



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD
AUGUST 12, 2008, AT THE WESTMINSTER CENTRE 888 WESTMINSTER AVE
PENTICTON, B.C.**

PRESENT:

Chair John Slater	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Dan Ashton	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Lorraine Bennest	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Patty Hanson	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Robert Hobson	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Graham Reid	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Rick Fairbairn	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Buffy Baumbrough	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Glen Taylor	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Tom Siddon	Okanagan Water Stewardship Council
Director Toby Pike	Water Supply Association of B.C.
Director Tim Manuel	Okanagan Nation Alliance

STAFF:

Dr. Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director, OBWB
Nelson R. Jatel	Water Stewardship Director, OBWB
Genevieve Dunbar	Water Stewardship Coordinator, OBWB
Monique Stone	Administration, OBWB

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Slater called the meeting to order at 9:58am.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 6.1 *Adoption of Consolidated Financial Statements* will be Item 6.3
Item 6.3 *Water Management Program Review* will be Item 6.1

Moved by Director Ashton

Seconded by Director Taylor

***"That the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board on
August 12, 2008 be approved as amended".***

CARRIED.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

No late items.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of July 8, 2008 at the Regional District of North Okanagan.

Moved by Director Taylor

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

"That the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of July 8, 2008 at the Regional District of North Okanagan be adopted as circulated".

CARRIED.

5. DELEGATIONS

No Delegations

6. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Water Management Program Review

Dr. Sears presented the Board with the Okanagan Basin Water Board's Water Management Program Review describing the program's activities over the past two and a half years. Dr. Sears stated that the Program has brought extensive value to the Okanagan taxpayers during this time and strongly recommends that the Program be made permanent with requirements for regular review and an Annual Report.

The Review includes a list of recommended future projects, a detailed review of the Water Stewardship Council, the Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant Program along with a draft budget for the 2009/2010 fiscal year, and budget projections to 2012, that take into account expected external funding and OBWB contributions.

The OBWB reviewed staff recommendations and approved the following:

1. Recommendation for Operations. *Renew the OBWB's Water Management Program for an additional three-year period with the ability to engage in multi-year planning within the limits of legislation and subject to the following:*

- *The OBWB may requisition up to a ceiling of two-cents (\$0.02) per \$1000 assessment to support the activities of the Water Management Program.*
- *The OBWB will issue an Annual Report each September commencing in 2009 that will detail program activities and include audited financial statements.*
- *The OBWB's Water Management Program will undergo a comprehensive review after three years as a condition of renewal.*

2. Recommendation for Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grants Program. *Renew the Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant program under its existing terms of reference at a level of \$300,000/year or greater, subject to the review conditions specified for the Water Management Program as a whole.*

3. Recommendation for Director Positions. *Maintain OBWB Director positions with non-regional district appointees permitted to vote on all but financial matters; and continue to develop mechanisms for involving ONA Director-representatives in OBWB projects and programs.*

4. Recommendation for Water Stewardship Council. *Maintain the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council under its existing terms of reference and funding level. Program renewal will strengthen Council member relationships, sharing of best practices and maintain a forum to explore emerging water management issues. The OBWB should review Council membership structure to increase representation from large municipalities.*

5. Recommendation for Staffing. *Maintain current OBWB staff positions, extending contract terms to 2012 on approval of mandate extension.*

6. Recommendation for Communication. *Make outreach to regional and municipal governments a central priority, developing specific communication tools and strategies such as the monthly Board Report and an Annual Report of activities presented in September of every year.*

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Taylor

“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board accept all six (6) recommendations put forth by staff in the Water Management Program Review as amended”.

CARRIED

Director Ashton left the meeting at 10:52am

Moved by Director Baumbrough

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

“That the Okanagan basin Water Board

- 1.) Renew the OBWB Water Management Program, with an Annual Report to the Regional Districts each September commencing in 2009, and a comprehensive review every three years.***
- 2.) Approve the recommendations put forth in the “Water Management Program Review 2006 – 2009” and approve in principle the draft 2009/2010 Annual Budget***

- 3.) *Approve presentation and distribution of all Water Management Program review materials to each of the three regional districts throughout September 2008; and the following recommended resolution:*

“Whereas water underpins the economy and quality of life; and

Whereas water management in the Okanagan requires consideration of climate change and population growth impacts to the Basin as a whole; and

Whereas Okanagan water supplies are interconnected and interdependent; and

Whereas sustainable water management must be based on a scientific assessment of Okanagan water supply and demand; and

Whereas collaborative governance is essential to reduce conflict and maintain equity; and

Whereas senior governments want a strong local partner to action projects; and

Whereas the Okanagan Basin Water Board’s Water Management Program has made significant progress supporting basin-wide water sustainability; therefore

Be it resolved that the Regional Board [of ...] endorses renewal of the 2005 Resolution No. [...] and permits the OBWB Water Management Program to continue for an additional 3 years, with a requirement for an Annual Review submitted in September of each year”

CARRIED

Revision of Signing Authority

Due to the resignation of Alan Harris, CFO Regional District of North Okanagan the Okanagan Basin Water Board’s financial institution has requested a change in signing authority.

