

**Cowichan Watershed  
Board Technical  
Advisory Committee  
Meeting**

**DRAFT Minutes**



**November 28, 2014  
10:15 am to 12:15 pm**

**Location: Education Board Room,  
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 Sept. 26, 2014 meeting and business arising from the minutes	The minutes were approved as presented. The Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan was added to item 7. A Somenos report was added to 8 and 9. A the Cowichan Estuary Water Managemetn Plan was added for discussion as part of item 9 as well.
4. CWB Water Conservation/Communications Update	<p>Rodger Hunter commented on David Slade being one of our conservation champions. David has been meeting with water purveyors and challenging them to meet or beat Ladysmith's domestic consumption or reduce by 20%. We have developed a 6 step program for reducing. Presentations have been made to public and private sector groups and they have been asked to fill out surveys.</p> <p>City of Duncan has officially accepted the challenge. It may be difficult for North Cowichan and CVRD to fill our thte survey information for all of their systems because of the number of systems they have.</p> <p>The water conservation initiative was very successful this year. Rodger noted that Water Woman is leaving on Sunday and film footage will be ready in about 3 weeks. It will be entered into a film festival in the U.S.</p>
5. Flows and Fish Related Updates	<p>Belinda Kissack gave a presentation on behalf of Catalyst. This was reported to be the driest since 1998. The presentation graphs showed that if late spring flows were reduced to less than 15 cms then there would be more water available for summer and fall.</p> <p>Ray Demarchi expressed concern that lowering the water in the spring can affect fish and noted that there needs to be study of this.</p>

Rodger that the issue be referred to experts to the next flows meeting and get to the root of this.

**Action Items for Watershed Board:** 1. Request action on spring optimal and minimum flows -begin with presentation to the Flows Working Group. 2. Determine what the optimal flows for the weir are.

**Snow Pillow:** Dave Lindsay reported that an agreement is being worked on regarding the proposed Heather Mtn snow pillow.

**Beaver Lake:** Dave Lindsay reported that Timberwest has an operation agreement with Jim Humphries' resort is being finalized.

<p>6. Riparian Update</p>	<p>Jean Atkinson update: Peter Law and student leader Christine are writing a technical report focusing on riparian restoration and land owner and community education.</p> <p>Craig Whiteman applied to HTCF for \$25,000.00.</p> <p>Peter and Christine have been following up and so far have 7 potential restoration projects for next year.</p> <p>Dave Lindsay showed a map of the ownership around Cowichan Lake. The shoreline is reported to be roughly 100 km long and 22% is TimberWest owned, 17% of the area is made up of TimberWest sold land, 15% is Island Timberlands, 1.6% is Hancock, 44% is categorized as other private land and local and provincial government and 0.2% of the shoreline is First Nation Reserve. The link to the map that can be pasted you're your browser is <a href="http://www.cowichanwatershedboard.ca/sites/default/files/LakeCowichanOwnership.pdf">http://www.cowichanwatershedboard.ca/sites/default/files/LakeCowichanOwnership.pdf</a></p>
<p>7. Water Quality Update</p>	<p>The CVRD continues to monitor the hotspots – at Lake Cowichan, Cowichan River., Koksilah River.</p> <p>Rodger got permission from the Real Estate Foundation to reallocate some funding to check on monitor hot spots near farms.</p> <p>Rodger reported that the Central Sector liquid waste management plan amendment to remove the sewage outfall from the River. Helen Reid reported on the amendment, the consultation process and the looking at Catalyst as a possibility for sewage treatment.</p>
<p>8. Future Initiatives-Somenos Marsh and Quamichan Lake update</p>	<p>Paul Fletcher reported that data monitors had been installed on Somenos marsh and a report will be given to CSRT next week. He noted that there is more funding for a salmon habitat study, where Dave Priekshot and Tryston Wilmott are volunteering.</p> <p>Wayne Haddow reported that a study is being proposed for Quamichan Lake Watershed about nutrient loading.</p>
<p>9) Other Business – CEEMP and Application for water licence on Somenos</p>	<p>Rodger reported that Assistant Deputy Minister, Craig Sutherland and Sharon Hadway, Regional Executive Director are working on putting CEEMP under the Watershed Board.</p> <p>Helen reported on the referral that Cowichan Tribes had received regarding a new water license application on Somenos Lake. Cowichan Tribes wrote a response letter to FLNRO giving reasons why this application should not be approved.</p> <p>Rodger announced that there may be a CWB meeting</p>

	<p>December 13 or 14 and people will be asked to bring a favorite picture of what happened in the watershed this year. However since the first Thursday of the month did not work out the Watershed Board was having difficulty establishing a December date.</p>
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