



BOARD REPORT: July 7, 2009

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Water Supply Association of
BC

Bernie Bauer - Chair,
Okanagan Water Steward-
ship Council

Timothy Manuel - Chiefs'
Executive Council, Okanagan
Nation Alliance

**The next regular meeting
of the OBWB is scheduled
for 10am on September 1,
2009 at the Regional Dis-
trict Okanagan
Similkameen office.**

Okanagan Basin Water Board Meeting Highlights

Regional Drinking Water Quality: Valerie Cameron, Chair of the Southern Interior Regional Drinking Water Team and regional manager for the Ministry of Environment gave an update on the effort to coordinate agency response to drinking water issues. The Team has begun addressing many issues of concern in the Okanagan, and the OBWB has been invited to participate and help find solutions.

Sale of Leased Lots on Drinking Water Reservoirs: The OBWB endorsed two new policies; one supporting responsible management and use of crown lands to protect water sources, and the second in formal opposition to the sale of leased recreation lots on upper elevation reservoir lakes in the Okanagan. Visit www.obwb.ca for more details.

Drought Response Planning: The OBWB will host a Drought Response Planning meeting and workshop to provide information on our current water situation, tools available for utilities to respond to water shortages and to prepare for future drought conditions. The workshop will be at the [Kelowna Community Theatre on July 23](#). Invitations will be sent out July 9, 2009. Please contact the OBWB for more information as space is limited.

Communication and Outreach: The OBWB awarded two contracts to communicate results of large water initiatives. One project will develop a Web-based Reporting Tool to communicate results of the Water Supply & Demand Project. This will allow access to information from the Project about current and future water availability. The second will help develop an Okanagan Water Education and Outreach Strategy.

Off-stream Cattle Watering: The OBWB will send a letter to the Ministers of Environment, Agriculture and Lands, and Forests and Range, voicing support for the licensing of off-stream water use for livestock. This action is in response to a recommendation by the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council, who found that current policy creates a conflict between livestock water use and water quality protection.

For more information, please visit: www.OBWB.ca