



JOINT BIOSOLIDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021

VIA ZOOM – 9:00 A.M.

AGENDA

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 (attached)

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) 2020 Summary
- b) Leachate Management Update
- c) Odour Management Update
- d) Kelowna and Vernon Biosolids Update
- e) Regulatory Update
- f) Staffing Update

4. NEW BUSINESS

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a) Odour Reports

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2021 from 10 – 11 a.m. via zoom, providing the PHO is still in effect.

7. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES OF THE JOINT BIOSOLIDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020

PRESENT: VOTING – all attended via zoom

Kelowna Councillor Ryan Donn, Chair
Kelowna Councillor Gail Given
Kelowna Councillor Loyal Woodridge
Vernon Mayor Victor Cumming

ABSENT: Vernon Councillor Scott Anderson

STAFF: Scott Hoekstra, Landfill and Compost Manager, Kelowna
Chris Ovens, Acting Director, Operation Services, Vernon
Kevin Van Vliet, Utility Services Manager, Kelowna
Rod McLean, Utility Planning Manager, Kelowna
Joe Creron, Deputy City Manager, Kelowna
Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor, Kelowna
Serge Kozin, Manager, Water Reclamation Centre
Natasha Kositsin, Legislative Secretary, Vernon

ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Gail Given, seconded by Councillor Loyal Woodridge:

THAT the agenda for the Joint Biosolids Advisory Committee meeting of Wednesday, October 7, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED.

**ADOPTION OF
MINUTES**

Moved by Mayor Victor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gail Given:

THAT the minutes for the Joint Biosolids Advisory Committee meeting of Thursday, April 23, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**OVERVIEW/STATUS OF
LEACHATE AND
ODOUR MANAGEMENT
PLANS – UPDATE**

Leachate

At the September 19, 2019 Biosolids Advisory Committee meeting, the Biosolids Supervisor confirmed that pond re-lining was underway with a deadline of October 31, 2020. Leachate Management Plan also to be updated once re-lining complete. Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor provided a PowerPoint presentation and the following points were noted:

- Pond Lining completed in Spring 2020
- Left-over sludge tested to determine disposal options (additional cost)
- Disposal plan developed with Greater Vernon Diversion and Disposal Facility (2-3 years)

Odour Management

At the previous meeting, it was noted that the Ministry of Environment (MOE) requires a secondary odour treatment (required by permit). An odour-neutralizing misting system was proposed with installation required by June 30, 2020. MOE also required Odour Management Plan (OMP) update. Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor provided the following update:

- Misting system as secondary odour treatment (required by permit)
- Project was delayed but was completed this week
- Will operate May to October every year
- MOE asked for Odour Management Plan to elaborate on mix building practices
- Expand on potential odour sources (triggers, actions, responses)
- Incorporate findings of Air Emission Study
- Notice of misting system install completion and updated OMP submitted to Ministry of Environment

**WOODY BIOMASS
PROJECT – UPDATE**

Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor provided a staff report and the following update was provided:

- Feasibility study in 2018
- Market fluctuations in biomass supply
- Looking for outlets for compost and reclaimed water
- Support sustainability

- Large scale 6-year pilot project
- Concerns over cost/benefit, financial and property commitment and procurement
- Study was based on existing project for the City of Calgary
- One of largest willow plantations in north America which started in 2013
- Contacted Calgary team – land application of biosolids to grow willows – feasible and sustainable – willows have not been harvested and tested in biosolids/compost operation – starting composting trial this fall 2020
- City of Kelowna evaluating biosolids digester, which could reduce Kelowna’s biosolids contribution by 50%
- City of Vernon pretreatment plant for brewery wastes could reduce Vernon’s biosolids contribution by 25%
- New third party compost facility near Princeton could accept biosolids from Kelowna and Vernon - staff from both cities evaluating unsolicited proposals separately
- A willow biomass pilot would require significant investment
- No confirmation that willow biomass will be effective in compost operation
- Significant decrease in biosolids projected
- Wood supply has stabilized
- Recommendation for biomass project to be on hold for now – in 2021 or 2022 staff can evaluate if Calgary’s composting trial was successful
- Staff will continue to explore biosolids diversion strategies
- High rate anaerobic digester in Vernon actively working with consultants and probably break ground in spring and should be operational in 2021 phase one conveyance line will be completed in fall
- Kelowna digester will be completed in 2024 or 2025

**OGOGROW
SALES/FINANCIALS**

Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor City of Kelowna provided an update on Ogogrow Sales and Financials and the following notes were provided:

- As of August 31st we had sold 18,000 cubic meters
- Sales revenue is expected to be close to projected budget of \$339,996 by end of year
- Bulk sale offer helping move significant amounts through fall and winter (29,000 cubic yards committed)
- Budget 2021 above and beyond current operational budget change request for these projects- spread out over time as 2021 is going to be challenging due to COVID
- Noxious weed management - \$20,000

- Odor monitoring system renewal \$25,000
- Sludge management disposal \$200,000 over two to three years
- Large scale asphalt repairs will continue in 2021
- Mixing building repairs and membrane replacement expected 2022

**UPDATE ON
PROVINCIAL
GOVERNMENT PLAN
TO AMEND ORGANIC
MATTER RECYCLING
REGULATIONS**

Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor for the City of Kelowna reached out to the Ministry of Environment and was informed they will make an announcement regarding changes to the Regulation this Fall.

NEW BUSINESS:

**BIOSOLIDS
MANAGEMENT
PROPOSAL**

Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor for the City of Kelowna provided a power point presentation on Biosolids Management Proposal and the following points were noted:

- Large permitted compost facility near Princeton; run by Arrow Transport (Nutri-Grow)
- Can accept biosolids from Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) at a competitive rate
- Have approached cities (Kamloops, Vernon West Kelowna) in the region
- Proposal currently under evaluation

INFORMATION ITEMS:

ODOUR REPORTS

Jose Garcia, Biosolids Supervisor for the City of Kelowna reviewed odour reports including odour complaints from residents. The following points were noted:

- 13 odour reports to date in 2020
- Expect to be close to 2019's number by end of the year (16)
- Misting system, pond aeration and potential decrease in biosolids should help in coming year

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April, 2020 from 1 – 3 p.m., location and date to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Biosolids Advisory Committee adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

_____ Chair