

Council Meeting
December 12th 2018 | 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Columbia Shuswap Regional District Boardroom
555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm

Record of Decisions and Action Items

Meeting objectives

1. Receive program operations update from Program Managers
2. Receive updates from partner organizations on Zebra and Quagga Mussel prevention
3. Receive research proposal from UBC – Okanagan
4. Set meeting schedule for 2019

Present

Paul Demenok, Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area C
Rene Talbot – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area D
Rhona Martin – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area E
Jay Simpson – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area F
Ken Christian – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, City of Kamloops
Rod Crowe – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, Village of Chase
Tim Lavery – City of Salmon Arm
Colleen Anderson – District of Sicamous
Lorne Hunter – Community representative
Laura Code – BC Ministry of Agriculture
Dennis Einarson – BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson – Fraser Basin Council

Observers

None

Regrets

Steven Teed
Dave Nordquist
Tundra Baird
Randy Wood
Ray Nadeau

- Call to Order** Chair Paul Demenok called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM
- Adoption of meeting summary** **Moved/seconded** by Mayor Christian/Director Talbot that:
The summary of the September 19th 2018 meeting of the SWC be adopted.
- CARRIED**
- Correspondence** **Moved/seconded** by Mayor Christian/Councillor Lavery that:
The correspondence be received for information.
- CARRIED**
- Old business: draft meeting summary for information** **Moved/seconded** by Mayor Crowe/Lorne Hunter that:
The draft summary of the Shuswap Water Quality Monitoring Group meeting held on November 1st be received for information.
- CARRIED**
- Old business: SWC Terms of Reference** Erin Vieira briefly reviewed the Terms of Reference, including SWC membership and representation, appointments and terms, decision-making, voting, and community representation. She also explained the structure of two committees, the Water Monitoring Group and the Water Protection Advisory Committee, that provide input and support to the SWC on issues of water quality.
- Report from Chair** Chair Demenok reported that he has been in touch with the Shuswap Waterfront Owners Association (SWOA), and they have agreed in principle to improve communications between SWC and SWOA. SWOA would like additional support on foreshore issues including docks and buoys, however Chair Demenok has indicated that those issues are outside the SWC's mandate.
- Chair Demenok has corresponded with the Regional District of North Okanagan recently regarding formalizing their partnership and ensuring appointed representation from RDNO on the SWC.
- Discussion:
Mayor Christian and Director Martin indicated their agreement that foreshore issues such as docks and buoys are best addressed by agencies with land-use planning mandates, and not the SWC.

New business: draft meeting schedule for 2019

Moved/seconded by Councillor Lavery/Mayor Christian that:
The Shuswap Watershed Council meeting schedule for 2019 be approved.

CARRIED

The meeting schedule will be as follows:
Wednesday March 13th 2019
Wednesday June 12th 2019
Wednesday September 11th 2019
Wednesday December 11th 2019

New business: community representatives

Erin Vieira explained that the community representative positions on the SWC (there are three of them) will reach the end of their three-year term in March 2019. She explained a proposed process to renew those positions, allowing for new applicants or the renewal of the current representatives.

Moved/seconded by Director Simpson/Director Talbot that:
Staff be directed to renew the community representative positions on the Shuswap Watershed Council.

Discussion:

A brief discussion took place about the community representative terms. Chair Demenok suggested that applicants' previous experience be considered; Mayor Christian suggested a maximum number of terms for community representatives.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will post the community representative positions and invite applications. Candidates will be invited to the next SWC meeting in March.

Guest presentation: draft nutrient research proposal

Mike Simpson provided an overview of Dr. Jeff Curtis draft research proposal for collecting and analyzing a sediment core from the bottom of Mara Lake. He introduced it as a concept that the Water Protection Advisory Committee is in support of, and he explained that this proposal is in addition to the three-year nutrient research project on Shuswap River and Salmon River.

The objective of the proposed project is to gain an understanding in the change in nutrient loading to Mara Lake over several decades or centuries. The timeframe for the project is approximately January –

September 2019, for a cost of \$19,320.

Discussion:

Chair Demenok asked Dennis Einarson to provide his opinion on the project; Dennis indicated that this research would be complementary to work that the Ministry of Environment has done in other areas of the watershed. Director Martin and Mayor Christian indicated their support of the project, noting it's a worthwhile investment that would provide useful information and demonstrate the SWC's commitment to learning about the Shuswap watershed. Lorne Hunter inquired if the methodology and results would be comparable to the work the Ministry of Environment has done in Salmon Arm Bay; Dennis Einarson replied that they would. Chair Demenok pointed out that the SWC ought not to undertake this purely for curiosity, and that the results need to affect management decisions; Dennis Einarson explained that the useful results from this study will be the provision of natural (un-altered by land use) nutrient loading. He cautioned that the data would be at approximately 10-year resolution.

