



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN WATER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL HELD  
ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008, at the EECO CENTRE, KELOWNA BC

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**PRESENT:**

Chair Tom Siddon	Okanagan Partnership
Vice Chair Ted van der Gulik	Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Allison MacMillan	Okanagan College
Dr. Bernie Bauer	UBC Okanagan
Bob Hrasko	Water Supply Association of BC
Dr. Brian Guy	CWRA
Bryn White	SOSCP
Dr. Denise Neilsen	Agriculture Canada
Doug Geller	BC Ground Water Association
Drew Kaiser	CORD Environmental Advisory Committee
Gord Shandler	BC Fruit Growers Association
Grant Maddock	Urban Development Institute
Hans Buchler	BC Agriculture Council
Hillary Hettinga	Regional District of Central Okanagan
Howie Wright	Okanagan Nation Alliance
Gwen Bridge (alternate)	Okanagan Nation Alliance
Jillian Tamblin	Regional Dist of Okanagan Similkameen
Ken Cunningham	Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship
Kendall Woo	Environment Canada – Pacific & Yukon Region
Dan Millar (alternate)	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
Anna Page	Regional District of North Okanagan
Tricia Brett	Greater Vernon Water Stewardship Committee
Stu Wells	Community Futures

**STAFF:**

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

## **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Professor Nigel Bankes  
Professor John Janmaat  
Gwen Bridge

University of Calgary  
University of British Columbia-Okanagan  
Coordinator, Natural Resources Land Use Team  
Okanagan Nation Alliance

### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Vice Chair van der Gulik called the meeting to order at 1:10pm

### **2. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Vice Chair van der Gulik introduced all members and guests.

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Bernie Bauer

Seconded by Anna Page

*"That the agenda for the November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council be approved".*

***CARRIED.***

### **4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

4.1 Minutes of a regular meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council held September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna

Moved by Hans Buchler

Seconded by Lorne Davies

*" That the minutes from the September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council be approved as circulated".*

***CARRIED.***

### **5. REPORTS FROM STAFF**

5.1 OBWB – Board Report(s)

Dr. Sears reported that Okanagan Basin Water Board has received a three year renewal of the Water Management Program from the three Okanagan regional districts. The OBWB will be getting a new board of directors who will be appointed in January 2009. She stated that she would like to take this time to create a strategy to continue moving forward with issues such as groundwater and source protection.

Dr. Sears announced that on November 14, 2008 the OBWB will be relocating its offices to the Central Okanagan Regional District in Kelowna. She explained that it will enable staff to be more centrally located in the Okanagan Valley and therefore more accessible to local government throughout.

Mr. Jatel suggested that the next meeting in January focus on Council input on priorities and meeting structure as part of the annual work plan discussion for the following year. The Council may want to consider developing priority subjects to explore and develop concrete actions, building on the Sustainable Water Strategy.

Mr. Jatel reported that following the recent local government elections and the appointments of new Board members in January (2009), the Council will have a significant role in communicating and prioritizing the 45 action items described in our Sustainable Water Strategy. Council recommendations will support the policy work of the Board. Conversely, the Board will have a number of technical issues that the Council will undoubtedly be asked to comment on and provide feedback – providing sober second thought. These activities will support the Board's decision making process – helping make informed, science based, decisions for the Okanagan basin.

Discussion ensued as to the best process for prioritizing action items and educating the public and politicians about the Sustainable Water Strategy.

## 6. **PRESENTATION**

### 6.1 Professor Nigel Bankes, LL.M., University of Calgary

Professor and Chair of Natural Resources. Member of the Alberta Bar

Professor Bankes' teaching and research fall in the areas of resources law, aboriginal law and international environmental law. He was seconded to the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade as professor-in-residence during the academic year 1999-2000. During that time, Professor Bankes worked on the negotiation of a number of multilateral environmental agreements.

(see attached presentation)

## **7. ACTION ITEMS – PREVIOUS MEETING**

### 7.1 Groundwater Bylaws Toolkit – Review and Update

Mr. Jatel reported that he included a draft table of contents of the new Groundwater Bylaw Toolkit in the agenda package for council member's review and that the writing team includes a planner, a lawyer and hydrogeologist on the development team. He informed that the next Technical Advisory Committee will be meeting in December and the completed Toolkit launch date is expected in early Spring 2009.

### 7.2 One Watershed – One Water Conference

Dr. Guy stated that it was a very successful conference. The speakers were exceptional and overall it created some very positive interest within the public and local politicians. In addition, the Sustainable Water Strategy received very good press coverage.

### 7.3 Okanagan Sustainable Water Strategy

Mr. Jatel reported to the council that the Board formally received the Sustainable Water Strategy last Tuesday and recommended that the Strategy be considered for adoption by the new Board in the new year.

## **8. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### 8.1 World Water Day March 23 – 29, 2009 (UBC Okanagan – Chair, John Wagner)

- UN theme for 2009 is Transboundary waters
- Sandra Postel has accepted our invitation to be our World Water Day 2009 speaker (Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>)

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

- 9.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Stewardship Council will be held January 15, 2008 (location to be determined)

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Jillian Tamblyn**

***“That there being no further business, the meeting of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council of November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 be adjourned”.***

***CARRIED***

