

Cowichan Watershed Board Meeting

DRAFT Minutes



March 3, 2011
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Location: CVRD Boardroom, 175
Ingram St., Duncan

Participants: Rob Hutchins Co-chair, David Anderson Ross Forrest, Bruce Fraser, , Lori Iannidinaro, Klaus Kuhn Tim Kulchyski, Lorna Medd, Don Radford, David Slade

Coordinator: Rodger Hunter

Guest: Brian Dennison, CVRD

Regrets: Chief Lydia Hwitsum, Darin George

1. Welcome; Introductions, Invocation; Opening Remarks	Co-chair Rob Hutchins welcome Board members thanked the CVRD for the use of the Boardroom. Lorna Medd offered the invocation.
2. Approval of Agenda	The agenda was approved as presented.
3. Approval of Minutes of January 6 th 2011 and update on Business Arising from Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fundraising	The minutes were approved as presented. The Coordinator noted that confirmed and potential sources of funding. In order to maximize the benefits of Gas Tax Funding the CWB will be coordinating efforts with CVRD and Living Rivers. It is expected that the CVRD will have identified a draft work plan for water related initiative over the next month. Updates on funding will be provided as information becomes available.
4. Recent events and information	The Coordinator handed out a document on Watershed Planning that the Fraser Basin Council (FBC). Any comments should be submitted to Kate Miller at kmiller@cvrd.bc.ca and she will forward them to Steve Litke of the FBC. A summary of a recent PhD thesis on watershed report cards, indicators, etc. was also distributed. The thesis can be found at http://www.cowichanwatershedboard.ca/sites/default/files/WatershedReportCards-on-WatershedManagement-BarbaraVeale-2010.pdf .It was also announced that Cowichan Tribes will be hosting a conference on the Cowichan estuary on April 12 and 13, 2011. Attendance is by invitation and the Board members are invited to attend.

<p>Participation in watershed Eco-health study</p>	<p>Lorna Medd made a presentation regarding and invitation that the Cowichan Watershed Board has received to participate in a Network for Ecological Sustainability and Health's proposed initiative involving assessments of 5 or 6 Canadian watersheds http://www.cowichanwatershedboard.ca/sites/default/files/CWB-WatershedsForHealth(prism)_LornaMedd_Mar2011.pdf The assessments are being conducted to better understand the potential for, and limitations to, governing watersheds as settings for health and well-being.</p> <p>Decision: The Board supported participation in the initiative.</p>
<p>5. a. 2010 Update and Proposed 2011 Priorities b. Target Setting</p>	<p>a. It was noted that the Board received official confirmation of project funding this past week. Despite lack Board funding a considerable amount of financial work in the watershed in 2010 through our stewardship partners, particularly Living Rivers –Vancouver Island and Georgia Basin. The best approach for pursuing a 2011 work plan was discussed.</p> <p>b. The Board discussed possible targets related to sustained environmental health of the watershed and approaches to establishing them. Examples of targets included reversing negative trends in ground water levels, public awareness/understanding, target dates for edible shellfish in the estuary, forestry related targets, land protection, success rates for steelhead, water conservation targets and public health related targets.</p> <p>Decisions: The Board agreed that for 2011 it will continue to work on the priorities identified in the 2010 work plan.</p> <p>Regarding targets, the Board requested the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) continue its work and report progress at the April Board meeting. The Board requested that the TAC consider measurability, integration and emphasize the importance of a clear narrative supporting each target.</p>
<p>6. Next meeting– Date and Agenda Items</p>	<p>Decision: The next meeting is proposed for April 7th at 5 pm at the Lake Cowichan. Potential agenda items include presentations on the Cowichan Lake erosion study, Summer Water Levels (Rule Curve-Rule Band), the LiDAR tool for water level mapping and progress on developing watershed targets.</p>