved for payment."

<i>Penticton 1995</i>	<i>\$237,889.84</i>
<i>Oliver 1995</i>	<i>59,272.69</i>
	<i>35,495.00</i>
	<i>8,165.00</i>
<i>Kelowna 1995</i>	<i>442,416.92</i>
<i>1987 -1994</i>	<i>109,081.94</i>
<i>RDOS</i>	<i>19,084.57</i>
<i>RDCO</i>	<i>84,692.08</i>

CARRIED.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Regional Advisory Committee - Treaty Negotiations

Director Ginther updated the Board in general terms on his participation in the Regional Advisory Committee for Treaty Negotiations with Westbank First Nations. He asked for comments on the framework agreement circulated to the Board.

Director Hobson raised the issue of ownership of the lake bottom and asked Director Ginther to keep watch on this topic.

Director Cameron noted that issues contained in the framework agreement can be discussed but the actual document cannot be given out.

Director Hobson wondered if the issues to be negotiated can be publicized for feedback without violating the confidentiality of the document. He stated that public input and understanding of the issues during the process was of prime importance.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That treaty negotiating process should be conducted according to an agreed set of principles which are discussed publicly and a specific set of issues also receiving public input."

CARRIED.

Mr. Maxnuk noted that he had attended a workshop on infringement on aboriginal rights, some of which could apply to aquatic plant control. As an example he used aboriginal fishing rights being disrupted by derooting. This does not have to take place on First Nation lands, only in traditional fishing areas. He suggested sending our workplan to Indian Bands in the valley.

Director Hobson questioned what we should ask; comments, approval or just send the document for information.

Mr. Maxnuk offered to clarify the situation with respect to First Nation unextinguished rights.

Alternate Director Rieger left the meeting at 1:00 P.M.

Inclusion of Borrowing Costs in Development Cost Charges and Changes in Sewerage Grant Policy

The Administrator brought the Board up to date on the status of interest cost incorporation in

DCC's.

Mr. Mackiewich advised that Al Tamblin, Head of the Municipal Finance Section for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, had said that he would attend the March 5th OBWB meeting to update Board on a review of the methods of funding infrastructure.

In a February 15th telephone conversation with OBWB staff, Mr. Tamblin indicated that he would not be able to offer new information on this subject at this time and that it could be late in the year before the review is complete.

Mentioned as contributing to this delay were the lobby by developers, which is quite vocal in its opposition to raising DCC's, and some Ministry concern about inclusion of interest costs in types of infrastructure projects other than sewer.

The method favoured by administrators and treasurers in the Valley to address problems in funding sewerage infrastructure is to be able to include the cost of long term borrowing in DCC's. This required a change in Ministry of Municipal Affairs policy. At the request of the Ministry, the City of Kelowna DCC bylaw was submitted with interest costs included, as a test case. Kelowna was subsequently asked to remove the interest component and the Ministry commissioned a consultant to review the issue.

There was a discussion of the involvement of the Water Board in DCC's.

Director McGrath observed that until a local Governments' assist factor is eliminated, there should not be an increase in DCC's due to interest incorporation.

Director Hobson said he was concerned about the lack of consultation from the Ministry with this Board and the City of Kelowna since Kelowna's application was used as a test case, and a considerable amount of work and public consultation had taken place.

Mr. Mackiewich reviewed the results of discussion on two items regarding payment of Water Board sewage facilities grants:

- The policy of the Water Board with respect to payment of sewerage grants regardless of whether debt is incurred does not require Municipal Affairs approval, according to Mr. Tamblin.
- The resolution of the Board to eliminate grants to growth driven projects raises a problem. These projects currently qualify for provincial grants and the Water Board cannot withhold its portion of funding. Mr. Tamblin suggests that the Water Board use the Municipal Affairs ranking system in which growth driven projects receive a lower priority for funding than those correcting existing problems.

Mr. Mackiewich said that he will obtain the ranking system used by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to assist in defining what constitutes new growth.

Director Hobson left the meeting at 1:30

WESTBANK FIRST NATION

SEWERING OF TRAILER PARKS

As no representative of Westbank First Nation was available the matter was not discussed.

OTHER MATTERS:

Signing Authorities for Okanagan Basin Water Board

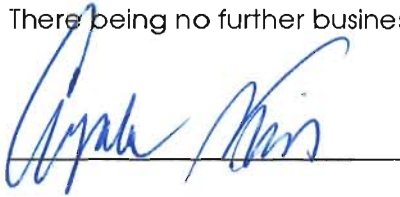
Moved by Director Ginther and seconded by Director Sims:

"That E. Shipmaker, P. Mackiewich, W. McGrath, G. Kiss and R.D.N.O. Deputy Treasurer T. Mori be approved as signing authorities for the Okanagan Basin Water Board."

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD
HELD ON FEBRUARY 6TH, 1996, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL
DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN, 101 MARTIN STREET,
PENTICTON, B.C. AT 11:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Chairperson G. Kiss N.O.R.D.
Alternate Director G. Rieger N.O.R.D.
Director R. Ginther C.O.R.D.
Director A. Hancock O.S.R.D.
Director D. Cameron Sr. O.S.R.D.
Alternate Director T. Shields O.S.R.D.

ALSO PRESENT: M. Maxnuk Ministry of Environment
R.A. Nickel Ministry of Environment

STAFF: P. Mackiewich Administrator
G. Armour Field Supervisor

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD:

Regional District of North Okanagan

- Director Gyula Kiss
- Director Wayne McGrath
- Director Eric Hornby
- Alternate Director Guenter Rieger
- Alternate Director Sherry Price

Regional District of Central Okanagan

- Director Ron Ginther
- Director Gordon Ockenden
- Director Robert Hobson
- Alternate Director James Stuart
- Alternate Director Eain Lamont
- Alternate Director Bob McCoubrey

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

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

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Mackiewich called for nominations for Chairperson of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1996. He informed the Board that although Director Hobson was absent he had indicated his wish to stand for re-election to the position of Chairperson.

Alternate Director Rieger nominated Director Kiss for the position of Chair.

Director Ginther nominated Director Hobson for the position of Chair.

By secret ballot, Director Kiss was declared elected as Chairperson for 1996. (Members of the media acted as scrutineers)

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 1996.

Alternate Director Rieger nominated Alternate Director Shields for the position of Vice Chair.

Alternate Director Shields informed the Board that he would be clarifying his appointment to the Board with the Chairman of his Regional Board, and expected to be participating as a full director rather than an alternate.

Mr. Mackiewich noted that until this appointment was officially changed, Alternate Director Shields could not serve as Vice Chair.

Director Cameron suggested delaying the election of a Vice Chair until the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen appointments were clarified.

The Board agreed.

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Alternate Director Shields:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on DECEMBER 6TH, 1995 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

AQUATIC WEED CONTROL BUDGET 1996-97:

The Field Supervisor reminded the Board that the provisional budget submitted to the Ministry of Environment was being considered and, in light of pressures on Ministry funding, it might be wise to stress the need for continued commitment to the program.

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

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to the Minister of Environment to indicate that local government is prepared to honour its

five year commitment to fund the aquatic weed program and that early confirmation of the Provinces continuing support would be appreciated for our budgeting process."

CARRIED.

Mr. Nickel reported that there were pressures on all components of the Ministry budget and all programs were subject to scrutiny. He said he had reminded the Ministry of its contractual obligation to the program but that we could certainly expect some discussion back and forth during the budget process.

Alternate Director Shields commented that the valley economy cannot afford the effect of a reduction in program funding. If notification of a reduced allocation from the Province comes too late to be addressed in local requisitions, the Water Board is left with no recourse.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger seconded by Alternate Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to the Minister of Tourism and stress the need for continued provincial government financial support of the aquatic weed control program and also ask the Ministry to explore the possibility of making up any Ministry of Environment shortfall in the 1996-97 fiscal year."

CARRIED.

It was agreed that this letter should be copied to Valley Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Commissions.

There was some discussion of the advisability of lobbying prior to any firm announcement of cuts.

Director Ginther pointed out the importance of having individual local governments affirm the importance of continued provincial funding of the program.

The Board discussed the Ministry proposal set out a few years ago, to set up a business plan drawing funds from a source such as boat trailer licenses, to provide continuing revenue for this program. Mr. Nickel indicated that this had not proceeded beyond the discussion stage to his knowledge.

Information Brochure:

The Field Supervisor distributed a draft of an information pamphlet designed to inform the Okanagan resident on how the program budget was spent on control of Eurasian watermilfoil. He explained that the copy provided was produced in house. The cost to have a two colour version professionally printed would run just under \$1000.

Director Ginther wondered if the best way to target taxpayers and keep costs down would be to mail out the information with tax notices.

