

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON FEBRUARY 10, 2004, AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, VERNON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Director Rolly Hein	C.O.R.D
	Alternate Director Patty Hanson	C.O.R.D.
	Director Robert Hobson	C.O.R.D.
	Chair John Slater	O.S.R.D.
	Director Eike Scheffler	O.S.R.D.
	Director Stan Field	N.O.R.D.
	Director Doug Hackman	N.O.R.D.
<u>OTHERS:</u>	Monte Hughes	Beaver Lake Lot Lessor
<u>STAFF:</u>	Greg Armour	Field Supervisor (OBWB)
	Mike Stamhuis	N.O.R.D.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Director Hein nominated John Slater for Chair of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 2004.

There being no other nominations Director Slater was confirmed as Chair.

Director Hein nominated Doug Hackman for Vice Chair of the Water Board for 2004.

Director Hackman declined due to extensive other commitments.

Director Hackman nominated Will Hansma for Vice Chair.

There were no other nominations and Director Hansma was declared Vice Chair for 2004. As Director Hansma was not at the meeting this appointment requires his acceptance.

MINUTES:

Moved by Director Hein and seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on January 10th, 2004 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

Mr. Monte Hughes – Beaver Lake Lessor

Mr. Hughes, lessor of a lakefront lot at Beaver Lake above Lake Country, made a presentation on the value to Beaver Lake lessors on maintaining the environmental integrity of the Lake. He informed the Board that a year ago the Province had invited the lessors to buy the lease lots. He indicated that residents were willing to work with local government to ensure the quality of the Lake is maintained.

Director Hein invited Mr. Hughes and Beaver Lake lessors to meet with him, as Mayor of Lake Country, to work toward similar goals.

The Board discussed the potential effects of sale of leased lots on environmental and water storage issues.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**Construction of New Aquatic Weed Rototiller – Report on Request for Proposals**

Mr. Armour reported that 10 expressions of interest were received in response to our newspaper advertising for expressions of interest. Of these, 7 were deemed acceptable Okanagan Valley manufacturers with the facilities and expertise to construct the machine; 2 were out of town (Kamloops and Lower Mainland); and one Okanagan firm did not meet our standards.

We are asking for RFPs from the 7 acceptable local firms.

He noted that details and technical specifications for the RFP were attached to the agenda. We are asking for completed tender submissions at our office by February 12th and completed machine delivery by June 30th.

New and Unfinished Business:**March 19th Workshop – Preliminary Program**

The Board discussed the preliminary agenda for the Water Management workshop to be held March 19th and agreed that this is not a technical workshop and needs to have a high political profile. It was agreed that MLA Tom Christianson had been overlooked in the invitations and that the Chair would contact Ministers Barisoff and Abbott to try and ensure their attendance.

The Board suggested that the Workshop have a more aggressive title and agreed on 'Running on Empty? Water and Our Common Future.'

The Board also wanted to see as part of the workshop discussion of groundwater resources, the Okanagan Partnership initiative and the linkage of water to economic success as well as a Ministry of Water, Land, and Air Protection representative. The Board added that media notification was also a necessary part of the workshop.

Construction of New Aquatic Weed Rototiller – Report on Request for Proposals

Mr. Armour advised the Board that proposals for construction of the new rototiller were to be received by Thursday February 12th. He asked if a public opening of tenders was required and the Board said it was not.

Sale of Lease Lots on Reservoir Lakes – Zoning Options

The advised that the three Regional District Planners should meet to discuss options for zoning alternatives for reservoir lake lease lots noting that all three Regional Board had already indicated their opposition to sale of the lots.

The Board asked that a letter be forwarded to Land and Water BC indicating our opposition to the sale of lease lots on reservoir lakes by February 15th.

Moved by Director Hein and seconded by Director Hobson:

"That Mr. Stamhuis draft a joint resolution from the three Regional Districts to OMMA opposing the sale of lease lots on reservoir lakes."

CARRIED.

Director Hein left the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Correspondence:**Senator D. Ross Fitzpatrick - Okanagan Partnership – Okanagan Competitiveness Strategy**

The Board received a letter from Senator Fitzpatrick and an agenda from the launch of the Okanagan Partnership and Okanagan Competitive Strategy.

Ministry of Water Land and Air Protection, Groundwater Section – Okanagan Cadastral Maps

The Board received correspondence from the Ministry of Water, Land pertaining to groundwater evaluation in the Okanagan watershed. Mr. Armour advised the Board that the Ministry wished to have assistance in obtaining cadastral maps of each region and municipality for purposes of cataloguing current groundwater use. They would prefer that the maps be in electronic form.

The Board agreed to make this request of local government.

City of Vernon – Westbank First Nation Lakeridge Project Sewage Grant

The Board received a letter from the City of Vernon asking the Board to reconsider its decision to provide a full Sewage Facilities Grant for the above project and amend it to reflect the portion of the amount paid into the fund by the Westbank First Nation. (20%)

Director Hosbon said that he was under the impression that CORD had made up the difference to the Water Board by contributing the extra 80%.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Hein:

"That the Water Board receive the letter and investigate the amount paid by CORD on behalf of the Westbank First Nation. The Board asked that a letter be sent to the City of Vernon informing them that the Water Board will advise them of the results of this investigation and noting that the Board mandate is to provide funding where environmental issues exist regardless of how much has been paid into the sewage fund versus how much is received ."

CARRIED.

Regional District of North Okanagan –Re-zoning in Spallumcheen of Lots Less than 0.8 Hectares Proposed for Septic Systems

The Board received a presentation from NORD Planner, Mr. Rob Smailes concerning a re-zoning involving creation of three lots in Spallumcheen of less than 0.8 hectares to be serviced by septic systems.

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Hein:

"That the Water Board recommendation to Spallumcheen be that two lots be created of 0.8 hectares and the third lot be a homesite severance encompassing the remaining area. This would not contravene the Water Board Sewage Grant policy."

CARRIED.

Moved by Director Field and seconded by Director Hobson:

"That the Water Board, in order to conform to Provincial guidelines, alter its current Sewage Grant policy that the minimum acceptable size for lots on septic systems is 0.8 hectares The new policy states that creation of lots of less than 1.0 hectare would jeopardize OBWB Sewer Grants. "

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Okanagan Basin Water Board meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY