

Minutes of the meeting of the Comox Valley Sewage Management Advisory Committee held on May 30, 2019 in the Comox Valley Regional District boardroom located at 550B Comox Road, Courtenay, BC, commencing at 9:06 am

PRESENT:	R. O'Grady, Director of Engineering	City of Courtenay
	R. Kanigan, Chief Administrative Officer	Town of Comox
	C. Perry, Public Works Superintendent	Town of Comox
	S. Ashfield, Municipal Engineer	Town of Comox
	M. Rutten, General Manager of Engineering Services	CVRD
	K. La Rose, Manager of Water/Wastewater Services	CVRD
	M. Imrie, Manager of Wastewater Services	CVRD
	C. Wile, Manager of External Relations	CVRD
	J. Martens, Manager of Legislative Services	CVRD
	A. Baldwin, Legislative Services Assistant & Recording Secretary	CVRD

ITEMS:

Management report

The committee reviewed the 2 May 2019 Comox Valley Sewage Management Advisory Committee management report. C. Wile provided an update on the May 27th meeting with KFN under item 3 of the management report. A letter of response regarding the outcome of the meeting will be finalized and circulated. The communications protocol was discussed and KFN has indicated that they would like some changes to the document, but would like to meet with all the local governments first. The committee further discussed the conveyance portion of the LWMP process through or around IR#1. A suggestion was made to seek KFN's support for any possible grant funding opportunities if it is required to go around IR#1.

Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes of the May 2, 2019 Sewage Management Advisory Committee meeting and no errors or omissions were noted. A question arose around the Hudson Trunk service connections. It was clarified that the service connections are only within the Town of Comox, however stubs have been installed within the regional district area of Anderton Road to accommodate possible future expansion through municipal boundary extension.

NEW BUSINESS:

Area B participation in Sewage Commission Meetings

At its May 14th meeting, the Sewage Commission referred the matter of potential Electoral Area B participation in Sewage Commission meetings to staff for a report. J. Martens provided a verbal outline of the pending report that will detail the options and implementation methods regarding Area B participation in Sewage Commission meetings. The report will be for information only with no recommendations. The broader issue of providing general membership and voting rights is also being reviewed as part of the Utilities Governance Study.

The committee discussed and provided feedback regarding the following:

- The complexities around assigning voting rights to areas that do not contribute financially towards a service. The inclusion of Area B as a contributing participant to the service could also be an option for the commission to consider.
- If the status quo is maintained Area B residents would still have the ability to appear as a delegation before the Sewage Commission and to make use of other forms of engagement to raise any concerns.

J. Martens left the meeting at 9:29 am.

Draft Comox Valley water Pollution Control Centre Communications Protocol

C. Wile provided an overview of the above-noted communications protocol. The communications protocol was internally developed on direction from the Sewage Commission. The protocol was revised to incorporate feedback received during an initial meeting with a sub-committee of the Curtis Road Residents Association. Although the initial meeting was positive, the sub-committee's subsequent response to the amended communications protocol was not positive and a decision was made not to move forward with the protocol at this point and to revisit the issue at a later date.

Letter from Curtis Road Residents Association (CRRA) to the Sewage Commission and CVRD Response Letter

K. La Rose provided an overview of the above-noted two letters. A meeting has been scheduled with a sub-committee of the CRRA on June 5th. Chair Frisch and Director Hamir will both attend the meeting.

Discussion was around whether or not there is merit in covering the equalization basin. Given that odours from the EQ basin is not anticipated as it will only be used less than one per cent of the time, during the wettest stormiest days of the year and will be cleaned out after very use, the cost of covering the EQ basin is not warranted. Residents/trail users are not likely to see the EQ basin in operation. It was suggested that where possible, CVRD staff should strive to have consultant support of the proposed mitigating measures.

The CRRA has sent letters of complaints to the Ministry of Health and Island Health. CVRD staff have had discussions with staff from both Ministries and they have determined, from preliminary reviews, that the CVRD has taken appropriate mitigating measures to address the association's concerns. The association has been advised by the Ministry of Health that they can request an investigation in a potential risk to their well water, but that all possible risks, including their and neighboring septic systems will be assessed as well. The tender for the EQ basin will be issued this week and it is expected to be completed by September this year.

R. Kanigan left the meeting at 9:45 am.

Comox Valley Sewerage System flows reports for March and April 2019

The committee reviewed the all flows reports for March and April. It was noted that KFN's flows are low due to a problem encountered with the hour meter in March.

Municipal Service/Project Updates

No municipal service project updates were provided.

GENERAL

The next Sewage Management Advisory Committee meeting will be held on July 4, 2019 commencing at 9:00 am in the Comox Valley Regional District boardroom.

TERMINATION:

The meeting terminated at 9:58 am.

Recorded by:

Certified correct:

A. Baldwin
Legislative Services Assistant

M. Rutten, P. Eng.
General Manager of Engineering Services