

CHERRY CREEK WATERWORKS DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

**held at the Cherry Creek Waterworks District Boardroom
Wednesday, September 13, 2023**

Present	Chair Dana Forrester, Vice Chair Jennifer Smith, Secretary Wendy Johnston, Trustee Robert Babych, Trustee Wayne Smith, Wes Kovacs, Lucas Banton, Susan Roth (Beaver Creek Regional Director), Mike Sparrow (Cherry Creek Regional Director)	
Regrets		
1	CALL TO ORDER: 9:16am	
2	LATE ITEMS	None
3	DELEGATE(S)	<p>Susan Roth, Beaver Creek Electoral Area Director: Question and answer period regarding the Beaver Creek Water Conversion to Regional Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan: Today I am speaking as a former Beaver Creek Water Board Trustee and water consumer; Much like Cherry Creek, we were under the same revisions to VIHA drinking water requirements, due to constant boil water advisories we were required to increase our level of treatment as well as introduce filtration. In the end the decision came down to either “Private or Public” management of the water system via Corix or ACRD. The ACRD said that with conversion we could see possible grant monies for infrastructure. This did not happen, instead they opted to continue the bulk water agreement with the city of Port Alberni, today the city says they are not happy with the current agreement and will be opening it up for discussion and revision. Originally Beaver Creek would have been happy to pay for treatment of Stamp River water. <i>As a Regional Director I will say that an Advisory committee was created to assist the ACRD with decisions regarding the water system, in the past 10 months we have only met twice.</i> Now speaking as a water consumer, I personally think we can join together and incorporate Beaver Creek and Cherry Creek to work together. • Wayne Smith: Who was to blame for increased levels of turbidity in the Stamp River? I seem to remember increased logging in the area that caused it? Also what was the specific incentive from the ACRD to convert to a regional service? • Susan: I believe there was excess logging in the area. The original incentive to convert was the access to grants as well as the ability to borrow money at a low interest rate through MFA (Municipal Finance Authority of BC) those options are not available to Improvement Districts. The Board voted in favour of conversion. After conversion the Advisory committee decided to continue with bulk water rather than treatment. • Mike Sparrow: A note on the bulk water agreement; the water supplier needs to approve new development in the area and connection to the system, which means they can hinder development. • Susan: Recent meetings have shown Beaver Creek would like to revisit Treatment options. • Jennifer Smith: was anything put in writing saying you would receive grant monies? • Susan: No, only documentation was through a news article. • Jennifer: When you switched to bulk water, did rates increase?

- **Susan:** I am not sure, but I believe they stayed relatively the same.
 - **Jennifer:** Does the city pay more for their water?
 - **Susan:** The rates are different; the city pays for their infrastructure as well. Either way residents still would like to go back to Beaver Creek water.
 - **Robert Babych:** Can you go back?
 - **Susan:** Yes, all the infrastructure at the pump station is still in place and maintained. Or we could look at different options.
 - **Lucas Banton:** I remember there were some legal issues with the pump station property, do you have information on that?
 - **Susan:** Yes, there were legal battles regarding the property. Currently we pay \$1 per year for the area and are required to maintain the road. The residents are not happy with the noise in the area. I really think we need to take Incorporation seriously; we would have our own access to grants and MFA and maintain control over the area.
 - **Mike:** If you convert to the ACRD you would also have an Advisory Committee, you will not maintain autonomy. Do you know how much the Cherry Creek water treatment will cost?
 - **Lucas:** Hopefully by the end of the year we will have costs, we are hoping for \$5-8 Million, it will include UV, Physical Filtration, and CL2 treatment. The professionals are beginning to put all the information together, Mike, you will be privy to that information once it becomes available. Cherry Creek also began to look into Bulk Water so we could provide two options to the public, it became very clear that our residents were not interested in that option.
 - **Susan:** Think about all the money we can save by working together if we incorporate, we wouldn't need 2 fire departments, we can provide back up water for each other, there are many cost saving options.
 - **Mike:** We would still need 2 fire departments.
 - **Susan:** I would just like you to know there are different options rather than conversion to ACRD.
 - **Mike:** Are there any area reports for Cherry Creek that we need to go over while I am here. I am not sure on the status of the conversion study yet.
 - **Lucas/Dana:** The conversion Study is still currently out for RFP.
 - **Susan:** Lucas, did you investigate incorporation?
 - **Lucas:** When I was the regional Director for Cherry Creek, I did speak to the province at UBCM, at that time they were not supportive of incorporation to a municipality. Cherry Creek wraps around the city this is not an ideal position for a separate municipality. We need to remember other costs of incorporation, we would require; a city hall, council, mayor, full staff, road maintenance costs, and above 5,000 people we would need to pay for RCMP. We would still require a regional director as well.
 - **Susan:** Lantzville is attached to Nanaimo, and they were able to incorporate?
 - **Lucas:** We cannot compare ourselves to Lantzville, they have a high industrial tax base to fund them, as well as very high property values.
 - **Susan:** I still believe incorporation is an option.
 - **Lucas:** My best suggestion if you are passionate about that option is to begin to schedule meetings with the province at UBCM.
- Discussion Period with Susan and Mike present ends-----
- After Discussion with Cherry Creek Waterboard-----
- **Lucas:** I think I was valuable to hear Beaver Creek's side of conversion. Is there anything the board feels we need to investigate or pursue?
 - **Dana:** I would like to reach out to the ACRD and investigate any misinformation during their conversion.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucas: I agree, if there was anything deceiving regarding grants or other promises, that is very concerning.
4	ADOPTION OF AGENDA	
	MOTION: "That the Agenda, including late items, is adopted by the Board of Trustees, as presented."	
	Moved	Dana Forrester
	Seconded	Wayne Smith
	CARRIED	
5	ADOPTION OF MINUTES	
	August 9, 2023	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
	MOTION: "That the Board of Trustees adopt the August 9, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes, as presented."	
	Moved	Jennifer Smith
	Seconded	Wendy Johnson
	CARRIED	
6	REPORTS	
	R-1	Joe Woolls, Island Flow Control Water Solutions Ltd – August 2023 Report
	MOTION: "That the Board of Trustees accept Island Flow Control Water Solutions Ltd.'s August 2023 maintenance report, as presented."	
	Moved	Dana Forrester
	Seconded	Wayne Smith
	CARRIED	
	R-2	Reporting of Finances: Financial Reports for the period ending September 7, 2023
	"That the Board of Trustees accept and approve the following:	
	i) Reporting of Financial Statements, as presented.	
	ii) Water Board Accounts to be paid as presented and accounts that have been paid since Sept 7, 2023; and	
	iii) Fire Department Accounts to be paid as presented and accounts that have been paid since Sept 7, 2023."	
	Moved	Dana Forrester
	Seconded	Robert Babych
	CARRIED	
	R-3	Chief Lucas Banton, Cherry Creek Volunteer Fire Department Re: Monthly Report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on wildfire deployments, this year we were in Fort St John, Burns Lake, and Kelowna. Thank you to the board for your continued support on wildfire, the experience members are able to gain is invaluable to the valley. I am continuing to push the valley to invest in wildfire. • The office address verification project was very successful, identifying approximately 6 properties that were not paying for fire protection. 	

