

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON OCTOBER 03, 2006 AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN, 9848 ABERDEEN ROAD, COLDSTREAM, BC.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Chair John Slater	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
	Director Len Novakowski	Regional District Central Okanagan
	Director Robert Hobson	Regional District Central Okanagan
	Director Graham Reid	Regional District Central Okanagan
	Director Lorraine Bennest	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
	Director Rick Fairbairn	Regional District North Okanagan
	Director Pat Cochrane	Regional District North Okanagan
	Director Bill Firman	Regional District North Okanagan (absent)
	Alternate Director Jerry Oglow	Regional District North Okanagan
	Director Ron Perrie	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
	Director Tom Siddon	Okanagan Water Stewardship Council
	Director Toby Pike	Water Supply Association of B.C.
	Director Fabian Alexis	Okanagan Nation Alliance (absent)
<u>STAFF:</u>	Greg Armour	Program Manager, Okanagan Basin Water Board
	Dr. Anna Warwick Sears	Water Stewardship Project Director
	Mike Stamhuis	Regional District North Okanagan
	Debbie Taylor	Recording Secretary
	Genevieve Doyle	Water Stewardship Project Assistant

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Slater called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Director Hobson

"That the Agenda for a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for October 03, 2006 be approved as circulated."

CARRIED.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

"That Item 7.1.a being RDOS correspondence requesting clarification of Sewage Grant Policy be added to the Agenda."

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Alternate Director Oglow

Seconded by Director Perrie

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on August 29, 2006 at the Regional District of Central Okanagan Boardroom be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Minutes of Okanagan Stewardship Council Meeting held on September 07, 2006

Moved by Alternate Director Hobson

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council held on September 07, 2006 at the Ramada Lodge Hotel be received."

CARRIED.

5.2 Okanagan Water Stewardship Council Actions and October 12, 2006 Agenda Items

Dr. Sears said that the Terms of Reference were accepted by the Council and would be finalized pending approval by the OBWB. The Work Plan had been reviewed and provisionally accepted by the OWSC.

OBWB members were invited to attend presentations scheduled for the October 12, 2006 meeting of the OWSC. Presenters include Brian Symonds (Ministry of Environment), Dean Watts (Department of Fisheries and Oceans) and Mike Adams (Interior Health Authority) speaking on specific bodies of water law that have major significance to water management in the Okanagan Basin.

Director Pike entered the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

5.3 Water in the City Conference

Director Siddon advised that Mr. Armour, Dr. Sears, Director Perrie and himself attended the Water in the City Conference in Victoria.

Director Siddon suggested that OBWB have flagship projects.

Director Reid suggested the Board submit a letter to OMMA scheduled for May 2007 addressing the inconsistency of water auditing in BC.

The use of waste water used as irrigation water was discussed. Chair Slater commented that sodium from the use of water softeners was killing some varieties of trees. Director Cochrane noted that Vernon had not experienced the same problems with its waste water reuse program.

Action Item: Staff to assess Vernon waste water reuse program.

5.4 Water Stewardship Council Draft Terms of Reference

Mr. Armour advised that the Draft Terms of Reference had been reviewed by the OWSC.

Mr. Armour suggested that the OBWB prepare a provisional budget at the next scheduled meeting for forwarding to the Regional Boards. He also suggested that the operating budget for the Council be broken down to line items i.e. conferences, consultants and Board approved projects reviewed by the OWSC as revised.

Discussions ensued regarding Item VIII.4.b. Council Procedures-Blocking. The Board agreed that the Terms of Reference would be amended to remove "Blocking".

Conflict of Interest issues would be subject to regulations of the British Columbia Community Charter.

Mr. Armour suggested that the Water Management Function budget be refined to be more specific about allocations for consulting fees, conference expenses and Water Board approved regional projects put forward by the Stewardship Council

Moved by Alternate Director Hobson

Seconded by Director Novakowski

"That the OBWB endorses the Terms of Reference of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council as amended."

CARRIED.

The OBWB broke for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12:23 p.m.

