

Minutes
WUQWATR Board of Directors December 11, 2015
Wascana Place, 10:33 AM

Present: Fred Clipsham, Jim Elliott, Sandra Bathgate, Tim Davies, Don Bowman, David Sloan, Gary Dixon, Barry Gunther, Geoff Merifield and Claudette Halladay.

Absent: Rod Halyk

Staff: Colleen Fennig

1. Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

An in camera session was added after the approval of the agenda.

Motion (Sloan/Dixon) (M/S/C) that the amended agenda be approved.

3. In Camera Discussion

The in camera session was started at 10:34. Colleen left the room.

Motion (Bathgate/Dixon) (M/S/C) that the in camera session end at 10:43. Colleen returned to the room.

Motion (Halladay/Elliott) (M/S/C) that the 3 month review (January 1) for Colleen Fennig be done by the Executive and that the 6 month review (April 1) be done by the whole board.

4. September 25, 2015 Minutes

Motion (Bowman/Elliott) (M/S/C) that the minutes of September 25, 2015 be approved as presented.

5. Business Arising

- Letter to Premier
 - o There was some thought that a second letter or additional information or questions go to the Premier. Perhaps after a return letter come from the Premier, there may be a need to send a reply letter. Fred will draft and circulate.
- Criminal Records Check

Motion (Halladay/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the requirement for board members to have criminal records check be dropped from the bylaws at the next AGM.

- Further Bylaw Changes

Past minutes are to be reviewed to catch any other suggested bylaw changes including the limits to terms of directors. [Secretary's note from July 17/15 minutes **Motion (Davies/Halladay) (M/S/C)** that the Board recommend to the 2016 AGM that Bylaw 8.8 now read "All directors may be re-elected." and **Motion (Halyk/Bowman) (M/S/C)** that the Board recommend to the 2016 AGM that Bylaw 8.9.5 now read "have a clear Criminal Record Check from the

Canadian Police Information Centre and, that after election, the General Manager will ensure that the director's Criminal Record Check is up to date and on file. This one requirement needs to be deleted.]

6. Correspondence

- There have been emails regarding species at risk and habitat conservation.

7. Reports

a) Chair & Executive Committee

- Fred had had discussions with person from K & S and they are on their 9th pad development.
- Vale appears to be on hold
- Western will likely proceed with new partners
- Yancoal has had two public meetings
- BHP has had headaches with its main shaft and some layoffs were announced recently
- Exit Interview with Duane Haave
 - o Some things to think about in the future
 - Development of a brand or consistency of presence
 - Integration of programs especially new like ALUS and AEGPs under the broad moniker of WUQWATR; individual watersheds should work cooperatively under WUQWATR not as independents; watersheds may provide in kind supports for local activities
 - Diversification of funding sources so as not to be too dependent on WSA and be more flexible; may wish to have basic funds available to watersheds for some minor independent activity; development or expansion of partnerships
 - The need to retain some funds under project funding for administration if applicable
 - Being aware of staff capacities and opportunities
 - Looking for staff training opportunities and needs
 - Revisit role of watershed advisory committee meetings and their role in recruitment of members and board members and identifying issues of interest both locally, watershed level and provincial in scope
 - 2 year work plan to be developed by Gary/Fred/Barry/Colleen with a sense of how it would work into our current strategic planning
 - Need to define what role board members have in the operations of the organization; development of recruiting & marketing packages that can go to events; how much volunteering is necessary to implement strategies
 - Development of a technical roster from which potential advisors could be used at various times throughout the year or on specific issues or programs
- Manager's meeting in Moose Jaw (see GM report)
 - o 50% funding upfront on the year and 50% at 6 month report [may wish to have a cash flow forecast to confirm no difficulties because of change in funding schedule]
 - o Some info on decommissioning water wells [Colleen has video to lend]
www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/Default.aspx?DN=315936b7-7f0f-4872-bb95-

[44caa13687c2](#) or www.wsask.ca/Water-Info/Ground-Water/Abandonment-Test-Holes-and-Wells--/

- o Meeting around AEGP on January 14th. Colleen and David will attend.

The meeting was recessed for lunch from 12:30 pm to 1:18 pm.

b) General Manager/AEGP/ALUS (Colleen Fennig)

Colleen is to investigate whether we can with or for ALUS Canada negotiate with the government of Saskatchewan to have the government give drainage mitigation funds to financially support ALUS actions in Saskatchewan. This would allow ALUS Canada through us to be able to do more than what is currently funded. Colleen will also talk to Jessie.

Motion (Gunther/Sloan) (M/S/C) that the Board give approval up to \$750 for the GM to purchase a laptop computer and printer for Hilary.

Motion (Bathgate/Davies) (M/S/C) that the Board approve in principle that WUQWATR participate in the Healthy Beach Program. [Colleen is to provide details later]

Motion (Sloan/Claudette) (M/S/C) that the Board approve in principle the adjustment in Isabelle Ladwig's role subject to a signed contract.

Motion (Halladay/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the Board approve a \$1500 contribution to a literature review study regarding the nutrient mass balance in the Qu'Appelle River System.

Motion (Dixon/Gunther) (M/S/C) that the Board approve subject to project funding 2 day's worth of time as an in-kind contribution for a Qu'Appelle River study on macro-invertebrates.

Motion (Bowman/Sloan) (M/S/C) that the Board make a motion to transfer funds from the ALUS project account to the ALUS trust account for the sum of all payments outlined and allocated in the 2015 contracts.

Motion (Davies/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the Board make a motion to transfer the administrative fee of \$4425 from the ALUS project account to the WUQWATR chequing account.

Motion (Halladay/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the Board approve the General Manager attend the Business Project Management Workshop in Saskatoon on January 26-27, 2016. [the Board was informed that there is a grant available to cover some of this cost.]

