

BCID QUARTERLY REPORT

Beaver Creek Improvement District
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Chairman's Report

The Beaver Creek Improvement District Board and staff are pleased to extend their best wishes to everyone for a happy and prosperous 2011.

Here is the Chairman's report for the year ending Dec 2010:

The Board continues to work on gathering all the information needed to present to the residents on the issue of governance.

We are faced with a huge project to bring the water system into compliance with the Health Authority requirements. There are a number of choices as to how we can achieve this.

Gathering all of the information needed to make an informed decision has been an arduous and at times frustrating process. But I think we are winning.

INSIDE THIS REPORT

Chairman's Report for year ending Dec 2010	1
2011 Water Rates	1
2011 Taxation Law	2
Maintenance & Upgrades	3
Water conservation; Winter/Spring	4

We know that with the options available we are looking at a capital outlay of between two and six million dollars.

Also facing us is the issue of catching up on all of the maintenance related projects that have gone unfunded for years. The board has started to address this issue. There will be an increase in the tax levied in June to provide funds to begin work on these system

Continued on page 2.

2011 Water rates

1st Use Rate - **\$31.00** per month, **\$93.00** per quarter for a total of **\$372.00** yearly

2nd Use Rate - **\$38.00** per month, **\$114.00** per quarter for a total of **\$456.00** yearly

Water tax - **\$238.00** due and payable on or before June 30, 2010.

Water Overages will still be charged out at \$5.00 per thousand gallons over, plus the \$4.00 administration charge.

Chairman . . . continued from page 1.

maintenance projects. The first project, which we have already started, is the upgrade to the North End Booster station. The pumps in the booster station are old and no longer able to supply the needed flows.

Separate from this question is the issue of how we pay for these projects.

As an Improvement District the government has repeatedly said that we are not eligible to apply for any major grant programs.

As a Regional District Service area, the Regional District is eligible to apply for grants from most of the grant programs. This is no guarantee that the Regional Board will choose to apply for grants on our behalf or that we will be successful in winning grants.

I think this issue needs to be decided soon. But again getting the necessary information together to make an informed choice but it seems to be a complicated process.

Ted Maczulat, Board Chairman

2011 Taxation By-law

By-law #232, the 2011 Taxation By-Law, was passed on Dec. 6, 2010.

A tax of \$238 on all parcels of land classified in Group A has been levied for the year 2011. As well, Group B classified parcels of land will also be levied \$238. For parcels classified in Group C, the tax is nil.

These taxes will be due and payable on or before June 30, 2011.

All taxes remaining unpaid after June 30, 2011 will be subject to a 10 per cent addition. For taxes remaining unpaid after Dec. 31, 2011, a further 10 per cent addition will apply.

These additional charges are pursuant to Section 760 of the Local Government Act, all taxes remaining unpaid shall bear interest at the rate prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor in council under Section 11(3) of the Taxation (Rural Area) Act from March 1st, 2012.

Water rates for 2011 will remain the same, as they were raised twice in 2010.

Beaver Creek Improvement District water board regular monthly meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month and start at 7 pm in the Improvement District Office

B-6038 Beaver Creek Road

Public attendance and input is welcomed!

Upcoming meetings will be on January 17, February 21 and March 21, 2011.

How's the weather?

For quick access to up-to-the-minute information on weather quality and weather conditions, see BCID's web page: <http://www.beavercreekwater.ca>

Maintenance & Upgrades

Bruce Forsyth, Supervisor



Broken watermain at Kitsuksis under repair

The New Year started off with a busy work day repairing a watermain along Walker Road. It took most of the day and well into the night to complete the work.

Our two ongoing maintenance projects are the upgrade of the North Reservoir and repair of the Kitsuksis Reservoir.

At the North Reservoir, the electrical and building construction is complete. The next phase is the mechanical (pumps and plumbing), which has gone to tender. We expect the tender process to be completed with the contract awarded early in January. It is hoped installation will begin in February.

Over at the Kitsuksis Reservoir during a routine cleaning, we found a large crack has developed in the bottom of the reservoir tank. Associated

Engineering, which specializes in municipal service facilities, was called in to do an engineering report. We expect that report shortly.

Pending the final report, it appears we need to be prepared to replace this reservoir.

The Kitsuksis Reservoir is a steel reinforced concrete box with a capacity of 250,000 gallons. It was built in 1973. Over the years there have been a number of major repairs to this facility. The current crack is not new, attempts have been made to seal it in the past, but current widening of the crack suggests the reinforcing steel is failing.



The west wall of the Kitsuksis Reservoir, showing signs of leaking

Water Conservation Winter and Early Spring

Water, water everywhere here in the rain forest but don't be fooled.

Potable water is a valuable and increasingly scarce resource. Water conservation is something we all need to understand and practice, and awareness is the first step in conservation. The Beaver Creek Improvement District offers the following tips for conserving water over the winter and early spring months.

General Maintenance

- Make sure that all outdoor spigots are winterized; to prevent pipes from freezing, bursting and losing water.
- Insulate hot water pipes to reduce the amount of water that must be run in order to get hot water to the faucet.
- Locate your master water shut off valve inside your house - mark it for quick identification. If a water pipe were to break, it could cause flooding and tremendous water loss.
- Check for leaks in pipes, hoses, hose connections, and faucets. Even a tiny leak can translate into thousands of gallons of wasted water over a short period of time. Repair or replace any equipment leaking water immediately.

Prioritize Water Usage

Gardeners, now is a great time for you to prioritize the watering needs of all outdoor plants and trees. Take the time to determine which area of your yard needs the most water.

Newly planted trees, shrubs, and lawns should receive the first priority for water. While most plants and bushes are not planted until spring, those planted the previous year may not have had time to develop extensive root systems. They usually depend only on surface water for their survival.

Even during drought conditions, newly planted trees and shrubs can be over watered. Excess water can flood the root systems by replacing the oxygen with water. Check the root zone moisture by probing the soil with a metal rod, probe, or pipe. For lawns, trees, and shrubs, a simple electronic probe can help measure soil moisture and indicate when you should water.

Young trees and shrubs don't have fully developed root systems and require more water as a result. During severe drought conditions, plants and trees up to six years of age may require additional watering.

Keep weeds out of flower and vegetable gardens. Weeds rob water from other plants. Weed often and you won't have to water as often.

Flowers, Gardens, and Older Plants Most early spring flower and vegetable gardens will require watering to stay productive.

Mulch, Mulch, Mulch! Mulching can help to retain additional moisture in the soil and around the roots. Most well-established trees and shrubs can withstand a prolonged period without rain or watering. Far more plants die from over-watering than under-watering.