



Regional District of Central Kootenay
WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE
Open Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, August 5, 2026
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Hybrid Model - In-person and Remote

Directors will have the opportunity to participate in the meeting electronically. Proceedings are open to the public.

Pages

1. ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFO

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

Meeting Time:

9:00 a.m. PST

Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/94251587997?pwd=lcttqVxsmjwxAZTmptO2CWlt27wI.1>

Join by Phone:

833 955 1088 Canada Toll-free

*6 to unmute or mute

*9 to raise or lower your hand

Meeting ID: 942 5158 7997

Passcode: 285704

In-Person Location: RDCK Boardroom, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC

2. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Chair Newell called the meeting to order at _____a.m.

2.1 TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

2.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION:

The agenda for the August 5, 2026 Water Services Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

2.3 RECEIPT OF MINUTES

4 - 9

The April 1, 2026 Water Services Committee minutes, have been received.

3. STAFF REPORTS

3.1 FOR INFORMATION: OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE & CAPITAL UPDATE

10 - 17

The Committee Report dated July 30, 2026 from Alexandra Divlakovski, Water Operations Manager providing an update to the Committee and highlighting the larger maintenance and capital projects completed to date in 2026, has been received.

3.2 FOR INFORMATION: WATER QUALITY REPORT

18 - 20

The Committee Report dated August 5, 2026 from Nathalie Nick, Environmental Coordinator summarizing the water advisories issued from January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026 for water systems operated by the Regional District, has been received.

3.3 VERBAL REPORT: GRANT OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE

Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager will provide a verbal update on the challenges finding and securing grant funding for water projects.

3.4 VERBAL REPORT: SYSTEM ACQUISITION UPDATE

Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager will provide a verbal update on water system acquisitions including the Robson Raspberry Improvement District, Taghum Improvement District and Armstrong Bay Improvement District.

3.5 REGIONAL WATER AND WASTEWATER SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK – GUIDANCE TOOLS FOR SUPPORTING THIRD PARTY WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY WORKS FUNDING

21 - 28

The Committee Report dated August 5, 2026 from Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager regarding the development of a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework that establishes guidance tools for supporting third party water and wastewater systems, including community works funding, has been received.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board direct staff to develop a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework that establishes the governance, principles, eligibility criteria, evaluation methodology, planning requirements and decision-making framework under which the RDCK may consider providing administrative, technical and financial support to non-RDCK water and wastewater systems, including consideration of Community Works Fund investments in eligible third-party water and wastewater infrastructure projects that demonstrate regional benefit and align with Board priorities.

4. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public and members of the media at _____ a.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

The Water Services Committee meeting adjourn at _____ a.m.



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING MINUTES

A Water Services Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 9:00 am PST through a hybrid meeting model.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Director G. Jackman	Area A	In-Person
Director R. Tierney	Area B	
Director K. Vandenberghe	Area C	
Director A. Watson	Area D	In-Person
Director C. Graham	Area E	
Director T. Newell	Area F (2026 Committee Chair)	In-Person
Director H. Cunningham	Area G	In-Person
Director W. Popoff	Area H	In-Person
Director H. Hanegraaf	Area J	
Director T. Weatherhead	Area K	
Councillor D. Dumas	Town of Creston	

GUEST DIRECTORS

Director A. Davidoff	Area I
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STAFF

S. Horn	Chief Administrative Officer
U. Wolf	General Manager of Environmental Services
C. Gainham	Utility Services Manager
A. Divlakovski	Water Operations Manager
E. Senyk	Water Services Liaison
E. Clark	Meeting Coordinator

11 out of 11 voting Commission/Committee members were present – quorum was met.

1. ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFO

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bcca.zoom.us/j/94251587997?pwd=lcttgVxsmjwxAZTmptO2CWLt27wICl.1>

Join by Phone:

833 955 1088 Canada Toll-free

Meeting ID: 942 5158 7997

Passcode: 285704

In-Person Location: RDCK Boardroom, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson BC

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Newell called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

MOVED and seconded,

And Resolved:

That Director Davidoff have freedom of the floor.

Carried

2.1 TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

2.2 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED and seconded,

And Resolved:

The Agenda for the April 1, 2026 Water Services Committee meeting, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

2.3 RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The February 4, 2026 Water Services Committee minutes, have been received.

ORDER OF AGENDA CHANGED

The Order of Business was changed to address Closed agenda items first, with Item 6. Closed considered at this time.

6. CLOSED

6.1 MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

MOVED and seconded,
And Resolved:

In the opinion of the Committee and, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter the public interest so requires that persons other than DIRECTORS, ALTERNATE DIRECTORS, DELEGATIONS AND STAFF be excluded from the meeting; AND FURTHER, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, the meeting is to be closed on the basis identified in the following Subsections:

90 (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;

(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

Carried

ORDER OF AGENDA CHANGED The Order of Business was changed to allow additional time for Item 3. Delegation at the end of the meeting, with Item 4. Staff Reports and Item 5. Public Time considered at this time.