Alternate Director Rieger stated that distribution to local governments for counter display in respective office would be his preference so that those that were interested would pick up the material.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board accept the public information brochure on aquatic weed control and copy it on recycled paper for distribution to offices of local government, the Ministry of Environment, and Access Centres."

CARRIED.

Director Ginther noted that the availability of harvested milfoil for home compost use was not included in the pamphlet.

Aquatic Weed Program Expenditures 1995-96:

Mr. Armour brought the program expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31st up to date. He told the Board that about \$303,000 had been spent from a total allocation of just over \$400,000. February and March are traditionally heavy work months with all four pieces of derooting equipment in operation, however with the recent cold weather, ice cover may delay work on a number of lakes.

Mr. Mackiewich noted that the Board could ask the province to allocate unspent funds to the equipment reserve fund.

Mr. Nickel commented that with the strain on his budget, he could not endorse any increased contribution to reserves.

Alternate Director Rieger observed that the government should be able to adjust for variation in environmental conditions which had an effect on program work. He commented that funds should be available to hire additional staff to increase equipment hours when the weather is suitable.

Director Hancock suggested that a budget stabilization reserve to permit overtime work in April and May might be investigated.

Director Hancock added, and the Board agreed, that project expenditures should be reviewed again at the March meeting and if it appears that funds will not be spent, options should be discussed at that time.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Al Tamblin, Ministry of Municipal Affairs: Report on Inclusion of Interest Charges in DCC's

Mr. Tamblin had planned to attend this meeting to discuss inclusion of borrowing costs

in DCC's but will now attend the March OBWB meeting to update Board on results.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That the letter from Mr. Tamblin be received and filed."

CARRIED.

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Pleasure Craft Pumpouts

The Field Supervisor reported that the Minister of Environment had been asked to clarify the offer from UBCM regarding funding of pumpout facilities. A letter is to come from the Ministry indicating that a percentage of funding will be available through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. It is highly unlikely that full funding will be forthcoming.

Mr. Armour added that designation of smaller lakes such as Wood Lake under pleasure craft sewage regulations might mean a requirement for full pumpouts. This could be a considerable expenditure on lakes which do not support large craft with on board toilets. He suggested that on small lakes a facility to accommodate porta-pottie type disposal would be all that is required and he had asked for clarification on whether the Ministry would permit this.

Alternate Director Shields wondered if a pumpout was required for Osoyoos Lake.

Mr. Armour replied that until the lake is designated under the regulations, a pumpout facility was not required.

Director Ginther questioned whether the same goal in preventing sewage dumping could be accomplished under a local bylaw.

Mr. Mackiewich responded that local authority did not extend to navigable waterways.

There was discussion about the role of the Central Okanagan Watercraft Committee, and Director Ginther advised that this group was set up to assist the respective authorities to achieve their goals.

Mr. Nickel commented that the Ministry of Environment and Federal authorities administer the Litter Act which appears to be another way of addressing sewage dumping. He also said that care must be exercised in deciding where pumpouts should be located in order to be of maximum use.

Ministry of Environment

Okanagan Basin Water Supply Report

Mr. Armour reviewed the contents of a report received from the Ministry of Environment on the limits to the Okanagan basin Water Supply.

In 1992, the Regional Water Manager directed his staff to review the available water supply in the Okanagan Valley and update data from the Okanagan Basin Study. Inflow and outflow data for the twenty years following the Okanagan Basin Study was incorporated. The computer model shows the storage regime in Okanagan Lake over

a seven year period, following a 3 year drought of the magnitude of 1929-31. The study recommends that no more than 63,000 cubic decameters extra water use be licensed in the Valley.

A cubic decameter (dam³) is 1000 cubic meters or 0.81 acre feet.

63,000 dam³ = 51,030 acre feet

The average household (3 people) uses 0.5 acre feet per year

51,030 acre feet will supply about 100,000 household or 300,000 people.

This recommendation is based on consumptive use. (The report notes that there is a return flow component to the system from most industrial, irrigation, and domestic use.) It is noted that if the lake level were dropped to this minimum, it would take three years of average inflows for the reservoir to recover to its normal operating level.

Mr. Armour concluded by saying that this report represented one piece of information needed to update the Okanagan Basin Study.

Director Cameron asked if the Field Supervisor felt the report should go back to local and regional Ministry staff for additional comment or clarification.

Mr. Armour said he had some minor questions but that he was confident the report was a very conservative estimate of water quantity in the valley.

Director Ginther suggested that Okanagan College Staff might comment on the report.

Director Cameron proposed that the Okanagan Water Quality Task Group review the document.

Moved by Alternate Director Shields and seconded by Director Hancock :

"That the report on Water Quantity in the Okanagan be received."

CARRIED.

Ministry Of Health

Septic System Maintenance Information

Mr. Armour advised that in response to a letter from the Water Board, the Regional Public Health Inspectors had forwarded the information currently available on septic system maintenance. In addition the Ministry of Health had provided information on a new handout and video to be made available at Health Units and distributed to licensed pumping contractors. This information was available at a cost of 25¢ per pamphlet and \$10 for the video.

Alternate Director Rieger said that the Board should promote distribution through local government.

Director Ginther agreed that water and tax notices could be used to distribute septic tank information.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Alternate Director Shields:

"That the information on septic system maintenance be received and sent to valley Regional Districts with encouragement that it be distributed to appropriate households in each area."

CARRIED.

Ministry of Environment

Lake Water Quality Workshop

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Field Supervisor attend the Water Quality Workshop proposed by the Ministry of Environment and report back to the Board."

CARRIED.

Dr. J. Bryan, Ministry of Environment

Water Quality Task Group

The Field Supervisor reported that Dr. Bryan acting as Co-Chair of the Water Quality Task Group had forwarded a letter in which he proposed to have the group address the questions posed by Director Hobson.

- What gaps exist in current water resource data?
- Are we meeting the objectives set out in the Okanagan Basin Study?
- What are the future needs for water resource work in the valley?

Moved by Alternate Director Shields and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the correspondence from Dr. Bryan concerning the Water Quality Task Group be received and filed."

CARRIED.

Water Quality Task Group

Minutes of November 16th Meeting

Minutes of the November 16 meeting of the Water Quality Task Group which was reported on verbally at the December Board meeting, were received.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

Grant Applications:

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That the following applications for Sewage Facilities Assistance Grants be approved for payment."

Armstrong 1995 \$14,240.78

<i>Osoyoos 1995</i>	<i>51,894.58</i>
<i>Vernon 1995</i>	<i>415,940.00</i>
<i>Coldstream 1995</i>	<i>64,982.49</i>
<i>RDOS</i>	<i>19,084.24</i>

CARRIED.

Current OBWB Criteria for Sewage Facilities Grant Eligibility:

Mr. Mackiewich reviewed the rationale for payment of grants when local government does not incur debt.

Director Cameron expressed an interest in having this issue reviewed with Mr. Tamblin when he attends the March meeting. The Board agreed to do this.

Mr. Armour referred to a spreadsheet showing OBWB sewage grants through 2000. Although some debt will be retired, new projects will cause a net increase in the amount of grants. Eligibility of projects based on whether they correct old problems or serve growth has to be defined.

Director Cameron asked if the levy for Grants would increase substantially.

Mr. Mackiewich said that with increasing assessments, the rise should be minimal.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

WESTBANK FIRST NATION

SEWERING OF TRAILER PARKS

Mr. Armour reported that he had spoken to Mike Watts on January 26 and he had then intended to be at the meeting to report on this issue.

Moved by Alternate Director Shields and seconded by Director Cameron:

"That discussion of sewerage of trailer parks on Westbank First Nation lands be deferred until the next meeting."

CARRIED.

FIELD SUPERVISOR

JOB DESCRIPTION

Mr. Armour circulated a revised job description for the field supervisor position.

Director Hancock referred to the various administrative duties performed by the position such as taking and preparation of minutes and agendas. She stated that she felt this should be done as part of the agreement for administration with the North Okanagan Regional District.

Mr. Mackiewich responded that additional staff would be required at a cost which

could not be accommodated in the current agreement. He added that as long as Mr. Armour had the time to carry out these duties, he felt this was the most efficient use of staff.

Mr. Maxnuk noted that there appeared to be a migration of duties away from aquatic weeds to administration and technical support for the Board; activities which were not subject to fifty percent cost sharing by the Province. He suggested that the description list the percentage of time spent on each duty.

Alternate Director Rieger disagreed and stated that, in his opinion, this practice was not of value.

Director Shields commented that all activities outlined in the job description related to weed control since the Field Supervisor had to attend meetings to inform the Board on technical matters.

Moved by Alternate Director Rieger and seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the job description for the Field Supervisor position be adopted as presented."

CARRIED.

