

# MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD AUGUST 10, 2018, AT OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY 1380 Ellis St., Kelowna, B.C.

**PRESENT** 

Chair Tracy Gray

Regional District Central Okanagan

Vice-Chair Juliette Cunningham

Director Doug Dirk

Regional District North Okanagan

Regional District North Okanagan

Director Rick Fairbairn

Director Doug Findlater

Director Cindy Fortin

Regional District Central Okanagan

Regional District Central Okanagan

Regional District Central Okanagan

Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen

Alt. Director Tessa Terbasket

Alt. Director Bob Hrasko

Alt. Director Scott Boswell

Okanagan Nation Alliance

Water Supply Association of BC

Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

**REGRETS** 

Director Ron Hovanes Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Peter Waterman Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen

**OBWB STAFF** 

Anna Warwick Sears Executive Director

Nelson Jatel Water Stewardship Director
Corinne Jackson Communications Director
James Littley Operations and Grants Manager
Kellie Garcia Policy and Planning Specialist

Jocelyn Whalen OkWaterWise Communications and Outreach Coordinator

Stephanie Graf Water Demand Model Specialist

#### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

The Chair respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Okanagan Nation.

### 2. <u>INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS</u>

#### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"THAT the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of August 10, 2018 be approved."

#### **CARRIED**

#### 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 5, 2018 at Summerland Ornamental Gardens.

"THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 5, 2018 at Summerland Ornamental Gardens in Summerland be approved."

#### **CARRIED**

#### 5. CHAIR'S REPORT

7.1 Board Chair Report

Chair Gray - no report

#### 6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Executive Director Report

Dr. Sears noted that the next board meeting will be held Friday, Sept 7 and will include the first review of the fiscal budget for the coming year, adding that directors are encouraged to attend. With the upcoming municipal elections, time is tight and the budget must be passed before the municipal elections.

Work on LiDAR floodplain mapping is continuing, Dr. Sears added.

The board was also provided an update on the recent federal mussel funding announcement and the appointment of a new Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. The board noted that the new appointment was a good opportunity to acquaint the new minister with the issue, thank them for the funding and make further recommendations. It was noted that the BC Liberal Pacific caucus, including MPs and Ministers, would be meeting in the Okanagan soon and may be another opportunity to discuss the issue. Dir. Findlater offered to follow up.

The board asked staff to draft a letter to the minister and follow up with a news release.

"THAT the Okanagan Basin Water Board draft a letter to the new Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard re: federal mussel funding and, once approved, also send out a news release.

#### **CARRIED**

Dr. Sears provided a draft of a letter, requested by the board, regarding provincial approval of mineral exploration permits. The board approved the letter.

"THAT the Okanagan Basin Water Board send the letter to B.C. Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources regarding mining activities in Okanagan watersheds, as presented."

#### **CARRIED**

"THAT the Executive Director's Report, dated July 30, 2018, be received."

CARRIED

#### 6.2 Operations and Grants Manager Report

Mr. Littley updated the board on the provincial permit process for milfoil control, adding that new mapping will make the process easier.

The board was updated on a recent meeting of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region's Invasive Species Working Group and discussion of an updated Mussel Prevention Framework for Western Canada. Once released, it was recommended that the framework be endorsed and promoted by the Water Board for further support. The framework lists a number of action items to prevent the further spread of the mussels. Another item of note, Littley added, is that the

U.S. approved \$16 mill. to western states in 2018 to match state spending on the mussels and another \$12 mill. for 2019 is pending congressional approval.

Mr. Littley brought forward a resolution regarding an application from the Town of Osoyoos to the OBWB's Sewage Facilities Grants program.

"THAT the SFA notification as detailed above be approved in principle pending project completion and an approved SFA application with final costs."

CARRIED

"THAT the Operations and Grants Manager Report, dated July 30, 2018, be received."

CARRIED

#### 6.3 Communications Director Report

Ms. Jackson provided an update on the Make Water Work, valley-wide outdoor water conservation campaign and the new direction with the use of videos and greater social media presence. It was noted that the announcement of the Make Water Work Community Champion has traditionally been made at the board's September Annual Meeting, however, with the meeting held in August this year, communities had one month less to collect pledges. Even so, participation was strong and while some communities doubled their pledges over last year, some tripled their pledges.

The board was also updated on the Don't Move a Mussel campaign and new materials developed this year, including a postcard that residents can send to family and friends, and others, they feel need to hear the mussel message. An online version will also be available.

Ms. Jackson also provided a brief update on various other communication projects, including the upcoming siwłkw (WATER) FOR ALL - OUR RESPONSIBILITY *Environmental Flow Needs Conference* in October, a Drought Bulletin, outreach at numerous events, and more.

# "THAT the Communications Director's Report, dated July 26, 2018, be received." CARRIED

#### 6.4 Policy and Planning Specialist Report

Ms. Garcia provided an update on the new Sustainable Water Strategy, including work on the supply and demand section, drought, water conservation and efficiency, and storage.

The board was briefed on the current drought situation in the Okanagan and elsewhere in B.C. A second Drought Bulletin is planned for next week with an update to local water suppliers.

"THAT the Policy and Planning Specialist's Report, dated July 30, 2018, be received."

CARRIED

#### 7. NEXT MEETING

7.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be Friday, Sept. 7, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

"THAT there being no further business, the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of August 10, 2018 be adjourned at 1:30 p.m."

## CARRIED

Certified Correct:	
Chair	Executive Director