

Council Meeting
September 19th 2016 | 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Columbia Shuswap Regional District Boardroom
555 Harbourfront Drive, Salmon Arm

Record of Decisions and Action Items
Approved on December 8th 2016

Meeting objectives

1. Receive update on the Water Protection Initiative and approve SWC-funded projects, as recommended by the Water Protection Advisory Committee
2. Receive update on the 2016 Recreation Safety Education Program
3. Receive guest presentation from the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations staff person(s)

Present

Paul Demenok, Chair – CSRD Area ‘C’
Larry Morgan, Vice Chair – CSRD Area ‘F’
Rene Talbot – CSRD Area ‘D’
Rhona Martin – CSRD Area ‘E’ (*joined at 11:05 AM*)
Nancy Cooper – City of Salmon Arm
Todd Kylo – District of Sicamous
Rick Berrigan – TNRD, Village of Chase
Peter Milobar – TNRD, City of Kamloops
Dave Nordquist – Secwepemc Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band
Herman Halvorson – RDNO, Area ‘F’
Tundra Baird – RDNO, City of Enderby (*departed at 12:45 PM*)
Dennis Einarson – BC Ministry of Environment
Laura Code – BC Ministry of Agriculture
Ray Nadeau – Community representative
Randy Wood – Community representative
Lorne Hunter – Community representative

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson – Fraser Basin Council

Guests: Kimm Magill-Hofmann, Ray Crampton, Jeff Nitychoruk

Observer(s): Bob Misseghers, Al Capas, Peter Vander Sar

Regrets: Greg Witzky

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM

Agenda Amendment Chair Demenok suggested that the first agenda item (Convene in camera) be moved down on the agenda to be the last item before lunch.

Adoption of Meeting Summary

Moved/Seconded by Mayor Berrigan and Director Talbot that:
The meeting summary of the May 3rd 2016 meeting of the SWC be adopted.

CARRIED**Report from Chair**

Chair Demenok updated the SWC on the grounded houseboat in Eagle Bay. Staff from the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations worked with the CSRD to place a public notice on the abandoned vessel and after a period of time the vessel was removed and disposed of. The chair commented that the process for dealing with abandoned vessels is unclear and the length of time to respond to this matter was less than ideal.

Chair Demenok is participating at the *Watersheds 2016* conference on October 1st 2016 in Vancouver; he will be a panelist for a session entitled *Show Me the Money: sustainable funding for watershed organizations*.

Report from Program Managers

Erin Vieira reported on the program managers' activities since the May 3rd 2016 SWC meeting:

- Terms of Reference (v.3) document has been updated, circulated, and posted online
- Organized meeting of Chair, Vice Chair, and Adams Lake Indian Band re: financial contribution
- Liaised with Okanagan Nation re: representation and participation in SWC
- Facilitated inaugural and follow-up meetings of the SWC Water Protection Advisory Committee (May 24th and June 27th) to enable learning, and input/recommendations to the Water Protection Initiative (detailed report is provided below)
- Ongoing liaison with UBC-O re: phosphorus research
- Developed brochure about the Shuswap watershed and the SWC's water protection initiative; distributed via CSRD's Septic Smart campaign to ~ 1500 residences
- Refined and implemented Recreation Safety Education Program for 2016, including safety public service announcements, rack cards, whistles, and support for *Kids Don't Float* lifejacket kiosks (detailed report is provided below)
- Early stages of planning the exploratory water quality monitoring for emerging threats project for 2017 (Water Monitoring Program, Activity F)

Discussion: Chair Demenok suggested that staff look for additional venues or mechanisms to further distribute the Water Protection Initiative brochure. Mayor Cooper suggested the possibility of placing brochures with Salmon Arm utility bills in February.

Ray Nadeau inquired about when a water quality report for 2016 would be ready. Dennis Einarson volunteered to prepare a brief verbal report on the Ministry of Environment monitoring results at the December SWC meeting; Mike Simpson noted that a comprehensive watershed report will be ready in Spring 2017.

