

**HALIFAX REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
July 18, 2019**

PRESENT: Commissioner Darlene Fenton, Chair
Commissioner Russell Walker, Vice Chair
Commissioner Colleen Rollings
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn
Commissioner Craig MacMullin
Commissioner Richard Zurawski

REGRETS: Commissioner Lorelei Nicoll
Commissioner Brad Anguish

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, General Manager, Halifax Water
Heidi Schedler, Corporate Legal Counsel, Halifax Water
Jamie Hannam, Director, Engineering & IS, Halifax Water
Lorna Skinner, Administrative Assistant, Halifax Water

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda and any supporting documents are available online at www.halifaxwater.ca

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CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00.

1. THE CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair introduced herself and welcomed the attendees to the third Annual General Meeting of Halifax Water. She acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. She also stated that the meeting is being streamed live on-line via the Halifax Water YouTube page.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2018 AGM DATED JULY 18, 2018

MOVED BY Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Walker that the Halifax Regional Water Commission Board approve the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting dated July 18, 2018.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. STRATEGIC INITIATIVES OVERVIEW**a. 2018/19 Accomplishments**

Cathie O'Toole thanked the staff of Halifax Water for their hard work and dedication during the 2018/19 fiscal year. Ms. O'Toole gave a presentation on the accomplishments and goals of 2018/19.

b. 2019/20 Goals

Ms. O'Toole gave a presentation on the organization's goals and objectives for 2019/20.

4. MAJOR CAPITAL INITIATIVES FOR 2019/20

Jamie Hannam gave a presentation on the 2019/20 Major Capital Initiatives.

5. YEAR END FINANCIAL RESULTS – 2018/19

Cathie O'Toole gave a presentation on the year-end results for 2018/19.

6. QUESTION AND ANSWER FORUM

Commissioner Zurawski asked if a 30% reduction in CO2 over ten years is what is projected. Jamie Hannam responded that while there is an annual target of 3%, he would like to consult with Halifax Water's Senior Energy Manager before responding to that specific question. Commissioner Zurawski expressed a deep concern that this target is not sufficient to meet the necessary

reductions stated in a recent emergency report on climate change. He requested that Halifax Water consult with the Municipality regarding CO2 reductions.

Commissioner Rollings asked Mr. Hannam if future budgets will address the recent comment by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board on sinkholes. Mr. Hannam responded that Halifax Water is reasonably proactive with condition assessment. Staff will be submitting a report to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board that will document what is currently being done and address any additional programs to better identify sinkholes.

Peter Polley, Polycorp, stated that there is a Municipal committee (HalifACT) dedicated to addressing climate change. He asked why Halifax Water did not attend a recent meeting of this committee that was attended by other utilities and stakeholders. Ms. O'Toole stated that she was not aware of nor invited to attend the meeting.

Mr. Polley asked when real time consumption data will be available to the public. Ms. O'Toole stated it is projected to be at least twelve months.

Mr. Polley asked if Halifax Water is doing anything to promote water conservation. Ms. O'Toole stated that there is a pattern of decreasing consumption. There are water conservation facts available on the Halifax Water website, water efficiency fixtures were historically distributed through the Halifax Water Customer Care Centre; it is now as cost effective for customers to purchase them elsewhere as they are commonly available. Halifax Water is exploring participation with the Alliance for Water Efficiency. To date, Halifax Water's efforts have focused on wet weather management and inflow and infiltration reduction, as this is the best value for the customers.

A discussion followed, which concluded with Mr. Polley accepting Ms. O'Toole's invitation to meet with staff to further discuss his concerns.

7. CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair thanked all those who participated in the meeting as well as those attending. Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Original Signed By: _____
Heidi Schedler
Secretary

Original Signed By: _____
Commissioner Craig MacMullin
Chair