

**Cowichan Watershed
Board Technical
Advisory Committee
Meeting**

Minutes

September 26, 2014
10:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Location: Council Chambers,
Cowichan Tribes
5760 Allenby Road, Duncan, BC**



Participants: Cowichan Watershed Board Technical Advisory Committee Members

Co-chairs: Rodger Hunter/Helen Reid

1. Welcome; Introductions; Opening Remarks	Rodger Hunter welcomed members.
2. Approval of Agenda	The agenda was approved.
3. Approval of Minutes of July 25, 2014 meeting	The minutes were approved as presented.
4. CWB Water Conservation/Communications Update	<p>Rodger Hunter discussed going out to the communities to talk about water conservation. The forest hydrology and irrigation workshops were cancelled. Brian Houle has been helping out with both web cams.</p> <p>Public outreach has been quite effective. It was decided to go grass roots with. The CWB got a lot press with water woman and other initiatives, good radio coverage, newspaper including 2 full pages in Times Colonist, and articles in the Gazette, the Pictorial Newsleader, plus local radio spots and some CHEK TV.</p> <p>Sept. 9 Minister Thompson took part in a brief tour of the watershed. Our team –particularly Chief Seymour, Ross Forrest and David Slade were very impressive.</p> <p>The CVRD is rolling out a water conservation initiative (Flow down) as well.</p>
5. Flows and Fish Related Updates including Beaver Creek	<p>Brian Houle reported that the river flow from the weir is 4.5 cms.</p> <p>The EAB has still not made its decision on MFLNRO's amendment to the rule curve. Rodger pointed out that the neither the Federal Government nor the Province will not take out a water license so will have to be CVRD, Cowichan Tribes or Catalyst</p> <p>Tom Rutherford stated that Willie Jenson has been reassigned to respond to drought. He talked about the</p>

	<p>numbers of Chinook through the counting fence and that the hatchery in collecting brood stock.</p> <p>Rodger and Dave Lindsay updated Beaver Creek water storage. Still awaiting Ministry to move forward but progress being made.</p>
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<p>6. Riparian Update</p>	<p>Jean Atkinson provided an update the Cowichan Lake and River Stewards riparian project. This is the first year of a 3-year project. CLRSS received \$80,000 and spent \$65,000. Restoration took place at Honeymoon RV, Cowichan Lake FN, and 5 private properties. Riparian residence visits continue and all property owners on the lake will eventually be visited and owners that want riparian restoration will be followed up with.</p> <p>CLRSS carried out a survey (funding from Eco-action Canada) which 22% property owners completed. Peter Law and Christine (student coordinator) will provide extra information to property owners as needed.</p> <p>Dave Lindsay has been working on an ownership map of Cowichan Lake riparian.</p> <p>Shaw Creek proposed that a meeting with key funders take place.</p> <p>Riparian working group: Dave Lindsay, Don, Genevieve S., 2 from CLRSS, Kai, Paul R. Al, Helen R. Meeting Oct. 7.</p>
<p>7. Water Quality Update</p>	<p>Rodger reported that he is trying to get funding for monitoring water quality related to the group environmental Plan.</p> <p>Deb Epps is following up with the assistance of partners on water quality hot spot sampling.</p> <p>The Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan Committee is reported to be working towards getting the sewage outfall out of the River.</p> <p>Tom Rutherford noted that a number of temperature probes have been placed in cold water refuges where fish are holding up and temperatures are being monitored.</p>
<p>8. Future Initiatives</p>	<p>Rodger noted that Cheri Ayers is working on a Chinook strategy and from that may emerge a Chinook target.</p> <p>Rodger also noted that more money is needed for water conservation.</p> <p>Paul Rickard reported that the CWB wrote to MFLNRO asking to have the CWB assist the ministry with the implementation of CEEMP. Unfortunately at the staff level MFLNRO's response was no.</p>
<p>9) Other Business –Regular meeting dates</p>	<p>Next Meeting November 28th, 2014</p>