Highlights of the Regional Board Meeting – February 12, 2015

Regional Airshed Management Plan

The Regional Board has given support in principle to the Central Okanagan Clean Air Strategy. It was developed after consulting with the public and local stakeholders and updates the Regional Airshed Management Plan that was adopted in 2007. The Strategy provides guidance for all local governments to manage air quality and greenhouse gas emissions for the next five years. During 2015 budget deliberations the Regional Board will consider a request to increase funding for air quality programming by four per cent. Staff will develop a plan to manage program costs and identify possible revenue opportunities from 2016-2019.

Water Conservation and Quality Grants

The Regional Board has endorsed submitting eight applications to the Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) for funding consideration under its Water Conservation and Quality grant program. Three applications are for projects proposed by the Regional District while the others are from individual non-profit organizations. The Central Okanagan region is eligible for just over $179,000 in funding through the OBWB program.

Water System Grant Application Supported

The Regional Board has approved spending up to $950,000 from reserves for a major improvement project on the Killiney Beach Water System. The Regional District will submit an application to the Build Canada-Small Communities Fund for up to $1.9-million in funding to assist with the cost of construction which will include installation of almost five kilometres of new pipe, upgraded water intake pumps and a new 500-cubic meter cell for the upper reservoir. The project will result in more efficient operation of the water system that was built in the early 1980’s while improving service to the approximately 280 properties currently connected. Another 145 properties could be serviced by the system in the future.

Septic Disposal Rate Increase

The Regional Board has approved a higher tipping fee for disposing of septic tank wastewater at the Regional Septage Facility in Lake Country. The new rate of $47.27 per cubic meter will result in the facility being funded entirely through tipping fee revenue. Since 2008, septage disposal tipping fees increased two per cent each year to $39.41 in 2014. It’s estimated that more than 14,000 single family residences in the Central Okanagan have a septic system for wastewater. The Board will be asked to approve an amendment to the Septic Tank Effluent and Regulation Bylaw to reflect the adjusted rate.

Westside Waste Disposal & Recycling Centre

The Regional Board has adopted an amendment to the 2014-2018 Financial Plan to pay for higher than anticipated expenses in operating the Westside Residential Waste Disposal and Recycling Centre. Reserve funds rather than increased service fees will be used to eliminate a deficit of $51,478 in the facility operation. During 2014 it cost more to dispose of an increased tonnage of yard waste that was dropped off by residents along with additional costs associated with drywall recycling.

Regional Board Meetings

Regional District office – 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna (Woodhaven Board Room). Residents are welcome to attend.

- Monday, February 23rd – 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, February 25th – Preliminary Financial Plan Review to Governance and Services Committee – 8:30 am
- Thursday, March 12th – following 8:30 am Governance and Services Committee meeting
The Board Report is published monthly after each regular meeting of the Board of the Regional District of Central Okanagan. The Regional Board meets once a month in regular session in the Woodhaven Board Room at the Regional District office, 1450 KLO Road. The public is welcome to attend.

For copies of this publication or more information contact Bruce Smith, Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs 250-469-6339