Action Item: staff will look for opportunities to further distribute the brochures, and print additional brochures if needed.

Mike Simpson reported the income for this year (April 1st 2016 to March 31st 2017):

- Surplus from March 31st 2016 of \$56,240
- TNRD contribution of \$53,600 received
- CSRD contribution of \$108,900 received
- City of Salmon Arm contribution of \$40,000 received
- Total income for 2016-17 is \$259,640

Mike Simpson reported the expenses for the first quarter, April 1st – June 30th 2016:

- \$1733 on the Water Quality Monitoring program¹
- \$53,434 on the Water Protection program
- \$7384 on the Recreation Safety Education program
- \$7353 on communications
- \$7687 on management and administration

Update on Water Protection Initiative

Mike Simpson presented an update on the Water Protection Initiative:

- Nutrient research project led by UBC-O is underway. Methodology is set, instrumentation is in place and monitoring commenced in Spring 2016.
- The Water Protection Advisory Committee met on May 24th and June 27th. The committee membership is ratified, a Terms of Reference was approved, and committee members have learned about the SWC's Water Protection Initiative and had a Q&A session with Dr. Jeff Curtis regarding the phosphorus research project.
- Staff developed a Water Protection Initiative brochure and it was distributed via the CSRD's Septic Smart campaign in July – August 2016 to approximately 1500 residences.

Director Martin joined the meeting at 11:05 AM

Mike Simpson presented the recommendations from the Water Protection Advisory Committee for projects in 2016-17:

- I. Alderson Creek restoration. Cost to SWC: \$7500
- II. Lower Gardom Creek restoration. Cost to SWC: \$2500

¹ Most water quality monitoring expenses are billed at the end of the year (even though they are accrued throughout the year)

III. Special presentations and guest speakers. Cost to SWC: \$6000

Moved/seconded by Directors Morgan and Talbot that:
The three project recommendations be approved as presented, with funds to be spent by March 31st 2017.

Discussion: Lorne Hunter commented that he's been impressed by the process to-date for the phosphorus research.

Chair Demenok inquired about the possibility of measuring improvements to the restored/remediated sites, and the importance of publicizing these works once they are completed.

Ray Nadeau inquired if it would be appropriate for SWC members or members of the public to bring forth ideas for the restoration/remediation plan in future years. He specifically mentioned the issue of White Creek and opportunity to restore water quality. Dennis Einarson pointed out that a limiting factor is the absence of a stewardship or community group for White Creek. Mike Simpson noted that it would be fine for SWC members or members of the public to raise concerns about restoration/remediation projects with the Water Protection Advisory Committee.

Laura Code confirmed that year four and five of the SWC's work plan is to direct funding to specifically address the results of the nutrient research.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will distribute the September progress report from UBC-O to SWC members.

Action item: staff will find out how/what measurements are incorporated into the Alderson Creek and Lower Gardom Creek projects, and that photos are taken throughout the projects for use in promotion/communications.

Action item: the Chair will discuss measurable objectives (as referenced in the 'old' Program Terms of Reference) and its suitability for incorporating them into the current Terms of Reference v.3 and the operations of the SWC.

Action item: staff will re-connect with Jamie Felhauer of the Salmon River Watershed Roundtable to find out if their group is active or not, and to be sure they are aware of the SWC's contributions to restoration/remediation works.

Action item: staff will request that SWC members receive an invitation to educational seminars/presentations taking place in late winter 2017.

Agenda Amendment Chair Demenok suggested that the Roundtable Updates be moved up on the agenda.

Roundtable Updates Randy Wood raised the issue of dredging in Salmon Arm Bay. He has observed that it's a 'hot' issue, with many community and government groups involved. Randy inquired as to whether the SWC considers this as part of its mandate, and if any members of SWC can provide further information about dredging Salmon Arm Bay. Mayor Cooper noted that cost of dredging is a limiting factor. Chair Demenok commented that although dredging and water quality are linked, the SWC will not take a position on dredging at this time.

