

DEWDNEY AREA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
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2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday April 15, 2019
Clarke Theatre, 33700 Prentis Avenue, Mission, BC

MINUTES

In Attendance: Ray Boucher (Chairman)
Debbie McKay
Richard Shelley
Steve Anderson
Richard Astell
Heather Thompson
Greg Hawksby
Jim Loewen
Brett VanderWyk

Susan Livingston – Administrator and Financial Officer
Ann Harper – Auditor

Dorothy Phillips – Electoral Officer
Paul McKeown – Polling Clerk
Jennifer McKeown - Polling Clerk
Cheryle Hallberg - Polling Clerk

Absent: None

Guests: Approximately 80 ratepayers.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair - Ray Boucher - 7:15 pm

Motion: To adopt agenda for April 15, 2019 Annual General Meeting.
Debbie McKay/ Richard Astell Opposed: None **Motion: Adopted**

Introductions: Of current board members, staff, electoral officer and polling clerks by the chairman.

2018 Auditors Report: Presented by chartered accountant Ann Harper.
Chartered Accountant Ann Harper representing Vohora/SFH Accounting presented the report on the DAID 2018 Audited Financial Statements.

Motion: To accept 2018 Auditors report.
Richard Shelley/ Jim Loewen Opposed: None **Motion: Adopted**



ELECTIONS:

Election of new trustees: Elections were conducted by the Electoral officer Dorothy Phillips for 3 trustees:

Dewdney Zone 3 year term

Hatzic Lake Zone 3 year term

Hatzic Prairie Zone 3 year term

Electoral officer Dorothy Phillips called for nominees in each zone. One nominee was presented for each zone. Nominees agreed to sign a Confidentiality Agreement.

Trustees Elected by Acclamation for 2019-2022 (3year term):

Dewdney Zone Wayne Robertson

Hatzic Lake Zone Jim Loewen

Hatzic Prairie Zone Ray Boucher

STAFF REPORTS:

Operations/Dike Report: David Scott *See Appendix (1)*

Administration/Finance Report: Susan Livingston *See Appendix (2)*

DAID / Hatzic Lake: Debbie McKay / David Scott *See Appendix (3)*

Trustee Honorarium: Set by ratepayers.

Ratepayers Motion: To keep trustee meeting honorarium the same as 2018. (\$65.00)

Ratepayers Opposed: None **Motion: Adopted**

Public Question Period: Public questions were answered by Trustees.

Public request for DAID Budget to be included in AGM package

Election Results: All 3 zone trustee positions were elected by acclamation.

Date of next meeting: Post AGM meeting directly after AGM April 15, 2019.

Meeting adjourned: 8.00 pm

Appendix – 1

Operations/Dike Report - David Scott

Snowpack Yearly Dyke Report for DAID

Just a quick note prior to starting on the yearend report about this year's snowpack. In the areas that effect the lower Fraser freshet they are 100% of the overall average except for the 86% lower Fraser, but this does not have a direct influence on the long-term summer freshet effecting the Hatzic Valley. Everywhere else is 20% lower.

I'd like to start with a thanks to Ron Beck for his steady daily operations of the PS and the valuable readings and monitoring of the site.

We'll start with relatively uneventful March and April but May 11th starts the pumping season. I spent the month of June in the hospital but they tell me it was normal cycling 1 pump on and off through to July 11th when Pump #3 was shut off for the last time. On the 18th the flap gates opened and on the 19th the slide gates were installed - thanks to the help of the FVRD - from the 20th to August 1 the lake rose 11cm (4 inches) the gates were adjusted throughout the month of August to maintain the 2.5 M sited in the permit.

On Sept. 4th an order came from FLNROD Sandra Jensen to maintain the water level while they decide what to do about the invasive species infesting Hatzic Lake. This took 2 weeks to develop and get observers to attend the initial slide gate opening. Alicia Sanders from the invasive species branch arrived on the 20th and gate #4 was opened 850mm to start the drawdown of the lake. Her and her partners based their observation operation from my house, with assistance from Rick Gaunt at the Everglades Resort. The slide gate was opened in 150mm increments 4 more times in the next 4 days taking the lake to 2.3. During this time, I monitored the lake levels every 4 hours. It should be noted that at this elev. the lake was not having any influence on Legacy at the Dale road gauge. By the 26th the lake was at 2.1M and equalized to the river on the 28th.

