

## **REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORT**

**TO: Regional Board**

**FROM: Melissa Howey, Manager of Asset Management and Strategic Initiatives**

**IN COLLABORATION WITH: Linda Greenan, Manager of Financial Services**

**SUBJECT: Infrastructure Planning Grant: Lund Water System Feasibility - Phase 2**

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### **ACTION/RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Board approve staff to make an application to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for a \$10,000 Infrastructure Planning Grant for: Lund Water Feasibility - Phase 2; and

THAT any costs not covered by the grant be funded through the EA Feasibility Studies Service; and

THAT the Board approve a budget amendment to the EA Feasibility Reserve to recognize the \$10,000 of anticipated grant funding and an allocation of \$10,000 from the EA Feasibility Studies Reserve to support the estimated \$20,000 project cost.

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### **PURPOSE/SUMMARY**

To obtain approval to apply for a provincial Infrastructure Planning Grant of \$10,000 and approve a budget amendment of \$10,000 to offset the estimated \$20,000 cost to develop Lund Water Feasibility - Phase 2.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Lund Water Improvement District (Lund Water) has not had a quorum of Trustees since December 2020, is in need of substantial infrastructure upgrades and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs is in the process of appointing a receiver.

The qathet Regional District worked closely with Lund Water in 2019 to submit a grant application to partially fund infrastructure upgrades. This application was unsuccessful.

In January of 2022 Deputy Minister Tara Fangelo provided a letter to Chair Brabazon to encourage the qRD to submit an application for the final intake of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Environmental Quality Program.

At the January 27th Regional Board Meeting the Board passed the following resolution:

THAT the Board ratify the submission of an application for Lund Waterworks District to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program for Environmental Quality.

On February 11, 2022 provincial staff reached out to Al Radke, CAO to enquire if the qRD was interested in a Planning grant relative to the Lund Waterworks initiative.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs offers Planning grants up to \$10,000 to help local governments plan, design and manage infrastructure through the Infrastructure Planning Grant Program (Program). The Program can assist in the development of long-term comprehensive plans and feasibility studies that will improve public health and safety, enhance environmental protection and increase infrastructure sustainability. Funding is available for initiatives related to improving water, sewer, drainage and other environmental infrastructure. The grant will support planning work required for Lund Water upgrades should the new infrastructure funding grant application be awarded.

## **TYPE OF DECISION**

Directive Decision

## **HEALTH & SAFETY IMPACT/RELATIONSHIP**

Reliable access to safe drinking water is important for public health.

## **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

In 2019 McElhaney Consulting Services Ltd. prepared the Lund Water District Water System Condition Assessment as part of the Lund Water System Feasibility - Phase 1. The report reviewed the existing Lund Water System to determine the general condition, develop concepts for required upgrades to meet current regulations and standards and to prepare a class D cost estimate for the recommended scope of work. This report was submitted with the 2019 grant application and identifies a number of areas for further investigation.

The Lund Water Feasibility - Phase 2 will:

- Assist in obtaining addition information on two items identified in the McElhaney report:

- A more in depth investigation and professional opinion on the upper dam and cost estimate to fix/replace it to current day standards. The McElhaney report identifies a \$1,000,000 placeholder.
- Obtain professional direction on the type of water treatment to pursue; sand filtration or dissolved air floatation.
- Investigation into wells that were drilled a number of years ago to assess if any of them, or an additional multiple, could be productive enough to be the raw water supply source. Groundwater sources require significantly less treatment. Alternatively, question if the ground water sources could be used to supplement the surface water source.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

A successful grant would contribute \$10,000 towards the cost of the Lund Water Feasibility - Phase 2 plan. The cost of the plan is projected to be in the range of \$20,000. The local government portion of the costs would come from the EA Feasibility Studies Reserve and be repaid when the new service is operational.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Lund Water System Feasibility - Phase 2 Plan will provide professional and technical direction and cost estimates to improve the Lund Water System.

**Approved By:**

Al Radke, Chief Administrative Officer

**Status:**

Approved - 22 Feb 2022