

WUQWATR Board Meeting
Minutes – December 18, 2009
Wascana Place

Present: Jim Elliott, Fred Clipsham, Ernie Oblander, John Watkins, Geoff Merifield, Jim Supynuk, Tim Davies, David Sloan, Rod Halyk and Claudette Halladay.

Guests: Chris Mortin, Jaime Message and Colleen Fennig.

Staff: Duane Haave.

Regrets: Kelly Butz and Gilbert Wagner.

Meeting was called to order at 12:27 p.m.

1. Introduction

The staff and board members introduced themselves to each other after lunch.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion (Sloan/Watkins) (M/S/C) to adopt the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes – October 16, 2009

Minutes of October 16th meeting was reviewed.

Motion (Supynuk/Oblander) (M/S/C) that the October 16, 2009 minutes be approved.

4. Business Arising

a. Government response to Source Water Protection Plan

Originating responses of the various ministries to the Source Water Protection Plan were provided to us and copies were provided to the board. There was some interest in sending out soon a follow up letter to all of the various ministries such that we can get updates from them in time to get updates put into our response template to the Watershed Authority.

b. Municipal Planning Committee Update

This is waiting for Municipal Affairs to guide the discussion. There was thought that each of the watersheds needed to be circulated on issues that arise in the watersheds.

c. AEGP Committee Update

This is being set up as AEGP projects will in the future be structured around watershed boundaries and that policies around AEGPs need to be developed and that the watershed association should be part of the development of those policies. A technical committee will be set up for application review.

d. Letter to Alan Parkinson re Conveyance

A phone call was made to Mr. Parkinson and that the staff has not heard anything about the status of this project. There was speculation that this is likely not going ahead with all the delays in the capital project funding being announced recently.

5. Correspondence (none)

6. Reports

a. Chair

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- A presentation was made to the Public Works Committee regarding the membership fee request of the City of Regina. They have approved the ~\$17,900 fee and await Council approval. It was felt that the presentation would be a worthwhile template for future presentations to municipal councils.
- There was a fairly strong and excellent wrap up seminar on Climate Change and Prairie Adaptation with a follow up article about climate change and tree rings in the Leader Post.

b. General Manager Report (report attached to original minutes)

- Penny was not able to attend this meeting.
- There seems to be some debate about timing of the reporting to SWA. This will need to be clarified fairly shortly.
- With the AEGP – BMP (Best Management Practices) top up money and the weather this year, we are likely only going to be able to spend about \$12,500 of the \$27,000 received. It was also a problem with finding contractors available. The remaining monies will go to some other groups on their projects.
- Workshops notices and newsletters will come out this winter for future projects.
- The subject of the April 12-13 Watersheds Conference will be “drought”.

Motion (Halladay/Davies) (M/S/C) that the Board approve a contract with Nancy Gray, former technical advisor for the Lanigan Manitou AEGP for \$8,250 salary and expenses as supported by receipts as payment for her services from April 1 – June 15, 2008.

Motion (Davies/Halyk) (M/S/C) that the Board approve an amendment to our 2008 Project Funding Agreement with SWA to use up to \$11,000 of the remainder of the funds for

- a) a farm plastics recycling project in conjunction with the Moose Jaw River Watershed Stewards, and
- b) a further \$2,000 for water quality testing by the Last Mountain Lake Stewards.

Motion (Sloan/Supynuk) (M/S/C) that the Board approve an agreement with Jim Zatulsky to provide payroll services at a price of \$10 per employee per month beginning 2010.

- There was a thought of setting up transaction limits to the direct deposit and payroll services. It was suggested that we set up a policy and procedures and that this go through the Finance and Risk Management Committee. There was also a suggestion that the Treasurer on a quarterly or monthly basis provide a report to the Board that deductions are as they should be to reduce board liability.

