

Union Bay Improvement District

Box 70

Union Bay, BC

V0R 3B0

Phone: 250-335-2511

Fax: 250-335-1178

email: admin@union-bay.ca

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 20th, 2013

Union Bay Improvement District Office

4:30 PM

In attendance:

Trustees: Bruce Livesey, Carol Molstad, Anne Alcock, Cleve Goldswain and Alan Webb.
Staff: Kevin Douville, Administrator

1. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Motion 2013-02-20-01: Adoption of the meeting agenda as presented.

RMS

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held on January 16th, 2013.

Motion 2013-02-20-02: Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held on January 16th, 2013 as presented.

RMS

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from Minutes and Reports

- a. NIL

4. Correspondence

- a. NIL

5. Reports (all reports to be attached to the minutes for reference)

- a. Administrator's Report – Kevin Douville

Motion 2013-02-20-03: To accept Administrator's report as presented.

RMS

CARRIED

- b. Fire/Rescue Report – Carol Molstad

Motion 2013-02-20-04: To accept the Fire/Rescue Committee report as presented.

RMS

CARRIED

c. Public Works Report – Cleve Goldswain

Motion 2013-02-20-05: To accept the Public Works Committee report as presented.

RMS

CARRIED

d. Finance & Capital Planning Report – Bruce Livesey

Motion 2013-02-20-06: To accept the Finance & Capital Planning Committee report as presented.

RMS

CARRIED

e. Water Filtration Project – Alan Webb

Motion 2013-02-20-07: To accept the Water Filtration Project report as presented.

RMS

CARRIED

6. Old Business

a. Potential Aquifer and Water Source Effects – Raven Underground Coal Project

The Administrator reported that the grant application submitted to the Vancouver Island Water Watch Coalition on behalf of the Ships Point, Fanny Bay and Union Bay Improvement Districts was successful and we've now received \$5,000 to assist in covering the \$12,265 budgeted total costs for this project. The remaining costs to engage Summit Environmental Consultants to undertake this review will be shared evenly by the three districts. Compliance Coal's comprehensive submission to the provincial and federal governments as part of the formal Environmental Assessment Process is now expected sometime towards the end of March.

Trustee Webb also noted the University of Victoria Environmental Law Clinic's recent request to the Vancouver Island Health Authority's Drinking Water Officer for the issuance of a Drinking Water Health Hazard Prevention Order regarding the proposed Raven Coal Project, pursuant to section 25 of the *Drinking Water Protection Act*. He also noted that the Ships Point Improvement District and Fanny Bay Waterworks District both provided letters of support for this request.

The Board discussed the appropriateness of providing a letter of support to our neighbouring districts for their efforts in attempting to protect their community water sources, given the stronger ongoing relationship we are working to build with them and in particular our current joint project. The Administrator was directed to draft a letter in this regard with the Board Chair.

7. New Business

a. Meeting with Island Timberlands

Trustee Livesey reported on UBID's meeting with representatives from Island Timberlands on February 14th, during which time the company provided us a complete copy of the Langely Lake Watershed Assessment / Plan that was prepared in 2004, along with a copy of their current standard operating procedures. We also discussed UBID's concerns with respect to their ditching efforts along both the 2012 harvest area and that from 2004 which continues to affect water flow and turbidity levels in two of the culverts that channel runoff to the lake.

Dan McGill, UBID Public Works Superintendent, and Trustee Livesey will be conducting a site visit with Sam Stanko and other representatives from the company on Tuesday, February 26th to review our concerns and what should be done to prevent such issues in the future. It was also agreed to meet annually when required to discuss current year harvesting plans and/or issues of mutual interest.

Increased signage along the watershed will also be explored by the Administrator and Public Works Superintendent in an effort to curb the number of ATV's that are accessing and at times causing damage to areas around the dam and other sites within the community watershed boundaries.

b. Annual General Meeting and Board of Trustees Elections

Preparations are underway for the upcoming UBID Annual General Meeting and Board of Trustees Elections which is scheduled for Saturday, April 20th from 2 – 4 pm. (Registration starts at 1pm.) Two Trustee positions will be up for nominations and election. It was also reported that as per last year, an advanced poll opportunity has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 9th from 2 – 7 pm here at the UBID offices.

8. Questions from the audience

Prior to opening the meeting to questions from the floor, Chair Livesey reviewed the recently revised Questions Period Etiquette guidelines, which were first instituted in September 2010 as per Motion 2010-09-16.

- a. Is the Board aware of the recent ruling by the BC Court of Appeal with respect to conflict of interest allegations against two members of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee?

- i. The Board is aware of the ruling, however it is uncertain as to what bearing it has with respect to the business at hand without a specific question or comment being posed.
- b. A request was made to ensure regular usage of the microphone by all Trustees and the Administrator when they are speaking so that those with hearing impairments can hear and following along with what is being discussed at the Board meetings.
 - i. The Board agreed to be more diligent in this regard however it does encourage those that have difficulty hearing to please bring it to the Board's attention. The wireless microphone has presented some difficulties due to its unreliability (sound often cuts in and out) therefore we will endeavour to use the hard-wired microphone consistently.
- c. At what time did the Board meeting commence as it appears that it began prior to the indicated 4:30pm start time as you were well into the agenda as I arrived?
 - i. According to the clock in the room, the meeting did commence on time, with the first several items of the agenda being dealt with fairly quickly.
- d. What is the Board's position to the potential positive economic benefits that could be garnered from the proposed Raven Underground Coal project?
 - i. The Board has not taken any direct position for or against the coal mine project as UBID's primary interest and mandate is to ensure the long term sustainability (i.e. quantity and access) and quality of the community's drinking water supply. It is with this objective in mind the Board would provide a letter of support to Fanny Bay and Ships Point.
- e. Would the Board consider placing a question on the upcoming election ballots to poll the community's position on the Raven Underground Coal Project?
 - i. It is recognized that this is quite a polarizing issue in this and other communities within the region therefore the Board will continue to focus on its duty and mandate which is to protect the community's source of drinking water.
- f. The Board was commended from the quick response given to the issues of concern with respect to Island Timberlands harvesting activities and its effects on the water turbidity levels.
- g. When the Board met with Island Timberlands, was the issue of the property previously offered by the company for purchase by UBID for its future water treatment needs discussed.

- i. Yes it was, however the Board is currently exploring all its options in order to ensure the most appropriate and cost effective piece of property is secured for the community's future water treatment and storage needs.

Adjournment: 5:08pm.



Bruce Livesey, Chair



Kevin Douville, Administrator