



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD  
HELD APRIL 5, 2022, ONLINE  
OKANAGAN, B.C.**

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**PRESENT**

Chair Sue McKortoff	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Victor Cumming	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Rick Fairbairn	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Bob Fleming	Regional District North Okanagan
Director James Baker	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Doug Holmes	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Rick Knodel	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Bob Hrasko	Water Supply Association of B.C.
Director Scott Boswell	Okanagan Water Stewardship Council (OWSC)

**REGRETS**

Vice-Chair Cindy Fortin	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Colin Basran	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Christopher Derickson	Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA)
Caitlyn Glasser	ONA Technical Staff

**STAFF**

Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director
Nelson Jatel	Water Stewardship Director
Corinne Jackson	Communications Director
James Littlely	Operations and Grants Manager
Kellie Garcia	Policy and Planning Specialist
Carolina Restrepo-Tamayo	Special Projects Coordinator

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair McKortoff called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Chair McKortoff respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional and unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

**2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

No late items were introduced.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

***“THAT the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of April 5, 2022 be approved.”***

**CARRIED**

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- 4.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of March 1, 2022 held online.

***“THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board on March 1, 2022 held online be approved.”***

**CARRIED**

Dir. Boswell exited the meeting at 9:04 AM.

**5. IN-CAMERA**

5.1 In-camera session (under sec. 90(1)(m) of the Community Charter)

**6. RISE & REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA**

***“THAT the OBWB approve the 2022 Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant funding as presented. AND THAT the OBWB Rise and Report the 2022 grant funding as approved.”***

**CARRIED**

Dir. Boswell re-entered the meeting at 9:12 AM.

**7. STAFF REPORTS**

7.1 Executive Director Report

Dr. Sears reported that OBWB staff continue to follow COVID-19 safety protocols. Office staff are working under a hybrid office/home workplace model while milfoil staff are following safety protocols when working in the milfoil shop.

Dr. Sears reported on the OBWB's March 16 submission to the Government of B.C. regarding the province's Watershed Security Strategy discussion paper. The submission was developed in collaboration with a Okanagan Water Stewardship Council members, ensuring that it reflected the experience of those working in different water sectors.

Dr. Sears noted the OBWB-OkWaterWise event hosted on March 16 in celebration of UN World Water Day. The event included a special screening of CBC The Fifth Estate's documentary "Come Hell ... B.C. Under Water," followed by a panel discussion. The panel included those working for urban utilities, in agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and on regional water management. A video of the event is now posted on our YouTube channel.

Last, Dr. Sears stated that snow pillow graphs for Mission Creek, Brenda Mines, and Silver Star show lower than normal snowpacks in the Okanagan, adding snowpack is already melting at the Brenda Mines station.

***“THAT the Executive Director's Report, dated March 30, 2022, be received.”***

**CARRIED**

7.2 Operations and Grants Manager Report

Mr. Littley reported on a letter from B.C. Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman, regarding the OBWB's calls to action on invasive mussels. Correspondence from Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada regarding the mussels was also noted.

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Littley's suggestion that the board review the feasibility of restricting local lake access sites to out-of-province watercraft that have proof of inspection from B.C.'s Invasive Mussel Defence Program. Several directors acknowledged the complexity of this

issue and suggested the topic be brought forward to a future meeting for broader discussion.

***“THAT OBWB send a letter to Fisheries and Oceans Canada objecting to the reliance on deleterious substances as a control measure for an invasive mussel infestation, requesting more information about CBSA protocols and about the \$700K funding that has been provided to a project in B.C., and calling for a multi-year extension of federal funding for invasive mussel research, education and outreach in B.C.”***

**CARRIED**

***“THAT the Operations and Grants Manager Report, dated March 29, 2022, be received.”***

**CARRIED**

**8. NEXT MEETING**

7.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be held Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 10 a.m. The meeting will be held online.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

***“THAT there being no further business, the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of April 5, 2022 be adjourned at 9:49 a.m.”***

**CARRIED**

Certified Correct:		
Chair		Executive Director