OTHER MATTERS:

Meeting Location:

Alternate Director Rieger suggested that all meetings of the Okanagan Basin Water Board be held in Kelowna to make best use of the directors' time.

Alternate Director Shield favoured rotation of meetings between the three regions with one meeting held in Osoyoos. He said this gave better opportunity for local media to cover issues of concern.

Director Cameron agreed that the Board requires a presence throughout the valley and this is best served by rotating the meetings.

It was agreed to continue the practice of rotating meetings of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

First Nation Treaty Negotiation

Regional Advisory Committee

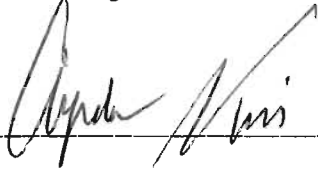
Director Ginther advised the Board that he had attended numerous meetings of the Regional Advisory Committee for Treaty Negotiations as the appointed representative of the Water Board. He asked if there were a Board policy concerning directors expenses for such committees.

The Administrator answered that there was and Director Ginther should submit the details to the office.

The Chairman asked that a report from Director Ginther be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON APRIL 2ND, 1996, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Director W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director R. Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Director E. Sims	O.S.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
 <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	 M. Maxnuk	 Ministry of Environment
	R. A. Nickel	Ministry of Environment
	M. Watt	Westbank First Nation
 <u>STAFF:</u>	 P. Macklewich	 Administrator
	G. Armour	Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on MARCH 6TH, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That Mr. Ron Jensen representing Aquatic Plant Control Services be added to the agenda to make a presentation and that discussion of the proposal be conducted in Committee of the Whole."

CARRIED.

Mr. Ron Jensen presented a proposal to remove nuisance milfoil growth at the south end of Wood Lake. (attached) He indicated that the work and site had been reviewed with G. Armour and the \$17,380 cost based on the number of hours spent in the site by the Water Board last year. He also supplied references from three jobs he had previously done.

Director Hobson asked if Mr. Jensen could ensure the availability of the equipment for the full time required to do the work even if this proved to be more than the estimated hours. He also asked for assurance that the work could be conducted in the same amount of time as with Water Board equipment. Thirdly, he wondered if there would be additional benefit in area treated such as access to shallower sites.

Director Shields asked for clarification on whether the job was being quoted by the hour or on a contract basis. Mr. Jensen answered that he was quoting a contract price.

Director Ockenden asked the field supervisor about the work done by Water Board equipment around Westbank public beaches where it appeared the machines had not treated areas within swimming floats.

Mr. Armour agreed to look at this report as beach areas are top priority for the derooting program.

The Board thanked Mr. Jensen for his proposal and deferred discussion for the Committee of the Whole.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

AQUATIC WEED CONTROL FUNDING 1996-97:

The Chairman informed the Board of discussions held with the Regional Director for the Ministry of Environment and the resultant agreement which had been signed with the telephone consent of the Board.

Director Hobson questioned whether we would receive the full amount of our funding request for the 1996-97 fiscal year.

Mr. Nickel replied that his Ministry was operating on special warrant and final funding levels were not known.

Mr. Mackiewich told the Board that the tone of the meeting was positive with regard to funding level.

Director Shields noted that this covered the present fiscal year but wondered about the remaining two year term of our agreement.

Director Hobson observed that there may be a need for a reminder to the Province that the Water Board signed this agreement in good faith for the full five year term.

Mr. Nickel noted that the Province obtains funds for the aquatic weed program from the Ministry of Environment allocation. There is no dedicated source of funding for this program, a topic which the Ministry would like to further explore with the Water Board. In the absence of such a funding source, the best the Ministry could do would be to honor the five year agreement.

Director Shields stated that the Coquihalla Highway toll will generate about \$39 million this year all of which goes to general revenue. He stated that some of this revenue should go to environmental programs that ensure the tourists paying this toll to travel to the Okanagan receive a high quality lake environment.

Director Hobson said that we require a reliable source of funds and any environmental fund will be subjected to draws from other programs such as the kokanee fishery enhancement. He suggested that we should work with the Ministry to catalogue the programs which would require dollars from a special environmental fund.

Director Hornby wondered if the reason(s) for the initial Provincial government involvement in

cost shared weed control had changed. He added that it is incumbent on us to remind them of the reasons and to suggest a possible mechanism to resolve funding difficulties.

Director Hobson suggested a subcommittee to work with the MOE as the province will continue to look to partnership with local government to deal with many of these issues.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That a subcommittee of the Okanagan Basin Water Board consisting of Chairperson Kiss, Director Hobson, and Vice Chair Shields be established to explore partnership with the province to deal with aquatic plant control and other environmental issues in the Okanagan."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the agreement for aquatic plant control between the Ministry of Environment and the Okanagan Basin Water Board be signed."

CARRIED.

Aquatic Weed Program Update 1995-96:

The Field Supervisor informed the Board that in the 1995/96 Budget year completed March 31, \$186,100 had been spent out of \$205,000 provincial funds allocated. Mr. Armour indicated that he had put extra funds into the equipment reserve and purchased about \$4000 in needed hydraulic components. There remained almost \$19,000 of provincial funds which would not be claimed.

Mr. Armour advised that three rototillers were currently operating, (2 machines at Kelowna and the other at Osoyoos) The Bombardier had been working in shallow water at Kelowna and had recently broken down. The ice on Kalamalka and Wood Lakes had persisted and the derooting program was behind schedule. Although he hoped to recover some time through extended hours of operation this spring, Mr. Armour commented that last season the program started in Wood Lake Feb. 23rd and in Osoyoos Feb. 6th.

Director Hobson wondered whether some funding should be set aside to pay for investigating means to address a dedicated source of aquatic plant control funding.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Hornby:

"That an additional amount of \$10,000 (\$5,000 each from the Water Board and the Ministry of Environment) be put into reserve in the 1995/96 expenditures and used to assist in setting up an alternative funding source for aquatic plant control and other environmental initiatives in the Okanagan."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:Ministry of Environment - Okanagan Kokanee Fishery Report

The results of the workshop and action plan held in June of 1995 June were received by the Board. Mr. Armour reviewed the report and the summary produced. He noted that Fisheries has applied for \$150,000 from the Habitat Conservation Fund, but a matching amount will be needed from other groups to initiate a recovery program.

Director Sims stressed the need to identify the solution to the problem before spending additional taxpayers money.

Director Hobson recalled that the initial role of the Water Board was to include a comprehensive range of water quality factors and a broad mandate to deal with environmental issues. This has never been exercised, possibly to the detriment of the condition of our lakes. He added that the kokanee problem is an indicator of a larger problem.

The Chairman noted that although the fishery is a provincial jurisdiction, local government is involved in land use zoning and should be involved in the recovery process to ensure coordination of the parties involved.

Regional District of Central Okanagan - Regional Growth Management

A letter from the Regional District of Central Okanagan provided information about a one hundred year management planning exercise.

Director Hobson advised that a residents association had suggested that a hundred year plan be looked at similar to what has been conducted in eastern Canada and the United States. He noted that there is some expertise available to facilitate a workshop but there is little use in one region doing this and not the others.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the information from the Regional District of Central Okanagan on a one hundred year plan be received ."

CARRIED.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

Grant Applications:

Moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Sims:

"That the application for Sewage Facilities Assistance Grant from the Town of Oliver for \$34,903 be approved for payment."

CARRIED.

Sewer Projects - Ministry Of Municipal Affairs Ranking System

Mr. Armour advised that information about the system used by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to rank sewer projects was received at the end of last week. Staff proposes to review this information and make a recommendation on whether this suits our needs to concentrate our funding on existing problems and not provide servicing for growth driven expansion.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lake Water Quality Workshop

The Field Supervisor reported on a workshop held March 23 and 24 at OUC in Kelowna. Approximately 75 people attended from as far as Wisconsin, Saskatchewan, Montana, and Alberta.

Use of Microbes for Aquatic Plant Control

A report from the U.S. Army Corps Waterways Experiment Station operated in Vicksburg, Mississippi was received pertaining to the use of a fungal pathogen to control Eurasian watermilfoil.

Mr. Armour observed that laboratory greenhouse testing had been promising but field testing had been unsuccessful. This is the type of work the Board would like to stay current with but we lack the resources to undertake any experimentation of our own.

OTHER MATTERS:

Water Quality Task Group

Mr. Armour advised that the Water Quality Task Group at meeting on March 25, considered the request from the Okanagan Basin Water Board to identify water resource needs in the valley and to update the recommendations of the Okanagan Basin Study. The group wishes to meet with the Water Board or a committee of the Board to get a clear idea of what can be done.

The Board agreed that the Committee struck to look into financial issues would arrange to meet with designates from the Water Quality Task Group.

Septic System Conditioner

Director Shields provided some septic tank and tile field conditioner samples to the Board.