Moved by Director Hobson

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

“WHEREAS it is desirable for the Okanagan Basin Water Board (hereinafter called the “Corporation”) to authorize certain of its officers to, inter alia, sign cheques, deposit promissory notes and cheques, receive paid cheques, obtain and deliver from the Corporation’s bankers, copies of all or any stocks and bonds;

NOW THEREFORE, the Corporation hereby enacts as follows:

1. That all cheques of the corporation drawn on its General Accounts be signed on its behalf by Rick Fairbairn, Director; Glen Taylor, Director; Buffy Baumbrough, Director; and signed/countersigned by any one of the following: Terry Mori,

Corporate Controller; Brian Reardon, Administrator; or Jody Anderson, Director of Corporate Services; all of the Regional District of North Okanagan.

2. That Terry Mori, Corporate Controller; Brian Reardon, Administrator; or Jody Anderson, Director of Corporate Services be and is/and are hereby authorized for and on behalf of the Corporation to negotiate with, deposit with or transfer to the Bank of Montreal (but for the credit of the said Corporation only) all or any Bills of Exchange. Promissory notes, Cheques and Orders for payments of money and other negotiable paper, and for the said purpose to endorse the same or any of them on behalf of the said Corporation either in writing, rubber stamp, or electronic printer.
3. That Terry Mori, Corporate Controller; Brian Reardon, Administrator; or Jody Anderson, Director of Corporate Services be and is/are hereby authorized for and on behalf of the said Corporation from time to time to arrange, settle, balance and certify all books and accounts between the said corporation and the bank; and to receive all paid cheques and vouchers unpaid and unaccepted bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments.
4. That Terry Mori, Corporate Controller; Brian Reardon, Administrator; or Jody Anderson, Director of Corporate Services be and is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the said Corporation to obtain delivery from the said bank for all or any stocks, bonds or other securities held by the said Bank in safe-keeping or otherwise for the account of the said Corporation and to give valid and binding receipts thereof.
5. That this resolution be communicated to the said Bank and remain in force until written notice to the contrary shall have been given to the Manager for the time being the Branch of the Bank at which the Account of the said Corporation is kept and receipt of such notice duly acknowledged in writing.”
6. This resolution shall take effect on the 12th day of August, 2008.

“That the Signing Authority Resolution be approved as presented.”

CARRIED.

Adoption of Consolidated Financial Statements

Dr. Sears presented the Board with a letter from Doug Adams, CA, BFO Dunwoody Chartered Accountants providing a new attachment to the consolidated financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2008.

Moved by Director Taylor

Seconded by Director Hobson

“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board adopt the 2008 Consolidated Financial Statements for the OBWB and receive the 2008 Audit letter, dated May 30, 2008 for information, as well as the attached letter from the auditor dated July 8th, 2008; and that staff forward the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying letters to the Okanagan regional district Boards”.

CARRIED

Director Ashton returned at 12:05pm

7. STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Sears gave the board an update on the status of the Water Supply and Demand project stating that the Evaluation Committees will negotiate contracts this month for the Surface Water Hydrology and In Stream Flow modeling of the Basin. In addition, the OBWB have applied for funding to initiate Phase III of the project, which will include climate change scenarios and public consultation for policy development. The OBWB will also be applying to the Canada-BC Water Supply Expansion Program in September for further Phase II funding.

She explained that the milfoil in the lakes is unusually light this summer, possibly due to the cold weather this past spring. The milfoil crew is focusing on repair and safety inspections have been performed by Captain Gavin Brown of Transport Canada, Marine Division.

Water Stewardship Director's Report

Mr. Jatel reported that September 4th, 2008 a meeting of the editorial board and Okanagan water professionals will be held to discuss the Sustainable Water Strategy. Following will be the regular meeting of the Water Stewardship Council.

He continued to report that the development of a Groundwater Bylaws Toolkit as an appendix to the Green Bylaws Toolkit has been approved by the Wetland partnership Board. A 16 member Technical Advisory Committee consisting of groundwater policy and science experts has been formed and it is expected the first draft will be available October 21 at the One Water – One Watershed conference.

7.2.1 Okanagan Water Stewardship Council Meeting Minutes July 10, 2008

Moved by Director Ashton

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

"That the minutes of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council of June 19, 2008 be adopted as circulated".

CARRIED

8. CORRESPONDENCE

BC Ministry of Healthy Living Letter re Turbidity in Drinking Water

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Hobson

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board compose a letter to the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport requesting clarification on the policy surrounding turbidity and microbial risk in drinking water".

CARRIED

Ministry of Environment letter re Groundwater

Dr. Sears explained that this letter is in response to a letter the OBWB sent to initiate a process to begin a water management plan. The response states that the Ministry is interested in exploring this offer but first they would like the Water Supply and Demand study completed. She stated that Phase II of the project will be completed early 2009 and the OBWB will be in a good position to begin this new plan.

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Pike

"That the Okanagan Basin Water Board directs staff to begin negotiations immediately with the Ministry of Environment to participate in a pilot groundwater licensing project".

CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board is scheduled for September 9, 2008 at the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Taylor

Seconded by Director Baumbrough

"That there being no further business the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board is adjourned at 1:15pm".

CARRIED

Certified Correct:		
Chair		Executive Director