

Directors Report - May 2026

Director Vonesch Replaced as Vice Chair of the Regional District

At the May 27th Regional Board Meeting, Director Dahl provided a verbal report concerning the previous month's board meeting. He spoke about the fact that both Vice Chair Director Vonesch and Director Whalley were overheard on a hot mic discussing plans to break quorum, a move intended to prematurely end the meeting. Although they attempted to leave, quorum was maintained, necessitating their return to the session.

Following Director Dahl's report, a confidence motion was raised regarding Director Vonesch's position as Vice Chair. The vote indicated a lack of confidence among several Directors, leading to Vonesch's replacement by Director Susan Sinnott.

Strathcona Gardens Service Expansion Update

The board approved a motion at the April Regional Board meeting to include a referendum question about the potential expansion of the Strathcona Gardens service in the upcoming fall local elections. However, this motion is pending approval from the Province and the Inspector of Municipalities. Additional information regarding this matter is expected over the summer.

It's acknowledged that presenting this question to the board was challenging. Nonetheless, the consultant's report emphasized significant usage by Quadra Islanders, suggesting it is reasonable for them to contribute financially towards this facility, which will serve the Regional District for many years.

Water Meter Update

There have been inquiries about the implementation timeline for water meter rates and the current delays.

During the May 27th Regional Board meeting, it was agreed that Koers Engineering, with its substantial experience in the area D water system, would assist in reviewing and potentially revising the water meter bylaw. This review is scheduled for completion over the summer, and the revised bylaw is anticipated to be presented to the board in September.

Consequently, water meter rates are expected to be implemented starting January 2027, contingent on provincial approval of the bylaw.

The need for this transition is based on the necessity to accurately assess water consumption and ensure that the existing water meter rates are sufficient to cover that consumption. SRD staff have been actively engaged in reading water meters and locating system leaks, and this data will be integral to the review of the water meter rate.

Additionally, the Regional Board has agreed to replace the existing water meters purchased by property owners since 2018, as Area D has the funding available. This initiative will replace approximately 160 water meters, ensuring uniformity in meter types across households, thereby streamlining the billing process. This project has been awarded to Edgett.