

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY JUNE 21, 2016
COMMITTEE ROOM**

MINUTES

Present:

Ian Thorpe	Chair, Director (Nanaimo)	Rosa Telegus	City of Parksville
Bob Rogers	Director Electoral Area E	John Elliot	City of Nanaimo
Alec McPherson	Director Electoral Area A	Blake Medlar	Business Community (District 68)
Bob Weir	Town of Qualicum Beach	Daniel Hooper	Public (District 68)

Also in Attendance:

Randy Alexander	GM, Regional and Community Utilities, RDN
Sean De Pol	Manager Wastewater Services, RDN
Shelley Norum	Wastewater Program Coordinator, RDN
Shelleen Schultz	Recording Secretary, Regional and Community Utilities

Regrets:

Doug Muir	Snuneymuxw First Nation	Juanita Rogers	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Marc Lefebvre	City of Parksville	Fred Spears	District of Lantzville
Ted Malyk	Business Community (District 69)	Glenn Gibson	Island Health

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson I. Thorpe called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM and respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish Nations on whose traditional territory the meeting took place.

ADOPT AGENDA

MOVED Director Rogers, SECONDED Director McPherson, that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

MINUTES

MOVED Director Rogers, SECONDED Director McPherson, that the minutes from the Liquid Waste Management Plan Monitoring Committee meeting held on March 29, 2016, be adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS

GNPCC Outfall Update

S. De Pol gave an update on the GNPCC outfall project. Eelgrass was salvaged and transplanted in January. The majority of the dredging, blasting and drilling was completed in the winter fisheries work window ending February 15th. They will complete dredging in the summer construction window starting June 1st. Pipe assembly took place in Nanoose Bay on Nanoose First Nations land. Eighteen-foot-long lengths of pipe were delivered to the assembly area starting in March. The contractor began fusing the pipe sections and assembling the outfall in April. Pipe installation is scheduled to begin, weather depending, starting on June 24th. If weather permits, the 1,800 m length of pipe will be transported and sunk on June 24th. The shorter 200 m length of pipe is scheduled to be transported and sunk into place on June 28th. B. Medlar suggested that the RDN record the GPS location of the diffuser to assist with monitoring. I. Thorpe reiterated past comments that this project has been well communicated.

GNPCC Secondary Treatment Update

S. De Pol provided an update on the secondary treatment upgrade project. 90% engineering design is now complete. Staff continue to work with subject matter experts to make sure that the plant is operationally efficient. Staff aim to prequalify contractors in July before the project goes to tender in September. Hopefully, a report will go to the Board in December to recommend awarding the secondary treatment construction contract.

B. Medlar asked if we were doing any value engineering.

S. De Pol answered that we completed a value engineering exercise with process engineers and geotechnical engineers around the 60% design submission. The exercise will make for a better plant to build and operate.

Ministry of Environment Correspondence

S. De Pol reviewed a letter from the Ministry of Environment dated June 6, 2016. This letter was sent in response to the letter sent from the RDN to the MOE on February 17, 2016 requesting advice on the need for an LWMP update based on the revised schedule and cost estimate for secondary treatment at GNPCC.

GNPCC Open House (June 11, 2016) results

S. Norum gave feedback from the June 11 open house at GNPCC. The event was advertised through a newsletter that was mailed out to over 2,000 residents. It was also relayed to the media and an advertisement was placed in two newspaper editions. RDN staff and two operators were available to answer questions and provide tours. Representatives from Vancouver Island University and SYLVIS Environmental were also present to provide information on the biosolids program. Information on secondary treatment and the outfall were also available. Twenty-eight members of the public attended the open house. This is an above-average turnout for this type of event.

I. Thorpe commented that the open house is a worthwhile event.

Biosolids update

S. De Pol gave an update on the Biosolids Program. The RDN has been working with VIU for many years to develop an award winning biosolids management program that includes a research component. The existing biosolids management agreement with SYLVIS and VIU ends in March 2017 to coincide with the end of VIU's lease of the woodlot. The RDN has been discussing options to renew the lease. Last week, VIU gave the RDN notice that it did not intend to renew the lease on

the woodlot. This gives the RDN a very short time to properly consult the public on potential options and find an alternative site for beneficial use. There is the potential to use biosolids beneficially at the Regional Landfill for a short period of time. The RDN has hired SYLVIS to look at options for the beneficial use of biosolids.

