CLRSS Board Meeting Agenda - Monday, Sept. 12, 2022

Items:	Action: What? By Whom? When?
Rotating chair: Rick Bryan	

In attendance - Board Members: Jean Atkinson, Rick Bryan, Rosemary Danaher, Maureen Quested, Jim Deck, Diana Gunderson, Don Prescott, Beverley Nimmo

Members: Re Lois Atchison, Mike Patrick, Lyndon Keeping, Judy Brayden

Guests, Cowichan Watershed Board, Jill Thompson,

Absent with regrets: Dave De Pape, Bee Greenway, CVRD Area F Director, Ian Morrison, Town of Lake Cowichan Councillor Kristine Sandhu, Ken Traynor

We acknowledged that we are meeting on the traditional territories of the Ts'uubaa-asatx, Ditidaht and Quw'utsun First Nations. We hope that our work together here today will make a positive contribution to our shared future in this valley.

The Fourfold Way:

• respect each other by having just one speaker at a time • expect people to speak from the heart with passion • expect people to show up to solve problems and • expect people to speak without blame.

FYI only Our Strategic Plan (See Appendix 1 below)	
Motion to accept the agenda	Moved: Don Prescott 2 nd : Jim Deck CARRIED
Motion to accept the minutes of August 8, 2022	Moved: Maureen Quested 2 nd : Rosemary Danaher CARRIED
Treasurer's report: (See Appendix 2 below) – Jim Deck Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report	Moved: Jim Deck 2 nd : Don Prescott CARRIED
Guest remarks from the Town of Lake Cowichan Councillor, Kristine Sandhu - Nil	

Guest remarks from CVRD Area F Director, Ian Morrison - Nil	
Guest Remarks from Cowichan Watershed Board – Jill Thompson	 Work is ongoing to advance the replacement of the weir. Priority is getting a licence application to the BC Gov't. (Min of Forests, Water Authorizations Branch). Currently, there is an MOU in place between CVRD, Cowichan Tribes and Catalyst, agreeing that CVRD will act as the licence applicant on behalf of the partners, but that may be held up due to staffing changes and elections at CVRD. The next step is for the CWB co-Chairs to meet with Josie Osborne, Min. of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and Minister Responsible for Fisheries on behalf of the partners, set for Oct. 14. (BTW Josie is a fisheries biologist, so people are optimistic about her support – https://www.leg.bc.ca/learn-about-us/members/4 2nd-Parliament/Osborne-Josie) We need 2 things from the BC Gov't. to advance the project: 1) Matching funding to pay for the weir. Federal funding (Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund) for Cowichan Tribes is in place for weir construction but requires a)matching funding from the province & b) a licensee confirmed 2) Provincial staff capacity. There is limited capacity in the Water Authorizations branch to deal with a conservation water licence application of this size, with a landowner audience of over 700 properties. Ideally, most of those 700 landowners would have heard enough of the pros vs cons of replacing the weir (ASAP) to be supportive, and it will advance quickly to the next stage. Lower Cowichan River Cleanup -1700 kg of garbage collected -Sandy Pool down to Black Creek & new route by
	Pimbury Bridge near the estuary (12 routes total –

about 15 km)

-111 volunteers

We will work on connecting with the Tube Shack next year to reduce confusion and build collaboration between the 2 annual river cleanups.

Tom has retired as E.D. but is staying on as a project leader.

The Board is creating an interim Leadership Team for the fall while they undertake a short visioning process.

Lisa Fox has been hired as part-time Business Manager.

Jill will hopefully transition back to communications and community engagement.

A Project Leaders team is handling technical contracts:

Tom leading Cowichan weir and Koksilah Watershed Sustainability Planning Projects

Heather Pritchard and Chris Steeger coordinating Target Working Groups over next 6 – 12 months

Elodie Roger is leading Water Quality sampling in collaboration with Cowichan Tribes and MoE.

Genevieve is coordinating the River Day project for the Roundtable.

 President's Report: Rodger wants to do a watershed tour for election candidates in particular. **MOTION:** that the CLRSS Board support Roger's proposal in principle.

Moved: Rosemary Danaher **2nd:** Jean Atkinson

CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes and Other Written Reports:

- a. Letter to the Ministry of Environment Ken Traynor –
- **b.** Newsletter lead -
- **c.** Workshop with Genevieve Singleton Sept. 19

- a. Ken requested more direction from the Board
- As Leroy Van Wieren has declined the position of newsletter lead, Judy will ask Parker about undertaking the newsletter.

Maureen and Judy volunteered to collect information. Judy suggested Genevieve be asked to submit a regular column.

c. Gerald Thom Garden Workshop on native plants

at 1:00 on Sept. 19 lead by Genevieve Singleton.

MOTION: a CLRSS ball cap be donated as an attendance incentive

Moved: Rosemary Danaher **2nd** Jim Deck

CARRIED

MOTION: a free membership in CLRSS be donated as an attendance incentive

Moved: Rosemary Danaher **2**nd Jim Deck

CARRIED

- d. In person meetings preferred over Zoom; Future meetings at Maureen's weather permitting; In he event of bad weather – Zoom through CWB
- e. Rodger will be asked to chair the next meeting and whether or not he wants to continue with rotating chairs at future meetings
- f. \$35 from arts group donation of sewing/cards

\$175.10 from bottle deposits (#484) Maureen has Thrifty Food Smile cards for sale.

d. Future meetings – Zoom or in person

e. Rotating chairs

f. Fundraising -

g. GTM Native Plant Garden- Lois reported pruning had been done and additional signs were installed. Balsam and dogwood trees are to be planted.

h. Paddlesport

Rick Bryan stated the need for a letter to the Public Safety Minister pointing out the need for more forceful signage for the dangers on the Cowichan River. Copies should go to Doug Routley and Sonia Furstenau.

Wood debris is a serious hazard in some areas.

UVIC white water club could be encouraged to help recreational sustainability – eg. Canyon cleanup

A column could be added to the newsletter entitled "The Water's View"

Jean helps with the educational program; paper surveys on sunscreen use; samples taken 6 times; in year 3 of 5

Mike Patrick, Chris Morley, I Joe Saysell will monitor when there is at least a 5mm rain event

Jim will ask a First Nations vendor to attend at Saywell Park on Sept. 25.

i. UVF contamination

j. 6PPDQ monitoring

k. 6PPDQ monitoring – Mike Patrick

I. Rivers Day – Jim Deck

	Important to keep in contact with First Nations; want to have a relationship with them
Motion to Adjourn	Moved: Rosemary Danaher 2nd: Don Prescott
Important Upcoming Dates:	
Sept. 19 – Board workshop lead by Genevieve singleton at Gerald Thom Memorial Garden	
Sept. 25 – Rivers Day celebrations	
Monday, October 03, 2022 CLRSS Board Meeting	

Appendix 1: Strategic Planning Outcomes 2020

Increase awareness of and support for building the new weir	2. Increase Youth Engagement
Goals	Goals
Increase public supportIncrease community understanding of new weir benefits	Increase youth membershipRe-establish Lake Studies program
 Increase public awareness of how 	

climate change is driving the need for a new weir	 Collaborate with other valley youth programs Establish youth roundtable
3. Protect Lake Shore Lands	
Goals	
Protect critical undeveloped	
shoreline and tributary habitat	
Promote protection for Shaw Creek	
watershed	
Expand shoreline riparian habitat	
restoration work to tributary creeks	