

Minutes
WUQWATR Board of Directors June 19, 2014
Manitou Springs Hotel, 10:23 AM

Present: Fred Clipsham, Jim Elliott, Tim Davies, David Sloan, Gary Dixon, Sandra Bathgate, Don Bowman, Geoff Merifield and Rod Halyk.

Staff: Duane Haave.

Guest:

Regrets: Jim Supynuk, Claudette Halladay and Ernie Oblander.

1. Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 10:23 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was modified to eliminate 7 a) Executive Committee and to add Work Plan under 5 b) Executive Committee.

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

3. Minutes of May 1st

Motion (Bowman/Halyk) (M/S/C) that the minutes of May 1, 2014 be approved as amended.

4. Business Arising

- The errors and omissions insurance have been applied for to cover off the staff for the AEGP Program.

5. Correspondence

- Letter from Minister Cheveldayoff was discussed. There is to be an information sharing meeting in Moose Jaw at Mosaic Centre on Thursday, June 26th at 1 pm. The final report was expected in mid June. Nature Saskatchewan is to be invited to the meeting.

6. Reports

a. Chairperson's Report (no report)

b. In-camera Session

Duane Haave left the room. There was an in-camera session between 10:56 and 11:02 a.m.

c. Executive Committee

- Work Plan

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d. SAW Report

- There will be a MLA reception gathering on November 3rd. One or two from each board should be the representatives for each watershed.
- There is an interest to meet with MLAs over the summer and there will be a guiding memo out of SAW. Some areas of interest for WUQWATR would be Plan Renewal, Upper Qu'Appelle Conveyance, Wascana Riparian Assessment, Support for AEGP, Last Mountain Lake Testing and Introduction of WUQWATR and our plans and accomplishments. It was thought that there would be a package that would be presented as part of the meeting. Suggestion was to meet in MLA constituency office.
- There was an interest to do the same with the MPs.
- SAW met with Kim Graybiel from Sask Environment, Climate Change Branch and has asked David Sloan to be on a Climate Change Advisory Committee. David still has to assess this opportunity.
- Fred will be on the SAW Communications Committee. Once some staff will be identified, there will be some strategies developed and circulated.
- There may be a field day for ALUS and members will be notified.
- David will be communicating with all of the watershed groups via email following a board meeting.

e. General Manager's Report (report provided)

- Duane has contacted WSA about being involved in the legislative consultations around consolidation of all of the water legislation coming in the fall and it is on the work plan for the coming year. We have been told that all watersheds will be involved.
- There will be a reception about the Wascana Creek Riparian Assessment in the 3rd week of August.
- There are 5 new memberships instead of 4 as in the report.

Motion (Halyk/Bathgate) (M/S/C) that the Board of Directors be authorized the General Manager to negotiate a new rental lease with Wascana Centre Authority and the Executive Committee be authorized to execute the lease agreement. (Everyone will be emailed for comment with a date to reply.)

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Motion (Sloan/Davies) (M/S/C) that the Board of Directors ratify the use of \$3,200 in Canada Summer Jobs funding for an 8 week Summer Student position.

- A Riparian Health Assessment fact sheet was provided to the board for information.
- The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:10 pm and resumed at 12:54 pm.

7. Committees

a. Financial & Risk Management Reports

- The shredding of confidential records identified in the Budget vs. Actual was old AEGP applications.
- There is an error in the Budget vs. Actual. The actual spending on the School Project was not \$3176 and needs to be revised.
- The addition of a 2013 comparison in the Budget vs. Actual cannot be done due to changes in the list of line items currently in the 2014-15 statement. They won't line up so it would be hard to compare years. The totals for each category should be able to be done.

Motion (Davies/Halyk) (M/S/C) that the Cheques & Deposits Report and the Income and Expenses Report to June 13, 2014 be approved.

Motion (Davies/Sloan) (M/S/) that the Budget vs. Actual Financial Statement of June 13, 2014 be approved.

