

Council Meeting
December 13th 2017 | 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Columbia Shuswap Regional District Boardroom
555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm

Record of decisions and action items – approved on March 14th 2018

Meeting objectives

1. Receive presentation from Adams River Salmon Society
2. Receive update on Water Quality Objectives
3. 2018 SWC workplan discussion

Present

Paul Demenok, Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area C
Larry Morgan, Vice Chair – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area F
Rene Talbot – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area D
Rhona Martin – Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Area E
Rick Berrigan – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, Village of Chase
Ken Christian – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, City of Kamloops
Nancy Cooper – City of Salmon Arm
Dave Nordquist – Secwepemc Nation, Adams Lake Indian Band
Herman Halvorson – Regional District of North Okanagan, Area F
Tundra Baird – Regional District of North Okanagan, City of Enderby
Dennis Einarson – BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Laura Code – BC Ministry of Agriculture
Lorne Hunter – Community representative
Randy Wood – Community representative

Erin Vieira and Mike Simpson – Fraser Basin Council

Guest presenters and observers

Dave Smith, Carmen Massey, Julie John, Molly Cooperman (*until 11:00 am*)

Regrets

Greg Witzky
Ray Nadeau
Todd Kylo

Call to Order

Chair Paul Demenok called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM

Adoption of meeting summary

Chair Demenok requested that a late agenda item regarding a letter of support for the Columbia Shuswap Regional District's exclusion application to the Agricultural Land Commission be added to the agenda.

Moved/seconded by Mayor Berrigan/Mayor Cooper that:
The agenda for December 13th 2017 SWC meeting be amended as requested.

CARRIED

Laura Code entered the meeting at 10:35 am

Moved/seconded by Randy Wood/Mayor Cooper that:
The summary of the October 25th 2017 meeting of the SWC be adopted.

CARRIED

Councillor Tundra Baird entered the meeting at 10:45 am

Guest Presentation

Dave Smith introduced himself and other members of the Adams River Salmon Society: Carmen Massey, Julie John and Molly Cooperman. Carmen Massey then explained that the Society is proposing to host a salmon symposium next fall in conjunction with the peak salmon return and the opportunity to engage visitors from around the world. The host partners for the symposium will be Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band and the Adams River Salmon Society.

The symposium is scheduled to take place September 30th – October 2nd; a concept agenda is in place.

The Society is seeking a letter of support from the Shuswap Watershed Council, in addition to financial support, support for the workshop via facilitation, and attendance and participation from SWC members.

Report from the Chair

Chair Demenok reported that the CSRD is making an application to the Agricultural Land Commission to exclude a parcel of land in Area C to be the site of a future wastewater treatment facility.

Moved/seconded by Chair Demenok/Vice Chair Morgan that:
The SWC write a letter to the Agriculture Land Commission expressing support for the exclusion application by the CSRD.

Discussion:

Lorne Hunter inquired about the size of land; the Chair responded that the parcel is about 65 acres, and approximately 25-30 acres would be used for the treatment plant while the remainder could be developed by the private land owner.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will work with the Chair to prepare the support letter

**2018 Meeting
Schedule**

Moved/seconded by Mayor Christian/Mayor Cooper that:
The draft 2018 meeting schedule be approved as presented.

CARRIED

The SWC will meet on the following days in 2018, at the CSRD Boardroom unless otherwise noted:

March 14th

June 13th

September 19th

December 12th

**Water Quality
Objectives**

Dennis Einarson, RPBio, explained that Water Quality Objectives are a tool to manage water quality. There have been several reports summarizing the water quality in the Shuswap watershed; the next step for the Ministry is to set objectives to help maintain the water quality. Once established, the objectives can be incorporated into permits and plans and used as a regulatory tool.

Currently, it's proposed that objectives be set for four different areas of Shuswap Lake; the objectives would set various parameters at different levels for each area.

Discussion:

Director Martin inquired about receiving information regarding average measurement values; Dennis Einarson indicated he could provide a table for circulation to SWC members.

Mayor Christian commented that it's a good idea to have a separate set of objectives for Shuswap Lake; he inquired as to the reason why only four areas are established for the objectives, not including the northern reaches; Dennis responded that the consultants noted the relative good water quality in the northern reaches, but that he would bring this concern back to them.

Chair Demenok asked how the objectives would be used practically. Dennis explained that permits would have statements regarding requirements for ambient water quality. The objectives themselves are not enforceable; they contain science-based information that can be adopted by other regulatory tools and become enforceable.

Report from Program Managers

Erin Vieira presented an update on program operations:

- The Shuswap Water Monitoring Group met in November; participants reviewed and discussed their respective organizations' monitoring activities that were done in 2017; the group also discussed and provided input to the 2016 Water Quality Summary
- A special water quality monitoring project for substances called Nonylphenols has wrapped up and shows very good results, nonylphenols were not detected in lake water samples.
- The Water Protection Advisory Committee met in November to receive an update on the nutrient research project led by UBC-Okanagan, and to discuss criteria for SWC-funded restoration projects. A field tour to Alderson Creek to see a restoration project had to be cancelled due to inclement weather, and will be rescheduled for spring or early summer.

Expenses to the end of the second quarter (April 1st – September 30th 2017) are as follows: *(no change from the report at the Oct 25 meeting)*

	Budget (\$)	Expenses (\$)
Water Monitoring Initiative	66,250	5551
Water Protection Initiative	75,650	57,901
Recreation Safety Education Program	12,800	9478
Communications	34,600	24,968
Management and Administration	41,600	16,348
Operating Reserve	99,014	0
Total expenses to September 30th 2017	329,914	114,246

2018 Workplan Discussion

Chair Demenok introduced this discussion as an opportunity for providing input for the program managers to include in the 2018 work planning, which will be done in the winter before the next SWC meeting.

Chair Demenok initiated the discussion by inquiring of the SWC membership regarding supporting the 2018 Salmon Symposium being hosted by the Adams River Salmon Society and Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band.

Moved/seconded by Mayor Berrigan/Mayor Christian that:

The SWC prepare a letter of support in principle for the 2018 Salmon Symposium being hosted by the Adams River Salmon Society and Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will prepare a letter of support in principle for the 2018 Salmon Symposium.

The Chair inquired with the SWC membership about providing financial support for the 2018 Salmon Symposium.

Moved/seconded by Dave Nordquist/Vice Chair Morgan that:
The SWC participate in, and thereby make a financial contribution to, the 2018 Salmon Symposium as an exhibitor.

Discussion:

Some SWC members expressed that the SWC's financial support should be directed at initiatives more closely related to water quality and safe recreation, and that other non-SWC funds would be a better fit for a salmon symposium. Mayor Christian and Director Martin suggested the possibility of a financial contribution to the symposium through renting an exhibitor booth; Mayor Berrigan noted that it's not yet known if there will be an opportunity for exhibitors at the symposium.

Chair Demenok inquired with the SWC membership about participating in the symposium curriculum; Mayor Berrigan noted the inherent costs and staff time that would be associated with such an activity.

Moved/seconded by Director Martin/Vice Chair Morgan to amend the above-noted motion that:

The SWC's participation in and financial support of the symposium via exhibitor fees be tabled to the March 2018 meeting, at which time program managers can provide more organizational information about the symposium.

CARRIED

Chair Demenok inquired with the membership about participating in the curriculum of the Symposium. Mayor Berrigan pointed out the inherent costs and staff time. Chair Demenok further commented that at a projected cost of \$400/person, it would be cost-prohibitive for members of the SWC to attend the event.

Moved/seconded by Mayor Berrigan/Lorne Hunter that:

A second letter be sent to the symposium organizers indicating that the SWC will not be an event sponsor, but that it would like more information about the event including the potential opportunity to be an exhibitor.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will prepare a second letter for the Adams River Salmon Society and Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band indicating that the SWC will not be a symposium sponsor for the reasons discussed, and requesting more information about the event including the potential opportunity to be an exhibitor.

Chair Demenok introduced zebra and quagga mussels as a discussion item. He elaborated on the work being done by the Okanagan Basin Water Board, and the opportunities presented to the SWC by the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society at the October 25th SWC meeting.

Moved/seconded by Director Morgan/Mayor Cooper that:

Staff be directed to work with Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society and the Okanagan Basin Water Board to determine how best to partner and/or supplement the existing campaigns against aquatic invasive mussels

Discussion:

Some directors expressed their support in principle for the SWC supporting and/or implementing education and awareness campaigns for aquatic invasive mussels, but to exercise caution to ensure consistent messaging with other organizations and focus locally on delivering campaign messaging (i.e., in the Shuswap and BC).

Erin Vieira inquired as to the budget for the aquatic invasive mussels education/advocacy work plan. Chair Demenok suggested a budget of \$25,000 and other SWC members agreed.

SWC members discussed potential work plan ideas for education and advocacy, including opportunities for engaging marina operators as a critical interface with the boating community, requesting more support from the Province, and investigating advocacy opportunities with the federal government.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will work with CSISS and OBWB to create a new work plan item for 2018 focussing on aquatic invasive mussels education and advocacy in the Shuswap and nearby regions.

Moved/seconded by Director Martin/Vice Chair Morgan that:
The SWC send another letter to the Provincial government thanking them for their efforts against zebra and quagga mussels to-date, and requesting more resources for prevention efforts, including increasing the number of watercraft inspection stations.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will prepare a letter to the Province, as described above, in early 2018.

Chair Demenok introduced the opportunity for the SWC to provide comment on the proposed revisions to the *Agriculture Waste Control Regulation* (AWCR). The Chair framed this as a potential advocacy role for the SWC, bearing in mind that agriculture waste has an impact on water quality.

Discussion:

Lorne Hunter commented that he didn't think it appropriate for the SWC to submit comments on the proposed revisions to the AWCR due to the SWC not being an agricultural group and therefore not directly impacted by the revisions. Vice Chair Morgan commented that agricultural waste impacts on water make the SWC a suitable body for providing input, and that staff should submit comments calling for better waste management to improve water quality. Lorne Hunter replied indicating his support for applicable regulations and enforcement within the agriculture industry, but also indicated that some recent studies in the North Okanagan have not demonstrated improvements to water quality with the implementation of certain beneficial management practices; he stated that the agriculture industry has progressed and is aligning with societal values. Director Martin expressed concern over the growth of the industry in the region in recent years. Chair Demenok commented that the SWC's primary mandate is water quality and that science being reviewed by the SWC is showing that nutrients are entering the watershed from agricultural lands.

Moved/seconded by Vice Chair Morgan/Mayor Christian that:
Staff prepare a letter providing comments on the proposed revisions to the AWCR that are reflective of the SWC's mandate, have a balanced approach toward regulations and enforcement to limit nutrient input to

the watershed, and would not impose overly adverse impacts on the agriculture industry;

And that:

Staff provide the letter by email to the SWC members for a seven-day review period before submitting the letter to the Ministry of Environment by the deadline of January 15th, 2018.

CARRIED

Action item: staff will review the proposed revisions to the *Agriculture Waste Control Regulation* as described in the Province's Third Intentions Paper and prepare comments, as described above, and provide it to the SWC for their review before submitting it to the Province.

Chair Demenok inquired of the SWC membership if there were any other discussion items for the 2018 work plan.

The Chair requested a number of items for consideration in the work plan, including increasing collaboration with the Okanagan Basin Water Board and inviting them to attend a future SWC as a guest speaker; increasing public communications for water quality issues and initiatives; and inviting a representative from the Alternative Land Use System ("ALUS") to a future meeting of the SWC as a guest presenter.

Director Halvorson left the meeting at 1:55 pm

Dave Nordquist inquired if the SWC would discuss climate change, and its impacts to water quality and quantity. Director Martin commented that climate change is a high priority, and that the effects are already being seen. Dennis Einarson replied that there is a dedicated group within the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and could request that someone make a presentation on their work to the SWC.

Action item: Dennis Einarson will provide contact information for a potential guest speaker on climate change from within the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Roundtable Updates

Lorne Hunter reported that the local dairy association is planning an on-farm tour in April, including a discussion about working with governments. He will provide information about the event to the SWC membership when it's ready.

Dave Nordquist reported that Adams Lake Indian Band will make a financial contribution to the SWC for the 2017-18 year.

Mike Simpson reported that Fraser Basin Council is facilitating a disaster mitigation risk assessment project for the Thompson watershed – of which the Shuswap watershed is part of – and a community-to-community forum will kick-start this project on February 14th.

Action item: Staff will receive the contribution from Adams Lake Indian Band on behalf of the SWC, and amend the Contribution Agreement and SWC Terms of Reference accordingly.

Adjourn

Moved/seconded by Director Talbot/Director Morgan that: The December 13th 2017 meeting of the SWC be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.