4. STAFF REPORTS

4.1 FOR INFORMATION: OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee Report from Alexandra Divlakovski, Water Operations Manager providing an update and highlighting the larger maintenance and capital projects completed to date in 2026, has been received.

4.2 PRESENTATION: BC WATER METERING COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Alexandra Divlakovski, Water Operations Manager will give a presentation titled "BC Water Metering Community of Practice". The presentation has been received.

4.3 FOR INFORMATION: ERICKSON WATER SYSTEM UNIVERSAL METERING PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee Report from Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager providing an update on the Erickson Water System's Universal Metering Program Installation Approach and Implementation, has been received.

4.4 UTILITIES RATES, FEES & CHARGES BYLAW NO. 3077, 2026

The Committee Report from Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager to repeal and replace Regional District of Central Kootenay Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3027, 2025 with Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3077, 2026, has been received.

MOVED and seconded,
And resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

That the Regional District of Central Kootenay Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3077, 2026 be read a first, second and third time by content to repeal and replace Regional District of Central Kootenay Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3027, 2025.

Carried

MOVED and seconded,
And resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

That Regional District of Central Kootenay Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3077, 2026 be ADOPTED and the Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the same.

Carried

4.5 WATER BYLAW NO. 3078, 2026

The Committee Report from Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager to repeal and replace Water Bylaw No. 2894, 2023 with Water Bylaw No. 3078, 2026, has been received.

MOVED and seconded,
And resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

That the Regional District of Central Kootenay Water Bylaw No. 3078, 2026 be read a first, second and third time by content to repeal and replace Regional District of Central Kootenay Water Bylaw No. 2894, 2023.

Carried

MOVED and seconded,
And resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

That Regional District of Central Kootenay Water Bylaw No. 3078, 2026 be ADOPTED and the Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the same.

Carried

5. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair called for questions from the public at 10:21 a.m.

No questions from the public.

RECESS / The meeting recessed at 10:22 am for a break and reconvened at 10:35 a.m.
RECONVENE

ORDER OF AGENDA Item 3. Delegate was considered at this time.
RESUMED

3. DELEGATE

Timothy Lambert from Wildgrass Consulting gave presentation to the Committee on the Governance of Small Water Systems: One Water System Risk Management Plan.

Mr. Lambert’s presentation explained that small water systems often lack clear governance guidance and face challenges managing drinking water, wastewater, and watershed risks. A One Water System Risk Management Plan—built through locally created bylaws—offers a practical way to manage these risks, as shown through the Nasookin Improvement District case study. Point-of-entry treatment, distribution agreements, and community-driven processes form a decentralized, affordable, and holistic approach to improving water system governance.

The Committee asked Mr. Lambert several questions.

The Chair thanked Mr. Lambert for his presentation.

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded,
And Resolved:

The Water Services Committee meeting adjourn at 11:50 a.m.

Carried

APPROVED BY

Director T. Newell, Chair

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. That the Regional District of Central Kootenay Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3077, 2026 be read a first, second and third time by content to repeal and replace Regional District of Central Kootenay Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3027, 2025.
2. That Regional District of Central Kootenay Utilities Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3077, 2026 be ADOPTED and the Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the same.
3. That the Regional District of Central Kootenay Water Bylaw No. 3078, 2026 be read a first, second and third time by content to repeal and replace Regional District of Central Kootenay Water Bylaw No. 2894, 2023.
4. That Regional District of Central Kootenay Water Bylaw No. 3078, 2026 be ADOPTED and the Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the same.



Committee Report – For Information

Date of Report: July 30, 2026
Date & Type of Meeting: August 5, 2026, Water Services Committee
Author: Alexandra Divlakovski, Water Operations Manager
Subject: OPERATIONS MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL UPDATE
File: 11-5700-01-2026
Electoral Area/Municipality All Areas

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Committee and highlight the larger maintenance and capital projects completed to date in 2026.

SECTION 2: BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Please note: there will be a delay of some Capital Projects due to Project Management staff availability.

This report does not necessarily include annual preventative maintenance. Examples of preventative maintenance include: equipment oil changes, distribution system flushing, distribution valve exercising, daily/weekly system checks, hydrant inspections, vegetation care and fleet management.

Abbreviations:

DCVA – Double Check Valve Assembly
HMI – Human Machine Interface
MIT – Membrane Integrity Testing
PLC – Programmable Logic Controllers
HVAC – Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning
SCADA – Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition
SRoW – Statutory Right-of-Way
WTP – Water Treatment Plant
RFP – Request for Proposal
UVT – Ultraviolet Transmittance
BoD – Board of Directors

WATER EAST

Arrow Creek

Operations and Maintenance

- All 4 Membrane Filter Trains are failing MITs. Fibre repairs are completed on Train 2 but there is unknown air leakage in the back of the cassettes due to aging brittle piping and seals so still not passing MITs, will start repairs on Train 1 when time and water demand allows.
- Recovery Cleans and tank cleaning completed in May 2026 on all 4 Trains.