Councillor Kylo expressed concern that the invasive mussels prevention program that was implemented this summer by the provincial government was not expansive enough. He inquired as to whether there is an opportunity for the SWC to collaborate with the Province on the program in the future. Director Martin further commented that the invasive mussels prevention program seems like a suitable opportunity for the SWC to support in future. Mike Simpson commented that at minimum, staff can do additional communications work starting next year.

Action item: staff will inquire about arranging for a presentation on invasive mussel prevention at the December SWC meeting from the province and the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society.

Action item: staff will liaise with the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society and others re: communications on invasive mussels prevention beginning next spring

In Camera Moved/Seconded by Directors Morgan and Mayor Berrigan that:
Pursuant to Section 90(1)(a):

- *Personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the Regional District of another position appointed by the Regional District*

of the Community Charter, the SWC move In Camera.

CARRIED

The regular meeting of the SWC re-convened at 12:12 PM.

Release of In Camera meeting summary Moved/Seconded by Directors Morgan and Talbot that:
The meeting summary of the May 3rd 2016 in camera meeting of the SWC be released.

CARRIED

Break

SWC members took a lunch break from 12:15 – 12:45 PM

Councillor Baird left the meeting at 12:45 PM

**Update on the
Recreation Safety
Education Program**

Erin Vieira presented an update on the Recreation Safety Education Program:

- Safety campaigns were delivered throughout the boating season focusing on lifejacket use, boating preparedness, boating sober and cold-water safety. Newspaper, radio, and social media platforms were used, in addition to the distribution of rack cards to 25 locations in the Shuswap watershed
- SWC formed a partnership with the Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue (AKA Shuswap Lifeboat Society) and provided a 50% cash contribution for a *Kids Don't Float* lifejacket lending kiosk (the RCM-SAR leads the initiative and has built four kiosks in the watershed to-date)
- Safety whistles were purchased and distributed in late summer to recreationists; this will continue next year
- A concise program analysis has indicated that the program is the only boating safety education program specific to the Shuswap that targets the general public; it was observed that the various initiatives of the program were well-received, in particular the rack cards and the *Kids Don't Float* partnership.

Discussion: Mayor Cooper expressed her appreciation for the SWC's support of the *Kids Don't Float* initiative and relayed the positive feedback she has heard about it.

Ray Nadeau inquired if the campaigns included awareness for 'silent drowning'; Erin explained that it's been part of the Red Cross campaigns but can be included in the SWC's work next year.

Director Martin commented that she's heard positive feedback for the safety campaigns. She suggested working with Shuswap Tourism to ensure that safety messaging can be part of their collateral.

Chair Demenok commented that although there was divided support for the recreation safety education program in the planning stages, it seems to have proven itself to be a worthwhile endeavor for the SWC.

Action item: staff will include drowning awareness as part of the campaigns in 2017.

Guest Presentation

Chair Demenok introduced Kimm Magill-Hoffman, Senior Water Authorizations Officer, BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) and explained a presentation to the SWC is a follow-up to a meeting he had with her in the spring.

Ray Crampton, District Manager, FLNRO, explained that the Okanagan-Shuswap district encompasses a portion of BC's southern interior from the Canada-US border north to the Seymour River, east beyond Sicamous and Lumby, and west to Chase and beyond Keremeos. He further explained that the mandate of FLNRO has expanded over the years from doing forestry to now also being involved in wind farm tenuring, emergencies such as landslides and flooding, and drought.

Kimm gave an overview of the *Water Sustainability Act*:

- On February 29 2016 the *Water Act* was repealed and the *Water Sustainability Act* was enacted
- Key changes under the WSA include new water rights and licensing requirements for groundwater users, and stronger protection for aquatic ecosystems and consideration of environmental flow needs
 - Drought management is top-of-mind and the WSA has enabling mechanisms for better drought management
- 'First in time, first in right' allocation scheme carries forward under the WSA

SWC members noted their opposition to future diversions of water from the Shuswap watershed.

Adjourn

Moved/Seconded by Mayor Berrigan and Mayor Cooper that:
The meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:46 PM.