

Cowichan Watershed Board Meeting

DRAFT Minutes



January 5, 2012

Location: CVRD Boardroom ,
2nd Floor, 175 Ingram Street,
Duncan, BC

Participants: Cowichan Watershed Board

Guests: Arvid Charlie and Bruce Fraser (Special Advisors), Cheri Ayers (Cowichan Tribes), Kate Miller (CVRD), Clay Reitsma (District of North Cowichan), Tom Rutherford (DFO), Craig Wightman (Living Rivers/BC Conservation Foundation)

Regrets: Mayor Ross Forrest

Meeting Chair: Mayor Rob Hutchins

1. Welcome; Introductions, Invocation; Opening Remarks	Co-chair Mayor Rob Hutchins noted that 2011 had been a year of many changes. He noted that some of the changes associated the November elections also resulted in changes in the composition of the Watershed Board. Co-chair Hutchins welcomed new Board members Chief Harvey Alphonse of Cowichan Tribes (also the new Board Co-chair) and new members Mayor Jon Lefebure and Electoral Area Director Ian Morrision. Co-chair also welcomed special advisors Arvid Charlie of Cowichan Tribes and Dr. Bruce Fraser. This was followed by round-the-table introductions by all of those attending the meeting.
2. Approval of Agenda	The agenda was approved as presented.
3. Approval of Minutes of November 3, 2011 meeting and update on Business Arising from Minutes:	The minutes were approved as presented. It was noted that links to materials would be included in the edition that is posted on the Watershed Board's website. It is anticipated that the Circle Route Tourism report that was summarized at the November meeting will be completed and posted in January. LINK
4. Cowichan Watershed Board Update	Rodger Hunter provided and overview of the Watershed Board and summary of Board related accomplishments since its inception almost two years ago. LINK . A link to Allan Chapman's presentation on hydrology and climate change will be forwarded to Board members. LINK
5. Cowichan/Koksilah Flood Management Plan Status, Funding and Issues	Clay Reitsma, Kate Miller and Cheri Ayers provided the Board with an update on the Flood Management Plan. An MOU between the CVRD, the City of Duncan, North Cowichan and Cowichan is in place. A number of Tier 1 projects (north of the river) have been completed or are underway and funding for gravel removal related to flood prevention has been

	<p>approved. Issues requiring further work include governance, accessing adequate funding, funding of on reserve projects and issues around gravel removal. LINK TO VIDEO</p>
<p>6. Watershed Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Discussion • Clean Water/Shellfish • Stainable Steelhead • Riparian 	<p>Rodger Hunter provided an overview of the seven targets that the Board approved in principle at its July 2011. LINK</p> <p>Tom Rutherford updated the Board on progress related to the Clean Water and Shellfish (Estuarine Health) targets noting the direct relationships between this target and updating and expansion of the Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan. LINK Tom presented the sub-committees action plan for the targets and emphasized the importance of acquiring foundational funding to complete basic water quality monitoring so that sources of pollution/contamination can be pin-pointed. The Board has sought such funding through a CVRD Gas Tax funding request.</p> <p>Craig Wightman updated the Board on the juvenile steelhead target. He summarized the survey methodology and noted that the sustainability target for steelhead is currently being achieved. LINK</p> <p>The presentation on the riparian habitat targets was deferred until the February Board meeting. LINK</p>
<p>7. General Information -Upcoming Meetings, events, time and date of next meeting etc.</p>	<p>The next Cowichan Watershed Board meeting will be held on February 2, 2012. The Co-chairs will meet to determine the agenda and location. Board members and Special Advisors are invited to forward any suggestions regarding agenda items to the Coordinator.</p>