- Instrumentation and portable chlorine and turbidity testing kit inspection, calibration and maintenance completed early July.
- Preventative Maintenance: Annual Inspection/maintenance of the diesel generator completed in May, Air Dryer maintenance kit replaced, new auto drain valves installed on the compressors and air dryer, chemical dosing pumps repair kits to be replaced.
- Currently scheduling annual inspection and maintenance of the Fire Suppression System.

Capital

- 70% design drawings completed for planned intake upgrades.
- Corroded metal doors & frames replaced, painted and new weather-stripping installation completed to seal up WTP rooms as part of the building energy savings project.

Ongoing Considerations

The Arrow Creek water treatment plant has historically reached maximum emergency rated capacity in high demand months (July-August).

Erickson

Operations and Maintenance

- Locating service valves and works with contractors and Project Manager staff for properties of all 5 contract packages for Phase 2 meter installations.
- Installing new valves updating aging road crossings on service lines.
- Patched asphalt in parking lots at Second Hand Heaven and Big Foot Café (repainted mobility sign and lines of parking stalls) after installing new service valves and meter pits in Phase 1.

Capital

- All 5 contract packages for Phase 2 universal metering supply and installation have been awarded.
- Contracts # 1 and #2 have begun installations (averaging 3 meter/pits per day).
- Phase 1 universal metering installation for all new tandem meter/pits is completed.
- Approx. 80 installations for Phase 2 universal metering have been completed.
- Project to re-service 6 properties and relocated water main in road right-of-way will be completed this fall.
- Some Phase 2 properties will have delayed meter installations to accommodate agricultural use timelines (i.e. harvesting).
- Public meeting held July 20th to discuss metering project.

Ongoing Considerations

Asbestos cement and steel pipe sections of distribution system require replacement and/or relocation off private land.

Lister

Operations and Maintenance

- Chlorine dosing pump failure resulted in a backup pump being installed and replacement parts ordered/fitted in failed pump.

Capital

- Design for the water main project replacing approximately 800m of 2" water main with 4" HDPE or PVC along 16th street is near completion.

Ongoing Considerations

No irrigation privileges beyond 1 acre of domestic irrigation are allowed in Lister due to the existing high water demand of the system as compared to what the groundwater well can produce.

Riondel

Operations and Maintenance

- Both chlorine analyzers (WTP and post-reservoir) have new sensors and are holding calibration.
- Reservoir drained overnight due to mechanical issues that caused the treatment system to cycle on/off, which resulted in demand exceeding production. Operators ultimately determined that the issue was a process restriction caused by a clogged screen in the Y – strainer before the valve to release water into the reservoir. Once the screen was cleaned out, flow through the WTP returned to normal.
- The Amiad pre-filter began faulting causing reduced reservoir levels. Operators performed repairs reinstating pre-filter operation for several days until a complete failure occurred and the WTP had to be bypassed to maintain water in the reservoirs. Several key components of the pre-filter were replaced and the bypass was disengaged. Distribution system flushing and follow-up testing was completed to ensure potability of water.
- Stage 2 water conservation measures implemented.

Capital

- The Indian Creek intake metal top cover replacement installation was completed in April and the old wood removed.
- 1 of 2 overhead heaters replaced and both will be connected to a new programable thermostat.
- Investigation/planning for the repair of cement spalling on the Indian Creek intake will occur in August when dam and intake drains are completed and a contractor can access the site. Repairs will need to be scheduled during the fish window in the summer of 2027.
- Plumbing and electrical upgrades for WTP have been completed: replaced corroded electrical boxes, removed two corroded decommissioned cartridge filter canisters, replaced 2 corroded butterfly valves pre and post break tank, and replaced corroded PRV.

Ongoing Considerations

The golf course is a large water consumer and the system would benefit from the golf course securing a separate water source. A water license was issued January 31, 2025, to the Riondel Golf Club Society for 47,750 m3/year from Kootenay Lake.

Sanca

Operations and Maintenance

- Nothing significant in the reporting period.

Capital

- Staff continue to move toward adjusting the water system boundary (remove the two northern parcels) and converting the specified area bylaw into a service establishment bylaw.

Ongoing Considerations

This system remains on a long-term Boil Water Notice. Proposed borrowing for a water treatment plant was presented to the community in 2016, however, it was not approved.

WATER WEST

Balfour

Operations and Maintenance

- Leak identified and repaired on Hwy 3A.
- Meter pits installed on two services to replace meters previously installed inside the house
- UVT analyzer is failing and will need to be replaced.
- Spring THM HAA testing completed.

Capital

- Secondary water source water treatment plant design nearly complete.

Ongoing Considerations

New secondary water source in development.

Burton

Operations and Maintenance

- Spring distribution chlorination and flushing completed

Capital

- Construction of new water main replacing 233 m of 6" asbestos cement has been awarded to Milestone Construction and will begin August 4th.

