



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN WATER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 AT THE ECCO CENTRE IN KELOWNA, BC.

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**PRESENT:**

Chair Tom Siddon	Okanagan Partnership
<del>Vice Chair Ted van der Gulik</del>	<del>Ministry of Agriculture and Lands</del>
<del>Allison MacMillan</del>	<del>Okanagan College</del>
Dr. Bernie Bauer	UBC Okanagan
Bob Hrasko	Water Supply Association of BC
Dr. Brian Guy	CWRA
Bryn White	SOSCP
Dr. Denise Neilsen	Agriculture Canada
<del>Doug Geller</del>	<del>BC Ground Water Association</del>
<del>Drew Kaiser</del>	<del>CORD Environmental Advisory Committee</del>
Gord Shandler	BC Fruit Growers Association
Grant Maddock	Urban Development Institute
Hans Buchler	BC Agriculture Council
<del>Hillary Hettinga</del>	<del>Regional District of Central Okanagan</del>
<del>Howie Wright</del>	<del>Okanagan Nation Alliance</del>
Jillian Tamblyn	Regional Dist of Okanagan Similkameen
<del>Ken Cunningham</del>	<del>Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship</del>
<del>Kendall Woo</del>	<del>Environment Canada – Pacific &amp; Yukon Region</del>
Dan Millar	Environment Canada – Pacific & Yukon Region
Kerry Rouck	Shuswap Okanagan Forestry Association
Lee Hesketh	BC Cattlemen's Association
Lorne Davies	OCEOLA Fish and Game Club
Mike Adams	Interior Health Authority
Dr. Peter Dill	Friends of Mission Creek
<del>Rob Smailes</del>	<del>Regional District of North Okanagan</del>
Tricia Brett	Greater Vernon Water Stewardship Committee
Stu Wells	Community Futures
Andrew Reader	Regional District of South Okanagan
Brent Magnum	Regional District of Central Okanagan

**STAFF:**

Dr. Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director, OBWB
Nelson Jatel	Water Stewardship Director, OBWB
Monique Stone	Admin. & Communication, OBWB

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kellie Bunting	Insight Environmental Solutions Ltd.
Judie Steeves	Kelowna Capital News
Dr. Bruce Mathieson	Associate Professor, UBC Okanagan

Dr. Rob Hawes  
Lorraine Bennest

Program Manager, SOSCP  
District of Summerland

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Siddon called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

All members and guests introduced themselves.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Dr. Bernie Bauer                      **Seconded by** Hans Buchler

*"That the agenda of the February 14, 2008 meeting be approved".*

**CARRIED**

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Hans Buchler                      **Seconded by** Grant Maddock

*"That the minutes from the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 regular meeting of Water Stewardship Council be received".*

**CARRIED**

5. **REPORTS FROM STAFF**

5.1 **Board Report**

Dr. Sears reported to the council members that the OBWB has received over \$800,000 in applications for the Water Conservation and Quality Improvement grants.

Dr. Sears gave a brief update on the regional governance issue. She explained that on March 7<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting of all elected officials from the Okanagan and three different governance models will be discussed.

6. **PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 **Dr. Bruce Mathieson, Associate Professor UBC Okanagan  
-Endocrine Disruptor Compunds in the Environment**

7. **ACTION ITEMS – PREVIOUS MEETING**

7.1 Groundwater Policy Recommendations – Review and Update

Mr. Jatel reported to the council that he has provided a copy of the memo sent to OBWB directors regarding WSC groundwater recommendations.

Policy 1 received strong support as well as the development of a toolkit to support it with the possibility of an appendix. --- The development of a groundwater toolkit project is under development by OBWB staff. Policy 2 was also well received by the Board. There were suggestions that there are areas of concern that are not being addressed that possibly could be made into another project. Policy 3 was deferred back to the WSC to provide further clarity on the implications of a pilot program for regulated groundwater legislation.

Dr. Dill left the meeting at 3:00pm

## **7.2 Reservoir Lease Lots – Update**

Mr. Jatel explained that staff has prepared a document with a compilation of letters and other correspondence put forward by municipalities and other agencies regarding the opposition to the sale of reservoir lease lots dating back to 2002.

The Board has requested Minister Pat Bell speak to the Board on this important file and provide an update.

Mr. Adams informed the council members that Front Counter BC has sent an application to referral agencies and has requested a response by February 27, 2008. The OBWB should consider providing comment on this precedent setting referral.

Dr. Guy stated that he would like the OBWB Board and Council to have more input on the issues surrounding the sale of reservoir lease lots; to develop a report that quantifies the sensitivity of lakes to anthropogenic encroachment.

Mr Wells recommended that the WSC should be taking action on this issue and make a recommendation to the OBWB.

Chair Siddon requested a motion be made that a letter be written to Chair Slater asking that he compose a letter to ILMB requesting the OBWB be included on ILMB's referral list.

**Moved by** Stu Wells

**Seconded by** Denise Neilsen

***“That staff be directed to communicate to Chair Slater of the Okanagan Basin Water Board requesting OBWB be included on ILMB's referral list”***

***CARRIED***

## **8. WORKING GROUPS AND STATUS REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

- 8.1 Okanagan Sustainable Water Strategy
  - 8.1.1 Policy/Action Wish List (roundtable discussion)
  - 8.1.2 Value and Economics of Water (break-out)
  - 8.1.3 Public Engagement and Communications (break-out)

Mr. Jatel requested that agenda item 8.1 be postponed due to time constraints.

## 9. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### 9.1 **Cattle Management in our Watersheds [Lee Hesketh]**

Mr. Hesketh distributed a brochure authored by the North Okanagan Livestock association titled: *Cattle – Grazing our Watersheds*. The brochure is a summary of a water quality study of in streams in the North Okanagan area streams within a watershed that experiences summer grazing by cattle. The study was conducted in the summer months of 2003 and 2004 and indicated concentrations and sources of E. coli in lotic waters. This study identified a wide range of E. coli sources with wildlife contributing the majority of E. coli.

Mr. Maddock left the meeting at 4:15

### 9.2 **RBC Blue Water Project [Tom Siddon]**

Mr. Jatel announced and congratulated Chair Siddon on his appointment to the RBC Blue Water Project panel. It is a ten year, \$50 million grant program to support projects dedicated to water conservation, watershed protection and access to clean drinking water in Canada and around the world.

### 9.3 **Discussion of Notes from the Previous Meeting**

#### 9.3.1 **World Water Day – Evening with Water Professionals: March 27**

Mr. Jatel informed the council that a group of panelists have been chosen for the Public Forum on Water Quality that will take place on World Water Day March 27<sup>th</sup> 2008. The event will be held at the Fintry Queen in Kelowna at 4:30pm. The panel question will be: *What are the greatest water quality issues facing us in the Okanagan?*

#### 9.3.2 **Dr. Jeff Curtis, UBC-O/Mike Adams, Interior Health -Endocrine Disruptor Project – UBC Okanagan/Interior Health**

Mr. Adams explained to the council that in November 2007 the OBWB, jointly with the Okanagan Indian Band, applied for a grant through Health Canada to carry out a study on endocrine disruptors in the Okanagan watershed. It was announced last week the application was successful and the grant was awarded for \$24,000.00.

#### 9.3.3 **CWRA – OBWB Conference, “One Watershed. One Water.” October 21 – 23, 2008**

Dr. Guy announced that he and Nelson Jatel are the co-chairs for the conference. It is important timing as it comes close to the three year mandate and will give us the opportunity to show what the WSC has accomplished and what priority items are next to be tackled by the Council in the near and medium term.

#### 9.3.4 **Groundwater Policy and Action Plan**

Mr. Hrasko informed the council that there have been three editorial meeting to date and the five modules have been decided. They are:

1. Protecting our lakes, rivers, and aquifers
2. Securing water supplies
3. Integrated land use and water
4. Water governance
5. Delivering the strategy

Our plan is when 3 modules have been completed we will present them to council members for feedback and input.

#### **9.3.4.1 Proposal for Developing a Regional Okanagan Well Borehole Database**

Mr. Jatel requested that agenda 9.3.4.1 be deferred to the next meeting due to time constraints.

#### **10. NEXT MEETING**

- 10.1 Thursday, March 13, 2008 Quail's Gate Estate Winery Boardroom  
3303 Boucherie Road, Kelowna, BC

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by** Lee Hesketh                      **Seconded by** Mike Adams

*"That there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05pm".*

***CARRIED***