S. De Pol discussed the recent amendment to the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR) that affects large composting facilities (OMRR regulates the land application of biosolids). The changes do not apply to RDN biosolids because the RDN facilities do not have the design capacity to process 5,000 dry tonnes or greater of compost per year. Last year, GNPCC produced about 840 dry tonnes and FCPC produced about 360 dry tonnes of biosolids.

Septic Maintenance Rebate program and upcoming workshops

S. Norum gave an update on the Septic Maintenance Rebate program. The Septic Maintenance Rebate program began its third year in March 2016 with a budget of \$33,000. A preapproval option allows funds to be reserved for two months. At this time, all of the funds have been allocated to rebate claims or preapproved homeowners and a short waitlist has started. This shows that there is still a strong interest in the program. Homeowners consistently provide positive feedback on this unique program.

S. Norum highlighted two upcoming SepticSmart workshops. One workshop will be held in Nanoose on September 19th and a second workshop will be held on Gabriola Island on September 22nd.

May 17 Joint media release and May 19 News Bulletin article

S. Norum referenced the May 17, 2017 media release that was published jointly by the British Columbia Pharmacy Association and the RDN. The media release highlighted the proper disposal of medications so they don't get into the wrong hands or pollute the environment. The release was followed by a news article covered in the Nanaimo Daily News on May 19, 2016.

B. Medlar asked what happens to the medications after they are returned to pharmacies participating in the Medications Return Program. S. Norum responded that the products are incinerated. S. De Pol added that we would find out what facility performed the incineration and get back with the answer. Based on the 2014 annual report posted to the Health Products Stewardship Association website, everything collected through the program is incinerated by one company, Stericycle.

Minutes of the W3C Meeting held on March 4, 2016

S. Norum reflected that, at a previous meeting, the LWMP MC requested the opportunity to review minutes of the W3C meetings. The W3C is the Water and Wastewater Collaborative meeting. It is held twice a year with staff from the RDN and member municipalities to advance initiatives related to the LWMP. W3C minutes were attached to the agenda for this meeting.

Update on the Bowser Village Sewer Servicing Study

S. De Pol gave an update and PowerPoint presentation on the Bowser Village Sewer Servicing Study. In 2013, the Rural Village Centre Study identified Bowser as one of the RDN village centres most eligible for community sewer servicing. The study was designed to support growth in the Bowser Village Centre and was based on a projected population of approximately 500 people in the year 2036. The RDN was awarded \$350,000 Federal Gas Tax Grant Funding to fully fund sewer servicing studies for Bowser and Cedar Village Centres; \$300,000 was allocated to the Bowser Village Centre Sewer Servicing Study.

S. De Pol commented that the Bowser Village Sewer Servicing Study is based on the Rural Village Centre and Bowser Village Plan. Detailed Engineering Design compares options for sewer servicing

which include ground and marine effluent disposal. The presentation outlined details regarding the timeline, study scope, collection system options, treatment system options, disposal options and related costs. The sewer servicing study is approximately ⅓ complete. A stakeholder meeting was held in June 2016 and there will be a public meeting on July 11, 2016 for residents.

Draft LWMP 2015 Annual Report

S. Norum presented highlights from the Draft 2015 LWMP Annual Report. Annual reporting is completed every year by RDN staff to document program implementation and changes. There will be an external audit of program implementation every five years starting in 2019. S. Norum requested that all comments and feedback on the Draft report be submitted by Friday, June 24th so that they may be considered in time to send the report to the MOE before the deadline of June 30.

Next LWMP MC Meetings

The next LWMP MC meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2016. It will likely be the last meeting of the year.

ADDENDUM

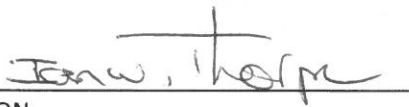
BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Director Rogers, SECONDED Director McPherson that this meeting be adjourned.

TIME: 2:09 PM



CHAIRPERSON