

**WUQWATR Annual General Meeting**  
**Minutes – March 29, 2011**  
Bethune Wildlife Federation Hall

Present: Jim Elliott, Kelly Butz, Jim Supynuk, Geoff Merifield, Ernie Oblander, David Sloan, Tim Davies, Claudette Halladay, Todd Richter, Bill McKenzie, Dave Espeseth, Joan Moore, Fred Moore, Orval Brownlee, Terry Rollie, Tom Senko, Jim Hipkin, Don McDonald, Peter Hagar.

Staff: Duane Haave

Guests: Tom Harrison and Bob Parker.

Regrets: Sandra Bathgate, Fred Clipsham and Rod Halyk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Jim Supynuk.

**1. Agenda**

**Motion (Halladay/Davies) (M/S/C)** that the meeting agenda be approved with the addition of WUQWATR delegates to SAW conference.

**2. Introductions**

Those present introduced themselves to the people attending.

**3. Minutes of March 25, 2010**

Under 11 a), the name should be Kelly Butz.

**Motion (Oblander/Merifield) (M/S/C)** that the amended minutes be approved.

**4. Presentation by Bob Parker**

A presentation by Bob Parker of the South Central Enterprise Region to speak on the Studies on the Upper Qu'Appelle River Conveyance Project was made. Mr. Parker reviewed the project. The current study is being done by the South Central Enterprise Region and funded by Enterprise Saskatchewan by funds from the Western Economic Partnership Agreement. The study will take approximately 18 months.

SWA will be doing the water supply/flow study. This spring, consultants will be doing aerial surveys of the land, environmental/flora/fauna/endangered species studies, the design and location of the pump station at Lake Diefenbaker, present and future water demand studies including impacts of climate change, water conservation and the spillway location and design including hydro electric generation. These will all advance the design and costing such that better idea of what could be built. An economic study of the project including cost/benefit analysis will likely not happen until December 2011. The estimated cost in 2009 was 550 million dollars.

Issues over the years have been erosion, flooding and direct access to the river by livestock.

The proposal is to build a canal along the south side of the valley that would draw water out of Lake Diefenbaker and return it to Buffalo Pound Lake. With the canal, there could be 110,000 acres of additional irrigated land. The intent is not to abandon the

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current channel. It looks like the new canal might not run during the winter months depending on demands. Lake Diefenbaker still has development potential to supply water for these needs. 270,000 cubic decametres are lost through evaporation from the lake. There appears to be about a 6 metre range that would be available for use depending on flows and demand. Mean annual diversion down the Qu'Appelle River from 1987 to 2009 has been 115,400 cubic decametres. Releases have been from 1 to 14 cubic metres per second depending on the time of year. The inflow each year should be a minimum of 2,000,000 cubic decametres. On average, 50% of the years there should be 5,500,000 cubic decametres flow. For Regina and Moose Jaw, they need 1-2 cubic metres per second. Industry in 2005 needed 0.5 cubic metres per second. During the summer, the current upstream irrigation takes about 0.75 cubic metres per second. Irrigation downstream from Lumsden might take 2 cubic metres per second in the summer.

The additional new irrigation would require 38.4 cubic metres per second maximum in the summer. Long term needs from Buffalo Pound would be approximately 21 cubic metres per second. The channel would therefore need to handle about 60 cubic metres per second. The purpose of the water demand study is to refine this final number. One cubic metre per second is about 30,000 cubic decametres a year.

Buffalo Pound Lake has a capacity of 94,000 cubic decametres. Last Mountain Lake has 1,500,000 cubic decametres capacity. About 187,000 cubic decametres is lost in the Fishing Lakes through evaporation. Buffalo Pound treatment plant uses 30-35,000 cubic decametres per year.

There has been some investigation about connecting the Coronach power plant and towns along the way to the proposed canal and determine the potential water needs. It will be very expensive and uphill. This won't be part of the study but wanted to identify it as a potential use.

The water demand study for the province is expected in March or April of 2012.

The KNS potash mine will be using about 20,000 cubic decametres. Natural flow into Buffalo Pound Lake is 6-7,000 cubic decametres. Katepwa Lake has about 230,000 cubic decametres capacity. The Vale potash mine is probably looking for 15-25,000 cubic decametres from Katepwa. Western Potash near Milestone is looking at using wastewater from Regina to supply them with water. They are likely going to use 15-20,000 cubic decametres. This would have to be replaced in the system when that wastewater is not going to the system.

Questions were around discrepancies in the values for the current plans with water use in the entire system, transfer of the erosion problems upstream to downstream, problems with the depth of Buffalo Pound Lake, water demand studies, increased pressure to put more water downstream to replace water taken out of Katepwa,

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corporations financing of the canal, ownership of the water works and the potential for more development and the impacts on the conveyance.

### **5. Reports**

#### **a. Watershed Advisory Committees**

- i. David Sloan provided an overview of the watershed advisory committee development, the amalgamation and formation of WUQWATR and the later formation of the Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds. He also advised of current additional watersheds working on their source water protection plans.

#### **b. General Manager's Report**

- i. Duane Haave covered the general activities of the organization and the actions of the Board of Directors. He also provided an overview of our source water protection plan and the ongoing review of its progress. Duane identified that the financial activity of the organization was at \$305,000 for 2010-2011. We have 27 memberships in the organization. Programs included agricultural plastic recycling, Eco-Action projects, watershed awareness brochures, research projects in our watershed, climate change planning workshops, provincial SAW watershed workshop in Humboldt and the Agro-Environmental Group Plans.

#### **c. Treasurer's Report**

- i. Tim Davies presented the financial report. He noted that we can set aside funds in a reserve.

**Motion (Davies/Halladay) (M/S/C)** that the Treasurer's report and the financial statements be adopted as presented.

**Motion (Davies/Sloan) (M/S/C)** that the auditor for WUQWATR in 2011-2012 be Marcia Herback.

#### **d. Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds Report**

- i. The organization has a website ([www.saskwatersheds.ca](http://www.saskwatersheds.ca)) and will be getting a display for events like the SARM and SUMA conventions. SAW partnered with SUMA and DU for a water forum in Regina and presented a report to Sask Environment. Watersheds will be involved in the integrated water management planning process. SAW has met with provincial government departmental officials. SAW is working on LIRA (Land and Infrastructure Resiliency Assessment) pilot projects in the province.

#### **e. Bylaws Report (no report)**

#### **f. Elections**

##### **i. Board of Directors**

- The sub-watershed advisory committees elect their three representatives to the Board of Directors for three year terms. Each year, if there are no vacancies, there is only one representative elected from each sub-watershed.

##### **ii. SAW representatives**

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**Motion (Halladay/Merifield) (M/S/C)** that Jim Supynuk be nominated to be a SAW representative.

**Motion (Merifield/Davies) (M/S/C)** that David Sloan be nominated to be a SAW representative.

**Motion (Butz) (M)** that nominations cease.

David Sloan and Jim Supynuk are acclaimed as WUQWATR's two representatives.

**Motion (Davies/Halladay) (M/S/C)** that David Sloan be our representative to the SAW AGM.

**Motion (Davies/Butz) (M/S/C)** that Jim Supynuk be our representative to the SAW AGM.

**Motion (Supynuk/Peter Hagar) (M/S/C)** that Tim Davies be our representative to the SAW AGM.

Tim Davies declined the nomination. The two representatives to the SAW AGM are David Sloan and Jim Supynuk.

**6. New Business**

**7. Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.