At this time this information has not been compared to the ground water information being collected at the same time by the FVRD. It should also be noted that the weather during this period was unusually wet.

October, we got back to normal Dyke maintenance of mowing and burning of a buildup of debris collecting from the log boom over the last few years.

November saw a power outage repaired just before some minor pumping, and January started our brush cutting of the dyke along the Nicomen slough. This has normally been conducted every 5 years, but the removal of the stumps this year may help slow the growth. February and March saw a windstorm that damaged the roof of the PS and another power outage. Some signage was also installed on 2 gates.

In 2019 a number of meetings with FVRD and Provincial Ministries have taken place of which I was in attendance and I am continuing to assist FVRD staff wherever possible as well as conducted contact duties and required reporting to various ministries for Dyke related matters. The future works this year include mechanical and FSR inspections as per our operations requirements and the installation of a new flap gate and the refit of a spare. Some burning along the Nicomen slough from the brush cutting will also take place in the fall.

Appendix - 2

Administration/Finance Report – Susan Livingston

I have worked for the Dewdney Area Improvement District for just over a year and it has been a learning curve.

DAID's 2019 budget total is the same as 2018 - \$427,000.00. We were able to maintain the same budget amount by decreasing some categories, examples are hydro and insurance.

This year our focus will be on collecting dyking tax arrears. Dyking Tax Arrears Notices were sent on March 5 for payment by March 29. Arrears will be monitored and a report provided in May to Trustees for review so they can decide on how to proceed with collection of arrears.

DAID's 2019 dyking tax by-law was approved by the Ministry and the 2019 Dyking Tax Notices will be sent out by the end of June for payment by Sept. 30th.

Appendix - 3

DAID / Hatzic Lake 2019 AGM - Debbie McKay / David Scott

To those of you who are long time land owners or regular attendees at DAID meetings you will know most of what is about to be presented.

In the past year there have been many incorrect statements, phone calls and miss information being circulated. At this time DAID trustees would like to provide background information regarding DAID, Hatzic Lake issues, and updates that we are aware of.

DAID

Dewdney Area Improvement District (DAID) is a local improvement district whose 1972 Letters Patent states "the objects of the improvement district shall be the dyking and drainage of land and the construction, acquisition, maintenance and operation of works for those purposes and all things incidental thereto:" In 2006 DAID's Letters Patent was modified to create 3 zones; i.e. Dewdney, Hatzic Lake & Hatzic Prairie with each zone electing 3 Trustees, each for a 3 year term. Trustees are volunteers. DAID consists of approx 540 properties with varying land usages i.e. commercial, small business, residential, farming, and recreational.

DAID is responsible for maintenance of the section of the Dewdney Dyke from Dewdney Trunk Road and Lougheed Highway in Mission to Bell Road in Dewdney and flood prevention. In 2013 DAID with the help of 2/3 government funding (Provincial and Federal) built the new pump station with 3 new pumps to help with flood prevention. DAID is paying down a 750,000 loan for our 1/3. Until DAID built the new pump station there were only two 1948 pumps in the old pump station that was built after the 1948 flood. Flooding in low areas of Hatzic Lake and Hatzic Prairie would occur before the 1948 pumps could even be turned on. With the work of dedicated past and present Trustees, staff and volunteers the pump station project came in under budget and ahead of schedule.

Hatzic Lake

This past year DAID staff and Trustees have been asked on more than one occasion: "when are the pumps going to pump the water into the lake". Also "when are the gates going to be lifted so the water can get into the lake"? Here is a brief summary of Hatzic Lake water flow and other issues:

Hatzic Lake water level is governed by the natural flow of water from the upper streams and creeks north of the lake and the level of the Fraser River. During the Freshet (usually starting late April or early May) the Fraser River level rises due to melting snow and the flows from the Interior Rivers, forcing the flood box flap gates closed and incoming water from the Hatzic Valley creeks and streams above the lake area start to accumulate in the lake. Hatzic Lake is the main drainage reservoir for the 90 sq. km Hatzic Valley Watershed.

