

Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Cowichan Bay Estuary Nature Centre, Hecate Park, Cowichan Bay, BC

PRESENT

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

OTHER

Laura Robertson, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Recording Secretary
Emily Doyle-Yamaguchi, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Brian Dennison, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Connie Miller-Retzer, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations
Janice Anderson, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations
Rodger Hunter, Cowichan Watershed Board

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting of April 27, 2015, adoption be tabled until next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

C1

Peter Fitzpatrick forwarded the Stantec Consulting Report regarding the revised site plan at 1789 Cowichan Bay Road. The correspondence has been received and filed for information purposes.

C2

Email from Ron Diederichs regarding draft letter for Public Input Opportunities Document to the CEEMC was referred until next meeting.

REPORTS

R1

Emily Doyle-Yamaguchi gave a PowerPoint Executive Summary presentation from Marine Discharge Outfall Environment Impact Study. The study developing a proposed amendment for the Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan (CSLWMP) that may involve moving the existing treated sewage effluent outfall from the Cowichan River to a new marine environment location. Partners involved are Cowichan Tribes, CVRD, City of Duncan and Municipality of North Cowichan. Ms. Doyle-Yamaguchi explained that standards for protecting wildlife need to meet and exceed under all conditions.

Q & A

What consideration is there to address cumulative effects to the marine environment?

Observation from the Chair is that estuary plans provide for a review process and zoning changes.

What impact would the construction process have and is there more information regarding construction?

The next step regarding the relocation project is to publish the Environmental Impact Study, and Community Consultation Report, update CSLWMP document refer to CEEMC, continue discussions with First Nations, obtain CVRD Board

approval, submit amended CSLWMP to MoE, conduct field studies (Stage 2 EIS). More information can be found at cvrd.bc.ca/lwmp or by contacting CSLWMP@cvrd.bc.ca.

R2

Ann Kjerulf regarding CVRD Area D Zoning Bylaw No. 3773 for a potential motion from the committee to forward to Minister of Environment for approval.

www.cvrld.bc.ca/areadzoning

As a result from this committee previously reviewing the Bylaw, it was amended to reduce parcel coverage and front setbacks.

It was first and seconded that the CEEMC supports CVRD Area D Zoning Bylaw 3773 and is in favour of the Chair working with the CVRD Senior Planner to provide a decision note to the Minister of Environment for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

R3

Kyle Young, Planning and Sustainability, Municipality of North Cowichan North Cowichan Marine Zoning Bylaw. Tabled until next meeting.

R5

Chair brought forward Terms of Reference (ToR) for Western Forest Products (WFP) intertidal benthic invertebrate study. See attached handout.

Connie Miller-Retzer assembled the ToR and WFP is eager to complete the work and forward the results through the CEEMC to Ministry of Environment to pursue a longer tenure term.

Committee to review Terms of Reference and forward comments by the end of Friday July 3, to the Chair.

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 3:08 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary