



SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT



**SPECIAL EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING
TO BE HELD ELECTRONICALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH
MINISTERIAL ORDER M192 AND TRANSMITTED VIA
THE BOARDROOM OF THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
OFFICES AT 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHULT, B.C.**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of agenda

MINUTES

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

REPORTS

2. Water Supply Update – GM, Infrastructure Services / Deputy Director EOC-2021 Drought Response Verbal
3. Financial Implications EOC-2021 Drought Response – GM, Infrastructure Services / Deputy Director EOC-2021 Drought Response Annex A
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COMMUNICATIONS

MOTIONS

BYLAWS

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

NEW BUSINESS

IN CAMERA

ADJOURNMENT

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

TO: Board Meeting – August 27, 2021

AUTHOR: Remko Rosenboom, General Manager Infrastructure Services / Deputy Director
Emergency Operation Center – 2021 Drought Response

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS EOC-2021 DROUGHT RESPONSE

RECOMMENDATION(S)

THAT the report titled “Financial Implications EOC-2021 Drought Response” be received;

AND THAT the Budget for the 2021 EOC-Drought Response 2021 be approved for up to \$417,500, whereas \$217,500 are for operational items funded from the existing 2021 [370] Regional Water Service [370] Budget and \$200,000 for capital items funded from Regional Water Service [370] Capital Reserves;

AND THAT staff work with Emergency Management BC on the potential reimbursement of some of the expenditures associated with the 2021 EOC-Drought response activation thru the BC Disaster Financial Assistance program;

AND THAT the SCRD Board and delegated authorities be authorized to enter into an agreement on the 2021 Emergency Water Supply with the Town of Gibsons;

AND FURTHER THAT the 2021-2025 Financial Plan be amended accordingly.

BACKGROUND

On August 23, 2021 the SCRD activated an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to coordinate and elevate its efforts to address the impacts of the ongoing drought on the community water supply. The primary focus of the EOC is guaranteeing adequate water supply to the users on the Chapman Water system.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with an overview of the financial implications of this EOC activation, including spending authority and some of the emergency measures being considered.

DISCUSSION

The EOC is undertaking a wide variety of activities of which several are focused on reducing the community demand for water, others are aimed at on the development of emergency water supply sources. Some of these initiatives have financial implications, such as:

1. *Development of Emergency siphon system at Edwards Lake*

Such siphon system would perform a similar function as the one currently functioning at Chapman Lake; the siphoning of water from the lake over the existing dam into Chapman Creek. While the design work of such system is still ongoing, such system will

guarantee several weeks of water supply to the community. Staff have initiated the engineering design and required assessments for this system and have had an initial engagement with the shíshálh Nation, BC Parks and the Ministry of Forest Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development on the terms and conditions for their approval of this projects. To date no showstoppers have been identified for their support for of this project. A significant amount of assessments is required in support of the regulatory approvals. For a timely construction and commissioning of the syphon system it's therefore proposed to start the purchasing of the required materials parallel to the completion of the regulatory process. If this option were to be fully implemented the total capital cost is estimated at up to \$200,000.

If the current drought conditions were to end prior to the start of the construction of the project, or the required authorizations would not be received, the project would not be constructed and the purchased materials at a value of up to \$75,000 would kept in storage for future use.

2. *Emergency water supply from the Town of Gibsons*

Over the last several years the Town of Gibsons has made upgrades to their water system allowing them to no longer relying on SCRD water for their community water supply since August 2020.

SCRD and TOG have been discussing the possibility of the Town providing any excess water supply to the SCRD. Staff from both organizations are now working on a draft agreement. One of the terms of this agreement is that the SCRD will provide a similar amount of water to the Town later in 2021 as it would receive from the Town in the upcoming weeks. The only financial implication for the SCRD would be that it would fund any incremental operational expenditures by the Town associated with this emergency water supply, this is estimated to be up to \$35,000. This emergency water supply would provide about a similar amount of water as being diverted from the Chaster well, about 1000 m3 per day which would result in approximately 3 days of extra guaranteed community water supply for each month it will be in use.

3. *Trout Lake water supply intake*

Our Water Licence for trout lake limits our maximum daily diversion from this lake to 227 m3 per day. Operating this water supply for a month would provide for an extra 15 hours of water supply for the community. It would also require significant operational efforts to commission and decommission this intake.

Trucking of water from other water systems into the Chapman Water System is currently not considered to be a logistically or financially feasible option to be implemented at a scale that it could address the water demand for the Chapman system.

Besides the above listed potential expenditures associated with the EOC effort to increase the water supply to the Chapman Water System, the staffing of the EOC itself and its administrative and technical support staff is also to be funded.

Organizational implications

The activation of the EOC is diverting staff resources from other planned work. The total implications on the progress on other priorities will depend on the duration of this EOC activation. Staff will provide insight in these implications once the EOC has been deactivated.

Some staff involved in the EOC were already working on the implementation of the regular Drought Response Plan and the EOC activation has further increased their involvement in this year's drought response.

Timeline for Next steps

Staff will provide a verbal Water Supply Update at the September 2, 2021 Planning and Community development Committee meeting.

Financial Implications

The table below present a financial overview of the current estimated costs associated with the activation of the EOC and the emergency measures it's considering for implementation.

Expenditure type	Operational Expenditures	Capital expenditures	Total
EOC-administration	\$125,000		\$125,000
TOG emergency Water Supply	\$35,000		\$35,000
Edwards siphon system		\$200,000	\$200,000
Activation Trout lake intake	\$7,500		\$7,500
Contingency allowance	\$50,000		\$50,000
Total	\$217,500	\$200,000	\$417,500

The operational expenditures can be absorbed by the regular 2021 operational budget of the [370] Regional Water Service. It's proposed to fund the capital expenditures from [370] Regional Water Service Capital Reserves.

Given the current uncertainties associated the duration of the EOC activation and which measure are actually being implemented the listed amounts are "up to" amounts based on an EOC activation until October 15, 2021. Any project surplus budget at year-end will be transferred to the operational or capital reserves for [370] Regional Water System.

Staff are discussing with Emergency Management BC the potential reimbursement of some of these expenditures thru the BC Disaster Financial Assistance program.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES

N/A

CONCLUSION

The financial implications associated with the activation of the 2021 EOC-Drought Response are current estimated at \$417,500 are proposed to be funded from the existing operating budget and Capital Reserves for [370] Regional Water Service.

Staff are actively working with Emergency Management BC on the potential reimbursement of some of these expenditures thru the BC Disaster Financial Assistance program.

Reviewed by:			
Manager		CFO/Finance	X – T.Perreault
GM		Legislative	
CAO	X – D. McKinley	Other	