The Field Supervisor was asked to look into the product composition and usefulness.

WESTBANK FIRST NATION

SEWERING OF TRAILER PARKS

Director Hobson asked Mr. Watt representing the Westbank First Nation to update the Board on the sewerage of trailer parks on reserve lands near Westbank.

Mr. Watt suggested that the Board correspond with the Chief and Council of the Westbank First Nation for information on this issue.

Director Ockenden asked that a similar letter be sent to the Regional District of Central Okanagan, since a trailer park in the same area, but not on reserve land, has also not been

hooked up to the sewer system.

Flood Control - Mission Creek Area

Director Hobson reported to the Board on problems encountered with a potential flood situation caused by ice dams on Mission Creek in Kelowna.

Discussion with the MOE had shown the Ministry had no provision to address the dikes or infilling of the creek bed for flood control purposes. They would only respond if flooding did occur.

Director Hornby asked whose property the dikes are on.

Director Hobson said most dikes are private lands and the City has no right of access. In addition, the City was of the impression that under the terms of amalgamation, the maintenance of the dikes was a provincial responsibility.

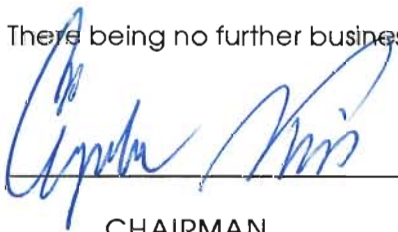
Okanagan Landing Trailer Park

The Chairman referred to a current situation at a trailer park on first nation lands at Okanagan Landing where septic system failure had residents using portable toilets. He noted that some residents had received eviction notice as well.

Director McGrath advised that he was very hopeful that sewer and water would be extended to this property through an agreement between the City of Vernon and the Okanagan Indian Band.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

Aquatic Control Services
3195 Sundance Drive
Westbank, BC V4T 1S4
(604) 768-4585

April 1, 1996

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Attention: Greg Armour
9848 Aberdeen Road
Vernon, BC

Dear Greg,

As requested, the following is my quotation for Aquatic Plant Removal on Wood Lake.

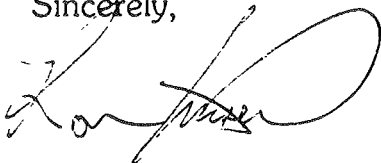
To deroot approximately 6 hectares at Wood Lake, namely Beasley/Reiswig Park and Belvedere/Spot Resort, requiring an estimated 156 hours.

The cost would be \$17,380.00

Area and operating hours were taken from the 1995 Okanagan Derooting Summary. For comparison purposes O.B.W.B. costs, using average hourly costs, would be \$21,837.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this proposal.

Sincerely,



Ron Jensen

RJ: abc

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HELD ON APRIL 2ND, 1996, AT 12:30 P.M. IN
THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848
ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C. AT 12:35 P.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Diorector W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director R. Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Director E. Sims	O.S.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
 <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	 M. Maxnuk	 Ministry of Environment
	R. A. Nickel	Ministry of Environment
	M. Watt	Westbank First Nation
 <u>STAFF:</u>	 P. Mackiewich	 Administrator
	G. Armour	Field Supervisor

Proposal from Aquatic Control Services

The Board met in committee to consider the proposal for aquatic weed control submitted by Mr. Ron Jensen, proprietor of Aquatic Control Services,

Mr. Armour apprised the Board of the results of a test of this equipment conducted two years ago in Wood Lake. He said the machine had not been effective in derooting a two hectare site. He noted that the machine has not changed since that time and he was dubious that results would be any different. Mr. Armour informed the Board that fixed Costs of \$22.71 per operating hour (supervisor, yard, accounting) would bring Mr. Jensen's price to close to that of our equipment.

Director Hobson observed that this was an unsolicited proposal and wondered if we should go out to tender to get the best price should work be needed on a contract basis.

Director Hornby asked if Water Board equipment would be operating this season in the same lake. Mr. Armour said that it would.

Mr. Mackiewich asked why the Board would consider staying in the weed control business at all if they wanted to contract the work.

Director Hobson agreed that contracting the whole operation was an alternative in which case the Board would go through the tender process.

Moved by Director Sims and seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the proposal for aquatic weed removal from Aquatic Plant Control be received and if staff determine that work is needed in addition to our

own scheduled operations the job be put out to tender to all interested parties."

CARRIED.

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole adjourned at 1:00 P.M.

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON MAY 7TH, 1996, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN, 101 MARTIN STREET, PENTICTON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Director W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director R. Ginther	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Director E. Sims	O.S.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
	Director D. Cameron	O.S.R.D.

ALSO PRESENT:

<u>STAFF:</u>	G. Armour	Field Supervisor
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MINUTES:

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on APRIL 2ND, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Sims, seconded by Director Hornby:

"That the minutes of a meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board Committee of the Whole held on APRIL 2ND, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

Ministry of Environment (Bruce Shepherd and Dave Smith) - Kokanee Recovery Program

Bruce Shepherd, Acting Fisheries Section Head, and Dave Smith, Senior Fisheries Biologist, presented information on the status of the kokanee stock in the Okanagan. The presentation covered the decline in kokanee numbers since the early 1970's, the factors which may have contributed to this decline, and the action points coming out of the workshop held in June of 1995.

Mr. Shepherd indicated that \$150,000 had been obtained from the Habitat Conservation Fund and a matching amount remained to be raised from other sources to implement the recovery program for the coming year. He asked for the support of local government for the action plan, and assistance in areas such as providing meeting rooms for public information sessions, advertising, and distributing public education materials. Mr. Shepherd also noted that local government could benefit the kokanee recovery program by ensuring that environmental

concerns and stewardship issues are incorporated into community plans, bylaws, and zoning.

The Directors asked several questions relating to the introduction of mysis shrimp into the Okanagan lakes system and there was some discussion about methods that could be used to control the numbers of shrimp in the lake.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Smith for their presentation.

Director Shields said that only a small fraction of the revenue generated by fishing licenses and the tourist industry in the Okanagan appeared to be channeled back to this project.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write to the Ministers of Environment and Tourism indicating that we have received information from Ministry staff on the decline of kokanee stocks in the Okanagan and would like to determine what action is being taken to fund the action plan proposed last June."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

Aquatic Weed Program Update:

The Field Supervisor informed the Board that four derooting machines were in operation in Wood Lake, Okanagan Lake at Kelowna and Peachland, and Skaha Lake. Deroooting work had been completed at Osoyoos.

Mr. Armour commented that most sites scheduled for work in the current season would be completed. A few sites adjacent to fish bearing streams posed a problem as fisheries instream work windows require a shutdown during kokanee fry emergence from April 15 to June 30.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen -

Election of New Chair

A letter from the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen reported the resignation of Jake Kimberley as Chair and the election of Rick Wilson.

Moved by Director Hornby, seconded by Director Sims:

"That the information from the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen be received ."

CARRIED.

Water Quality Task Group -

Minutes of March 25 Meeting

The Field Supervisor reviewed the minutes of a meeting of the Okanagan Water Quality Task Group held March 25th, in Kelowna.

A subcommittee of the group would like to meet with the Board to scope out the task of providing a update to areas of the Okanagan Basin Study.

Moved by Director Cameron and seconded by Director Sims:

"That the Water Quality Task Group subcommittee members be invited to attend the June meeting of the Water Board to discuss the task of updating the Okanagan Basin Study."

CARRIED.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

No grant applications were received.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Sewer Projects - Ministry Of Municipal Affairs Ranking System

Mr. Armour advised that staff had considered the resolution of the Board not to fund sewage treatment facilities expansions made necessary by growth. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs had considered this resolution and advised that as stated it would require a change to the approved funding formula. It was suggested that the ranking system used by the Ministry for sewer and water projects be adopted by the Water Board whereby growth projects are ranked as low priority, and with current fiscal restraints, are unlikely to get funding.

There was some discussion over the wording of the present rules of eligibility for sewage assistance grants.

Director McGrath recalled that Mr. Mackiewich had advised that any project receiving a Provincial grant, also qualified for Water Board assistance. The use of the word 'qualify' leaves it up to the discretion of the Board whether the grant is paid or not.

Mr. Armour noted that with declining funding available for Provincial grants, it is unlikely that growth projects will receive funding. The system of prioritization would then achieve the goal of having growth projects pay for themselves.

Director McGrath also noted that some local projects may proceed without provincial assistance if they are environmental priorities. He cited a small project at Vernon (Stamp Mill Road) as an example. These projects should qualify for Water Board assistance if they are not primarily serving new growth.

Mr. Armour wondered if Water Board Sewerage Grants had served their purpose, at least once areas such as Summerland, Peachland, and Winfield had established systems. In the absence of another area such as storm sewers which needed start up help, the grants were not intended to be perpetuated.

Director McGrath asked for discussion purposes, whether a replacement of the Vernon treatment facility would be eligible for Water Board assistance. (Mr. Armour felt that under present guidelines, it would) Director McGrath felt that projects of this type should not qualify since necessary funds should be identified and raised by local government prior to the time of construction of facilities.

Director Hornby commented that we should not be too quick to discard the grant system without first closely considering other uses for this money.

Director Cameron brought up the issue of DCC's and position of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs on the inclusion of borrowing costs. He advised that Summerland had collected a significant amount of money, which was earning interest, prior to constructing a water system. He questioned the need to incorporate another interest cost.

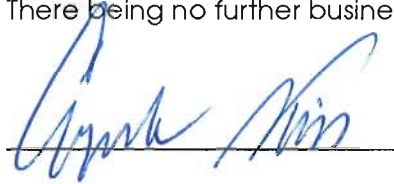
Mr. Armour responded that ideally all projects would be paid for by funds raised in advance so that there would be no need to borrow. In reality, many projects proceed with borrowed capital at start up, and the interest on this money cannot, under current practice, be included in the DCC's. He added that there may be a need for a decision from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs on this issue prior to considering elimination of Water Board Grants. Recovery of borrowing costs through DCC's is a tool that is required for many projects in order to avoid having existing taxpayers fund growth related infrastructure.

Director Ginther entered the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Director Ginther informed the Board that Peachland had received a Provincial grant in the amount of \$4 million to install sanitary sewers. He added that the proposed pipeline link through the lake to the Westbank treatment facility would remove a significant source of nutrient input from the lake.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON JULY 2ND, 1996, IN THE BOARD ROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Alternate Director G. Rieger	N.O.R.D.
	Director W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director R. Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Director S. Whittaker	O.S.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
	Director D. Cameron	O.S.R.D.

<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
	E. Dumais	Alternate Director OSRD

<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 MAY 7TH, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

Meeting June 27 with Dr. J. O'Riordan:

The Field Supervisor informed the Board about a meeting held Thursday, June 27, when representatives from the Water Board, KBRD, CSRD, and Cultus Lake Parks Board met with the Regional Manager, Dick Anderson, from the Ministry of Environment. Assistant Deputy Minister Jon O'Riordan addressed the group by telephone from Victoria.

He said that the Ministry has come up short in its funding for the 1996-97 aquatic weed control programs. All partners in the cost share program have received cuts as follows:

	FY 1995-96 Actual	FY 1996-97 Requested	FY 1996-97 Actual
Cultus Lake Park Board	\$15,000	\$16,150	\$15,000
City of Nanaimo	\$18,000	\$24,100	\$0
KBRD	\$30,000	\$33,500	\$30,000
CSRD	\$165,000	\$165,000	\$110,000
NORD	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
OBWB	\$205,000	\$212,200	\$180,000
Annual Total	\$438,000	\$455,950	\$340,000

Dr. O'Riordan asked each group if a program could be conducted at the reduced funding level. No-one was happy but it was agreed that work could continue.

The majority of discussion centred on how to avoid this recurring 'clawback' of provincial funding. Dr. O'Riordan advised that he will take forward a proposal to Treasury Board to raise B.C. boat trailer license fees by \$7.50 to generate revenue to be put in a dedicated fund for aquatic plant control. He hopes for a favorable response from Treasury Board and to have this funding in place for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Mackiewich advised that the comparison with the Sustainable Environment and Habitat Conservation Funds was drawn where the revenue collected does not find its way back to programs.

Director Hobson observed that it is difficult to focus a Province wide revenue source on one area. He said that he felt the Province would be pressured to use these funds for additional purposes which would again impact on our program.

Director Ockenden said that a press release was needed to coordinate local response to this latest cutback.

Director Cameron wondered about targeting boat trailers as these were not the single cause of aquatic weed problems.

Mr. Mackiewich commented that a surcharge on the Coquihalla toll was also discussed but that no tax was perfect and the main prerequisite was that the mechanism to collect the revenue be already in place.

Director Shields suggested that a written confirmation from Dr. O'Riordan would be useful, indicating the intention to establish a boat trailer tax for the purpose of funding aquatic weed control. He added that opposition MLA's should be made aware of the cutback and proposal.

Mr. Maxnuk advised that in preparing minutes of the meeting he will confirm the discussion in writing.

Director McGrath observed that the Ministry has decided on the amount of money to allocate to the program and while he agreed that there is an obligation for the province to fund weed control, where the money comes from is up to them.

Director Hobson answered that it is preferable to be part of a search for another revenue source than not to be consulted at all.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Hobson:

That the Okanagan Basin Water Board support the 1996-97 Aquatic Weed Program at the full amount of the funds requisitioned and maintain the allocation to the Equipment reserve funds as an integral part of this on-going program.

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Hobson:

**That the Okanagan Basin Water Board reaffirm support for a boat trailer license surcharge by the Province, the proceeds of which would be used to*

establish a trust fund dedicated to aquatic plant control, and secondly that the memorandum describing the June 27th meeting be received. "

CARRIED.

Aquatic Weed Program Update:

Mr. Armour presented a summary of the equipment hours for derooting in 1996-96:

DEROOTING 1995-96 SUMMARY OF OPERATING HOURS

MACHINE	OPERATING PERIOD	OPERATING HOURS	LAST YEAR 1994-95
ROTOTILLER #1	March 5 - May 20	299	450
ROTOTILLER #2	Nov. 22 - May 31	586	594
MRV OKANAGAN	Nov. 22 - May 15	629	460
BOMBARDIER	March 11 - May 21	151	160
TOTAL		1665	1846

He noted that about 11% fewer hours in were worked in 1995-96 due mainly to shutdown in cold weather. Late spring work was also slightly curtailed as wash from operations during peak lake levels was damaging the foreshore during high water levels.

In addition, the harvesting start had been delayed by high water levels and turbidity which slowed the appearance of any nuisance weed growth. Work had started in Duck Lake last week while Vaseux Lake level was still very high with no weed growth apparent. He felt that weeds were likely to appear simultaneously at most sites as lake levels fall and weather warms, rather than from S-N as is usual. The program will use 2 machines again this year, one for Vaseux, Osoyoos, Skaha, and S. Okanagan and the second for Duck, Wood, Okanagan North and Central. Work would finish in first week of September.

Replacement of Transport Truck:

The Field Supervisor informed the Board that the 1978 International tandem truck operated by the weed program requires extensive repairs or replacement. The truck is used to transport weed removal equipment (rototillers and harvesters) from lake to lake in the Okanagan and from the Okanagan to other infested areas such as Cultus Lake at Chilliwack, Long Lake at Nanaimo, and Tabor Lake near Prince George. The truck is equipped with an Atlas crane and grapple which is used to load cut milfoil and to assemble machines which are broken down for transport.

The truck was bought used in 1985 and has approximately 12,000 engine hours on it. The engine currently needs replacing as the Detroit Diesel power unit is consuming oil, hard starting, and low in compression. According to the maintenance shop, the engine is not rebuildable. Repowering the truck will cost from \$25,000 to \$30,000.

The truck is also excessively noisy to operate. The interior noise levels were measured at over 100 dB, well in excess of the level at which hearing protection is required. Of course operators of a motor vehicle are not supposed to wear devices which impair hearing.

Alternatives:

- Purchase used tractor unit: The cost would be about \$55,000 to \$65,000. Should be possible to get a unit which is still on warranty at this price.
 - Purchase new. Cost \$90,000 and up.
- * both of these options include the transfer of the deck, dumpbox, and Atlas crane from the International truck. Trade-in value is estimated at \$7,000.
- Repower 1978 International. Cost from \$25,000 to \$30,000.

Recommendation:

Purchase a used truck. (There is \$89,000 in the equipment reserve fund)

Mr. Armour indicated that ownership of the truck might be an issue as some reserve funds have been contributed under the 50/50 cost sharing program and some are 100% OBWB funds. (The crane was bought 100% by the Province in 1985)

Mr. Maxnuk commented that this is not likely to become a concern as eventual ownership of weed control equipment will be with local government.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board approve purchase of a used truck to replace the International Tandem with the purchase price not to exceed \$65,000."

CARRIED.

Director Shields recalled initiatives of the Board in the past to the Federal Government to attempt to obtain funds to acquire new equipment. He wondered if this should be explored again.

Director Hobson stated that we need a schedule of equipment repair and replacement as part of a long term plan for the weed control program.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That Okanagan Basin Water Board staff prepare a policy statement on the future of the aquatic plant control program to include a long term schedule for equipment repair and replacement."

CARRIED.

There was discussion about contract work performed by the Board and about the use of private contractors.

