

## **OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON JUNE 06, 2006  
AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN, 1450 KLO ROAD, KELOWNA, BC, AT  
10:00 A.M.**

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### **PRESENT:**

Director Len Novakowski	Regional District Central Okanagan
<del>Director Robert Hobson</del>	<del>Regional District Central Okanagan</del> (absent)
Chair John Slater	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Graham Reid	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Lorraine Bennest	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Rick Fairbairn	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Pat Cochrane	City of Vernon
Director Bill Firman	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Ron Perrie	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
<del>Tom Siddon</del>	<del>Okanagan Water Stewardship Council</del> (absent)
Toby Pike	Water Supply Association
<del>Fabian Alexis</del>	<del>Okanagan Nation Alliance</del> (absent)

### **STAFF:**

Greg Armour	Program Manager, Okanagan Basin Water Board
<del>Mike Stamhuis</del>	<del>Regional District North Okanagan</del> (absent)
Debbie Taylor	Recording Secretary

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Judie Steeves	Kelowna Capital News
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### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Slater called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by** Director Novakowski  
Fairbairn

**Seconded by** Director

*"That the agenda for a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for June 06, 2006 be approved."*

***CARRIED.***

### **3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

**Moved by** Director Novakowski  
Fairbairn

**Seconded by** Director

*"That Item 4.7 being Okanagan Community-of-Interest on the WaterBucket Website be added to the Agenda."*

*"That Item 4.8 being Ministry of Environment correspondence and Project Prospectus for the Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Study be added to the Agenda."*

**CARRIED.**

#### **4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Item 5.3 Policies and Tactical Projects from Water Stewardship Council would be amended to read "2. Water Management Plan (understanding of basin wide water usage, water basin plan, supply and demand study)".

**Moved by** Director Novakowski  
Fairbairn

**Seconded by** Director

*"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on May 02, 2006 at the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Boardroom be adopted as amended."*

**CARRIED.**

#### **5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 Minutes of a Meeting of the Okanagan Stewardship Council from May 11, 2006**

The Board received the minutes of the May 11, 2006 meeting of the Okanagan Stewardship Council.

Mr. Armour reviewed Kim Stephens, Director of the Water Sustainability Committee BCWWA proposal for developing a plan to be included on the waterbucket.ca website. Some members were concerned that OBWB information would be difficult to find on a large website. A direct link to the waterbucket.ca site from a separate OBWB site would be a possibility. Cost of the proposal was also a concern.

Mr. Armour reported that the Water Stewardship Council had formed sub committees to deal with issues such as Council vision, mission, and decision making principles. These meetings were scheduled before each Council meeting. An Agenda committee made up of Chair Siddon, Vice Chair van der Gulik, Mr. Hrasko and Mr. Armour had been struck to prepare meeting agendas. Agendas would be restricted to three or four main items.

Some members of the Board disagreed with smaller sub-committees being formed by the Water Stewardship Council. Sub-committees had been formed for defining a Vision, a Mission, and Principles for the Council. Meetings were scheduled outside of Council meetings. Some members of the Board agreed that such a large group was more easily managed with smaller sub-committees being formed. Mr. Armour advised the Board that a sub-committee consisting of himself, Chair Tom Siddon, Vice Chair Ted van der Gulik, and Bob Hrasko had been formed to prepare the agenda for each meeting. He further advised that because of the vast range of discussions each agenda would be restricted to three to four main items. Items arising would be rolled to the next agenda.

Director Novakowski noted that the Water Stewardship Council is a work in progress and must have time to develop. He agreed with the forming of subcommittees. He added that the forming of the Council was a major step forward for the Board.

Chair Slater said that the Water Stewardship Council felt overwhelmed with their scope of responsibilities. The Council is divided in their view of direction. Some members want to commence approving projects as soon as possible while other members believe that the Council must have a mandate before spending any dollars.

**Moved by** Director Novakowski

**Seconded by** Director Bennest

***"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council held on May 11, 2006 at the Regional District of Central Okanagan Boardroom be received for information."***

***CARRIED.***

## **5.2 Recommendation From Stewardship Council for Assessment of Grant Applications**

The Water Stewardship Council recommended to the Water Board that Water Initiative Grant Applications be referred to the Water Stewardship Council. The Board said applications should not be formally referred to the Water Stewardship Council but that Staff could contact a member with appropriate expertise for advice. Director Bennest added that advice should be sought from all sources and not be limited to advice only from the Council. Director Novakowski said that the Board relies on Staff to make recommendations regarding individual projects.