Ongoing Considerations

The system is on a long-term Water Quality Advisory due to historical water quality concerns. The groundwater source may be considered Groundwater at Risk of Containing Pathogens (GARP) virus only as it is within the 300m setback from a source of probable viral contamination. GARP virus only wells are identified as requiring 4-log reduction of viruses (disinfection) and zero total and fecal coliforms per Provincial treatment guidelines.

Duhamel

Operations and Maintenance

- Annual flushing and valve exercising completed

Capital

- No capital works were completed during this reporting period.

Ongoing Considerations

A significant portion of the distribution system is located on private land. Asbestos cement pipe within the distribution system requires replacement.

Edgewood

Operations and Maintenance

- One service leak identified and repaired
- Annual distribution flushing and valve exercising completed

Capital

- Design drawings for PN03 (Kilarney Crescent) water main replacement project are 50% complete.

Ongoing Considerations

Asbestos cement pipe within the distribution system requires replacement.

Fauquier

Operations and Maintenance

- Intake weir cleaned out Spring THM HAA testing completed.

Capital

- Construction of remaining water main along Oak street awarded to Milestone Construction and will begin in September.

Ongoing Considerations

Asbestos cement pipe within the distribution system requires replacement. UV disinfection was required by Interior Health at the time of treatment plant construction but at a later date. Investigation on installing pre-filtration equipment to reduce turbidity underway.

Grandview

Operations and Maintenance

- One meter pit installed to replace a meter inside the house.
- Spring THM HAA testing completed.

Capital

- No capital works were completed during this reporting period.

Ongoing Considerations

A higher occupancy rate for this system would improve financial sustainability.

Rosebery

Operations and Maintenance

- Annual flushing and valve exercising completed.
- Reservoir inspected with ROV.
- THM HAA testing completed.

Capital

- No capital works were completed during this reporting period.

Ongoing Considerations

A higher occupancy rate for this system would improve financial sustainability.

South Slocan

Operations and Maintenance

- Annual dam inspection and cleaning completed.
- Annual flushing and valve exercising completed.
- Spring THM HAA sampling completed.

Capital

- An Interior Health Waterworks Construction Permit application was issued for the replacement of water main sections and valves along South Slocan Village Road.
- Request for quote sent out for construction to four contractors. Pre-bid meeting on August 5th.

Ongoing Considerations

The distribution system is comprised of aged materials and likely has significant leakage.

Woodland Heights

Operations and Maintenance

- Annual flushing and valve exercising completed
- On going poor cellular reception at the site is causing internet communication issues.
- THM HAA and Nitrate testing completed.
- Stage 2 water conservation measures implemented.

Capital

- No capital works were completed during this reporting period.

Ongoing Considerations

Per capita consumption during summer months is highest in this system, and repeated reminders of adherence to Water Conservations Measures are necessary.

Woodbury

Operations and Maintenance

- Annual flushing and valve exercising completed
- New EHO visit to the site.
- Spring THM HAA sampling completed

Capital

- No capital works were completed during this reporting period.

Ongoing Considerations

System is meeting filtration deferral criteria and reporting requirements that are required to operate without accredited filtration.

West Robson

Operations and Maintenance

- Spring distribution flushing completed.
- One well disinfected and flushed to reduce iron bacteria.
- One service line leak identified and repaired.
- Online Turbidity analyzer no longer serviceable

Capital

Broadwater Road casing pipes installed for future water main replacement project.

Ongoing Considerations

Asbestos cement pipe in the distribution system requires replacement.

Ymir

Operations and Maintenance

- PLC hardware failure required a controls contractor to help troubleshoot and update programming.
- Spring THM HAA sampling completed.

Capital

- No capital works were completed during this reporting period.

Ongoing Considerations

ATCO is planning a logging development in the Ymir Water System watershed. The RDCK is working with ATCO and the Ymir community on this issue.

SECTION 3: DETAILED ANALYSIS

3.1 Financial Considerations – Cost and Resource Allocations:

Included in Financial Plan:	☐ Yes ☐ No	Financial Plan Amendment:	☐ Yes ☐ No
Debt Bylaw Required:	☐ Yes ☐ No	Public/Gov't Approvals Required:	☐ Yes ☐ No

All items mentioned in the body of the report are included in the 2025 financial plan.

3.2 Legislative Considerations (Applicable Policies and/or Bylaws):

Some items listed in the body of the report require regulatory approval.

3.3 Environmental Considerations

N/A

3.4 Social Considerations:

The items in the body of the report benefit the water system users by providing safe, reliable water sources.

3.5 Economic Considerations:

N/A

3.6 Communication Considerations:

The public will be notified before planned service interruptions or water quality impacts.

3.7 Staffing/Departmental Workplace Considerations:

N/A

3.8 Board Strategic Plan/Priorities Considerations:

Organizational excellence - Continue to focus on our core services to ensure effective and efficient delivery through our Region.

