


<p align="center">Cowichan Watershed Board and Technical Advisory Board Meeting</p>	<p align="center">DRAFT Minutes August 31, 2015 9:15 am- 12:00 pm</p> <p align="center">Location: CVRD Boardroom, 2nd Floor, 175 Ingram, Duncan, BC</p>	
<p>Participants: Cowichan Watershed Board and Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>Co-chair: Jon Lefebure</p> <p>Guests: Graham Kissack, Sustainability Specialist, and Harold Norland, General Manager, Catalyst Paper Corporation.</p>		
<p>1. Welcome; Introductions, Invocation; Opening Remarks</p>	<p>Co-Chair Jon Lefebure called the meeting to order and explained that Executive Director Rodger Hunter has suffered a stroke and is in hospital. A card was circulated to extend best wishes to Rodger and family.</p>	
<p>2. Approval of Agenda August 31, 2015</p>	<p>The agenda was approved. Lori Iannidinaro requested discussion as noted below in New Business.</p>	
<p>3. Approval of Minutes of July 27, 2015 meeting and Business Arising from Minutes</p>	<p>The minutes were approved as presented.</p>	
<p>4. Governance Survey Update</p>	<p>Deferred due to Rodger's absence.</p>	
<p>5. Target Updates and Related Discussion</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flows Update -General 	<p>Presentation by Graham Kissack, Sustainability Specialist, and Harold Norland, General Manager of Catalyst Paper Corporation. [LINK]. Water level in the lake has risen 11-12 cm due to recent rains which is estimated to provide 2 additional weeks of water at 4.5 cms, extending the anticipated off-control date to Sept 20-27th. Weather forecast drying out again after Wed. Application has been filed with FLNRO to pump water from lake – 70% for conservation/30% for mill. Earliest possible approval would be Sept. 28th. Public input process will begin after more research has been completed about potential impacts/ concerns. There will be a 30 day notice period.</p> <p>Proposal put to group to consider giving Catalyst support to go below 4.5cms in .1 increments to try to hold back more water between now and Sept. 28 while upper river inflows are up. The focus would be on keeping the level above 2.83 cms required at Allenby bridge but dropping the upper river levels. Current average at Allenby is 3.35cms. Mill shutdown (1/2) scheduled for Oct. 3. Concerns expressed RE technical ability to estimate water levels well enough to get that right, and impact on juveniles and Chinook currently in river, including bird predation in low river water. Noted that</p>	

	7cms was normal and now 5cms is new normal – stressful for fish. Fisheries position is to retain 4.5 cms at weir but commits to caucus internally. 4.5 limit echoed by several other Board members. No consensus reached. Fisheries, Cowichan Tribes and Catalyst to meet to discuss further (Cowichan Tribes requested BCCF attend).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish and Drought Monitoring Update 	<p>Tim Kulchyski reported that a team experimented with the Didson counter on the 25th just below Skutz Falls to evaluate the capacity to look into deep pools and found the equipment has limitations – heavy, cumbersome, only able to cover 1 pool in long tiring day. Saw Chinook on way in that was never captured on video. Didson at Parker Jefferson’s as of Thursday – 398 up, 178 down, 219 – moving through system – good. River walk crews are also checking the lower system 3x/week. Data loggers being interpreted weekly with updates sent to river flows update list – ask Tim if you want to be added.</p> <p>Tom Rutherford reported that a team did an emerge project to remove wood debris plugging Skutz fish ladder.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursuit of Short and Long Term Solutions to Chronic Low Flow Issues 	See Flows Update.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation/Communications 	Deferred.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riparian Working Group 	<p>No formal update (Dave Lindsay).</p> <p>Jean Atkinson reported that CRLSS projects are ongoing and successful but unlikely to meet 4000m3 target due to smaller properties. Issues with assured Fed. funding not arriving on time.</p>
6. Governance Pilot Project	Deferred.
7. Other Issues –Next meetings –dates, times etc.	<p>Estuary/Manure Spreading Concern (Lori Iannidinardo). Dairy farmers were observed spreading manure on the Friday before heavy rains after long drought – runs into river/estuary. Need ‘new normal’ for this too. Wayne Haddow has spoken with 6 farmers about wasting water on roadways. 1 has not complied and has been sent a letter from Min of Ag. Suggestion that we need a CWB rep on CVRD Ag. Committee. Miller reported that CVRD and MoA will have a series of workshops about manure storage in Jan/Feb.</p> <p>Vessel Operated Restricted Reg in Eelgrass Protection Zone and Safe Navigation Channel (Lori Iannidinardo). Who is new CVRD support person for this cttee now that Ann Kerjulf has left? Tom Rutherford suggested DFO community advisor could join that committee but currently vacant position. Lori to speak to Brian Curruthers. DFO/Cowichan Tribes to be invited to participate.</p> <p>Cowichan Estuary Mgmt Cttee (Paul Rickard). Can we get an update on CWB role in this from Rodger? Add to next meeting agenda. FLNRO not likely to suggest any changes.</p>

Lower River Cleanup (Jon Lefebure). Excellent fun event with about 40 participants and 3 pick-ups sent to dump. Less garbage is good news. Charismatic Mega Garbage award for stuffed monkey love seat; largest haul – ride-on lawn mower; smelliest – bag of offal found by Jon then endured by swimmer Tim; youngest participant – Nola; kudos to visiting Japanese student who helped on her one week here. Food by Safe Youth Cowichan, Just Jakes and Tim Hortons and trucking support by Slade family/Drillwell. Photos at www.facebook.com/CowichanWatershedBoard.

Dyking (Kate Miller). Contract has been awarded and dyking work will be visible starting this week. Hwy to Allenby bridge. No work 'in' river system except they have asked for a quote on removing gravel from CR1 site while equipment is down there.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.