



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD  
HELD JUNE 7, 2022, ONLINE  
OKANAGAN, B.C.**

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**PRESENT**

Chair Sue McKortoff	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Vice-Chair Cindy Fortin	Regional District Central Okanagan
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 Colin Basran	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**

Director Christopher Derickson	Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA)
Caitlyn Glasser	ONA Technical Staff
Nelson Jatel	Water Stewardship Director
Kellie Garcia	Policy and Planning Specialist

**STAFF**

Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director
Corinne Jackson	Communications Director
James Littlely	Operations and Grants Manager
Carolina Restrepo-Tamayo	Special Projects Coordinator

**GUESTS**

Tiana Verigin	BDO
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**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair McKortoff called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

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

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

***“THAT the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 7, 2022 be approved.”***

**CARRIED**

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

3.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of May 3, 2022 held online.

***“THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board on May 3, 2022 held online be approved.”***

**CARRIED**

**4. DELEGATION**

- 4.1 Tiana Verigin, Assurance & Accounting Service Line Leader, BDO; presenting on the OBWB's 2022 Audited Financial Statements

Ms. Verigin presented the Water Board's 2022 audited financial statements adding that no issues have been noted. Dr. Sears added that the difference between surplus and deficits fluctuate based on project expenditures.

Dir. Basran entered the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

***“THAT the audited financial statements be received.”***

**CARRIED**

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

- 5.1 Executive Director Report

Dr. Sears noted that once the financial statements are adopted, work will begin on the OBWB's annual report and strategic plan tracking measures.

***“THAT the Okanagan Basin Water Board approve the 2022 Audited Financial Statements as presented.”***

**CARRIED**

The board discussed upcoming meetings and decided to hold the July meeting online and the September Annual Meeting in person.

***“THAT the Executive Director's Report, dated June 1, 2022, be received.”***

**CARRIED**

- 5.2 Policy and Planning Specialist Report

Dr. Sears presented the Policy and Planning Specialist memo, noting upcoming work on the Okanagan Lake Management Review.

***“THAT the Policy and Planning Specialist Report, dated May 31, 2022, be received.”***

**CARRIED**

- 5.3 Water Stewardship Director Report

Dr. Sears presented the Water Stewardship Director memo and noted work to expand hydrometric stations.

Dir. Boswell added that Deborah Curran, with University of Victoria's Faculty of Law and School of Environmental Studies, would be presenting at the next council meeting on Indigenous processes of consent law with a water governance lens.

***“THAT the Water Stewardship Director Report, dated June 1, 2022, be received.”***

**CARRIED**

### 5.3.1 Okanagan Hydrometric Information Service Memo

Dr. Sears presented a memo to extend OBWB's partnership with Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) to provide operational support and data management to the Water Board's hydrometric information network service for 2022.

***"THAT the OBWB approve a sole source contract in the amount of \$137,400 with the Okanagan Nation Alliance for operational support and data management of the 2022 OBWB hydrometric information network service."***

**CARRIED**

### 5.4 Operations and Grants Manager Report

Mr. Littley reported to the board on the Environmental Funders Canada (EFC) Conference hosted in the Okanagan in May, adding the OBWB is a member of EFC. Dr. Sears added that the conference offered the opportunity to showcase the Okanagan and the collaborative work being done to address water and other environmental issues, potentially drawing additional funding for such work.

Directors were told that milfoil de-rooting season is complete. Staff have received approval from Osoyoos Indian Band and a permit application from Canadian Wildlife Service to conduct milfoil harvesting in Vaseux Lake. An additional permit application has been submitted to the province and is awaiting approval.

The board was updated on initial discussions to develop an invasive mussel vulnerability assessment toolkit for local governments. Directors were also provided an update regarding B.C. mussel inspection stations for 2022. The board requested more information at the next board meeting. Dirs. Holmes and Cummings suggested a meeting with B.C.'s Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy at the next Union of B.C. Municipalities conference may also be worth pursuing. Dir. Basran added that the BC Urban Mayors' Caucus was able to bring attention to a mutual issue and maybe a similar tactic could be used for mussels.

***"THAT the Operations and Grants Manager Report, dated May 31, 2022, be received."***

**CARRIED**

### 5.5 Special Projects Coordinator Report

Ms. Restrepo Tamayo explained that the Osoyoos Lake Water Science Forum is planned for Oct. 27-29. The planning committee will be meeting before the end of summer and posters are now being accepted until end of September.

The OBWB is hosting a boating impacts workshop on June 22. Invitations have been sent to representatives from local, provincial, federal, and First Nations government, academia, the boating industry (e.g. marinas and dock builders), and conservation groups. The workshop will look at the impacts to water quality, aquatic habitat, and more, and begin a discussion to find solutions.

***"THAT the Special Projects Coordinator Report, dated May 31, 2022, be received."***

**CARRIED**

### 5.6 Communications Director Report

Ms. Jackson updated the board on the re-launch of the annual Make Water Work (MWW) campaign with videos submitted by Okanagan mayors and Westbank First Nation Coun. Jordan Coble. Residents will see MWW water conservation messages on billboards, buses, bus shelters,

social media, Global Okanagan and Castanet. This year's campaign will include promotion of the native plants in the 'Make Water Work Plant Collection.'

Work is also well underway to re-launch the Don't Move A Mussel campaign. This year's campaign will include billboards, radio ads, ads on social media, and digital media. This year will include geotargeting some of the ads to those planning to visit the Okanagan with watercraft from mussel-infested regions. Ms. Jackson added that there has been additional attention given to expanding the partnership with those involved in water recreation and tourism.

Staff are also working with the province's Thompson Okanagan Drought Response Team to address communication challenges with drought messaging to the media and public. Last year there was confusion between federal, provincial and local utility drought messages.

***"THAT the Communications Director Report, dated June 1, 2022, be received."***  
**CARRIED**

**6. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Move to in-camera at 11:23 a.m.

**7. IN-CAMERA**

7.1 In-camera session (under sec. 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter)

***"THAT the OBWB move to come out of camera."***  
**CARRIED**

Come out of in-camera at 11:28 a.m.

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

***"THAT the OBWB approves the 2022 OBWB Governance Manual revisions as provided, removing the requirement for future renewal of the Water Management Program, and directs staff to request the three Okanagan regional districts to approve these changes to the OBWB Governance Manual."***

**CARRIED**

**9. NEXT MEETING**

9.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be held Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 10 a.m. The meeting location is to be determined.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

***"THAT there being no further business, the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 7, 2022 be adjourned at 11:29 a.m."***

**CARRIED**

Certified Correct:		
Chair		Executive Director