**Moved by** Director Reid

**Seconded by** Director Novakowski

***"That Water Initiative Grant Applications would not be formally referred to the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council however members with appropriate expertise would be contacted by Staff for technical advice."***

***CARRIED.***

Mr. Armour advised the Board that the Water Stewardship Council had suggested that if employers of Council Members submitted a project proposal to the Stewardship Council the proposal would not be brought forward by the Council Member nor would lobbying of other Council Members be acceptable. Any project recommended would be subject to Board approval and the normal bidding process would apply.

## **5.3 Terms of Reference for Water Stewardship Council**

Director Bennest stated that she felt that water shortage should be the main focus of the OBWB and the Water Stewardship. She suggested that the Council present a definition of what a water shortage would look like and what impact a shortage would have.

Directors Reid and Novakowski agreed that the purpose of the OBWB and the Water Stewardship Council was to quantify the Okanagan's water supply in order to avoid a water shortage.

Director Cochrane noted that the Council's purpose was to provide expertise to the Board. He suggested that the Council be given a couple of tasks at a time to report to the Board on and then move to the next task.

## **5.4 Meeting Dates – August to December**

The Approved Meeting Schedule for the months of August through to and including December 2006 was received by the Board. It was noted that the meeting scheduled for August 02 conflicted with the North Okanagan Regional Board Meeting scheduled for the same day. The

August 02 Okanagan Basin Water Board meeting would be cancelled unless called by Chair Slater.

**Moved by** Director Novakowski

**Seconded by** Director Bennest

***"That the Approved Schedule for the months of August through to and including December 2006 was received by the Okanagan Basin Water Board as amended."***

**CARRIED.**

**5.5 Ratify Mary Bowcock, Greater Vernon Water Conservation, to the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council**

Mr. Armour advised that Reg Crane had resigned from the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council and the Greater Vernon Water Conservation Committee had designated Mary Bowcock as his replacement.

**Moved by** Director Reid

**Seconded by** Director Cochrane

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorses Mary Bowcock as appointee to the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council designated by Greater Vernon Water Conservation Committee."***

**CARRIED.**

**5.6 Rick McKelvey, member of Okanagan Water Stewardship Council**

Mr. Armour advised the Board that Okanagan Stewardship Council member Rick McKelvey was no longer affiliated with the South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program. He added that Mr. McKelvey was a valuable asset to the Water Stewardship Council bringing with him extensive knowledge and expertise. The Board agreed by consensus that Agenda Item 5.6 was to be tabled to a future meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board. Agenda Item 5.6 was lifted from the table.

**Action Item:** Mr. Armour to follow up with Mr. McKelvey regarding possible affiliation with a group interested in being involved with the Water Stewardship.

**5.7 Okanagan Community-of-Interest on the WaterBucket Website**

WaterBucket Website information was received by the Board for discussion. Mr. Armour said that the Water Stewardship did not come to a consensus on becoming a Community-of-Interest on waterbucket.ca. The Board acknowledged that the initial cost was significant and that there would be an annual fee for updating the website. The Board agreed that the OBWB website may get lost on waterbucket.ca and would consider providing a link from the existing OBWB website to waterbucket.ca. They also agreed that the OBWB would need achievables to post before presenting to the public.

**Moved by** Director Cochrane  
Reid

**Seconded by** Director

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board agrees to not participate in the WaterBucket website at the present time."***

**CARRIED.**

Mr. Pike entered the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

### **5.8 Ministry of Environment Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Study**

Ministry of Environment correspondence and Phase 2 Project Prospectus for the Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Study was received by the Board for review and approval.

Mr. Armour advised that the Board had become financial partners with the Ministry of Environment in the water supply and demand study. The Ministry would submit expenditures for payment by the OBWB.

Director Perrie motioned the Board recommend a political representative of the Board along with a staff representative be appointed to the Steering Committee of the study. Discussions ensued regarding the number of political representatives and staff representatives to be appointed. Director Bennest pointed out that appointing Mr. Armour to the Committee would eliminate any conflict of interest issues as he would not be bidding on any contracts. Mr. Armour added that companies with representatives on the Water Stewardship Council may be bidding contracts and also that getting volunteers would likely be difficult as members were busy. Director Novakowski suggested the Board address the Ministry of Environment correspondence by making resolutions to each of the four decisions requested. Director Perrie withdrew his motion.