Moved/seconded by Director Martin/Mayor Christian that:
The SWC support the draft research proposal.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will work with Dr. Jeff Curtis and his associates at UBC-Okanagan to finalize the research proposal and commence it in 2019.

Report from Program Managers

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson presented an update on program operations since the last SWC meeting:

- A wetland has been constructed near Gardom Lake, by the Gardom Lake Stewardship Society with financial support from the SWC. The wetland is on a Ministry of Highways right-of-way; it will improve water quality flowing into Gardom Lake.
- The Water Monitoring Group met in November to review various water monitoring programs of 2018, and discuss the provincial framework for cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) monitoring and reporting
- The Water Protection Advisory Committee met in early December and received a detailed presentation on Megan Ludwig's and Dr. Jeff Curtis' nutrient research; they also received Dr. Curtis' new research proposal for a lake bottom sediment core
- The Zebra and Quagga Mussel Prevention Program and the Safe Recreation Program wound down in the fall. Staff are preparing

articles about each subject for regional magazines, to be published in spring 2019.

- Staff worked with Chair Demenok to write to Minister Wilkinson, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, regarding a recent funding announcement for Zebra and Quagga Mussel prevention in BC.

Expenses to the end of the second quarter (April 1st – September 30th 2018) were as reported:

	Annual budget (\$)	Expenses (\$)
Water Monitoring Initiative	66,400	12,283
Water Protection Initiative	76,300	51,599
Zebra & Quagga Mussel Prevention Program	26,850	21,981
Safe Recreation Program	12,200	9763
Communications	37,850	21,581
Management and Administration	40,750	17,722
Operating Reserve	131,528	0
Total expenses to September 30th 2018	391,878	134,929

Discussion:

Councillor Anderson commented on the urgency of the Zebra and Quagga Mussel threat, and encouraged the other SWC members to put a notice on their organizations' websites. She also noted the opportunity to engage regional tourism organizations in the issue.

Staff specifically inquired if the completion of Megan Ludwig's Master's Thesis, and the summary of nutrient research results that are now available, should be communicated. It was suggested to wait until the spring when the full results from Dr. Curtis are available. Chair Demenok commented on the opportunity to consider 'Alternative Land Use Systems' as a model for incorporating the results of the nutrient research and undertaking water quality improvement projects. Laura Code reminded the group of the concurrent review of Agricultural Waste Control Regulations, and the delay that process is experiencing.

Break

SWC members took a lunch break from 12:20 – 1:15

Councillor Anderson and Mayor Christian left the meeting at 12:30

Roundtable updates

Chair Demenok reiterated the need to identify local water groups that the SWC can partner with; Dennis Einarson remarked that there is a group at White Lake; Councillor Lavery commented that there is a watershed class at Salmon Arm high school.

Director Simpson inquired about mosquito treatment at Shuswap Lake Provincial Park, and if there is a risk to water quality. Director Martin commented that BC Parks doesn't spray for mosquitoes.

**Guest presentation:
Columbia Shuswap
Invasive Species
Society**

Robyn Hooper and Sue Davies of the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society presented an overview of the work their organization has undertaken in 2018. The partnership and funding support from the Shuswap Watershed Council has enabled CSISS to expand its programs for Zebra and Quagga Mussel outreach, education and monitoring including:

- 28 locations in 14 lakes in the Shuswap watershed were monitored for ZQM
- Outreach, working with staff at SWC, was greater than ever including articles, media releases, paid advertising, events, face-to-face surveys and research, signage, and distribution of collateral (rack cards, stickers, etc.)

Ms. Davies relayed the results of the monitoring in the Shuswap did not indicate the presence of any zebra or quagga mussels. Ms. Hooper thanked the SWC for their support in 2018.

Director Martin left the meeting at 1:40

Discussion:

Mayor Crowe suggested sampling the west side of Little Shuswap Lake for ZQM, within the CSRD's jurisdiction. He also inquired about signage at boat launches in Chase.

Erin Vieira inquired if providing boat wash stations would help to instill the importance of Clean-Drain-Dry and enable these steps with boaters. Ms. Davies replied that the best location would be a public boat launch, which sees more in-and-out boat traffic and has less oversight than a marina. She also commented that some carwashes are safe for washing boats (i.e. wash water goes to treatment centre, not to storm drains).

Adjourn

Moved/seconded by Lorne Hunter/Mayor Crowe that:

The December 12th 2018 meeting of the Shuswap Watershed Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.