



**VILLAGE OF BELCARRA  
Water System Capacity for Fire  
Protection Committee  
Village Hall  
March 19, 2019  
Minutes**



Minutes of the Water System Capacity for Fire Protection Committee for the Village of Belcarra, held Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at the Municipal Hall, 4084 Bedwell Bay Road, Belcarra BC.

Members in Attendance

Brain, Douglas  
Chisholm, Jim  
Desbois, Martin  
Devlin, Ian - Chair  
Kim, Tom – Vice-Chair

Council Member in Attendance

Rob Begg, Councillor

Staff in Attendance

Lorna Dysart, Chief Administrative Officer  
Connie Esposito, Recording Clerk

Also in Attendance

Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief, Jay Sharpe

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**2.1** Agenda for March 19, 2019

It was moved and seconded:

That the Agenda for March 19, 2019 be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**3. Adoption of the Minutes**

Minutes of February 19, 2019

It was moved and seconded:

That the Minutes of the meeting held February 19, 2019 be adopted.

**CARRIED**

It was noted that draft minutes from Committee meetings will be circulated to the Chair for review prior to official distribution with the Agenda.

#### **4. Delegation**

##### **4.1 Chief Jay Sharpe, Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department**

Chair Devlin welcomed Chief Jay Sharpe to the meeting and noted that input by the Fire Chief regarding the two 2017 fires in Belcarra would be beneficial for Committee members.

Chief Jay Sharpe commented regarding:

- Various methods for calculating fire flow;
- He distributed a 2014 document titled 'Evaluation of Fire Flow Methodologies' that proposed 19 different methods of determining fire flow;
- The Fire Underwriter's Survey (FUS) offers guidelines for public fire protection;
- The Belcarra fire rating improved from a 3B to a 3A when potable water was brought into the Village;
- The main objective of the SVFD when dealing with the Turtlehead fire was to contain the fire;
- The Senkler fire was more manageable and contained to the roof structure;
- The outcomes of the Turtlehead and Senkler Road fires would not have been different given additional resources;
- A minimum standard for fire flow rates is required for fire insurance;
- SVFD pumper trucks are at flow rates consistent with industry standards;
- Real time data on flow rates and reservoir levels are provided by Belcarra staff;
- The main objective of fire fighting is to manage risk;
- Fire fighting in the forest would require assistance from the Province;
- Size of homes is a factor in fire fighting where internal and/or external sprinklers would be of great assistance.

Discussion ensued relative to:

- The BC Building Code as a possible avenue for information;
- Other resources from which to ascertain optimal fire flow and water supply levels;
- Availability of volunteer fire fighters in responding to fire calls;
- Availability and ownership of the fire hydrant at Sasamat Lake;
- Current water supply and fire flow levels of the Belcarra water supply;
- Current sprinkler regulations;
- Dutchman Creek storage capacity and usefulness;
- The potential for availability of water supply at 60L per second.

#### **5. Unfinished Business**

No items presented.



## 6. New Business

- a) Discussion on proposed revision to Water Committee deliverables

Chair Devlin proposed that two items listed in the Terms of Reference be brought forward to Council for amendment:

- a) Remove the cost analysis under the Cost and Benefits section as Committee members are not skilled to provide this information; and
- b) Analysis of fighting wildfires is a separate topic which should be handled by other committees.

- 1) Summary of March 7 tour of Village of Belcarra water supply system

Chair Devlin and Committee members thanked Bernie Serne and Public Works staff for the water supply system tour and information provided.

- 2) Suggested list of issues:

- o Objectives of the Committee Report to Council
- o Design basis of water supply system and fire protection
- o April 2017 Turtlehead fire event and lessons learned
- o August 2017 Senkler fire event and lessons learned
- o Water supply for fire protection improvements after 2017 fire events
- o Review of fire flow requirements
- o Conclusions
- o Prioritized recommendations

Committee members discussed the contents of the report provided to Committee members and will request confirmation from Council that the report will meet the Committee objectives.

- 3) Discussion of communication protocol with Village staff

Chair Devlin noted that communication with the CAO and Village Staff is required through the Chair due to limited staff time and resources.

L. Dysart noted that email requests are recommended so as to allow staff time to process and respond.

- 4) Walt Bayless, Project Manager – Infrastructure, wsp (OPUS) will attend the April Water Committee meeting

Chair Devlin confirmed the attendance of Walt Bayless from OPUS at the next Committee meeting. He suggested that Committee members compile a list of questions to be provided to the Chair in advance of the meeting.

- 5) Task assignment to Committee members

Committee members approved the following list of assignments for each Committee member as follows:

- o Objectives of Report – Ian Devlin
- o Design basis of water supply system and fire protection – key deliverables – Martin Desbois
  - o Pipe flow
  - o Tank volume
- o April 2017 Turtlehead fire event and lessons learned – Doug Brain

- August 2017 Senkler fire event and lessons learned – Doug Brain
- Water supply for fire protection improvements after 2017 fire events – Martin Desbois
- SCADA Review – Tom Kim
- Review of fire flow requirements – key deliverables – Martin Desbois/Jim Chisholm/Tom Kim
  - System flows for fire fighting
- Conclusions – All Committee Members
- Prioritized recommendations – All Committee Members

6) Target date and format of presentation to Council

It was noted that:

- Committee members proposed that a report may be ready for the end of May
- L. Dysart noted that staff will assist with the format of the final presentation.

Committee members queried regarding:

- Tatlow reservoir system and how volume is measured;
- Pressure is an issue when filling the Tatlow reservoir;
- The District of North Vancouver agreement with the Village of Belcarra;
- Concern for potential of water restrictions by the District of North Vancouver.

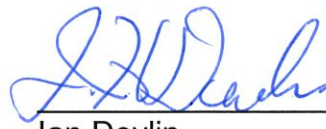
**7. Next Steps**

Additional discussion ensued relative to the respective roles of Committee members.

**8. Adjournment**

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

  
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Lorna Dysart  
Chief Administrative Officer

  
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Ian Devlin  
Chair