

Minutes of the meeting of the Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan Steering Committee held in the Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on January 24, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Lefebure, North Cowichan, Chair
Director Duncan, Electoral Area E <9:35 a.m.>
Director Iannidinardo, Electoral Area D
Sharon Jackson, City of Duncan Alternate

ABSENT: Mayor Kent, City of Duncan
Chief Alphonse, Cowichan Tribes

ALSO

PRESENT: Brian Dennison, P. Eng., CVRD
Tom Ireland, CAO, City of Duncan
Dave Devana, CAO, North Cowichan
John MacKay, P. Eng., North Cowichan
Baljeet Mann, MoE
Helen Reid, Cowichan Tribes
Rodger Hunter, Cowichan Watershed Board
Joanne Bath, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

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

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

The following correction was noted to the last sentence of Discussion Item D-2: "**A \$16,321,000 grant application has been submitted by *Duncan/North Cowichan Joint Utilities Board* to pipe effluent out to a Satellite Channel outfall.**"

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the November 22, 2012 Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan Steering Committee meeting be adopted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
OUT OF MINUTES**

BA1

Mr. Dennison advised that the bylaw to establish the Central Sector LWMP function received three readings at the CVRD Board and will now go to the Province and City of Duncan and North Cowichan Councils for approval, before adoption.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter to Cowichan Tribes from the Steering Committee Chair regarding the proposed Satellite Channel Outfall was received.

The Chair advised that the Tribes have not responded to this letter.

Helen Reid, Cowichan Tribes representative, advised that it is her understanding that the Tribes are in favour of this initiative, but she will look into it and report back.

REPORTS

R1

Draft terms of reference for a JUB governance study were provided for discussion.

It was moved and seconded that the Duncan/North Cowichan Joint Utilities Board be requested to include funding of \$20,000 in the JUB budget to undertake the 2013 Governance Study, based on the following Terms of Reference:

- 1. Identify suitable potential governance models for the JUB to include wholly owned corporation, commission and any others that may be pertinent for the conditions of the JUB.**
- 2. Provide a report comparing and contrasting the advantages and disadvantages of each governance model.**
- 3. Participate in a discussion session with the stakeholders to consider the various options.**

MOTION CARRIED

R2

John MacKay provided a report on Joint Utility Board capacity. A study is now required to reassess the lagoon capacity.

Discussion took place regarding the need for additional capacity units in Cowichan Bay due to failing septic systems and the 69 units already committed to developers for new subdivisions.

The Ministry of Environment voiced concern that the Committee is jumping ahead with an amendment before initial steps are put in place. The Ministry has yet to receive a response to their letter requesting an update on the plan.

Mr. Dennison replied that response to the Ministry's letter is pending a decision on issues to be addressed in the amendment. Also there are financial considerations, waiting to see if grant money comes through.

It was moved and seconded that the Duncan/North Cowichan Joint Utilities Board (JUB) be requested to undertake a capacity review of the JUB to determine if additional capacity can be provided to the users of the treatment system without undertaking improvements.

MOTION CARRIED

Sharon Jackson asked that the consultant for this work report to all stakeholders.

R3

Discussed under R2.

R4

The Committee considered a recommendation for revised terms of reference for the plan amendment.

Discussion took place regarding keeping the Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan focused on sewage. CVRD are suggesting a basin based liquid waste management plan be established separately. Mr. Jones will bring this initiative forward to other CAOs in the near future.

The Ministry of Environment commented that the Liquid Waste Management Plan is a versatile tool and a backbone for future amendments. If a Non-point Source Pollution Plan is also established and signed off by the Minister, it could also provide a backbone for future initiatives. The Ministry has been promoting addressing non-point pollution in the plan amendment for some time.

It was moved and seconded that the following issues be addressed in an amendment process for the Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan:

- 1. The establishment of a new ocean outfall to replace the existing JUB discharge to the Cowichan River within 10 years in keeping with the 2011 lease agreement signed between the Cowichan Tribes, City of Duncan and the Municipality of North Cowichan.**
- 2. Consider the long term replacement of the existing JUB treatment works.**
- 3. Review and update other initiatives in the current plan document.**

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____