

Pete's Lake Water Users Society Annual General Meeting Minutes

Location: Arts Centre Yard
Date: Saturday, July 24, 2021
Members Present: Al Bajec, Brenda Felker, Doane Grinnell, Tolling Jennings, Shawna Karras, Sue Kristinsson, Don MacDonald, John Martin, Neil Matheson, Brian Pitt, Barbara Smith, Trudi Smith, Jonah Spiegelman, Jayn Tyson, Betsy Williamson
Others Present: Frank Buffam, Wayne Felker, Will Smith, Terry Theiss, Jon Wallace, Jean Weighill

Call to order: 1:31pm by President John Martin

Opening Remarks by John Martin – Elizabeth Thompson is no longer the Drinking Water Officer at Island health working with us. We have not been contacted by the new person yet. has changed positions. John and has been attending online meetings with the BCWWA (BC Waste & Water Assoc.) and BCSWSA (BC Small Water Systems Association). The workshops detail the how's and why's of compliance with government regulations affecting small water suppliers. With the exception of providing potable water, PLWUS is fulfilling almost all of the regulatory requirements, unlike some other small water systems. Our journey to provide cleaner water to our members continues.

Thank You to Barry Churchill for 30 years of service as the society's maintenance person. A plaque was presented.

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Approval of 2020 AGM minutes – Approved as presented by email following the 2020 AGM.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM 2020 AGM MINUTES

A. Water Testing Results.

We have been auditing our own water with kits purchased from Bluewater Geoscience at William Shulba's recommendation. Recent results have been inconsistent, so from now on two samples will be taken from each testing site. We are trying to determine where in the system we have the most bacteria.

B. Connection/Reconnection Fees.

We now have fees and procedures in place for brand new connections and reconnections due to inactivity or shut-offs because of non-payment of fees. If these fees are to be filed with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Water Management Branch, it will be done.

C. Membership Agreement.

We now require a signature on the annual membership agreement. All members signed and submitted their forms for 2021.

D. Pre-Filtration Progress.

- a. We had a meeting here on-island with Trevor Wicks of Trentec Innovations last August. He suggested that we sink a series of test holes near the lake to see if the soil/ground would filter the water sufficiently for pre-filtration purposes. We applied to Magic Mountain Land Co-op to do this during the summer of 2021, and the request was denied.
- b. William Shulba has been tasked with local watershed protection by the local Islands Trust trustees. He does not have permission to speak with Island Health on our behalf. A short time before this meeting today, the board received an email from him detailing a potential grant that could provide us with \$15,000-\$20,000 to develop an on-island testing facility. This would be for looking at total dissolved solids, water conductivity, etc., not simply bacteriological testing. More details will be shared with the membership once the board has had time to digest the email and determine exactly what our commitment would be.

E. Report on the \$10,000 for System Analysis.

At the 2020 AGM the board was granted permission to spend up to \$10,000 for the purchase and installation of meters and bypass valves in the 3" and 4" lines to determine our water usage. We have purchased two ultrasonic, programmable meters for \$1,400. We have received donations of two solar panels and a voltage controller. We have purchased a battery and wire. We have permission from Magic Mountain to install the solar panels on the community field. Once a ditch is dug to protect the meters from being drowned in the winter rains, they will be installed.

The meters will measure how much water we're using – they can be programmed for various time frames. Knowing our total annual usage will help us know whether new users can be added to the system, the amount of water that would need to be made potable, etc.

F. Maintenance Report.

- a. *Spring Flush* – All went well. It has been noted recently that the lake level is dropping. Members will be reminded that conservation measures are very important right now. We may do another flush in September.
- b. *New Maintenance Person* – Pachiel Smith has been hired to replace Barry Churchill. He recently did an underground repair to the buried line at the Fire Hall.
- c. *Emergency Response Plan* – The plan was updated recently with Pachiel being listed instead of Barry. It was sent to all members. It will be included with the AGM minutes sent to Island Health.
- d. *Barriers at the Lake* – At the board's request, Mainroad Contracting installed barriers with reflectors alongside the lake to prevent vehicles from going into the lake. The posts installed are of pressure-treated wood, which has raised concerns about chemicals leaching into the water. William Shulba has been helping to determine if this is a problem, with no resolution so far.
- e. *Parts Inventory* – This was conducted in March and will be done on a quarterly basis. Our stock is good.

G. Financial Report 2020.

M/S Tolling Jennings/Brenda Felker. Motion that the Financial Report be approved as presented. Approved. 1 abstention recorded upon request.

H. 2021 Budget.

- a. 2022 membership & usage fees – Board recommends that fees stay the same for 2022 as they were in 2021, i.e., \$320 usage, \$40 membership. M/S Tolling/Betsy. Approved. 1 abstention recorded upon request.
- b. Capital Improvement Fund & Replacement Reserve – \$14,000 has been budgeted to add to the Capital Improvement Fund in 2022.

M/S Doane Grinnell /Shawna Karras. Motion that the 2021/22 budget be accepted as presented. Approved. 1 abstention recorded upon request.

NEW BUSINESS – No new business; no proposals were submitted.

THANK YOU'S were extended to the following:

Magic Mountain Land Coop for allowing us to have the works and distribution system on their land.

Carmen Stewart for keeping the books and fielding the mail.

Pachiel Smith for stepping up as our new maintenance person.

Neil Matheson, the Numbercruncher, for being our financial guru.

Barbara Smith, Patty Biro, and Jayn Tyson for policy work and ER plan.

Flush crew: Barry Churchill, Pachiel Smith, Don MacDonald, Ray Lipovsky, Doane Grinnell, Ben Seaman, Brian

Pitt, and John Martin.
Provisions for coffee and snacks for the Flush Crew.
Joy and Gail Fleming for lunch delivery for the Flush Crew.
Lisa Johnson for years of service.
Ray Lipovsky for sourcing meters and donating a solar panel.
Marjorie Pine for donating a solar panel.
Daniel Jacobs for a solar controller.
Simon Martin-Joughin for getting us the wire wholesale.
All current board members for a cooperative and productive year.
Terry Theiss for minute taking, staying on top of billing, keeping and maintaining our annual “to do” calendar, keeping our records safe, and being our cornerstone.

ELECTIONS

With the exception of Lisa Johnson, all of the remaining 2020 directors and officers agreed to continue on for 2021. There were no nominations from the floor.

M/S Tolling Jennings/Shawwna Karras. Motion that the slate be approved as presented by the board. Approved.

1 opposition recorded upon request.

- Patty Biro – Member at Large
- Doane Grinnell – Vice-President
- John Martin – President
- Neil Matheson – Treasurer
- Barbara Smith – Member at Large
- Jonah Spiegelman – Member at Large
- Jayn Tyson – Secretary

Adjournment at 2:32pm.