

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

January 9, 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WATER SUPPLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN PERSON IN THE CEDAR ROOM OF THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT AT 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, BC

PRESENT:	Chair	V. Macfarlane
	Vice-Chair	J. Bell
	Members	B. Fielding S. Fitchell K. Freemantle M. Hennessy S. Leech G. Moore B. Thicke

ALSO PRESENT:

(Non-voting)	Manager, Strategic Initiatives	M. Edbrooke
	Strategic Planning Technician/Recorder	S. Rempel
	Director, Area A	L. Lee
	Director, Area B	J. Gabias
	Director, Area D	K. Backs
	Director, Area E	D. McMahon
	Public	1
REGRETS:	Members	L. Chivers

CALL TO ORDER 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES

Recommendation No. 1 *Water Supply Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2022*

The Water Supply Advisory Committee recommended that the Water Supply Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 7, 2022 be received.

PRESENTATIONS

Manager, Strategic Initiatives, presented the Terms of Reference and opened discussion regarding the scope of the Water Supply Advisory Committee (WASAC).

Discussion included the following:

- WASAC is different than other Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) committees as they can provide recommendations to the Board and work on projects that have not yet been presented to the Board.
- It was discussed how to bring items to the agenda. Staff prepare agendas with input from the Chair and Vice Chair. Items should be in the scope the Terms of Reference. Once presented within the meeting, reports are open for discussion.
- Question was asked regarding the difference between WASAC Terms of Reference Section 2.1 and 2.2. Section 2.1 identifies what topics WASAC may provide recommendations on, and Section 2.2 further defines the mechanisms.
- Question regarding “Development and implementation of the Water Strategy.” Implementation is meant to describe the related Water Strategy Action Plans which further describe the strategy actions, not day to day operations.

REPORTS

Manager, Strategic Initiatives, presented the report titled “WASAC Water Supply Questions” for discussion.

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- Reviewed and discussed the ongoing Emergency Operations Centre, who is involved and the opportunities it affords the SCRd, such as specific use of funding, recovery, and coordination with outside jurisdictions and consultants.

Manager, Strategic Initiatives, presented the report and presentation titled “Water Strategy Engagement” for information and discussion.

- Overview of the Water Strategy 2022 engagement period, participation methods and general feedback received. Clarification that feedback received was not randomized but rather a chance for all members of the community to provide feedback. Feedback was summarized by staff.
- Question if there was much feedback on farms. Very little was heard regarding commercial farms and water use.
- Discussion regarding Water Rate Structure Review and possibilities of volumetric billing once all service areas have water meters. The recommendations of the Water Rate Structure Review will be brought to the Board and WASAC in late spring.
- Question regarding the timelines for the next engagement, what other input needs to be integrated into the draft Strategy and the cost of implementing it. The next engagement will be more focused than the spring engagement and the cost of implementing the entire Water Strategy will depend on Capital Plans, including long-term water supply source options.
- Staff noted that the Draft Strategy will be brought to the local elected officials, then to WASAC. Exact timing to be confirmed.
- Overall, WASAC found the engagement received positive feedback and thought there was a great amount of interest and feedback from interested members of the community.
- Commitment statement, Guiding Principles and Focus Areas were discussed.

- Other projects and studies that SCRD staff are currently working on were briefly discussed, such as water modelling, capital planning, the Water Demand Analysis, water meter installations, rate structure review, and review of Bylaws 422 and 320.
- Question regarding the SCRD’s work on the Watershed Business Case. Staff to send out the past report regarding this scoping exercise.
- WASAC discussed bringing a recommendation to the Board to implement volumetric billing first on North Pender Harbour and South Pender Harbour Water Service Areas. It was concluded to be discussed again once the Rate Structure Review is completed (est. May 2023).

NEW BUSINESS

The Chair opened the floor to other questions the Committee may have:

Discussion included the following:

- Requested an update be sent regarding the Church Road Well Field progress
- Langdale Well drilling update

NEXT MEETING March 6, 2023, 3:30 p.m. via Zoom

ADJOURNMENT 5:09 p.m.