SECTION 4: OPTIONS & PROS / CONS

None.

SECTION 5: RECOMMENDATIONS

None. For information only.



Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra Divlakovski, Water Operations Manager

CONCURRENCE

None



Committee Report – For Information

August 5, 2026

RDCK Water System Advisories

Author: Nathalie Nick, Environmental Coordinator - Utilities
File Reference: Water Services SharePoint – Staff Reporting – Water Services Committee
Electoral Area/Municipality: All
Services Impacted Water Services – All Water Systems

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to summarize the water advisories issued from January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026 for water systems operated by the Regional District.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND UPDATE

The two types of water advisories issued and detailed in this report are Water Quality Advisories and Boil Water Notices. On very rare occasions, a Do Not Consume Notice may be issued for a variety of reasons, and mean that the water cannot be made safe to drink by boiling. A Water Quality Advisory alerts water users that water quality is reduced, and those with compromised or sensitive immune systems should boil water prior to consumption. A Boil Water Notice alerts water users that water quality is potentially or currently a health risk, and water must be boiled prior to consumption. A Do Not Consume Notice alerts water users that water quality is potentially or currently a health risk, and water must not be consumed by people or pets, or used for food preparation, but may still be used for bathing.

Notices and advisories detailed in this report are one of three categories: long-term advisories, temporary (current) advisories, and advisories that have been issued and rescinded within the reporting period.

LONG TERM ADVISORIES				
RDCK Water System	Advisory Type	Date of Advisory	Reason for Advisory	Action
Burton	Water Quality Advisory	Jan 12, 2017	Re-occurring presence of E.Coli and Total Coliform	Water Quality Action Plan implemented as per Board Resolution 534/17.
Sanca Park	Boil Water Notice	Jun 2000	Lack of treatment infrastructure	A Risk Management Policy (600-03-07) was presented at the Nov 04 2023 Water Services Committee meeting and subsequently adopted by the Board of Directors via resolution 607/23

TEMPORARY ADVISORIES				
RDCK Water System	Advisory Type	Date of Advisory	Reason for Advisory	Action
Balfour	Boil Water Notice Localized	February 5, 2026	Leak repair	Advisory in place as a precaution and until water quality test results good
Erickson	Boil Water Notice Localized	April 15, 2026	Service work	Advisory in place as a precaution and until water quality test results good
Balfour	Boil Water Notice Localized	May 12, 2026	Leak repair	Advisory was rescinded same day. Not required as main remained pressurized.
Erickson	Boil Water Notice Localized	June 3, 2026	Valve replacement	Advisory in place as a precaution and until water quality test results good
Erickson	Boil Water Notice Localized	June 9, 2026	Meter installation	Advisory in place as a precaution and until water quality test results good
Riondel	Boil Water Notice and Emergency Restrictions	May 25, 2026	Level sensor failure	Advisory in place as a precaution and until water quality test results good
West Robson	Boil Water Notice	June 22, 2026	Construction	Advisory in place as a precaution and until water quality test results good

ADVISORIES RESCINDED				
RDCK Water System	Advisory Type	Date of Advisory	Date of Rescind	Reason for Rescind
Balfour	Boil Water Notice Localized	February 5, 2026	February 12, 2026	Leak repair complete*
Erickson	Boil Water Notice Localized	April 15, 2026	April 23, 2026	Service work complete*
Balfour	Boil Water Notice Localized	May 12, 2026	May 12, 2026	Not required due to main remaining pressurized.

Erickson	Boil Water Notice Localized	June 9, 2026	June 10, 2026	Meter installation complete and main remained depressurized*
Riondel	Boil Water Notice and Emergency Restrictions	May 25, 2026	June 11, 2026	Repair completed and WQ good*
West Robson	Boil Water Notice	June 22, 2026	July 10, 2026	Work completed and WQ good

*Notice/advisory issued as a precautionary measure and will be/was rescinded after two consecutive water quality tests indicate that water quality is/was good in the water system.

3.0 NEXT STEPS AND TIMELINE

None.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathalie Nick, Environmental Coordinator – Utility Services

CONCURRENCE

Utility Services Manager – Chris Gainham **DIGITALLY APPROVED**

ATTACHMENTS:

None



Water Services Committee Report

August 5, 2026

Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework – Guidance Tools for Supporting Third Party Water and Wastewater Systems, Including Community Works Funding

Author: Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager
File Reference: 01/0515/20
Electoral Area/Municipality: ALL ELECTORAL AREAS
Services Impacted N/A

1.0 STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board direct staff to develop a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework that establishes the governance, principles, eligibility criteria, evaluation methodology, planning requirements and decision-making framework under which the RDCK may consider providing administrative, technical and financial support to non-RDCK water and wastewater systems, including consideration of Community Works Fund investments in eligible third-party water and wastewater infrastructure projects that demonstrate regional benefit and align with Board priorities.

