

## OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON JUNE 14, 2005, AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN, 101 MARTIN STREET, PENTICTON, B.C. AT 10:00 A.M.**

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**PRESENT:**

|                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Director Len Novakowski            | C.O.R.D.            |
| Director Robert Hobson             | C.O.R.D.            |
| Director Rolly Hein                | C.O.R.D.            |
| Chair John Slater                  | O.S.R.D.            |
| Director Rick Fairbairn            | N.O.R.D.            |
| Director Gordon Clark              | O.S.R.D.            |
| Director Doug Hackman              | N.O.R.D.            |
| <del>Vice Chair Will Hansma</del>  | <del>N.O.R.D.</del> |
| <del>Director Eike Scheffler</del> | <del>O.S.R.D.</del> |

**STAFF:**

|               |          |         |
|---------------|----------|---------|
| Greg Armour   | Project  | Manager |
| (OBWB)        |          |         |
| Mike Stamhuis | N.O.R.D. |         |

Chair Slater welcomed Director Rick Fairbairn as the new appointee from NORD, replacing Director Sean Harvey.

**MINUTES:**

**Moved by Director Hein and seconded by Director Clark:**

*"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005 be adopted as circulated."*

**CARRIED.**

**NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Regional Board Responses to the Proposal to Enhance the Effectiveness of the Okanagan Basin Water Board**

Mr. Armour informed the Board that presentation of the proposal had been made to the three regional boards by Chair Slater and himself. In addition Mr. Armour and Mr. Stamhuis had made presentations to Armstrong and Coldstream councils.

Central Okanagan and Okanagan-Similkameen regional districts unanimously supported the Water Board proceeding with the proposed changes while North Okanagan had referred the proposal back to member municipalities and electoral areas. NORD met June 7<sup>th</sup> and feedback had not been received from all members. The proposal was tabled.

Director Hackman said that the City of Vernon is unsure of the intent of the Water Board proposal.

**Moved by Director Novakowski and seconded by Director Fairbairn:**

*"That the Board request representation as a delegation at the next City of Vernon Council meeting to present the details of the proposal for Water Board enhancement."*

**CARRIED.**

The Board discussed possible alternatives if NORD or the City of Vernon rejected the terms of the Water Board proposal.

Director Hobson commented that we should wait for the response from NORD prior to examining alternatives.

Director Hobson advised the Board that the Westbank First Nation was unhappy with the proposal to add an Okanagan Nation Alliance representative to the Water Board. The feeling was that the ONA did not represent Westbank First Nation.

The Board discussed how First Nation representation might be achieved and noted that the Water Stewardship Council could contain representation from several or all Bands who could then determine the representative to the Water Board.

### **2005 Financial Statements**

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

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board receive and approve the 2005 Water Board Financial Statements and that the Board receive, from the auditors, the 2005 Client Services and Management Letters, dated May 11, 2005."***

***CARRIED.***

### **2004 – 2005 Milfoil Control Expenditures and Sewage Grant Payments**

Mr. Armour reviewed the final expenditures for the past fiscal year for Aquatic Weed Control and Sewage Grants. Total weed control expenses were on budget. Variations from budget in line items included harvesting expenses which were down as winter derooting was successful in controlling weed growth in most areas, leaving less summer work to be done.

Sewage Grant payments totaled \$1.74 million versus \$1.9 million budgeted. Mr. Armour pointed out that several grants approved by the Water Board had not yet been paid out as projects had not drawn on the fund yet. These included CORD's project on Westbank First Nation lands; Peachland (Princeton Avenue); and Penticton (Industrial area)

Director Hobson asked Mr. Armour to ensure that the Water Board website is kept up to date with Board minutes regularly posted and new material such as our current proposal for enhancement added.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **Okanagan Cottage Owners Association:**

Information was forwarded from NORD pertaining to a presentation from the Okanagan Cottage Owners Association.

Director Hein said that there seemed to be a lack of concern with wastewater management in the upper elevation lakes and reservoirs. He noted that the broader scope of all source protection issues should be the focus.

Mr. Stamhuis advised that the province no longer provides approval for septic systems having delegated it to private installers and inspectors. There is some concern that this may lead to a lack of consistency in applying standards.

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

***"That since the Okanagan Basin Water Board is cooperating with Federal and Provincial authorities to establish a regional water management governance model, any policy changes that affect water quality and quantity be referred to the Water Board prior to implementation so that the implications may be considered by local government."***

***CARRIED.***

The Board directed that the letter be sent to Ministry of Water, Land, and Air Protection, Sustainable Resource Management, Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, and Land and Water BC Inc. Valley MLA's will also receive the letter and a copy sent to NORD in response to their letter.

The Board asked that an early meeting be arranged with the Minister of Sustainable Resource Management following announcement of the new Cabinet.

**Darrel Stinson M.P. Okanagan Shuswap:**

Mr. Stinson expressed his support for the Land and Water BC Inc. Phase II plan for the Okanagan Basin Water Supply and Demand Analysis.

**Moved by Director Novakowski and seconded by Director Fairbairn:**

***"That the letter from Mr. Stinson be received."***

***CARRIED.***

Director Hobson commented that it is also a Federal responsibility to ensure the water quantity and usage information is on hand.

**Land and Water BC and Okanagan Nation Alliance**

Correspondence regarding the ONA's role in the Land and Water BC water management studies in the Okanagan was received.

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

***"That the correspondence from Land and Water BC be received."***

***CARRIED.***

**Bill Valentine, CEO, Land and Water BC - Funding Request**

Land and Water BC followed up on Mr. Jim Mattison's presentation at the April meeting regarding Phase II of the Water Supply and Demand analysis in the Okanagan. LWBC asked that the Water Board give serious consideration to participating financially in this undertaking.

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

***"That the Water Board express its interest in participating and request information on the proposed budget, the workplan, and on other partners."***

***CARRIED.***

**Purchase of Pensionable Service – G. Armour**

Moved by Director Hobson and seconded by Director Hackman:

*"That the Board agrees to pay for its portion for Mr. Armour's purchase of pensionable service for the time periods outlined in the attached memorandum."*

***CARRIED.***

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Okanagan Basin Water Board meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

  

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