



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD HELD  
OCTOBER 7, 2008, AT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN 9848 ABERDEEN  
ROAD, VERNON, BC**

---

**PRESENT:**

Chair John Slater	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Dan Ashton	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Lorraine Bennest	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
<del>Director Patty Hanson</del>	<del>Regional District Central Okanagan</del>
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
<del>Director Tom Siddon</del>	<del>Okanagan Water Stewardship Council</del>
Director Toby Pike	Water Supply Association of B.C.
<del>Director Tim Manuel</del>	<del>Okanagan Nation Alliance</del>

**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 10:12am.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Water Supply & Demand Project Water Balance Model Pilot Study added as Item 6.2

Moved by Director Ashton

Seconded by Director Pike

*“That the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of October 7, 2008 be approved as amended”.*

**CARRIED**

**3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

- Water Supply & Demand Project Balance Model Pilot Study – Item 6.2

#### 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Director Fairbairn

Seconded by Director Taylor

*“That the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of September 9, 2008, at the Regional District of Central Okanagan be adopted as circulated”.*

**CARRIED**

#### 5. DELEGATIONS

No Delegations.

#### 6. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### 6.1 Human Resources Policies

Dr. Sears explained that RDNO has requested OBWB to put a bereavement and compassionate leave policy in place for its employees.

A discussion ensued about the need for formal sick leave policies. Director Reid suggested staff look to existing policies within municipal government.

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

*“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board adopts the Bereavement and Compassionate Leave policy as provided, and directs staff to develop additional human resource policies based on examples within other municipal governments.”*

**CARRIED**

Furthermore, Dr. Sears introduced a compensation policy based on a template that was developed by Tim Dillon and Associated in January 2008 as directed by OBWB Directors.

Moved by Director Reid

Seconded by Director Pike

*“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board adopts the Compensation Policy as provided”.*

**CARRIED**

##### 6.2 Water Supply & Demand Project Water Balance Model Pilot Study

Dr. Sears explained that the Water Supply & Demand Project has contracted with DHI Water and Environment Inc. to use the MIKE-SHE model for the surface water hydrology component of the Okanagan Basin, and now wishes to pursue the possible application of MIKE-SHE for the Water Balance component of the Project in two phases.

Moved by Director Hobson

Seconded by Director Taylor

*“That the Okanagan Basin Water Board approves the Phase 1 Water Balance Model contract with DHI Water and Environment Inc. with Phase 2 to be considered by the Board after a report on the performance of Phase 1”.*

**CARRIED**

## 7. STAFF REPORTS

### 7.1 Executive Director's Report

Dr. Sears informed the Board that she has continued to make presentations to municipalities and Regional Districts throughout the Valley. To date, the OBWB has supporting resolutions from the Regional Districts of North Okanagan and Okanagan-Similkameen and the North Okanagan Regional District is scheduled to vote tomorrow, October 8, 2008. Upon renewal of the Water Management Program, staff will finalize program budgets for the three program line items: Water Management, Milfoil control and Sewage grants. The OBWB draft budget will come to the Board for review and approval at the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Dr. Sears informed the Board that RDNO has requested that the OBWB vacate the current offices by November 15, but they can accommodate us at their downtown offices for 2008/2009. However, this space has a number of limitations and we are in conversation with RDCO and the District of Lake Country for more appropriate and longer term options.

Regarding milfoil operations, Dr. Sears reported that the milfoil operators are currently in Paul Lake under contract with BC Parks. This has been done on an on-going basis approximately every three years since 1996. November 3<sup>rd</sup> is the scheduled date to begin the rototilling operations in Okanagan, Kalamalka and Osoyoos Lakes.

Director Ashton inquired as to how the OBWB prioritizes the milfoil operations.

Dr. Sears replied that the OBWB annually performs surveys on the lakes in order to establish what areas are in need of milfoil control.

### 7.2 Water Stewardship Director's Report

Mr. Jatel gave the Board an update on the Water Stewardship Council stating that the October meeting will be cancelled to enable members to attend the One Watershed-One Water conference October 21 – 23. The next scheduled meeting is November 13 where Professor Nigel Bankes from the University of Calgary will be speaking about Aboriginal Water Resource Management.

The conference is running smoothly and registration numbers are good.

Mr. Jatel reported that the Sustainable Water Strategy is complete and has gone to the printer; print copies will be available at the Strategy launch on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the conference. At the Conference he will be presenting a PowerPoint to provide an overview of the Strategy and highlight the forty-five (45) recommendations developed by the Water Stewardship Council.

The Endocrine Disruptor Project is moving ahead as scheduled. Sampling has begun and there will be two presentations at the conference on the status of the project with presentations from Drs Chris Metcalfe from the University of Toronto and Jeff Curtis from UBC Okanagan.

With regards to the Groundwater Bylaws Toolkit, Mr. Jatel explained that external funding support has been approved with a public announcement scheduled for late October. With the receipt of external funding, Phase II is now underway. Writing staff Barbara Everdene, Deborah Curran, Lawyer and Doug Geller, Senior Hydrogeologist have been contracted to

complete the first draft which is scheduled for public launch on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the One Watershed-One Water conference.

7.2.1 Okanagan Water Stewardship Council meeting minutes of September 4, 2008

Moved by Director Pike

Seconded by Director Ashton

*“That the minutes of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council meeting of September 4, 2008 be received”.*

**CARRIED**

7.3 Water Stewardship Coordinator’s Report

Ms. Dunbar provided the Directors with an update on the Okanagan Similkameen Riparian Working Group of which the OBWB is a member. The group meets twice a year to share information about the riparian/aquatic habitat protection initiatives ongoing in the Similkameen and Okanagan basins. The most recent tour included stops at three sections of the Okanagan River and the Osoyoos Oxbows restoration project.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE**

8.1 Letter from Minister Stan Hagen to OBWB

Moved by Director Hobson

Seconded by Director Fairbairn

*“That the letter from BC Agriculture and Lands Minister Stan Hagen dated August 25, 2008 regarding a moratorium on the sale of leased recreational lots in the Okanagan Valley be received”.*

**CARRIED**

8.2 Letter from John Slater to Minister Stan Hagen

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

9.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board is scheduled for November 4, 2008 at the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Bennest

Seconded by Director Ashton

*“That there being no further business, the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board is adjourned at 12:03pm”.*

**CARRIED**

Certified Correct:		
<b>Chair</b>		<b>Executive Director</b>