2.0 BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The RDCK owns and operates one of the largest portfolios of drinking water systems in British Columbia. In addition to RDCK-owned systems, there are hundreds of non-local government owned and operated water and wastewater systems in the region, including improvement districts (30 are within the boundary of the RDCK and 30 of these currently have Expression of Interest submissions to become an RDCK service). Collectively, these systems provide essential drinking water and wastewater services to thousands of residents, support businesses, including tourism, agricultural operations, general economic vitality and represent a significant component of the region's critical infrastructure.

Over the past several years, staff have observed increasing challenges facing many of these independent systems. Aging infrastructure, increasing regulatory requirements, volunteer governance, operator recruitment and retention, limited financial capacity, and the increasing complexity of asset management and capital planning have placed significant pressure on many system owners. These challenges are not unique to the RDCK and have been well documented through provincial reports, including Dr Bonnie Henry's 2019 Provincial Health Officer Drinking Water Report "Clean, Safe, and Reliable Drinking Water: An Update on Drinking Water Protection in BC and the Action Plan for Safe Drinking Water in British Columbia which identified long-standing capacity and resource gaps affecting many of British Columbia's small water systems.

Recognizing both the importance of these systems and the growing interest in regional collaboration, the Water Services Committee has previously considered the RDCK's role in supporting non-RDCK owned water and

wastewater systems. In December 2023, the Committee considered a report regarding potential support options and recommended that consideration of additional staffing and expanded support be deferred until after the Board had made a decision regarding the moratorium on accepting applications for new RDCK water and wastewater services (Resolution 713/23).

Since that time, the Board has lifted the moratorium and adopted the Water and Wastewater System Acquisition Policy together with the Water and Wastewater System Acquisition Plan. These documents establish a structured and transparent process for evaluating requests from systems wishing to pursue RDCK ownership and operation and identify the criteria under which acquisition may be considered. While acquisition provides an important long-term solution for some systems, it is neither appropriate nor desired in every circumstance. Many independent systems have indicated that they wish to remain locally owned and operated but may benefit from targeted administrative, technical or financial support to improve long-term sustainability.

At the same time, the RDCK continues to receive requests from non-RDCK system owners seeking assistance with a wide range of matters including asset lifecycle management, water science and engineering support, project management support for capital planning/delivery and grant funding. While staff provide assistance where appropriate/available, these requests are currently evaluated on an individual basis as no Board-approved governance framework exists to establish when support should be considered, how requests should be prioritized, or how regional benefit should be evaluated.

Recent changes to the Community Works Fund program flag the need for a more structured approach. UBCM has advised that local governments considering Community Works Fund investments in third-party infrastructure projects should demonstrate that those projects are eligible and supported through Board-approved planning processes, integrated into long-term financial planning and evaluated using transparent governance and asset management principles. While the RDCK has a number of policies, plans and governance tools already in place, including the Board Strategic Plan, Water and Wastewater System Acquisition Policy, Water and Wastewater System Acquisition Plan, Community Works Fund Policy and Five-Year Financial Plan, there is currently no overarching framework that establishes how these documents should be applied when considering support for non-RDCK water and wastewater systems.

Development of a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework provides an opportunity to address this gap by establishing an eligibility, prioritization and decision-making processes for future requests. The Framework is intended to support transparent and defensible Board decision-making, improve consistency in the evaluation of support requests, and provide the framework necessary to consider future Community Works Fund investments in eligible 3rd-party water and wastewater infrastructure projects where a demonstrable regional benefit exists.

3.0 PROBLEM OR OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

In recent years, staff have experienced an increase in requests from non-RDCK Water and Wastewater Systems seeking assistance with infrastructure assessment and asset management planning, governance, interpretation of legislation, grant applications, engineering, project management and funding. Many water and wastewater systems operate with limited financial, technical and administrative capacity and have aging infrastructure assets in need of lifecycle management.

The Board has already acknowledged the RDCK's regional role through adoption of the Water and Wastewater System Acquisition Policy and the Water and Wastewater System Acquisition Plan. Those documents establish a clear process for evaluating requests from systems wishing to become RDCK services. However, many independent systems do not necessarily need or wish to pursue acquisition but often do need assistance, including financial assistance that would allow them to remain sustainable under their existing ownership structure. While acquisition remains an important option for some communities, it should not become the default solution for every independent system experiencing operational or financial challenges. A governance framework that allows the Board to strategically consider targeted support measures may help maintain the long-term sustainability of independent systems where continued local ownership remains appropriate and viable.

Recent changes to the Community Works Fund program have further highlighted this gap. UBCM has confirmed that 3rd-party infrastructure projects must be identified through Board-supported planning processes, integrated into long-term financial planning and supported by appropriate governance, due diligence and asset management practices before Community Works Fund investments are considered. While the RDCK has many of the individual governance tools already in place, it does not currently have the overarching framework necessary to evaluate requests for support and direct funds to eligible 3rd parties. The absence of a framework presents several challenges. It limits the RDCK's ability to demonstrate that funding decisions are transparent, equitable, and aligned with Board priorities. It also makes it more difficult to demonstrate that Community Works Fund investments in third-party infrastructure satisfy evolving UBCM program expectations.