Motion (Davies/Halladay) (M/S/C) that the 2016 Board meetings will be on Friday, February 12th, Saturday, April 9th (AGM date), Friday, June 17th, Friday August 19th, Friday, October 14th and Friday December 16th. A motion was put forward that half of the meetings be in either Humboldt or Manitou Beach. It did not receive a seconding and so was not pursued.

Motion (Gunther/Davies) (M/S/C) that the AGM be held in Manitou Beach on Saturday, April 9th.

c) SAW Report (based on email on November 4, 2015 from David Sloan)

- SAW workshop in North Battleford and Earl Grey was able to get money from WSA for the workshops
- Letter received from minister regarding aquatic invasive species (AIS)
 - o Response isn't strong enough to deal with pending problems
 - o Need to meet and work with PARCS and SWF to develop coordinated action plan
 - o Petition coming from PARCS for individuals to sign and send in
 - o Booth at SARM and SUMA
 - o Resolutions coming from irrigation conference to provincial government re needing action

d) Financial Report

Motion (Davies/Elliott) (M/S/C) that the financial report Cheques, Deposits & Payments through November 30, 2015 be approved as presented.

Motion (Davies/Halladay) (M/S/C) that the Income and Expenses through November 2015, Account Details – All Classes through November 2015 and the Budget vs. Actual to November 2015 be approved as presented.

e) Business Arising (cont'd)

Motion (Davies/Bathgate) (M/S/C) that the Appendix: Operating Reserve Policy be approved as circulated. The portion changed is the first paragraph. It reads:

"The purpose of the Operating Reserves policy for WUQWATR is to ensure the stability of the mission, programs, employment, and ongoing operations of the organization. The operating reserve is intended, but not limited to, the provision of funds for situations such as:

- one-time non-budgeted expenses;
- non-budgeted loss in funding;
- un-insured losses;
- need for bridge funding prior to receipt of project source funds;
- funding for approved WUQWATR projects that do not have access to third party funds.

The Operating Reserve is not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds, except where in the opinion of the Board of Directors a specific project must be completed. Nor is it intended to eliminate an ongoing budget gap. It is the intension of WUQWATR that Operating Reserves be used and replenished within a reasonable short period of time. The Operating Reserve policy will be implemented in concert with the Bylaws and Governance Policies of WUQWATR and is intended to support the goals and strategies contained in these related policies and in strategic and operational plans.'

Motion (Davies/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the Corporate Sponsorship Policy be approved as circulated.

f) Reimbursements of Expenses for Tim Davies

- Tim Davies explained the reasons for the expense and declared a conflict of interest and left the room.

Motion (Halladay/Merifield) (M/S/D) that the expenses of Tim Davies to attend the PARCS Conference in the amount of \$508 be reimbursed.

- Tim Davies explained the reasons for the expense and declared a conflict of interest and left the room.

No motion was made surrounding the reimbursement of registration for Tim Davies for \$75 for the SAW Provincial Drainage Water Management Conference at Earl Grey.

Motion (Dixon/Gunther) (M/S/C) that the Finance & Risk Management Committee develop a general reimbursement policy for staff and the board.

g) Report from member Watersheds

- Manitou/Lanigan

- Display at Fun Run at Watrous and at the Craft Show in Humboldt
 - Questions on illegal drainage
 - There was potentially a mistake with edge of drainage map
- Manitou Beach village is purchasing a secchi disc and a depth sounder; there will also be some water testing done through U of Regina
- BHP pipeline will be completed in 2016 if it is free of leaks
- Don and Tim are working on an exit strategy
- Last Mountain Lake
 - Talking to others about additional people for Board
 - Concerns about some manure piles close to drainage into the lake
 - Looking at doing some testing of the water in the lake
 - Putting out some mussels monitoring traps
 - Made presentation to Group re YanCoal
 - Local spill in Wascana Lake
- Upper Qu'Appelle
 - Continuing issues with conveyance
 - Confusion at edges of watersheds
 - More work on canal straightening and erosion control
 - Plan to put in some fish riffles

Tim and Don left.

- Questions around the operating plan for Lake Diefenbaker and future plans
- maybe AGM in 2017 for WUQWATR around conveyance
- possible resolution - In light of the imminent and pending invasion of water bodies of Saskatchewan with zebra and quagga mussels, SIPA be asked to approach the Government of Saskatchewan with the urgency to implement strict and mandatory inspection and decontamination program for all water craft, powered and non-powered, that enter the province of Saskatchewan from the east, west and south borders in the spring of 2016.

Geoff left.

- National Irrigation & Drainage Conference in Saskatoon – September 2018
- Wascana Creek
 - Sewage leak into upper Wascana Lake (will be doing testing)
 - Email from Regina resident re insert and continued use of phosphates and cleaners (Colleen will send to David, Jim and Fred)
 - David, Geoff and Jim attended Sask Water open house at Lumsden about YanCoal water pipeline
 - Nature Regina will be having students assess the potential impact of this water pipeline in mid February
 - Wascana Centre is going through a 2016 Master Plan review
 - City of Regina is doing a water master plan
 - Nature Regina is purchasing a water testing kit for Campbell Collegiate through the Safe Drinking Water Foundation

- Peter Hagar from City of Regina interested in getting involved again and that there was a local airshed
- SWF potential for some riparian assessment erosion project in Wascana Creek
- Removal of dam at north end of Last Mountain Lake and replace with fish riffle
- Interest from Doug Johnson to talk about drainage and definition of qualified persons and our involvement, maybe February.

8. Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be February 12 at 10:30 am.

9. **Adjournment** Meeting was adjourned at 4:42 pm.