

Cowichan Watershed Board Meeting

Minutes

Mon. Dec 5 2016 / 9:15-11:30 am
 Location: CVRD Boardroom,
 2nd Floor, 175 Ingram, Duncan, BC



Directors Attending: Chief Seymour, Jon Lefebure, Ian Morrison, Laura Brown, David Anderson, David Slade, Klaus Kuhn, David Froese. **Regrets –** Tim Kulchyski, Ross Forrest, Lori Iannidinaro, Debra Toporowski
Co-Chair: Chief Seymour

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| 1) Welcome; Introductions, opening remarks. | | |
| 2) Approval of Agenda | | Approved |
| 3) Approval of Minutes of Oct 31 2016 Business arising from Minutes. | | Approved |
| 4) Correspondence and announcements* | Letter from Craig and Alison Merideth RE parrotfeather | Laura to provide DFO contact for Jon |
| 5) Presentation: Indigenous Water Stewardship Project. Val Napoleon and Deborah Curran, UVic Indigenous Law Unit | <p>3 year water law project starting in May. Read more here</p> <p>Val will work with Cowichan Tribes to draw from indigenous legal precedent about allocation, mgmt., sharing, and understanding the resource.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoring our lawfulness according to our legal traditions – are things right according to our legal order and how do we know that? - All societies develop complex legal systems to support them. - Indigenous people have had ways of recording legal order – we are adding one more way. - Problems are universal human problems. (e.g. violence) <p>Law is about managing disagreement within a society. There are common aspirations – things we try to aspire to through law. No society ever completely lives up to their legal aspirations... human dignity, safety, fairness, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Law tries to deal with problems through principled decision making so that decision will be upheld and respected. <p>Deb will research purveyors and agricultural water license holders about actual water use. Premise is that license holders steward water differently than what it says on their piece of paper. What does this difference mean for Sustainable Water Act?</p> | |

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| <p>6) Presentation: 3-D Shoreline mapping of Cowichan Lake shoreline at low elevation</p> <p>Nathan Vadeboncoeur, President & CEO at Community Risk Network</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nathan is on contract with CVRD to build an interactive, photorealistic 3D model of Cowichan Lake. - Model is built on a user-friendly video game platform enabling viewers to visualize different water heights. - Drones were used to fly low and slow around shoreline at low water levels. Very accurate readings. GPS readings combined with stereoscopic image overlay to get 3D object. - Anyone will be able to do the data collection to add to it – Nathan happy to talk to groups about that. - Discussion RE applicability and variations for local projects/needs. -More on Nathan’s work: Canada’s Marine Coasts in a Changing Climate, NRCAn. Chapter 6: PERSPECTIVES ON CANADA’S WEST COAST REGION, Lead Author: Nathan Vadeboncoeur (UBC) | | |
| <p>7) Updates</p> | | | |
| <p>a) Working groups</p> | <p>Water Quality Working Group update by Tom Rutherford Flows Working Group update by Cheri Ayers</p> | | |
| <p>b) Water storage</p> | <p>Graham Kissack</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pumps – deployed in Sept – tested 20 low head high flow pumps. Ran 12-13 to generate 4.5 cms for 24 hrs. Seems to work in short term. Infrastructure was tapped into hydro – quiet other than water flow – no emissions or other issues. Moving forwards – approvals in place for 2016-2017 - Weir – consulting engineer found weir is incapable of holding 12” extra water with flashboard with 1000 year seismic event. \$3-4 million to sink additional structures upstream. 60 yr old infrastructure. Looking at other options – e.g. 6” flashboards; additional pump out approval beyond 2017 - Good meeting with BC and Feds on Nov 23. Reviewing what the coalition is planning to do. Interest and support from FLNRO, MoE Climate Action Secretariat, DFO, INAC, Western Econ. Diversification, National Resources Canada - CVRD has submitted application for \$200,000 for structured decision making process for desired water flows at any given time leading to ultimate engineering design and support for application for long term solution -Brian Carruthers – CVRD service establishment bylaw. Moving forward with public consultation. - working with Cowichan Tribes and Catalyst to establish a legal coalition to consider holding license for additional storage - if the work is on pace – will come together at same time – late spring. -Graham – challenge – new Fed govt is making money | | |

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| | <p>available but it's for shovel ready project – don't have that yet. Need \$\$ for planning to get to that point.</p> <p>Chief –This was 2nd meeting. 1st meeting was in Vancouver. INAC wasn't at 2nd meeting but Chief followed up – INAC rep is looking at ways they can be a funding partner.</p> | | |
| c) Governance pilot | <p>Tom Rutherford - briefing on the presentation of the pilot proposal to MoE and FLNRO. Important that it is without prejudice to rights and title.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 key elements for us <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development of WSP - increased advisory role - Province looking to improve water management through partnerships; Range of challenges exist currently. Looking for partnerships to address challenges. - CWB proposal well received but non-committal. They committed to get back to us by end of Dec. Will only be 1 pilot chosen so chances reduced. - groundwater licensing roll out is taking a lot of time at MoE – perhaps distracting from WSP partnerships | | |
| 8) Sustainable Funding pilot | <p>Tom - A group of funders approached us to see if we wanted to partner in an initiative to find sustainable resources for watershed governance. Core CWB work as done over past 5-6 yrs is considered governance.</p> <p>Wanted a project team – Brian Carruthers, Larry George, David Slade, Tom Rutherford (Jill Thompson)</p> <p>David Slade – idea is to look outside the box for new sources of funding to continue our work. e.g. plan to pitch that portion of new water license fees would come back for local governance use.</p> | <p>Motion to approve Letter of Agreement – Ian Morrison 2nd – Jon Lefebure. Carried.</p> | |
| Other | | | |
| Next meeting – Mon. Jan 30 2017 9:15-11:30am | Co-chair | | |
| Adjourn | Co-chair | | |