



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ARROWSMITH WATER SERVICE (AWS) MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2005 AT 1:30 PM
AT THE PARKSVILLE CIVIC AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE**

Present:	Director Joe Stanhope	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Bob Lapham	Regional District of Nanaimo
	John Finnie	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Mike Donnelly	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Director George Holme (Alternate)	Regional District of Nanaimo
	Councillor Marc Lefebvre	City of Parksville
	Fred Manson	City of Parksville
	Gary O'Rourke	City of Parksville
	Councillor Scott Tanner	Town of Qualicum Beach
	Councillor Anton Kruyt (Alternate)	Town of Qualicum Beach
	Mark Brown	Town of Qualicum Beach
	Bob Weir	Town of Qualicum Beach
Also in Attendance:	Bev Farkas	Recording Secretary, RDN

1. **Call to Order**

J. Stanhope called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

2. **Minutes**

MOVED M. Lefebvre, SECONDED S. Tanner that the minutes from the meeting of the Arrowsmith Water Services Management Committee held September 14, 2005 be adopted.

CARRIED

3. **Operation Update – G. O'Rourke**

G. O'Rourke noted that the water level in the reservoir was below average in September, and is now at the same level as this time last year. The lowest point this year was 810m above sea level; a full reservoir is 828.25 m. Mr. O'Rourke stated that if the current rate of filling is sustained, the reservoir should fill by spring and provide sufficient capacity to meet the release requirements to the end of the 2006 operational period.

4. **Dam Road Construction Update – B. Weir**

B. Weir stated that the construction of the road work by the contractor, Gregson, is nearing completion. Mr. Weir advised the committee that changes in the scope of work have reduced the costs to the benefit of the budget. B. Weir confirmed that the road project is being monitored by an outside firm hired jointly by AWS and Weyerhaeuser and he is confident it is being monitored appropriately. It was confirmed that AWS does have a cost sharing arrangement for timber removal within the area. B. Weir stated that forestry revenue was received and Weyerhaeuser provided three separate cheques for Qualicum Beach, Parksville and the RDN. It was then suggested that forestry revenue should be forwarded directly to AWS in one cheque and not split between the three parties. B. Weir noted that the timber revenue is shared on the basis of ownership, not thirds.

5. **Capital Plan Activities – J. Finnie**

J. Finnie advised that a letter has been sent to Health regarding a downstream intake location and that a meeting is anticipated within the next few weeks to discuss this issue. (A copy of the letter will be sent to Committee members.) Mr. Finnie indicated that while Health may take the position of supporting an intake as far upstream as possible, they will need to be receptive to the costs savings associated with a downstream location. Mr. Finnie will report back to the Committee following a meeting with Health.

6. **2006 Budget – G. O'Rourke**

Mr. O'Rourke distributed the proposed 2006 Operating Budget and Capital Budget to Committee members. A projected \$10,000 increase in insurance costs over 2005 was noted. To date in 2005, only 56% of the capital budget has been expended. It was clarified that the capital budget is all for capital planning and that capital planning is to carry on technical aspects such as hiring Koers. The administration costs for river intake include such items as appraisals and securing an option to purchase property and should be considered capital expenditures and not capital planning. M. Brown noted the \$25,000 expenditure for property acquisition administration costs for river intake should be apportioned on ownership and not even thirds.

MOVED M. Lefebvre, SECONDED S. Tanner that the budget, as amended to include \$25,000 for administration costs related to the river intake property acquisition, be adopted.

CARRIED

7. **Addendum – No items**

8. **Other**

J. Finnie advised the Committee that the AWS information bulletin discussed at the previous meeting is presently at the printers and will be ready for distribution by the first week of November. The RDN will be mailing the bulletin to all RDN Water Local Service Area residents and will provide copies to the Town of Qualicum Beach and the City of Parksville to distribute. Mr. Finnie presented the Committee with a draft logo to go on the AWS website which will be linked through the RDN, Town of Qualicum Beach and City of Parksville websites. It was agreed that the logo will undergo revisions to best represent AWS.

J. Finnie informed the Committee that he has recently received an email from Epcor asking if the RDN has heard from the Comptroller of Water Rights. Mr. Finnie stated that he has not heard anything from the Comptroller recently but the Comptroller previously indicated that if a decision is to be rendered based on the written submissions received, the decision may be finalized by the end of the year. If the issue proceeds to a public hearing the decision may be delayed by 2-3 months.

8. **Next Meeting**

TBA

9. **In Camera – No items**

10. **Adjournment**

MOVED M. Lefebvre, SECONDED S. Tanner, that this meeting terminate.

TIME: 2:06 PM

J. Stanhope, Chairperson