Alternate Director Dumais suggested that the percentage of operating time made available by funding cuts could be offered to other areas needing weed control.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board offer contract machine operation to adjacent regions requiring aquatic plant control during any period where our operation is shutdown because of cutbacks in cost shared funding."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen -

OBWB Appointments

A letter from the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen informed the Board of the appointment of S. Whittaker as Director to the Okanagan Basin Water Board replacing E. Sims

Westbank First Nation -

Trailer Parks on I.R. #9

A letter was received in response to a Water Board request for information on the situation with respect to sewerage of trailer parks on I.R. #9 in Westbank.

Chief Robert Louie, in his letter, indicated that two parks have connected to the system and because of the high cost, connection of the remaining parks could only be expected during expansion.

Director Ockenden confirmed that Jubilee Park had recently expanded and hooked up to the RDCO system and was extending sewer into the older portion of the park.

There was discussion over who has jurisdiction over locatees on band lands.

Alternate Director Dumais reported on a similar situation on band lands in the RDOS near Campbell Mountain.

Director Hobson said that a funding scheme is needed for capital costs of extending sewer systems and collectors onto band lands. He added that the Federal government should be lobbied to live up to this responsibility.

Director Ockenden summarized previous RDCO correspondence with Federal and Provincial governments.

Director McGrath commented on the situation in Vernon at two manufactured home parks in Okanagan Landing where difficulty has been encountered in getting them to connect to the sewer system. He noted similar problems on non band lands, also in the Okanagan Landing area.

Director Cameron observed that this is clearly a responsibility of the Federal government, who have considerable resources to channel into this type of environmental priority.

Director Whittaker suggested that the three Okanagan Members of Parliament be invited to attend a future Water Board meeting.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Whittaker:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board invite Members of Parliament representing the Okanagan to hear a proposal for Federal funding of sewer

extensions and collection systems onto band lands in areas of environmental concern and that the M.P.'s be asked to report on steps taken by government to resolve these problems."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Alternate Director Rieger:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board write a letter to the Federal Government informing them of the analysis of the Provincial Ministry of Environment that there is a significant nutrient loading problem on IR #9 and also indicating that the mechanism to collect fees from land users is in place with the Westbank First Nation."

CARRIED.

Alternate Director Rieger left the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Pentowna Marina (Peachland) -

Comments on Weed Control

A letter was received from the president of the Pentowna Marina in Peachland congratulating the Board and the equipment operator (Ian Horner) on the derooting work done.

Ministry of Environment -

Kokanee Recovery Program

The Board received a letter from Bruce Shepherd, Acting Fisheries Section Head, following up on the presentation made at the May 7 meeting.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board Directors ask their respective Boards and Councils for favorable consideration of the request made by the Kokanee Recovery Program for assistance with public information activities outlined in Mr. Shepherd's letter."

CARRIED.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

Update on Summerland and Peachland Projects

Mr. Armour informed the Board that the Summerland Project with a total project cost of \$27 million would have a converted annual debt (at 8%) of \$3.846 million. The estimated annual OBWB subsidy (18% of net annual debt) would be \$692,400.

Director Cameron noted that no costs would be incurred until 1997. He also added his thanks to the Directors of the Water Board for their long term support of the Summerland sewer project.

Director McGrath added that while he was pleased to have supported the project, he regretted the final decision to proceed with a deep lake outfall.

Plans for the Peachland sewer project were not discussed as Director Ron Ginther was not present,

Director McGrath noted that the project funding had been put on hold by the Province.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Report on Regional Advisory Committee (Treaty Negotiations)

Director Ginther was absent and no report was received.

Water Quality Task Group -

Update of Okanagan Basin Study

Mr. Armour advised the Board that the subcommittee of the Water Quality group met in June and consists of OUC professors Peter Dill, Ian Walker, Jeff Curtis, MOE Jim Bryan, T. Northcote, Prof. Emeritus from UBC, and OBWB - G. Armour. He said that the understanding of the group was that the OBWB has charged them with putting together a status report on the Okanagan with respect to the implementation of recommendations of the Okanagan Basin Study.

Mr. Armour reported that the group agreed to put together paper which will list recommended actions for 'sustainable' growth management in the Okanagan. Reports containing technical information will be listed but the advice will not be technical in nature. The group has requested a small budget to pay expenses for 'outside' (meaning outside the group/Okanagan) expertise (\$1000 - 5,000)

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board support the request of the Water Quality Task Group for a budget of up to \$5,000 subject to the approval of the Regional Districts."

CARRIED.

Central Okanagan Watercraft Committee:

Director Hobson reported on a discussion held by the Watercraft Committee about a 30 metre no-wake zone around the foreshore of Okanagan Lake.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Whittaker:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorse, in principal, the establishment of a thirty metre no wake zone in the Okanagan and support a Regional District of Central Okanagan resolution to that effect at the UBCM."

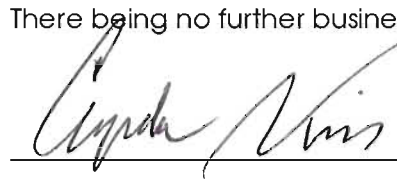
CARRIED.

Director Shields wondered about enforcing this proposed regulation.


Director Hobson noted that in Ontario, since implementation of a no wake zone in 1992, there has been a significant positive impact even without additional enforcement. He added that this is not a municipal bylaw but a Federal navigation order.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Davis", written over a horizontal line.

CHAIRMAN

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Davis", written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Memorandum:**To: Okanagan Basin Water Board Directors****From : G. Armour , Field Supervisor****Subject: Meeting with MOE Staff - June 27, 1996****Date: June 28th, 1996**

On Thursday, June 27, representatives from the Water Board, KBRD, CSRD, and Cultus Lake Parks Board met with the Regional Manager , Dick Anderson, from the Ministry of Environment. Assistant Deputy Minister Jon O'Riordan addressed the group by telephone from Victoria.

The Ministry has come up short in its funding for the 1996-97 aquatic weed control programs. All partners in the cost share program have received cuts as follows:

	FY 1995-96 Actual	FY 1996-97 Requested	FY 1996-97 Actual
Cultus Lake Park Board	\$15,000	\$16,150	\$15,000
City of Nanaimo	\$18,000	\$24,100	\$0
KBRD	\$30,000	\$33,500	\$30,000
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NORD	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
OBWB	\$205,000	\$212,200	\$180,000
Annual Total	\$438,000	\$455,950	\$340,000

Dr. O'Riordan asked each group if a program could be conducted at the reduced funding level. No-one was happy but it was agreed that work could continue.

The majority of discussion centred on how to avoid this recurring 'clawback' of provincial funding. Dr. O'Riordan advised that he will take forward a proposal to Treasury Board to raise B.C. boat trailer license fees by \$7.50 to generate revenue to be put in a dedicated fund for aquatic plant control. He hopes for a favorable response from Treasury Board and to have this funding in place for the next fiscal year.

List of participants at meeting:

OBWB - P. Mackiewich, G. Kiss, G. Armour

CSRD - S. DeBoer, A. Kuroyama, H. Kassa

KBRD - L. Robinson, B. MacKay, D. O'Hara

CLPB - J. Dyck, M. Shanks

MOE - D. Anderson, M. Maxnuk, J. O'Riordan (phone)

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON AUGUST 7TH, 1996, AT THE GARDENS, AGRICULTURE CANADA RESEARCH STATION, HIGHWAY 97, SUMMERLAND, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Director W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director R. Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Director T. Shields	O.S.R.D.
	Director R. Ginther	C.O.R.D.
 <u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	 M. Maxnuk	 Ministry of Environment
	B. Stretch	Manager, Gardens
	W. Schmidt	M.P. Okanagan Centre
	J. Hart	M.P. Okanagan Similkameen Merritt
	D. Stinson	M.P. Okanagan Shuswap
	M. Novak	Assistant to W. Schmidt
 <u>STAFF:</u>	 P. Mackiewich	 Administrator
	G. Armour	Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on JULY 2ND, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

M.P.'s Schmidt, Stinson, and Hart: Infrastructure on First Nation Lands

Mr. Armour outlined the concerns of the Board with respect to mobile home parks on IR#9 and the problems in connecting to sanitary sewers. He referred to correspondence from the Regional District of Central Okanagan and from the Water Board forwarded to the M.P.'s with the agenda package.

Mr. Hart asked about the relationship between the Water Board and the Westbank First Nation.

Chairman Kiss answered that Mr. Mike Watt from the Westbank Band has attended Water Board meetings and this topic has been discussed. Both parties are interested in resolving this environmentally unsatisfactory situation.

