



Town of Qualicum Beach

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ARROWSMITH WATER SERVICE (AWS) MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007 AT 12:00 PM
AT THE PARKSVILLE CIVIC AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE**

Present:	Councillor Barry Avis, Chair	Town of Qualicum Beach
	Councillor Marc Lefebvre	City of Parksville
	Director Joe Stanhope	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Director George Holme	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Carol Mason	Regional District of Nanaimo
	John Finnie	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Wayne Moorman	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Fred Manson	City of Parksville
	Gary O'Rourke	City of Parksville
	Mike Squire	City of Parksville
	Mark Brown	Town of Qualicum Beach
	Bob Weir	Town of Qualicum Beach
	Bev Farkas	Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order**

B. Avis called the meeting to order.

2. **Review of Agenda**

The agenda was accepted as prepared.

3. **Minutes**

It was confirmed that the dam tour in of 2006 did not occur and it was suggested that a tour in 2007 would be in order.

There was discussion regarding the most efficient administration of the Committee meetings, such as meeting arrangements and minutes.

MOVED Director Stanhope, SECONDED Director Holme, that this item be referred back to staff for further discussion and brought back to the next meeting of this Committee.

CARRIED

MOVED M. Lefebvre, SECONDED J. Stanhope, that the minutes from the meeting of the Arrowsmith Water Services Management Committee held April 18, 2006 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. **Englishman River flows during the dry season and control of same**

A graph demonstrating reservoir water levels vs. time was distributed to members and discussed. The level is monitored remotely at Parksville daily and June 1st is the date set to begin releasing water from the reservoir and to meet the requirement to maintain a river flow of 1.6 m³/s at the Englishman River hydrometric station. G. O'Rourke said that AWS has been successful in convincing the province to adjust releases in the past and is hopeful to have the Operating Rule permanently changed.

J. Finnie informed the committee that a meeting is being arranged with DFO and MOE in March to review the Operating Rule. Included will be discussion on creating more storage for the benefit of fisheries.

The committee discussed private water licenses for extraction from Englishman River and the importance to AWS to obtain information about other licensees. It was noted that the volumes of extraction by other licensees and unlicensed extraction volumes are minimal. B. Weir will access an early Water License Study and report his findings back to the committee; he recalls that the licenses indicate the limits of extraction. J. Finnie added that this topic will also be discussed at the DFO/MOE meeting in March.

5. **Watershed Protection Plans “up river”**

There was discussion among committee members regarding watershed protection, the fact that it is a huge undertaking, and the role AWS might take. C. Mason noted that AWS may not be the appropriate forum for watershed management plans unless municipalities join in with funding; there needs to be political willingness. F. Manson urged the committee to keep focused on the capital plan and the intake.

6. **Budget**

G. O’Rourke distributed budget information and discussion resulted in the following points being made:

- Under budget in 2006.
- Usual cost sharing formula used: (63.9% Parksville / 22.4% RDN / 13.7% Qualicum).
- Logging road went well.
- Dam was examined after blasting – no damage.
- EBA – geotech engineering monitoring ongoing.
- \$10,000 was originally allocated to Watershed Protection Initiatives however it was removed as it is a nominal amount and its original intent was never clearly identified.
- G. O’Rourke will determine if the Power Gen study is still worth pursuing.
- Intake treatment facility consulting amount of \$150,000 included. G. O’Rourke preparing a report that will include consulting services alternatives for completing this initiative.
- Funds will not be spent without consensus of group.
- Proposal call for finalizing location and design of Intake is the intent.

MOVED M. Lefebvre, SECONDED J. Stanhope, that the 2007 AWS budget be approved.

CARRIED

7. **Next Meeting**

To be determined.

8. **Adjournment.**

MOVED M. Lefebvre, SECONDED J. Stanhope, that this meeting terminate.

CARRIED

TIME 1:25 PM