

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DRINKING WATER AND WATERSHED PROTECTION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015 AT 12:30 PM

## Present:

## **Regrets:**

Aleksandra Brzozowski	Islands Trust
Chris Cole	Forest Industry Representative
Oliver Brandes	Academic Community Representative
Deb Epps	Registered Professional Biologist Representative
Mike Squire	City of Parksville, Arrowsmith Water Service

## Also In attendance:

Julie Pisani	Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Coordinator, RDN
Lauren Fegan	Special Projects Assistant, RDN
Deanna McGillivray	Special Projects Assistant, RDN
Randy Alexander	General Manager, Regional & Community Utilities, RDN
Rebecca Graves	Recording Secretary, RDN

#### CALL TO ORDER

M. Donnelly introduced TAC's new member Dr. Pam Shaw, from Vancouver Island University's Mt. Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute.

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 pm.

#### MINUTES

MOVED F. Spears, SECONDED G. Wendling, that the minutes from the regular meeting of the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Advisory Committee held July 23, 2015 be adopted.

#### **MUNICIPAL UPDATES**

CARRIED

Updates were given from City of Parksville, District of Lantzville, City of Nanaimo and Regional District of Nanaimo on summer watering restrictions and drought conditions.

P. Law complimented the RDN on the recent communication publications (i.e. State of the Streams & Every Drop Counts) that were delivered to home owners and commented that the information in the publications was very useful.

#### REPORTS

# Challenges and Opportunities for Water Resource Management Board Report. (M. Donnelly-verbal)

M. Donnelly introduced the Board report to the Committee. The report provides background information on current and long term climate trends for our region as it relates to water resource management. The report outlines processes and actions that are currently underway to address water protection challenges, and a number of recommendations that will strengthen the region's ability to adapt to changing precipitation patterns, temperatures and increased hot weather periods.

#### Stream Assessments for Grandon Creek and French Creek. (J. Pisani-Report)

J. Pisani presented the Stream Assessment Reports that have been completed for Grandon Creek and French Creek, using the Urban Salmon Habitat Program methodology. Two reports have been published on Grandon and French Creek with recommended remedial action, and these were presented to the committee for information.

#### NRCAN/GSC Nanaimo Lowlands Aquifer Characterization Atlas . (J. Pisani-Verbal)

J. Pisani spoke on the Nanaimo Lowlands Aquifer Characterization Atlas which included background information on the partnership between Geological Survey of Natural Resources Canada, the Province and the RDN. Nanaimo Lowlands was selected by NRCAN for further study on aquifer characterization by expanded groundwater data collection, which was used to create a groundwater model, the results of which are published in a Geological Survey of Canada report. This Atlas will be published early in

2016 as a visual resource compilation of this project. DWWP staff will distribute copies to libraries and post online once complete.

#### **UPDATE PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSION**

# 2015 Recap from DWWP Staff (D. McGillivray / L. Fegan / J. Pisani - Presentations)

Staff gave an update on the past year and recapped on various topics that included programs, publications, workshops and events that were achieved in the year. These topics included irrigation check-up program, graphical water billing reports, rainwater harvesting rebate, new DWWP website, rural water quality incentive program, Team Watersmart events and workshops, State of Our Streams mail-out and Mt. Arrowsmith Snow Pillow-Weather Station.

## 2016 Outlook for DWWP (J. Pisani -verbal)

J. Pisani reviewed the outlook for the upcoming year which will include projects such as a proposed VIU/ MABRRI Partnership for Wetland Mapping; Streamflow Monitoring Partnerships; Area H OCP Water Info Update; TWS Water Day Events; and Phase 2 Water Budget in the Nanoose area; which are still subject to Board approval.

## OTHER DWWP UPDATES

## ADDENDUM

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMUNICATIONS**

NEW BUSINESS

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Mike Donnelly, Chair