

Meeting Minutes

Electoral Areas Committee

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

11:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT

Directors: M. Hicks (Chair), B. Maberley (for D. Howe (Vice Chair)), G. Holman, C. Plant (Board Chair, ex-officio)

Staff: R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer; N. Chan, Chief Financial Officer; K. Lorette, General Manager, Planning and Protective Services; T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; C. Nielson, Senior Manager, Human Resources; K. Campbell, Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Administration; S. Carby, Senior Manager, Protective Services; R. Lachance, Senior Manager, Financial Services; J. Reimer, Manager, Electoral Area Fire and Emergency Programs; J. Starke, Manager, Service Delivery, Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area; M. Taylor, Manager, Building Inspection; L. Xu, Manager, Finance Services; E. Gorman, Deputy Corporate Officer; T. Pillipow, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Hicks provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Maberley,
That the agenda be amended to add one item of new business: COVID19 Update.
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Maberley,
That the agenda for the March 11, 2020 Electoral Areas Committee be approved,
as amended.
CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [20-191](#) Minutes of the February 12, 2020 Electoral Areas Committee Meeting

MOVED by Alternate Director Maberley, **SECONDED** by Director Holman,
That the minutes of the Electoral Areas Committee meeting of February 12, 2020
be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Hicks provided an update on the motion put forward asking the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to accept a resolution on gas tax funds. FCM has adopted the motion.

Chair Hicks welcomed Alternate Director Ben Maberly to the meeting.

K. Lorette introduced Mike Taylor, Manager, Building Inspection. Mike comes to us from the District of Central Saanich.

5. Presentations/Delegations

There were no Presentations or Delegations.

6. Committee Business

6.1. [20-181](#) Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Department Service Level Review

J. Reimer spoke to Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- achievable goals
- appropriate use of resources
- meeting the minimum requirements as set out by the Office of the Fire Commissioner
- notification of compliance checks

**MOVED by Alternate Director Maberly, SECONDED by Director Holman,
That the Electoral Area Volunteer Fire Departments Service Level Review report
be received for information.**

CARRIED

6.2. [20-195](#) 2020 Electoral Area Budget Review

N. Chan introduced Item 6.2.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- incremental addition to the Regional Parks funding mechanism budget
- Greater Victoria Homelessness Coalition
- Feasibility Reserve Fund related to the Standing Committee for Arts Facilities needs
- Regional Housing Trust Fund phase-out

**MOVED by Director Holman, SECONDED by Alternate Director Maberly,
The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District
Board:**

That the 2020 Electoral Area budgets as presented receive approval.

CARRIED

6.3. [20-206](#) Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission Motion

B. Maberly introduced Item 6.3.

Discussion ensued on the criteria for funding specified in current bylaws.

MOVED by Alternate Director Maberley, **SECONDED** by Director Holman,
That this item be referred to staff for a report to the Electoral Areas Committee
prior to forwarding the recommendation to the Capital Regional District Board.
CARRIED

6.4. [20-185](#) Home Owner Grant Program in Electoral Areas

K. Campbell spoke to Item 6.4.

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Maberley,
The Electoral Areas Committee recommends the Capital Regional District Board
submit the following resolution to Union of British Columbia Municipalities for
consideration:

WHEREAS the British Columbia Home Owner Grant related to property tax is
larger if a person(s) lives in a rural area.

WHEREAS the five Southern Gulf Islands of Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne,
Saturna, and North and South Pender Islands do not receive the 'rural' grant
because the Capital Regional District (CRD) is excluded from the rural grant. This
is unfair and inequitable for the taxpayers of the Southern Gulf Islands whose
living conditions are no different than those in neighboring jurisdictions such as
the electoral areas of the Cowichan Valley and Nanaimo Regional Districts who
are eligible for the rural grant.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the province officially designate
the Capital Regional District electoral areas as 'rural' for the purposes of the
British Columbia Home Owner Grant.

MOVED by Director Hicks, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Maberley,
That the motion be amended to remove the word "and..." before the words
"...North and South Pender" and add the words "...and Juan de Fuca" after the
words "South Pender Islands..."

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Maberley,
The Electoral Areas Committee recommends the Capital Regional District Board
submit the following amended resolution to Union of British Columbia
Municipalities for consideration:

WHEREAS the British Columbia Home Owner Grant related to property tax is
larger if a person(s) lives in a rural area.

WHEREAS the five Southern Gulf Islands of Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne,
Saturna, North and South Pender Islands and Juan de Fuca do not receive the
'rural' grant because the Capital Regional District (CRD) is excluded from the
rural grant. This is unfair and inequitable for the taxpayers of the Southern Gulf
Islands whose living conditions are no different than those in neighboring
jurisdictions such as the electoral areas of the Cowichan Valley and Nanaimo
Regional Districts who are eligible for the rural grant.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the province officially designate
the Capital Regional District electoral areas as 'rural' for the purposes of the
British Columbia Home Owner Grant.

CARRIED

6.5. [20-166](#) Motion with Notice: Director Howe

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Maberley,
That the Electoral Areas Committee recommend to the CRD Board:
That the Capital Regional District Board Chair write a letter of advocacy to the

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure requesting a strategy and plan for ongoing coordination between BC Ferries, BC Transit, and MoTI road infrastructure planning to achieve integrated, low carbon, active transportation orientated solutions for the Southern Gulf Islands and Salt Spring Island.
CARRIED

6.6. [20-150](#)

Previous Minutes of Other CRD Committees and Commissions for Information

MOVED by Alternate Director Maberley, **SECONDED** by Director Holman, That the following minutes be received for information:

- a) Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission minutes of January 2, 2020
- b) Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee minutes of December 10, 2019
- c) Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission minutes of January 9, 2020
- d) Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission minutes of November 22, 2019

CARRIED

7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no Notice(s) of Motion.

8. New Business

Director Holman requested an update on COVID19.

WHO declared COVID19 a pandemic on the morning of March 11, 2020. B. Lapham stated that when communicating, it's important that we vet our position through our Emergency Operations Centre. We continue to stay in contact with the public health authority and EMBC.

9. Adjournment

MOVED by Alternate Director Maberley, **SECONDED** by Board Chair Plant, That the March 11, 2020 Electoral Areas Committee meeting be adjourned at 11:52 am.
CARRIED

Chair

Recorder