To reduce or prevent flooding in the Hatzic Lake and Hatzic Prairie low areas the pumps are used to pump water from the lake when the lake level rises to 2.5 masl. When the Fraser River level drops (after freshet) the water from Hatzic Lake flows naturally through the flood box flap gates into the Fraser River. Historically this happens at the end of July or mid August. (depending on the length of the freshet and amount of dry weather in July and August)

It is normal to see areas of exposed lake bed during the months September to May every year. The lake will have fluctuations of water levels during the winter months depending on the amount of heavy rain, snow etc that is received over a short period of time. This past winter the pumps were turned on twice.

Slide Gates

Slide gates were installed during the new pump station build in order to test the new pumps in August 2014.

Water Permits

Water permits are required for any works done in a waterway that affects the natural flow of the water. When the pump station was built DAID applied for a permanent water permit to use the slide gates to hold water in Hatzic Lake from after freshet until the September long weekend but never received one.

DAID has applied each year for Short Term Use permits (STU) to keep the lake water level at 2.5 masl after freshet until the September long weekend. With local and provincial political intervention DAID was granted STU's for 2015, 2016 & 2017.

2018 STU Water permit

The requirement of expensive hydrological and environmental assessments of Hatzic Lake in order to get a STU permit in 2018 was beyond DAID ability to fund.

Pam Alex (Mission councillor at the time) was instrumental in getting a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNROD), FVRD, DAID, and Liberal MLA Simon Gibson to discuss the Water Permit and ongoing Hatzic Lake issues. Further meetings were held with FVRD, FLNROD & DAID resulting in the 2018 STU permit being granted to a partnership of DAID and FVRD. Paul Gipps FVRD (CAO) went out of his way to get DAID the ability to activate the slide gates just before the lake water would have left naturally in 2018.

Hatzic Lake issues

Since 2014 the late Gregg Stuart was a driving force in bringing Hatzic Lake issues to the attention of Simon Gibson (Liberal MLA), Pam Alexis (now Mission mayor) and different Ministry heads by giving them a firsthand look from his many pontoon boat tours of Hatzic Lake.

- Invasive Plants: Milfoil and Flowering Rush
- Sediment infilling
- Lake Level
- Permanent Water permit
- Slide Gate usage
- Water quality

FLNROD – Invasive species staff were back on the lake in 2018 remapping the flowering rush and milfoil to see its progression since the previous mapping done in 2015. Last September in an effort to minimize the spread of the invasive plants into the Fraser River, FLNROD implemented strict guidelines and reporting requirements for the rate and amount of water that could be released during the slide gate deactivation. This slow release and water inflow into the lake as a result of a rainy period resulted in the gates being in place longer than was intended. Other FLNROD branches were on the lake monitoring lake level, water quality etc.

FVRD - DAID staff, Trustees and land owners have and continue to work with FVRD staff towards a permanent water permit by providing historical information (some going back 40 plus years) re: lake levels, temperatures, sediment infill, engineering and environmental assessment reports from DAID's previous projects, and DAID

equipment operation manuals. Also, by providing lake access, watercraft when needed, and property contacts to accommodate FVRD staff in lake level, ground water and water quality monitoring also a drone survey of the lake bed done recently.

A FLNROD/FVRD survey to get feedback regarding lake level effects on properties surrounding the lake was mailed with the DAID 2018 dyking tax notices. To get a complete picture FVRD staff extended the survey and made site visits to properties whose owners voiced concerns.

Over the winter and spring DAID trustees have been included in meetings with FVRD and FLNROD senior staff where the lake issues i.e. invasive plants, invasive fish, hydrological and environmental studies required, lake level, permanent and STU water permits, water quality, depository sediment, short term and long term management plans, and the need for funding have been discussed.

Even though the overall health of Hatzic Lake i.e. water quality, invasive plants etc. is beyond DAID's mandate, DAID's many years of lake knowledge, information, experience and equipment i.e. pump station and slide gates have earned us a place and voice at the table. DAID Trustees voiced lake concerns in great detail and are excited to report these meeting are very positive and for the first time all of the right parties are listening and working together. FVRD CAO Paul Gipps and staff Jennifer, Tariq, Sterling and Katarina are experienced, dedicated, focused, professional and relentless in gathering information needed to work with FLNROD and other Ministries towards viable and constructive solutions for the many Hatzic Lake issues that affect both the recreational residential and farming properties.