Development of a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework presents an opportunity to establish this decision-making framework with an intent to provide the Board with a transparent and defensible process for evaluating requests for support while ensuring RDCK-owned infrastructure remains the organization's first priority. Strategic investment in eligible third-party infrastructure may reduce future acquisition pressures and allow the RDCK to focus its resources on systems where regional ownership provides the greatest long-term benefit.

3.1 Alignment to Board Strategic Plan

Development of a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework supports several objectives within the Board Strategic Plan.

The development of a Framework would support Organizational Excellence by establishing consistent governance, transparency, and provide a clear decision-making process for future requests from non-RDCK water and wastewater systems.

It supports Managing Assets and Service Delivery in a Fiscally Responsible Manner by establishing objective evaluation criteria for potential investments, encouraging asset management planning, and ensuring any future Community Works Fund investments are aligned with regional priorities and long-term financial sustainability.

The Framework supports the Board Strategic Priority to Develop Relationships and Partnerships by recognizing that water and wastewater sustainability is a shared regional responsibility involving improvement districts, municipalities, First Nations, water user communities, utilities, and provincial agencies. It establishes a structured process through which the RDCK may collaborate with these organizations when doing so supports regional objectives

The creation of a Framework will also support the Board's objectives related to environmental stewardship, climate resilience, and regional service delivery by supporting infrastructure planning and sustainable asset management with strategic investment decisions that improve long-term resilience across the region.

3.2 Legislative Considerations

The Local Government Act provides regional districts with broad authority to provide services through service establishment bylaws. Section 334 also authorizes regional districts to provide services by agreement to public authorities, including improvement districts. The proposed Framework would leverage governance principles and evaluation criteria that staff and the Board may apply when considering future requests for administrative, technical, or financial support.

Support provided to private organizations, societies, strata corporations, or privately owned utilities requires additional consideration under the Community Charter, including provisions related to assistance to business.

The Framework would also be developed considering RDCK Community Works Fund Policy # 300-09-06, RDCK Water and Wastewater Systems Acquisition Plan and Policy, the Board Strategic Plan and the RDCK Five-Year Financial Plan and other relevant legislation.

3.3 What Are the Risks

One of the strategic risks facing the RDCK is the large number of water and wastewater systems throughout the region that may require some form of assistance to remain sustainable. While the Board has established an Expression of Interest process for systems wishing to pursue becoming an RDCK service, acquisition is not the preferred or appropriate solution for every system. Acquisition and system transfer is a complex and time-consuming process, and RDCK staff have limited capacity to transfer systems to RDCK ownership and may only acquire one or two systems annually/semiannually.

Many independent systems are fundamentally viable but face specific challenges such as aging infrastructure and limited access to capital funding. In some cases, relatively modest investments in lifecycle asset management/capital replacement or technical assistance may enable these systems to remain sustainable under their existing ownership structure. Strategic investment in eligible 3rd-party water and wastewater systems and infrastructure may reduce future acquisition pressures and allow the RDCK to focus its resources on systems where regional ownership provides the greatest long-term benefit to the public.

Without a consistent framework to evaluate opportunities for strategic support, including consideration of eligible Community Works Fund investments, there is a risk that otherwise sustainable systems may continue to deteriorate. This may increase future requests for RDCK ownership at a time when organizational capacity, financial resources, and staff availability limit the number of systems that can reasonably be integrated into the regional utility portfolio.

Developing a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework and supporting tools including a prioritization matrix and guidance on asset management assessments, would provide the Board with a transparent and defensible process for identifying circumstances where targeted administrative, technical, or financial support may help improve long-term sustainability of water and wastewater systems. A Framework would also help ensure that public funding is dedicated to water infrastructure assets that can be managed sustainably over their entire lifecycle and supported by an asset management plan.

4.0 PROPOSED SOLUTION

Staff propose developing a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework that establishes the governance, planning, and decision-making structure under which the RDCK may consider providing administrative, technical, and financial support, including 3rd party Community Works Funding to non-RDCK water and wastewater systems.

As part of this work, staff would develop tools for decision making and prioritization, for example a Regional Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project Evaluation Matrix or similar that would be used to support consistent and transparent evaluation of requests and assessment of eligibility for RDCK administrative, technical or financial support. The matrix will also be used to evaluate requests for Community Works Fund support where applicable.

An evaluation matrix would be structured to answer a number of questions and evaluate whether the RDCK should support a project or initiative by answering the following

Q1) Should the RDCK support this type of project?

Q2) If yes, what form of support is appropriate?

- Technical advice and support
- Community Works Funding consideration
- Acquisition discussion?

Q3) If Community Works Funding support is requested, does it satisfy both UBCM requirements and RDCK Board priorities?

