

Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board Room, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC V9L 1N8

## **PRESENT**

Ron Diederichs, Chair, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations  
Lori Iannindaro, Director, Cowichan Valley Regional District  
Alison Garnett, Cowichan Valley Regional District  
Tracy Fleming, Cowichan Tribes  
Brigid Reynolds, Municipality of North Cowichan  
Kyle Young, Municipality of North Cowichan

## **OTHER**

Laura Robertson, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Recording Secretary

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair noted changes to the agenda, including the addition of one Delegate.

**It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting of March 19, 2015, be adopted.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **D1**

Peter Fitzpatrick was present regarding revised site plan for application of stilt home rebuild at 1789 Cowichan Bay Road.

Mr. Fitzpatrick stated the cement wall and pilings will stay the same. The Committee was not as supportive of using shot rock, the applicant agreed to remove the shot-rock from the drawings of the foundation. Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that Stantec of Victoria has been contacted regarding the timing and the cost to do an assessment of the archeological overview. He also mentioned that no change to size of plan has been made.

Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that the fiberglass grid decking that was suggested by CEEMC is not suitable for the entire deck and dock, he wondered if they could make a donation in the amount of the difference of cost between the two decking materials. This donation could go towards eel grass restoration in the Cowichan Estuary to make up for the shading that would be occurring because of a solid wood deck. An agreement was reached with the Committee regarding a compromise of using both materials, solid wood on the seaward side of the house and grid along the side walkways.

The Committee directed questions, and thanked the delegate for appearing.

**It was moved and seconded:**

- 1. That Peter Fitzpatrick submit another plan with the revised dock having a portion of wood closest to the house, and the extended deck to be of the composite grid decking.**
- 2. That the committee supported Fitzpatrick's suggestion to make a donation to the Cowichan Land Trust for the purposes of environmental restoration to compensate the dock shading and the overall footprint enlargement from the existing house. The**

**Cowichan Land Trust to be advised that consultation with the CEEMC regarding the utilisation of the funds to restore habitat is needed.**

- 3. That all considerations according to the professional reports being followed and the requests of the CEEMC need to be met.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**D2**

Derek Haupt from Western Forest Products (WFP) was present to ask the Committee what they would like to see done regarding the log storage renewal. The Minister set some guidelines for the WFP renewal but it was received with some lack of clarity by WFP. The Committee stated the shortcomings that the report that WFP submitted last summer didn't touch on the organisms that support the salmon fry food chain, and on how they are affected by the log storage. The study needs to show how this affects the organisms that are in the food chain for salmon fry and be passed on to the minister for the renewal in 2017. Mr. Haupt noted that log storage boom not grounding isn't feasible, they would be grounding and out of compliance twice a day because of the tides. He asked what impact the CEEMC has on the decisions of renewals, the Committee explained that each renewal is like a new application in that it requires a separate decision.

Mr. Haupt stated that WFP is doing extensive log salvage on a daily basis and a bi-yearly extra clean up. They were very involved with the Mariners Island cleanup, which the Committee found very impressive and positive during the field trip on morning of April 27.

The Committee directed questions to the delegate.

The Chair thanked the delegate for appearing and WFP's contribution to the Mariners Island Cleanup.

**Action:** The CEEMC will provide information to WFP on the organisms and survey methods that is felt to be important to determine the effects of log storage and grounding. This will be provided to WFP, including Mr. Haupt so that WFP can contract a company to do a study of the environmental impact.

## **REPORTS**

**R1**

Report from Kyle Young, Municipality of North Cowichan, regarding Development Permit Application for 900 Khenipsen Road. Application is for the house, driveway, septic field and garage.

**It was moved and seconded that the recommendation of the professional reports be met with the inclusion of the following;**

- 1. The applicant revisit the ecological site series classification to ensure that vegetation suggested by the consultant for site restoration is appropriate to that site and possibly register the Geotech Report on land titles.**
- 2. The owner be informed about the archeological alteration permit that may be required by the province.**
- 3. Rain water and storm water management discharge details are provided with more specifics.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is TBA by the Chair.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Recording Secretary