We are currently in an eleven month fiscal year.

b. Executive Committee

- Work Plan (these are actions that should be considered province wide rather than simply within our watershed
 - 5) push for funding of non-farm/ranch well decommissioning
 - 8) monitor progress on what happens with AEGP funding on a provincial basis
 - 10) apprise on water allocation policy and process
 - 11)
 - 27) update or inventory on communities that have updated official community plan
 - 39) insurance report of values of trees in Toronto (see attached to minutes). Also there are discussions around the "value of water"

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- 44) this will need to be modified for the future now that there is a lower Qu'Appelle watershed group and that there is now a technical committee made up of the two watersheds looking at inter-watershed issues
- 45) ecosystem impacts of salt
- 46) incentives for research on safe use/reuse of water
- 83) possible new one to be included during 1st plan renewal - push for ongoing plan renewal and the review of the impacts of potash mines on water availability
- Fred will take the list of actions and send a letter to SAW respecting these actions and that we recommend that they consider provincial in scope and that these be part of their ongoing work plan. It was also suggested that we have as a lead in to that letter, the number of recommendations that are being covered by the 25 year plan of WSA.

c) Program & Communications Report (no report)

- Rod will be meeting with new Humboldt City Manager.

d) Membership Report (no report)

e) Finance & Risk Management Report

- Duane, Tim and Isabelle met with Marcia Herback.

f) Research & Technical Committee (not met yet)

8. Other Discussions

- It appears that land spreading of wastewater is being taken out of the proposed Environmental Code. A lot of stuff discussed has not been put into the code either. This is a growing problem. Senior governments are not participating.
- Are we going to allocate any of last year's surpluses into our reserve? There were some thoughts to work toward putting together a two month reserve. We need to determine prior to the audit being done what should be dedicated surplus and what is open to being put into the reserve or spent in the coming year.

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- On the AG News, in response to the ARB initiative, there were some Manitoba farmers complaining about some Saskatchewan producers.
<http://www.producer.com/2014/05/flooding-frustrates-manitoba-farmer/>
<http://www.producer.com/2014/07/governments-must-co-operate-to-mitigate-flood-risks/>
- Core funding should include general manager, support staff, office & administrative support, communication services, newsletter, website, insurance, board expenses and per diem, protection plan and basic program infrastructure.

9. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be September 26th at 10:30 am.

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.

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**Lower Qu'Appelle River Watershed Stewards (LQRWS)
Scientific Monitoring and Research Working Group**

(Meeting Report – Jim Stalwick)

- First meeting of the Working Group (WG): April 15, 2014
- I attended as representative for WUQWTR
- Key LQRWS players: Doug Clark (chair) and Dave Sutherland (retired water scientist)
- Full support from the SK Water Security Agency: Etienne Soulodre and Dr. John-Mark Davies. The Ministry of Agriculture has also assigned a staff person (not in attendance at this meeting).
- Draft Terms of Reference for the WG is being developed
- Notional targets have been established for nutrient levels (nitrogen and phosphorus) in the Pasqua, Echo, Crooked and Round Lakes in the Lower Qu'Appelle River Watershed Plan – the first effort at such a project in Saskatchewan that I am aware of
- Baseline nutrient levels for the four lakes appear to be well documented – the target is the 90th percentile of those levels. There appears to be significant pressure on the LQRWS for more aggressive targets. The notional targets will be adjusted when the WG completes its work.
- A significant number of research projects on nutrient issues in the Qu'Appelle River and lake system have been established over the last decade (report by Dr. Davies).
- The key issue for the WG will be what projects can be identified as clearly contributing to a reduction in nutrient levels, particularly for non-point nutrient sources. (I indicated an interest in following up with a quick literature review on the current research for non-point nutrient transport and mitigation.)
- LQRWS is also looking at another significant monitoring/mitigation project on Kapsovar Creek, a tributary of the Qu'Appelle River with major pollution issues.
- Next meeting is on June 10th – the Moose Jaw River Watershed Group will be asked to join the WG, which, along with WUQWTR, feed into the lakes in question.
- Subsequent communication from Doug Clark indicates that the Assiniboine Watershed Group will also participate in the project. (See Action 3.1.e in the Water Security Agency 25 year plan)