

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
WATER SUPPLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

April 12, 2021

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WATER SUPPLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:	Chair Vice-Chair	S. Thurber D. McCreath D. Marteinson A. Skelley (part) M. Hennessy (part) T. Beck B. Fielding (part) T. Silvey T. Adams (part)
ALSO PRESENT:	Director, Area F Director Area D Director Area A District of Sechelt Town of Gibsons	M. Hiltz A. Tize L. Lee T. Lamb B. Beamish
(Non-voting)	GM, Infrastructure Services Manager, Strategic Initiatives Water Sustainability Coordinator Administrative Assistant/Recorder	R. Rosenboom M. Edbrooke J. Callaghan T. Ohlson
	Public	2
REGRETS:		J. Bowen

Directors, staff, and other attendees present for the meeting participated by means of electronic or other communication facilities in accordance with Sunshine Coast Regional District Board Procedures Bylaw 717.

CALL TO ORDER 3:35 p.m.

AGENDA The agenda was adopted as amended to include the following items of New Business:

- Letters from Geoff Bedford
- Questions that remain outstanding

MINUTES**Recommendation No. 1** *Water Supply Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2021*

The Water Supply Advisory Committee recommended that the Water Supply Advisory Committee meeting minutes of March 1, 2021 be received for information.

REPORTS**Recommendation No. 2** *WASAC's Water Supply Planning Questions*

The Water Supply Advisory Committee recommended that the report titled WASAC's Water Supply Planning Questions be received for information.

Discussion included the following:

- Annual capital and operating costs of metering program
- Phased approach to meter installations and cost implications
- Cost comparison of meter installation vs additional sources
- Primary concern amongst the public is cost
- Additional ads in local newspaper on this topic
- Regional growth rates

The General Manager, Infrastructure Services provided the Committee with an update on Water Supply projects which included Langdale well, Mary Anne Park West and the results of recent snow surveys.

Discussion included the following:

- Monitoring program for Langdale well
- Treatment for iron and manganese

Recommendation No. 3 *March and April Water Related Staff Reports to WASAC*

The Water Supply Advisory Committee recommended that the report titled March and April Water Related Staff Reports to WASAC be received for information.

The Manager, Strategic Initiatives discussed recording of WASAC meetings for members with the Committee.

Discussion included the following:

- Recordings will be public record and posted online
- WASAC to discuss and make a decision as a Committee

NEW BUSINESS**Letters from Geoff Bedford**

Discussion included the following:

- Aquifers are a different form of secure water storage with no evaporation

- Access to grants for local residents through an equity lens
 - Concerns about taxes and increases
 - Parcel taxes cannot be waived
- Various SCRD water conservation campaigns
 - Pledge to reduce water use
 - Rainwater harvest rebate
 - Clothes washer rebate – partner with BC Hydro
 - Mini campaign for pressure washing
 - Golden lawn
- Provincial and federal grants for metering and SCRD's ability to access
- Rate structure for water billing
- Long-term water supply planning
- Bylaw 422 – water conservation regulations
- Costs of groundwater investigation with no guarantee of finding sustainable sources

Questions that remain outstanding

- How could meters be used?
 - Gain a better understanding of water use
 - Leak detection and resolution
 - Billing, subject to Board direction and public input
 - Conservation
- What is the benefit of water meters?
- What is the cost per cubic meter of water for meters relative to other options? (see staff report and presentation)
- Consider avoided costs, such as \$10 million for Chapman Water Treatment Plant expansion not being required.

Future Meeting Topics

- Bang the Table
- Water metering

NEXT MEETING May 3, 2021 @ 3:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT 4:57 p.m.