

Minutes of the meeting of the Comox Valley Water Management Advisory Committee held on July 29, 2021 in the CVRD Civic Room at 770 Harmston Avenue, Courtenay, and via Zoom conference commencing at 9:28 am

PRESENT:

C. Davidson, Director of Engineering Services	City of Courtenay
C. Perry, Public Works Superintendent	Town of Comox
K. La Rose, Senior Manager of Water/Wastewater Services	CVRD
M. Herschmiller, Manager of Water Services	CVRD
J. Warren, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer	CVRD
C. Wile, Manager of External Relations	CVRD
M. Briggs, Branch Assistant – Engineering Services/Recording Secretary	CVRD

ITEMS:

Management Report

The committee reviewed the July 2021 Comox Valley Water Management Advisory Committee management report. Staff advised that both items can likely be removed following close-out at the last Water Committee meeting.

City of Courtenay staff asked if the Water South Service Extension Project will be added to the management report. Staff indicated that it would be added for the next meeting. City staff asked if there has been any updated budgeting for the project. Staff responded that they are currently working with McElhanney on project budgeting and an updated cost estimate is likely expected by October/November.

Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes of the May 27, 2021 Water Management Advisory Committee and no errors or omissions were noted.

Discussion Item: Comox Valley Water Treatment Project Update

M. Herschmiller provided an update on the water treatment plant (WTP) and presented some photos showing the construction progress.

Advisory comments:

CVRD staff asked about the timing for the next point of contact with the public and when during the 7- and 30-day testing should the public be advised of commissioning. Staff advised that the testing process restarts if anything goes wrong, so it is recommended that public communication should come out after the process is complete. Performance test may not be completed until after grand opening, although the WTP will be up and running by then. AECOM gave staff assurances that they will ensure WTP is in presentable condition for grand opening if testing still underway. RSVPs have been sent out for grand opening. Staff decided that social media updates will be used for small site updates, and any major media update will wait until the grand opening. Communications staff will be advised of the status of the performance test in August.

Comox Valley Water Supply System Consumption Report

The committee reviewed the May 2021 water supply consumption report. Staff indicated that May and June experienced high water usage, with June over 1 million cubic meters.

Municipal Service/Project Updates

CVRD staff asked if the Town of Comox is continuing to install water meters on problem properties. Town staff indicated that they replace/install water meters when they repair leaks, repave nearby roads, or on new properties, but aren't actively seeking to install meters.

NEW BUSINESS:

K. La Rose presented a graph of water flows in the Town of Comox showing water usage over last seven days to show the significant water usage during sprinkling hours. M. Herschmiller shared a similar graph for East Courtenay with peaks as high as 800 m³/hr during sprinkling hours.

K. La Rose asked if the next advisory committee meeting can be moved to September 9. No objections from the advisory committee members. Staff will send an update to advisory committee members advising them of the change in date.

GENERAL:

The next Water Management Advisory Committee meeting will be held on September 9, 2021 commencing at 3:00 pm in the CVRD Civic Room at 770 Harmston Avenue, Courtenay and via Zoom conference.

TERMINATION:

The meeting terminated at 9:56 am.

Recorded by:

M. Briggs

M. Briggs
Branch Assistant – Engineering
Services/Recording Secretary

Certified correct:

J. Warren

James Warren
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer