

Cowichan Watershed Board Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Draft Minutes



January 20, 2012

Location: Cowichan Tribes Sustainable Housing Department Boardroom,
5760 Allenby Road, Duncan BC.

Meeting Chair Cheri Ayers

1. Welcome; Introductions, Opening Remarks	Cheri thanked members for taking time out of busy schedules to attend the meeting. Kei Rietzel was in attendance and will be replacing Bruce Holmes. Rory Beise of VIHA announced that he will no longer be Lynn Magee's alternate as he has taken a position in the Victoria area. Rory introduced Richard Greve who will be replacing him in the Cowichan Valley. It was noted that Brian Houle has been off work for a couple of months but is expected to be back in February. Members expressed best wishes to Brian.
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes	Decision: The agenda was approved as presented. The minutes of the October 27, 2011 meeting were approved.
3. Integrated Flood Management Plan (IMFP) Update	Cheri Ayers provided a high level summary of the IFMP for committee members including TIER 1 (funded), Tier 2 (not funded at the time and anticipated to be under-funded – funding has subsequently been confirmed) and Tier 3 (funded) projects. Tier 1 projects were high priority - north of the River (JUB, Duncan pump, etc.). Tier 2 projects involved dyke and dyke improvement projects, both north and south of the river. Tier 3 involves sediment and log jam budgeting and gravel removal. Tier 2 and 3 projects will require more analysis and discussion. There is an MOU between the parties outlining the long-term relationship. Identifying benefits and cost sharing of works remain difficult issues.

<p>4. Process discussion – How to move forward</p>	<p>Members discussed the idea of limiting Advisory Committee meetings to one every other month after February 2012 to provide more time for target working group meetings.</p> <p>Decision: Members agreed to proceed on this basis.</p>
<p>5. Updates from Target Working Groups - TSS/Estuarine Health, Summer Flows and Riparian</p>	<p><i>Total Suspended Solids and Shellfish Targets</i> – Rodger reported that Tom Rutherford presented an update on these targets at the January Board meeting. Meetings for the two targets have been combined because there is so much overlap between memberships. A clear action plan has been developed. Cowichan Tribes has applied for funding to examine chemical contaminants in the estuary and it is hoped that the Watershed Board's UBCM request will be successful so that 2 years of water quality monitoring can be funded. These targets are increasingly becoming linked to the notion of a more modern and ecologically based Liquid Waste Management Plan.</p> <p>The <i>Sustainable Fish Populations (Steelhead)</i> target action plan and update was also presented to the Board its January meeting. It was noted the juvenile steelhead numbers were found to be on target this year.</p> <p>Action plans for riparian habitat and summer flows have also been developed and will be presented to the Board at its next meeting. It was noted that a letter identifying funding priorities has been sent to the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund in case the original request was viewed as being too expensive. Support is also being sought from the EcoAction, the Real Estate Board and the Pacific Salmon Foundation. Concern was also expressed about the sustainability of DFO work on the riparian at Cowichan Lake.</p> <p>Decisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gerald Thom and Rodger Hunter will express their concern to DFO regarding the sustainability of riparian work at Cowichan Lake. 2. Work will continue on the public health target with the assistance of Dr. Lorna Medd. 3. Rodger Hunter will make the link to the CVRD septic system bylaw available to members. The information is located at http://www.crd.bc.ca/wastewater/septic/onsite.htm
<p>6. General Discussion/Information Sharing</p>	<p>Thank you and best wishes were expressed to Rory Beise has accepted a position with VIHA in Langford.</p>