

OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD ON FEBRUARY 06, 2007 AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN, PENTICTON, BC.

PRESENT: Chair John Slater Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
~~Director Len Novakowski Regional District Central Okanagan (absent)~~
Alternate Director James Baker Regional District Central Okanagan
~~Director Robert Hobson Regional District Central Okanagan (absent)~~
Alternate Director Patty Hanson 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 Ron Perrie Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
~~Director Tom Siddon Okanagan Water Stewardship Council (absent)~~
Alternate Director Ted van der Gulik Okanagan Water Stewardship Council
Director Toby Pike Water Supply Association of B.C.
~~Director Tim Manuel Okanagan Nation Alliance (absent)~~
Director Glen Taylor Regional District North Okanagan
Director Buffy Baumbrough Regional District North Okanagan

STAFF: Greg Armour Program Manager, OBWB
Dr. Anna Warwick Sears Water Stewardship Director, OBWB
Mike Stamhuis Regional District North Okanagan
Genevieve Doyle Water Stewardship Coordinator, OBWB
Debbie Taylor Recording Secretary, OBWB

OTHERS

PRESENT: Brian Guy Summit Environmental Consultants Ltd.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Slater called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. APPOINTMENTS TO THE OBWB

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN
Director Rick Fairbairn

Director Buffy Baumbrough
Director Glen Taylor
Alternate Director Lorna Bissell
Alternate Director Pat Cochrane

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN

Director Robert Hobson
Director Len Novakowski
Director Graham Reid
Alternate Director Patty Hanson
Alternate Director Colin Day
Alternate Director James Baker

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

Director John Slater
Director Lorraine Bennest
Director Ron Perrie
Alternate Director Tom Chapman
Alternate Director Bill Schwarz
Alternate Director John Vassilaki

OKANAGAN NATION ALLIANCE

Director Tim Manuel
Alternate Director Fabian Alexis

WATER SUPPLY ASSOCIATION OF B.C.

Director Toby Pike
Alternate Director Bob Hrasko

OKANAGAN WATER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Director Tom Siddon
Alternate Director Ted van der Gulik

Newly appointed Directors and Alternate Directors for 2007 were welcomed to the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Mr. Armour called for nominations for the office of Chair of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Director Perrie nominated Director Slater for the office of Chair.

There being no further nominations, Director Slater was declared elected, by acclamation, as Chair of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for 2007.

Chair Slater assumed the Chair.

Chair Slater called for nominations for the office of Vice Chair of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Director Bennest nominated Director Reid for the office of Vice Chair.

There being no further nominations, Director Reid was declared elected, by acclamation, as Vice Chair of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Bennest

"That the Agenda for a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board for February 06, 2007 be approved as circulated."

CARRIED.

5. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Bennest

"Item 7.3 being Water Supply Association of B.C. Proposal for Turbidity Notification Program Revision be added to the Agenda as a Late Item."

"Item 8.6 being Hydrometric Monitoring Update and Communications with Tony Cheong, from the Ministry of Environment be added to the Agenda as a Late Item."

"Item 9.1.2 being Ministry of Community Services Letter to the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Regarding Sewage Infrastructure Funding be added to the Agenda as a Late Item."

CARRIED.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held January 09, 2007

Moved by Director Fairbairn

Seconded by Director Reid

"That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board held on January 09, 2007 at the Okanagan Indian Band Meeting Hall be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED.

7. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 Okanagan Water Supply & Demand Study Update

7.1.1 Report from OBWB Staff and Hiring of Project Manager

Mr. Armour introduced Dr. Brian Guy of Summit Environmental Consultants as the Project Manager hired for Phase 2 of the Water Supply and Demand Study. Dr. Guy informed the Board of the objectives of the study and the immediate tasks to be conducted in Phase 2.

7.1.2 Water Supply and Demand Study Funding

Mr. Armour presented a staff recommendation regarding new funding for the Water Supply and Demand Study. The Ministry of Environment is offering to contribute additional surplus funds from their current fiscal year (maximum amount of \$250,000) to the Okanagan Basin Water Board for the Water Supply and Demand Study. Ministry Staff indicated that there was an excellent chance of obtaining the grant providing a commitment for a matching contribution from the OBWB was made by the end of February, 2007. Ministry Staff had suggested a contribution of 40%, however, any contribution would be at the discretion of the OBWB. All funding would be held by the OBWB.

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Director Reid

“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board seek approval from the Regional Districts of Okanagan-Similkameen, Central Okanagan, and North Okanagan to commit 40% (to a maximum of \$100,000), of the amount of any new Ministry of Environment grant funding for the Water Supply and Demand Study.”

CARRIED.

Dr. Brian Guy exited the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

7.2 OBWB Goals and Objectives for 2007

Staff presented proposed goals and objectives for the Water Board programs in 2007.

Mr. Stamhuis suggested that a component for longer term strategic planning be added to the 2007 goals.

The Board discussed a retreat, possibly conducted as a facilitated session, as a means to establish strategic objectives.

7.3 Water Supply Association of B.C. Proposal for Turbidity Notification Program Revision

Director Pike reviewed a proposal from the Water Supply Association presented to the Interior Health Authority regarding the Turbidity Notification Program.

Director Pike advised that the WSA had proposed revisions to the IHA program that they felt would protect public health and enable the new turbidity standard to be applied more effectively by suppliers.

The Board agreed to send a letter to the Ministry of Health, Regional Districts, Municipalities and the media supporting the Water Supply Association of B.C.'s Proposal to the Interior Health Authority Regarding Revisions to the Turbidity Notification Program.

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Alternate Director Baker

“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board send a letter to the Interior Health Authority endorsing the Water Supply Association proposal for revisions to the Interior Health Turbidity Notification Program and encouraging the IHA to work with Water Suppliers toward a more balanced and workable water quality advisory program.”

CARRIED.

The Board directed staff to copy Okanagan Valley local governments.

The regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board broke for lunch at 12:09 p.m. and reconvened at 12:44 p.m.

8. STAFF REPORTS

8.1 Minutes of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council Meeting held on December 14, 2006

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Director Pike

“That the minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council held on December 14, 2007 at the Manteo Resort be received.”

CARRIED.

8.2 Minutes of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council Meeting held on January 11, 2007

The Board reviewed the Minutes of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council meeting held on January 11, 2007. (These minutes have not been adopted by the OWSC yet).

8.3 Okanagan Water Stewardship Council – February Meeting Outline

The OWSC meeting scheduled for February 8 will focus on the process of how best to communicate and deliver proposed policies, recommendations and strategies of the Council and on ways to communicate and coordinate local government policies.

The meeting on March 08 will be an all day session and will include a morning presentation from Hans Schreier entitled Virtual Water in the Okanagan and a panel from the Okanagan Nation Alliance regarding water management issues / concerns and First Nation cultural history in the afternoon.

At the April 12 meeting the WS&D Study will conduct a facilitated session with the OWSC members, as a representative water stakeholder group, to determine user needs for the information which will be generated from the Study.

8.4 Okanagan Water Stewardship Council Meeting Summary, December 14, 2006 – Drought Management

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Director Pike

"That the summary of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council– Drought Management Planning Session be received."

CARRIED.

8.5 Symposium on Groundwater in the Okanagan Basin

8.5.1 Staff Report on January 23, 2007 Groundwater Symposium

Staff reported that the Symposium in Penticton was very well received and was attended by more than 100 scientists, planners and local government officials and members of the public.

8.5.2 Judie Steeves January 26, 2007 News Article on the Groundwater Symposium

The Board received the news article written by Judie Steeves for information.

8.6 Hydrometric Monitoring Update and Communications with Tony Cheong, from the Ministry of Environment

Staff reported on a recent phone meeting with Tony Cheong, Ministry of Environment, about MoE plans to develop a hydrometric management governance board. Staff proposed that we work with Tony Cheong to ensure that our proposal was compatible with aspects of their current efforts, while encouraging further funding commitments from senior governments.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Correspondence from Dale Wall, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Community Services Regarding Provincial Sewage Infrastructure Grant Eligibility

9.1.1 Copy of OBWB Letter to Assistant Deputy Minister Wall Requesting Clarification of Provincial Sewage Infrastructure Grant Eligibility

9.1.2 Ministry of Community Services Letter to the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Regarding Sewage Infrastructure Funding

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Perrie

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board table Item 9.1 to the next scheduled meeting."
CARRIED.

Agenda Item 9.1 was lifted from the table.

9.2 Correspondence from Environment Canada Requesting OBWB Support for Installation of Meteorological Equipment at Silver Star Ski Resort

Moved by Director Fairbairn

Seconded by Director Bennest

"That the OBWB send a letter to Silver Star Ski Resort supporting the Environment Canada request to install meteorological equipment which will provide data useful to the Water Supply and Demand Study."

CARRIED.

10. SEWAGE GRANT APPLICATIONS

10.1 Okanagan Basin Water Board Sewage Grant Draft Revised Terms of Reference

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Perrie

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board table Item 10.1 to the next scheduled meeting and this be the first agenda item."

CARRIED.

Agenda Item 10.1 was lifted from the table.

10.2 District of Coldstream Grant Application

10.2.1 Correspondence from District of Coldstream Confirming 1 Hectare Bylaw

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Perrie

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board table Item 10.2 to the next scheduled meeting."
CARRIED.

Agenda Item 10.2 was lifted from the table.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board was scheduled for Tuesday, March 06, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Pike

"There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m."

CARRIED.

Certified Correct:

Chair

Program Manager