Director Hobson informed the Board that the Regional District of Central Okanagan has agreements with the Westbank Band for the Okanagan Basin Water Board function and for the provision of sewer. He reported that there is no problem when servicing new development. In the case of development which was in place before the Band began

taxation, there has been reluctance to require locatees to pay for and install collection systems. He added that there is a need for funds to be made available at reasonable cost for these developments to put the necessary works in place.

Director Ockenden noted that most housing in the parks would fall into the low income category, and sewer hookups would be too costly for residents.

Director McGrath noted that IR#6 in Vernon faces an identical situation. There is a general problem here, not just one specific to Westbank.

Mr. Hart questioned the July 20, 1995 letter from the Federal Minister in which he stated that all sewer systems in the trailer parks have current permits and are functioning correctly. He asked what information the Minister was missing.

Mr. Armour explained that the septic system permits were issued years ago and the current standard for areas adjacent to the lake had been upgraded greatly. The correspondence from the regional office of the Ministry of Environment indicated that these parks are indeed a problem. Nutrient pollution is the problem, not raw sewage or coliform bacteria.

Mr. Mackiewich noted that the Band cannot force sewers on locatees without providing financial assistance.

Director Hobson questioned whether this was a lack of authority or a lack of will.

Director Shields observed that a quick solution to an environmental problem is what is needed.

Mr. Stinson asked who actually owns the land on which the trailer parks are located.

Director Ockenden replied that the locatees do.

Mr. Hart informed the Board that his information indicated that the Westbank Band must make application to the federal minister for funding. No one else can do this.

Mr. Mackiewich noted that in the case of IR#6 sewer systems have failed and there is an urgent need to remedy the situation.

Director McGrath indicated that the issue of obtaining legal agreements between the band, locatees, the business operator, the homeowners, and local government is complex and time consuming.

Mr. Schmidt stated that we must return to the question of process and understand first, who is involved and the nature of the steps which must be followed.

Director Hobson summarized two questions which need answers - can the bands require locatees to install sewers and is federal government funding available in a suitable program that can be accessed by the bands.

Mr. Hart noted that the Bands have the authority under the Indian Act to require servicing on lands owned by locatees.

Director McGrath said that an outright grant is needed to address the immediate problems; new development would take care of itself. He added that the amount of money should be relatively small.

Moved by Director McGrath, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board send a letter to the Federal Indian Affairs Environmental Specialist in Vancouver ensuring that the hazard posed by the unsewered areas on IR#9 to the environment is made clear."

CARRIED.

The Board also agreed to copy all correspondence on this issue to the M.P.'s

Director Shields brought up the aquatic weed control program with the M.P.'s in attendance. He noted that since the time of the Okanagan Basin Study there has been no Federal involvement in preservation of the water quality in the Okanagan Valley. He referred to application made two or three years ago for funds to purchase replacements for aging equipment and to refine and develop technology. He said that the Federal Government had abrogated all responsibility for lake water quality.

Chairman Kiss thanked Mr. Hart, Mr. Stinson, and Mr. Schmidt for attending the meeting.

The Board recessed to tour the Xeriscape Garden with the garden manager Mr. Brian Stretch.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

Revised F.Y. 96-97 Budget

Mr. Armour informed the Board that the reduction in the Provincial contribution from \$212,200 to \$180,000 had been incorporated into the Provisional Budget. Harvesting allocation had been reduced from \$65,500 to \$60,500. He noted that this probably will not affect the amount of work due to the late start this season. Derooting was reduced from \$258,000 to \$246,000 which would result in some areas receiving reduced work. At this time it was not possible to predict which areas would be affected. Special Projects were reduced from \$68,000 to \$52,800 largely by eliminating the provincial contribution to the equipment reserve (\$15,000). Administrative costs are fixed at \$32,900.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the Aquatic Weed Control budget be adopted as revised."

CARRIED.

Ministry of Environment Aquatic Weed Control Funding

Mr. Maxnuk reported that the proposal to implement a boat trailer license fee surcharge to fund aquatic weed control programs was proceeding and he fully expected the fund to be in place for the next fiscal year. He advised that a letter from the Board supporting this initiative would be helpful.

The Board noted that a resolution was adopted at the last meeting in support of the trailer license surcharge and agreed to state this in a letter to the Ministry.

CORRESPONDENCE:

District of Peachland

Request for Water Quality Sampling

The Field Supervisor explained that Peachland Council had responded to a resident's concern about increased in algae growth, with a letter requested that additional sampling be undertaken on the Peachland foreshore. This matter has been referred to MOE in Penticton, who have not noted any unusual algae growth this year.

Director Ginther commented that the resident (Ryder) had noted an increasing mat of algae on rocks in front of their house. He provided directions to Ryder's orchard and the Field Supervisor agreed to look at the situation.

Minister of Environment

Kokanee Action Plan

A reply to OBWB comments about the funding of the kokanee action plan was received. The Minister informed the Board that \$389,000 was needed for 1996-97. \$204,000 is available from the Ministry.

Director Shields observed that more and more responsibility is being left to local government in areas of provincial jurisdiction.

Mr. Mackiewich added that the Water Board does not have the ability to raise money for the kokanee action plan, under its current mandate.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the letter from the Minister of Environment concerning the kokanee action plan be received and filed."

CARRIED.

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Proposal for Lake Speed Restriction

Director Hobson outlined the contents of a letter from the RDCO Watercraft Committee, asking the OBWB to submit an application to the Province for a 30 metre no-wake zone around Kalamalka, Wood, and Okanagan Lakes. This proposal will be taken forward by the regional district to the UBCM for their support.

Mr. Mackiewich advised that an application could be made to the small craft harbours division in Vancouver, but the province had not been encouraging toward such restrictions.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board apply to the Small Craft Harbours Division for lake speed restrictions in the form of a thirty metre no wake zone around Okanagan, Kalamalka and Wood Lakes and that copies of all information be sent to the three regional districts."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Shields, seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the application for a thirty metre no wake zone be expanded to include other lakes in the Okanagan system if the local government having jurisdiction so wishes."

CARRIED.

Mr. Mackiewich noted that public input will likely be required.

Director Hobson suggested that if public meetings are deemed necessary, the Board should refer this to the regional districts as it would be more appropriate for them to address local input.

Minster of Environment

Small Craft Sewage Pumpouts

A response to an OBWB letter of Oct. 95 was received from the new Minister of Environment stating that no funds are available for small craft sewage pumpouts.

The Board noted that this was a turn around from the promise made by the former Minister on this issue.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Water Board arrange to meet the new Minister of Environment at UBCM to discuss small craft sewage pumpouts and other environmental issues."

CARRIED.

Ministry of Environment

Water Quality Status Report

A document summarizing the status of water quality in numerous British Columbia water bodies was received.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

Grant Applications:

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Shields:

"That the applications for sewage facilities assistance grants listed below be approved for payment:

<i>City of Penticton</i>	<i>\$201,103.91</i>
<i>City of Armstrong</i>	<i>\$155,841.90</i>
<i>Town of Oliver</i>	<i>\$ 29,636.40"</i>

CARRIED.

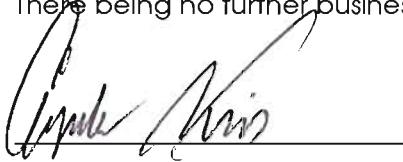
NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Report on Regional Advisory Committee (Treaty Negotiations)

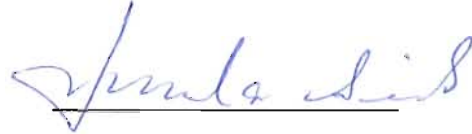
Director Ginther reported several meeting cancellations as the Band was in the process of elections.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ginther", written over a horizontal line.

CHAIRMAN

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Spencer", written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY-TREASURER

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON DECEMBER 3RD, 1996, AT THE BOARDROOM, REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, KELOWNA, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chairperson G. Kiss	N.O.R.D.
	Director W. McGrath	N.O.R.D.
	Director E. Hornby	N.O.R.D.
	Director G. Ockenden	C.O.R.D.
	Director R. Ginther	C.O.R.D.
	Director R Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Director D. Cameron	O.S.R.D.
<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	M. Maxnuk	Ministry of Environment
	D. Anderson	Ministry of Environment
<u>STAFF:</u>	G. Armour	Field Supervisor

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Ockenden, seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on OCTOBER 1ST, 1996 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS:

There was some discussion regarding the legal makeup of the Board as several members would not be returning to office. Mr. Hobson suggested, and the Board agreed, that no decisions committing money would be made until the new Board was constituted.

1997 - 1998 Provisional Budget and Workplan:

The Field Supervisor outlined the Provisional Budget and workplan for the fiscal year commencing April 1, 1997 and ending March 31, 1998. He noted that the provisional budget for aquatic weed control has been submitted to the Ministry of Environment but requires Board approval.