R-3a - 2024 Fire Department Budget Proposal

- Prior to, and during covid we kept our budget increases quite low. Over the past 2 years we have increased the amount we requisition to better align with our needs. This year we are looking for an overall 10% increase in our budget.
 - MOTION: “That the Board of Trustees accept the 2024 Fire Department Budget, as presented, with a 10% overall increase over 2023 and submit for requisition via the *Fire Taxation Bylaw 2024 – 306.*”

Moved – Jennifer Smith Seconded - Dana Forrester, CARRIED

MOTION:

“THAT the Board of Trustees accept the Fire Chief monthly Report for September 2023 as presented.”

Moved	Jennifer Smith
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Seconded	Wayne Smith
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CARRIED

R-4 Overall Report, Wes Kovacs CCWW

- We will be changing our ‘complaint system’ for water quality issues. Currently we provide a complaint form to residents so that we can keep them on file, unfortunately not many residents wish to make a formal complaint in the form of paperwork. In the event we receive a complaint, and the resident does not wish to fill out a form, we will at least be tracking their name and address on an excel sheet.
- Will be compiling a ‘routine homeowner water maintenance’ info sheet to help homeowners maintain the highest quality water that we are able to provide during times of increased drought.

MOTION:

“THAT the Board of Trustees accept the Waterboard Overall Report for September 2023 as presented.”

Moved	Dana Forrester
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Seconded	Wendy Johnson
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CARRIED

7 WATER BOARD & FIRE DEPT CORRESPONDENCE

C-1	Continuations of Water	3
C-2	New Water Connections	0
C-3	BC One Calls	7
C-4	BC Hydro Email	Design and Construction Account
C-5	Special Meeting Sept 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion and Governance • McGill Engineering

MOTION:

“THAT the Board of Trustees accept the Water Board correspondence as presented.”

Moved	Robert Babych
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Seconded	Jennifer Smith
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CARRIED

8		NEW BUSINESS
	N-1	Investigate debit fees and addition of Credit Cards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board not interested at this time
9		OLD BUSINESS
	O-1	Fire Hall Construction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are hoping to buy steel in the fall so we can use the grant money as quickly as possible. Robert: The building contractor could charge a surplus if we are providing our own steel. Lucas: We are looking at steel manufacturers that also provided installation services to try to avoid this.
	O-2	4-3-2-1 Treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 20th Comprehensive Treatment Update meeting
	O-3	Conversion Investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) ACRD Conversion Study RFP
	O-4	Lacey Lake Dam Safety Report Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION: "That the Board of Trustees accept the Tetra Tech Audit Style Dam Safety Review proposal, as presented" Moved – Jennifer Smith Seconded – Wendy Johnson, CARRIED
10		ADJOURNMENT
	MOTION: "That the Board of Trustees adjourn the September 13, 2023 Regular Meeting at 12:34pm."	
	Moved	Dana Forrester
	Seconded	Wendy Johnson
	CARRIED	



Chair



Administrator