5.5 Water Stewardship Council Work Plan Proposal

Dr. Sears advised the OBWB that the Council had reviewed the Draft Work Plan. They agreed that they would move forward with the Work Plan as suggested by Staff and evaluate the program as it went along.

5.6 Appointment of Allison MacMillan to Water Stewardship Council Replacing Tom Roemer

Mr. Armour advised that Tom Roemer had resigned from the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council and that Okanagan College had designated Allison MacMillan as his replacement.

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Director Hobson

“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorses Allison MacMillan as appointee to the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council representing Okanagan College.”

CARRIED.

5.7 Supplementary Letters Patent Update

Mr. Armour advised that the Supplementary Letters Patent should read “One Director who shall be a representative of the Water Supply Association of B.C.” rather than “representative of the Okanagan Water Supply Association”.

Moved by Director Hobson

Seconded by Alternate Director Oglow

“That Tom Siddon representing the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council and Toby Pike representing the Water Supply Association of B.C. were appointed as Directors to the Okanagan Basin Water Board .”

CARRIED.

5.8 OBWB Webpage and Waterbucket Website

Mr. Armour reported that the new stand-alone webpage was up and running. Staff would be posting information on the site and welcomed suggestions from the Board Directors. Currently the site will include Director information, history of the OBWB, Grant information, and the Eurasian Water Milfoil program.

The Okanagan Community of Interest site on waterbucket.ca is in the development stage and would involve several sessions with Staff and Waterbucket personnel. Once the technical development of the site is complete, Staff will develop information, edit information provided by Stewardship Council members and other water professionals, assimilate Okanagan information already on the website and link to reports, data and relevant organizations.

The OBWB now has its own email address which is obwb@nord.ca.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Okanagan Partnership letter regarding 2006 Okanagan Economic Summit in Kelowna on October 06, 2006

Mr. Armour and Dr. Sears are scheduled to attend the 2006 Okanagan Economic

Summit in Kelowna on October 06, 2006. Dr. Sears is a member of a panel regarding resource issues in the Okanagan.

It was pointed out that Mr. Siddon was both a Water Board Director and on the executive of the Okanagan Partnership. Mr. Siddon declared a conflict and exited the meeting.

Director Siddon exited the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding sponsorship of the event

Moved by Director Fairbairn

Seconded by Director Perrie

“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board endorses funding in the amount of \$2,500 for the 2006 Okanagan Economic Summit in Kelowna on October 06, 2006.”

*Opposed – Alternate Director Oglow, Director Cochrane, Director Reid
CARRIED.*

Director Siddon reentered the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

7. SEWAGE GRANT MATTERS

7.1 Proposed Staff Review of Sewage Grant Program

7.1.a Request for Clarification of Water Board Policy Concerning Criteria for Grant Eligibility

Action Item: Staff to reply to the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen advising that Sewer Grant allocation policies are under review.

Moved by Director Hobson

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

“That a staff review be undertaken on Sewer Grants to provide information to the Board to determine appropriate grant allocation policies.”

CARRIED.

8. WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

8.1 Project Assistant Duties and Scope of Work

Genevieve Doyle was introduced to the OBWB Directors and gave a description of her duties and scope of work. Ms. Doyle's focus is to gather information and resources from the Water Conservation and Quality Initiative Grant recipients, in order to follow up on the status of the projects. She visits project sites and meets with grantees, developing a progress reporting format and writing associated progress reports, along

with compiling project information and photographs to be published on the OBWB website. She is also drafting revisions to the grant application form.

In the future, Ms. Doyle will be assisting with website development, drafting summaries of grant outcomes and successes for posting on the Okanagan Basin Water Board website and the waterbucket.ca site.

8.2 Osoyoos Oxbow Restoration Society letter dated September 27, 2006 Requesting Reconsideration of Funding

The OBWB received a letter dated October 03, 2006 from the Osoyoos Oxbow Restoration Society requesting project funding reconsideration.

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Director Hobson

“That the Board forward a letter to the Osoyoos Oxbow Restoration Society encouraging them to apply for a Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant in 2007.”

CARRIED.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board was scheduled for Tuesday, November 07, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Perrie

“There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.”

CARRIED.

Certified Correct:

Chair

Program Manager