


Cowichan Watershed Board Meeting	DRAFT Minutes Monday January 27 2020 9:30-11:45 am CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan	
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Co-Chair: Chief William (Chip) Seymour

Participants: CVRD Chair Aaron Stone (co-Chair), Shannon Waters, Alison Nicholson, David Anderson, Debra Toporowski, Tim Kulchyski, Kristine Sandhu, Dale Desrochers, Tom Rutherford

Regrets: David Froese, David Slade, Lori Iannidinardo, (Stuart Pagaduan – starting next month)

Guests: Leroy Van Wieren, Project Manager, Weir and Natural Boundary, CVRD

Minutes: Jill Thompson

1) Welcome. Announcement of CWB 2020 Members.	Chief Seymour welcomed everyone and announced the new Board members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-Chair Aaron Stone, Chair of CVRD and Mayor of Ladysmith - DFO nominee, Dale Desrochers, replacing Laura Brown as CWB representative due to changes in Laura’s position. - Cowichan Tribes appointee Stuart Pagaduan 	Information
2) Roundtable reflection on the 10th anniversary of the Watershed Board: achievements, challenges, and commitment for the coming decade.	Board members were invited to reflect on 10 th anniversary of CWB. Comments indicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Much has been done, and we are celebrated for the model we have created. - We have proven that communities can make a difference through collaboration and suasion, even when we don’t have direct authority. - Board members feel honoured to be part of the CWB, it can be daunting when first joining to learn everything that is being done. - Board appreciates the attendees who come to observe, and all the people who make CWB projects and partnerships work. - It matters less what you plan for than that you are working to plan something together. - The pace can be frustrating, but “elders say don’t rush – if you rush you will trip and fall.” - Board members feel responsibility within themselves and appreciate opportunity to be here to work on that. - Hope model is replicated in more watersheds. - First Nations can’t let other people decide what’s going to be happening in their territory. - Weir and climate change are biggest concerns. Also feeder streams. - Climate change is daunting. 	Information
3) Approve Agenda	Alison moved to approve the agenda. 2 nd by Aaron. No changes.	Approved

4) Review and approve the Minutes of last meeting.	Kristine moved to approve the minutes, 2 nd by Debra. No changes. Approved. [Edit - (Deborah corrections – Dir/Coucillor – make it consistent, add Stuart and Dale?)	Approved
5) Correspondence, announcements	Tom reviewed announcements and correspondence – see agenda package .	Information
6) Opportunity for public comment.	Parker Jefferson, Cowichan Stewardship Round Table, provided an update on Stoltz bluff after the heavy rain last week. Parker reported that it appears to be holding up and withstanding the rain. Water inputs to the main stem of the river are clear.	Information
7) E.D. Updates - Weir, Koksilah WSP, Target Review, DWWP	See Tom’s presentation here Q: What is the timeframe for Koksilah WSP? A: Expected to be 2-3 years but caveat that everyone needs to come to the table and resources will be needed. We see this as needing to be broadly scoped which might take longer. Q: How will various legal authorities be handled in the WSP. A: Tom’s understanding is that if a plan is endorsed, mechanisms for enforcement would then be rolled into legislation.	Information
8) BC Old Growth Strategic Review - CWB input	Tom presented a draft letter of input from the CWB to the Review Panel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepared by Heather and Tom. - Minor edits were recommended and captured on Tom’s copy. Aaron moved that the Board submit the letter with the edits noted. 2 nd by Kristine; No further discussion; Carried.	Decision to submit the letter with edits as noted to be signed by co-chairs.
9) Our Water BC and Watershed Security Fund - decision RE accepting Terms of Membership in OWBC.	Jill reviewed the presentation from November meeting from Our Water BC, requesting that CWB join the network, and added that CWB co-Chairs have already met with various government representatives to speak in favour of the OWBC’s proposal for a Watershed Security Fund. As individuals, both Chief Seymour and David Slade are currently ‘water champions’ in the network. Aaron flagged that the priorities align well with the CWB’s work but it is important to ensure that any use of the CWB logo should not impact our relationship with senior government. Aaron moved that CWB accept the terms of membership in Our Water BC. 2 nd by Kristine. No further discussion. Carried.	Decision – CWB will accept the terms of member in Our Water BC and become a member of the network.
10:45 BREAK		
Weir Engineering and Impact project update.	See presentation by Leroy Van Wieren. Leroy noted that part of this project is to establish the best weir design (straight line, curved, size, etc.) to optimize the benefits and reduce impacts.	Information

	<p>He noted that there are 867 lots around the lake and the natural boundary work will establish the boundary of the lake</p> <p>Project spending is behind the forecasted timeline due to hiring delays but CVRD will amend the contract to reprofile the costs. It is still doable within the timeframe and budget.</p> <p>Q: Will Stantec produce several designs for consideration? A: Yes there will be consultation with the Technical Advisory Group, then some public consultation, then work to finalize the design. They will consider efficiency, cost, aesthetics.</p> <p>Q: How will they deconstruct the current weir? A: That is part of the contract. One question is whether the existing gate structure can be used in the new structure. They will be assessing that.</p> <p>Q: During deconstruction, will there be a year or two when there will be no control of the river. A: We're not sure yet, but hoping that's not the case. Will try to do what we can to have one system or the other working.</p> <p>Q: will there be public consultation? A: Yes, that is planned, but what that looks like is to be decided. Leroy's job is to get a weir designed, others will be leading communication.</p>	
<p>Draft 2020-2024 Strategic Plan and 2019 Annual Report</p>	<p>Tom presented a draft CWB 2019 Annual Report and Five Year Business Plan. Formatting and design will be improved by next month.</p> <p>Revisions / Edits requested:</p> <p>Annual Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shorten the letter from the Co-Chairs. - Edit "state of emergency" - Remove the highlighting of what wasn't accomplished but acknowledge what wasn't addressed and explain why (e.g. resources? Time? Outside situation?) Tom suggested adding notes to this effect at the end of each chart. Aaran suggested adding a few words within each table on what wasn't achieved and why, and also in the intro text above the charts. - would like to see Annual Report evolve into a companion document that is more reflective and attractive, and can be used as a communications document. Would need to be more accessible, digestible. Could be done in 8-12 slides with an appendix for finance. Previous business plan will hold the detail. Infographics are useful. -Strike a balance – Annual Reports are critical for providing historical documentation so some detail is needed. <p>Business Plan</p>	

	<p>Q: how are lower priority activities reflected? Suggestion - document the things we predict we can do within each time period, but recognize aspirations that didn't make the cut</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide website references for more information. Add a generic statement to capture the fact that there are other activities we would like to undertake but don't have the capacity. E.g. "These are the highest priorities within the scope of funds and capabilities we have at this time, and the plan will evolve annually." - reduce length overall - 30 pages is too long 	
Other		
Adjourn.	<p>Adjournment moved by Alison, 2nd by Aaron. Next meeting Feb 24 9:30am</p>	Adjourned