

Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday, April 18, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resources Operations Office, 2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC

PRESENT:

Chair Marlene Caskey, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Grant Bracher, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Heather Dunn, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Tracy Fleming, Cowichan Tribes
Ann Kjerulf, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Lori Iannidinardo, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Cowichan Bay Director

OTHER:

Laura Gale, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A1 It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M1 It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting of January 17, 2013, be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Ann Kjerulf advised the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has claimed Pier 67 did not submit the right forms for the construction of the wall. The CVRD indicated that a Development Permit is also required.

With respect to Western Forest Products log storage, Heather Dunn provided a timeline of the WFP Tenure Lease history and previous requests from CEEMC.

It was moved and seconded that correspondence be sent to the Ministry of Environment requesting a decision regarding renewal of Western Forest Products' lease for log storage; and that the Minister provide direction regarding the issue of log storage tenure renewal in relation to log grounding.

MOTION CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

NEW BUSINESS

NB1 – WFP DREDGING

Tracy Fleming distributed a signed Dredging Agreement between Western Forest Products and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. CEEMC did not receive a copy of the dredging proposal and Marlene Caskey will contact WFP requesting that CEEMC is provided with a copy of all future dredging proposals.

The Committee agreed by consensus to meet with WFP and Cowichan Tribes in early June; Tracy Fleming and Ann Kjerulf will coordinate the arrangements.

NB2 – WATER TESTING

Lori Iannidinardo advised for information that the Ministry of Environment is conducting water testing in Cowichan Bay and the tests near Hecate Park indicate extremely high Fecal Coliform levels.

NB3 – BIRD MAN

Lori Iannidinardo provided information that a man in a bird costume with a motor on his back has been flying above the Estuary scaring the birds.

**NB4 – BIRD NESTING
BOXES**

Tracy Fleming advised for information that a suggestion has been received by a concerned person that bird nesting boxes should be put back in the Estuary area.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 6, 2013, at 10:00 am at the Cowichan Tribes Council Chamber

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Chairperson

Recording Secretary