Motion (Merifield/Halladay) (M/S/C) that the Board approve our participation cost of up to \$400 plus mailing and printing costs for the Grade 5 and 6 Art and Essay Contest.

- The cost of attending the watershed workshop by the students needs to be determined. The \$400 was the best estimate of the costs.
- The Wascana Creek Advisory Committee will be involved in the future consultations on the city of Regina waste management.
- There is a concern that the SAW board meetings have been booking the boardroom under the auspices of WUQWATR and it has been expressed that this might jeopardize the relationship with WCA as we had only anticipated a few meetings in the boardroom, not as many as we have had in 2009.

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Motion (Davies/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the SAW only use the WCA boardroom no more in 2009 and no more than 2 times in 2010.

c. Executive Committee Report (no report)

d. Financial & Risk Management Committee Report

- Financial report to the end of November was presented. It was noted that cheque #84 was a voided cheque.

Motion (Sloan/Wilkins) (M/S/C) that the Financial statements dated November 30, 2009 be approved as presented.

e. Program and Communications

- There was questions about the website. It seems to be out of date and needs someone responsible for it. Board members were to make suggestions. This committee would be given the chance to review the materials before they are added to the website.
- There needs to be a watershed workshop liaison person. This may best be from the Lanigan Manitou sub-watershed.

f. Membership Committee

- There are 7 members currently. Follow up letters are suggested to renew their membership. There was thought to have a membership form and list of members on our website.

g. Updates from WACS

- i) Wascana – meeting is planned for January 27th. There is an effluent study underway. There is erosion downstream and need for management of the Albert Street structure. There is concern with few applications to the stewardship award. There have also been some exploration and test holes for potash about 30 miles east of Regina. They may be looking for salt water.
- ii) Lanigan Manitou – A new lagoon has been started in Manitou Beach. There is a lot of drilling for potash (3 mines, two being BHP Billington and API Athabasca Potash Inc.). Duane mentioned that he has met with a committee of SUMA and SARM and they have planners working in the Lanigan and Watrous area on zoning bylaws and planning documents and coming up with a common community plan. They will be using our source water protection plan as their template for water protection in the area. A good venue for a meeting might be to have a joint meeting to talk with WUQWATR and the local watershed advisory committee and talk over common goals around water issues. They want us to help identify best practices when it comes to water.
- iii) Upper Qu'Appelle – no meetings yet. Conveyance is on hold.
- iv) Last Mountain Lake – this advisory committee is restarting.

h. SAW Report

- Annual reporting is dependent on report completion. March 15th is the anticipated deadline for the report completion.
- Meetings of Deanna with each watershed are planned for early February. Part of this will be to assess needs and expectations. As to our part of the annual report, there would need to be some work that Duane would bring together as a written draft and then send out to the Board by mail or email and then

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propose that we do it by early February. **We suggest that we have a February 8th meeting 10:00 a.m. around the annual report.**

- The budget for a project of facilitation the completion of the annual report is about \$30,000.
- Letters sent to Enterprise Saskatchewan and Agriculture to provide watershed information and to develop rapport.
- Looking at insurance coverage for the watersheds and a benefit package for employees.
- Watershed workshop is planned for 2010. Tours are planned the first day.
- The Wood River is a proposed new watershed area.
- There is a plan for a policy & procedures manual.
- Initially, there appeared to be a Western Water Stewardship Council being set up by the Premier. This seems to be now being morphed into a national council.
- There are still discussions about setting up a charitable status for SAW.

i. SWA Report (no report)

Motion (Oblander/Halladay) (M/S/C) that the reports be accepted as presented.

7. New Business

a. Date for AGM

The date for the WUQWATR AGM will be in the evening of April 22nd, 7 p.m. possibly in Imperial. Tim Davies and David Sloan have agreed to review the bylaws to identify any suggested changes.

8. Date of next meeting

The dates of the regular Board meetings are January 25th at noon, March 12th at 10:00 a.m. and April 22nd at 5 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.