**Moved by** Director Reid

**Seconded by** Director Novakowski

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorses the Phase 2 Prospectus of the Okanagan Basin Water Supply and Demand Analysis received and reviewed at a regular meeting of the Board on June 06, 2006."***

***CARRIED.***

**Moved by** Director Reid

**Seconded by** Director Novakowski

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorses the assignment of two political representatives of the Board along with a staff representative to the Steering Committee of the Okanagan Basin Water Supply and Demand Analysis."***

***CARRIED.***

**Moved by** Director Bennest

**Seconded by** Director Reid

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorses the assignment of a staff representative of the Board to the Working Group of the Okanagan Basin Water Supply and Demand Analysis."***

***CARRIED.***

**Moved by** Director Reid

**Seconded by** Director Perrie

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorses the hiring of a Project Manager to assist the Working Group of the Okanagan Basin Water Supply and Demand Analysis subject to details of the hiring being approved by the Chair of the Board."***

***CARRIED.***

**Action Item:** Mr. Armour to draft letter to Jim Mattison, Ministry of Environment in reply to correspondence received June 06, 2006.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12:04 p.m. and reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

**6. SEWAGE GRANT APPLICATIONS**

None at this time.

**7. WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS****7.1 Grant Applications Approved May 02, 2006**

- a. Greater Vernon Services  
Reservoir storage – increased capacity and impacts
- b. City of Armstrong  
Xeriscape Education Program
- c. City of Penticton  
Flow Determination on Penticton and Ellis Creeks

**7.2 Grant Applications Received**

- a. Township of Spallumcheen – applications from 3 Water Improvement Districts; 2 for metering and 1 for wellhead protection. Approved by Council.
  - o Grandview Flats - \$20,000 Metering
  - o Laird Improvement District - \$20,000 (wellhead protection)
  - o Silver Star Waterworks District \$30,000 Metering

Mr. Armour advised that wellhead protection was the protection of groundwater aquifers from contamination by improperly designed wells or improperly decommissioned wells.

- b. UBC Okanagan – (Dr. Adam Wei) LIDAR data acquisition (Light Detection and Ranging) - \$30,000. To be submitted for CORD approval.
- c. Okanagan Trail Riders – (\$20,000) Watershed management and protection – Inventory of trails. Applicant advised that proposal needs to be approved by CORD.
- d. Ocoela Fish and Game Club – Maintenance of fish flows in Middle Vernon Creek. \$20,000. Applicant advised that proposal needs to be approved by CORD.
- e. Osoyoos Oxbows Restoration Society – (\$5,000) Study of intake and outlet information for specific oxbows as part of longer term goal of lake water quality restoration.
- f. RDOS- \$35,000 Water Conservation Program with goal of 5% reduction in water use in Faulder and Naramata. Various advertising and education measures and rebates for demand reduction devices. Advised that Board Resolution is needed and that Maximum grant amount is \$30,000.

- g. Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society Grant Application to Okanagan Water Stewardship Council.

The Board discussed the allocation of funds. Director Reid requested clarification from directors of the Regional District of North Okanagan as to how they would prefer to allocate their remaining funds. Mr. Armour stated that he would like to review other applications which may be received. Director Perrie advised that the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen would be reviewing all applications received at their next Regional Board Meeting and would bring them to the next OBWB meeting. The Board agreed that Agenda Items 7.2.a. through to and including Item 7.2.f were to be tabled to the next scheduled meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board. Agenda Items 7.2.a through to 7.2.f were lifted from the table.

**Moved by** Director Reid

**Seconded by** Director Cochrane

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board agrees to table Agenda Items 7.2.a. through to Item 7.2.f. the Review of Grant Applications to the next scheduled meeting."***

***CARRIED.***

Mr. Armour advised the Board that the Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society had not submitted their grant application through the Regional District of Central Okanagan and was above the limit of \$30,000.

**Action Item:** Mr. Armour to refer grant application from Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society to Water Stewardship on Thursday then schedule for approval at the next Board meeting.

**Action Item:** Mr. Armour to advise Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society that their grant application was forwarded to the Water Stewardship for review.

**Moved by** Director Reid

**Seconded by** Director Novakowski

***"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board agrees that Agenda Item 7.2.f. Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society Grant Application be presented to the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council Meeting on June 08, 2006 for review then returned to the Board for consideration of Water Stewardship Council recommendation."***

***CARRIED.***

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **8.1 Ministry of Environment – Water Supply and Demand Study**

Discussed as Item 4.8.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2006 at 10:00 at the Regional District of North Okanagan at the call of the Chair.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by** Chair Slater

*"There being no further business, the meeting be adjourned."*

***CARRIED.***

The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 p.m."

Certified Correct:

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**CHAIR**

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**Program Manager**