He informed the Board that the total Water Board budget is \$2.143 million consisting of \$1.9 million in sewage facilities grants and weed control and administrative costs of \$443,945. A continuation of the 50/50 cost sharing arrangement is assumed for the weed control operating budget.

Mr. Armour reported that the proposed amount of weed control funding was lower than that budgeted for the current year, prior to the MOE reducing their allocation. The Water Board share would be \$241,945 including administration compared to \$250,980 in 1996-97. The contract with the Regional District of North Okanagan was proposed to be increased by 2% to \$23, 695.

Director Hobson asked about the allocation in the Provisional budget for vehicle rental which had increased from \$4000 to \$11,000.

Mr. Armour explained that this category reflected the charge levied to the program to repay the equipment reserve for the purchase of two pick up trucks authorized by the Board two years ago. At that time the province had not been in a position to make a capital expenditure but the Water Board agreed to make the purchase and be reimbursed over subsequent years.

Director Cameron questioned the increase in truck rental and operating amounts in the weed harvesting budget.

Mr. Armour noted that the amounts had been adjusted to reflect real expenditures over the last two fiscal years.

Moved by Director McGrath, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Provisional Budget and workplan for fiscal year 1997-98 be accepted as presented."

CARRIED.

Ministry of Environment Aquatic Weed Control Funding

Mr. Dick Anderson, the Regional Manager for the Ministry of Environment, reported that the proposal to implement a boat trailer license fee surcharge to fund aquatic weed control programs was not accepted by the Province. In addition, the Ministry had decided to focus its shrinking resources on areas such as air and water quality. As a result, only \$200,000 is available for all aquatic weed control programs in 1997-98. This is less than half of the amount requested by the participating local governments and lower than the \$345,000 contributed by the Province in the current year.

Director Ginther commented that the Water Board had, in good faith, responded to provincial cutbacks in the current year by agreeing to commit its full share of funding in spite of the provincial reduction.

Director Hobson noted that the Provinces press release mislead the reader into believing that there was no reduction in funding for aquatic plant control programs. He added that in spite of the five year agreement for cost shared weed control and the provinces own treasury board review paid for by program funds and indicating the importance and validity of aquatic weed control for the province, this reduction was made without consultation. He suggested that a press release should be made and the Chairman should be authorized to seek a meeting with the Minister of Environment to remind him of his governments commitment.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board authorize the Chairman to seek a meeting with the Honourable Paul Ramsey to review the Province's commitment to aquatic plant control."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Ginther:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board staff prepare a review of options to deal with the prospective funding shortfall for the January meeting, to include the additional amount needed from the regional districts and any cost saving measures which could be implemented internally."

CARRIED.

1995 - 96 Weed Control Program Report

Mr. Armour informed the Board that a report on the 1995-96 aquatic weed control program had been completed and sent to the Ministry of Environment as called for in the cost sharing agreement.

Moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the report on the 1995-96 fiscal year aquatic plant control program be accepted and a copy be sent to each regional district."

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ministry of Health

Cryptosporidium Cysts in Wastewater

The Director of Public Health services responded to the Board's letter concerning the presence of Cryptosporidium cysts in treated wastewater. Mr. Armour reported that he had contacted the City of Kelowna for results of tests conducted on the City sewage discharge but these had not been received as yet. Mr. John Vos, the City of Kelowna Water and Waste Manager indicated that cysts were present in low amounts in some tests but, that results were inconclusive.

It was noted that a two day seminar on Cryptosporidium had been held in Kelowna in November.

Director Hobson observed that this is a problem that is likely to be with us for some time and requires a watershed approach in which local government keeps the source water in as pure a state as possible and all treatments which can be afforded are installed.

Director McGrath commented that a major objective of public health is to reduce the risk to the user, and sewage is a major potential source of risk of waterborne disease.

Director Cameron noted that the most effective place to spend money is at the source of a water supply, in the community watersheds.

Director Hobson suggested that the Board must take a serious look at protection of watersheds as cutbacks reduce the capabilities of the provincial authorities to do the job.

The Chairman indicated that the new Board should ask water quality and watershed management experts to present information on these concerns.

Minister of Indian Affairs

Sewers on Westbank I.R. #9

Federal Minister of Indian Affairs, Ronald Irwin, informed the Board that the responsibility for dealing with sewerage of manufactured home parks on IR #9 rests with the Westbank First Nation. He said that B.C. regional staff would become involved to try to expedite a solution, at the request of the Westbank First Nation.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Ockenden:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board ask the regional staff of the Ministry of Indian Affairs to meet with the Westbank First Nation and the Water Board to try to expedite sewerage of manufactured home parks on I.R. #9."

CARRIED.

The Board asked that the Westbank First Nation be contacted first to make sure this procedure is acceptable to them.

The Board also noted correspondence from Mr. J. Hart (MP) indicating that he had pursued this subject with the Minister following the August meeting of the Water Board and asked that his office be made aware of this information.

District of Lake Country

Sewer Progress Report

A press release from the District of Lake Country was received, explaining the status of proposals to provide sanitary sewer to that municipality.

There was some discussion over the options being considered of installing a treatment facility in Lake Country of connecting with a trunk main to the City of Kelowna.

Director Hobson said that each municipality had to choose its method of treatment and the concern of the Water Board must be that the highest standard of environmental quality and protection is provided.

Ministry of Transportation and Highways

Okanagan Lake Bridge Project

The Field Supervisor reported that, while funding for construction of a new bridge across the lake at Kelowna or widening of the existing bridge was on hold, engineering work, and consultation was continuing. Comments were sought on the two favoured options of adding a lane on the north side of the existing bridge or construction of a new bridge to the north.

Mr. Armour added that he had commented on a previously considered option which involved a dredged channel which might have stimulated aquatic plant growth and required annual maintenance.

The Board felt that comments should be restricted to weed control and protection of the environment and water quality during construction. Transportation issues are beyond the mandate of the Board to address.

Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Society

Microbial Control of EWM

A letter was received from the Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Society, asking for the help of the Board in allowing a company to demonstrate the use of a microbe to control aquatic plant growth in Osoyoos Lake.

Mr. Armour reviewed for the Board information provided at the March 1996 meeting. He noted that he had spoken to one of the principals of the company and advised that any application of a substance in an open lake situation for weed control would require registration (or exemption) of the product with Agriculture Canada and a permit from the B.C. Pesticide Branch. These conditions have not been met and it was Mr. Armour's opinion that we could not exempt any product from these criteria.

The Board agreed that we must follow both federal and provincial regulations to protect the environment and safety of drinking water supplies.

Director Cameron wondered precisely what we were being asked to do by this letter.

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANTS:

Grant Applications:

There were no Sewage Facilities Grants to be considered at this time.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Shoreline Speed Zone

Okanagan, Kalamalka, and Wood Lakes

Information was received from Mr. Jim Dehart of B.C. Parks who administers the Boating Restriction Regulations for this province. Shore zone speed limits can be established through these regulations. While some provinces have done this for all waterways, B.C. is not in favour as a significant percentage are working waterways and require different regulations

Once application is made BC Parks will survey local response and decide if further consultation is needed through a public meeting. This would be advertised in the spring when there is more interest in the subject. Typically the local government is involved.

Once public input is received, a recommendation is made to Canada Coast Guard. These are only accepted once per year and the earliest following spring 1997 public input would then be May 1998.

If the provincial recommendation is accepted by the Coast Guard, lake accesses must be posted with the conditions of the regulations and fairly extensive media publicity is required to educate the public.

The RCMP are responsible for enforcement and tend to respond to complaints. There can be exception made for water-skiers starting perpendicular to shore.

Director Hobson advised that Central Okanagan RCMP have supported the proposed regulations and suggested that the Board get on with the application in view of the lengthy process involved.

Director Ockenden noted that a new organization, the Marine Advisory Council, had been established by Canada Coast Guard.

Director Cameron suggested that the Board talk to the Advisory Council and avoid confusion in making application for speed restriction regulations.

Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director Cameron:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board defer discussion of the application for shore zone speed restrictions in Okanagan, Kalamalka, and Wood Lakes to the next regular meeting subject to discussion with the Marine Advisory Council."

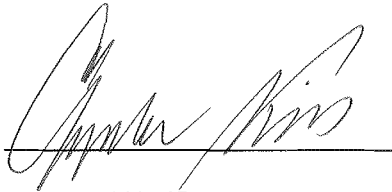
CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

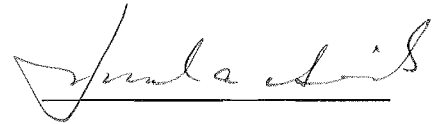
Moved by Director Hobson, seconded by Director McGrath:

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board meeting be adjourned at 12:30 P.M."

CARRIED.



CHAIRMAN



SECRETARY-TREASURER