4.1 Financial Considerations of the Proposed Solution

Approval of the staff recommendation would direct staff to develop the Framework using existing staff resources that are currently funded via the transfer to Utility Services (A103) from Rural Administration (S101) and this is further explained in section 4.3 of this report.

Any financial implications associated with future implementation of recommendations arising from the Framework, including potential Community Works Fund allocations impact on services, would be the subject of future Board reports.

4.2 Risks with the Proposed Solution

Development of the Framework represents a relatively low organizational risk. The primary risks relate to staff resource availability and competing work priorities during preparation of the document. These risks can be mitigated by utilizing existing policies, plans and governance documents as the foundation for the Framework and through consultation with Corporate Administration, Finance and other internal departments as appropriate.

Conversely, not developing the Framework would leave the RDCK without a consistent governance and decision-making process for evaluating requests from 3rd party water and wastewater systems. It would also be a barrier to the RDCK's ability to consider future Community Works Fund investments in eligible water and

wastewater infrastructure projects, as current UBCM requirements require a Board-approved governance and planning framework to support such investments.

4.3 Resource Allocation and Workplan Impact

Funding of staff and resources dedicated to assisting non-RDCK water and wastewater systems and for work related to the system acquisition process is currently funded by a \$75,000 (2026 budget) contribution from Rural Administration (S101) to Utility Services (A103).

Preparation of the Framework would be led by Utility Services staff with input from Corporate Administration and Finance. The Framework would be developed as workload permits and staff would return to the Water Services Committee and Board for consideration upon completion. Should the Board desire an accelerated completion of the framework, additional external or internal resources are required.

4.4 Public Benefit and Stakeholder Engagement of Proposed Solution

Development of the Framework provides an opportunity to establish a transparent and equitable process for evaluating future requests from 3rd party non-RDCK water and wastewater systems. At this stage, the work is primarily an internal initiative and engagement will focus on RDCK staff and Directors. Should the Board approve the development of the Framework, staff will report back with a proposed approach to stakeholder engagement.

4.5 Leveraging Technology

The proposed Framework provides an opportunity to improve consistency and efficiency through the use of evaluation tools, project prioritization matrices and sharing and guidance associated with publicly available asset management resources. Development of centralized web-based guidance and resource materials may also improve access to information for non-RDCK system owners while reducing repetitive staff inquiries.

4.5 Measuring Success

Success will be measured through completion of the Framework and Board consideration of the final document. Longer-term measures of success may include establishment of consistent project evaluation criteria, improved transparency in Board decision-making, clearer alignment between Community Works Fund investments and Board priorities, increased readiness of eligible third-party projects for external funding opportunities, and improved regional collaboration with independent water and wastewater system owners.

5.0 ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION(S)

The alternative is the status-quo and this will result in continued ineligibility for Community Works grants for external water systems

5.1 Financial Considerations of the Alternative Solution(s)

N/A

5.2 Risks with the Alternative Solution(s)

The Board has already acknowledged, through lifting the moratorium and establishing the Expression of Interest process, that water and wastewater system acquisition should be strategic and not every system that may experience difficulties can automatically become an RDCK utility service.

Many independent systems are fundamentally viable but face specific challenges such as aging infrastructure, governance capacity, asset management, regulatory compliance, or limited access to capital funding. In some cases, relatively modest investments or technical assistance may enable these systems to remain sustainable under their existing ownership structure.

While acquisition remains an important option for some communities, it should not become the default solution for every independent system experiencing operational or financial challenges. A governance framework that allows the Board to strategically consider targeted support may help maintain the long-term sustainability of independent systems where continued local ownership remains appropriate and viable.

5.3 Resource Allocation and Workplan Impact

N/A.

5.4 Public Benefit and Stakeholder Engagement of Proposed Solution

N/A

5.5 Measuring Success

N/A

7.0 OPTIONS SUMMARY

Option 1:

Recommendation:

That the Board direct staff to develop a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework that establishes the governance, principles, eligibility criteria, evaluation methodology, planning requirements and decision-making framework under which the RDCK may consider providing administrative, technical and financial support to non-RDCK water and wastewater systems, including consideration of Community Works Fund investments in eligible third-party water and wastewater infrastructure projects that demonstrate regional benefit and align with Board priorities.

Option 2:

Recommendation:

That the Board direct staff to take no further action

8.0 RECOMMENDATION

That the Board direct staff to develop a Regional Water and Wastewater Sustainability Framework that establishes the governance, principles, eligibility criteria, evaluation methodology, planning requirements and decision-making framework under which the RDCK may consider providing administrative, technical and financial support to non-RDCK water and wastewater systems, including consideration of Community Works Fund investments in eligible third-party water and wastewater infrastructure projects that demonstrate regional benefit and align with Board priorities.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Gainham, Utility Services Manager

CONCURRENCE

General Manager of Environmental Services (Acting CAO) – Uli Wolf

ATTACHMENTS:

None