

WUQWATR Board Meeting  
Minutes – April 23, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.  
Zoom Call

Attendees: David Sloan, Sandra Bathgate, Jim Elliott, Sherwin Petersen, Sharon Rodenbush, Rod Halyk, John Langford, Shanon Zachidniak and Barry Gunther.

Absent: Garth Burns and Scott Heglin.

Staff: Kirsten Colvin and Justine Melo.

**1. Call to Order**

David Sloan called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

**2. In camera**

In camera began at 9:06 a.m. Kirsten and Justine left the virtual room.

Out of camera was 9:13 a.m. Kirsten and Justine entered the virtual room.

**3. Self-Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were expressed.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion (Langford/Gunther) (M/S/C)** that the agenda presented be approved as amended with the addition of Audit Report under 9 c) and Sustainability under 10 h).

**5. Minutes of January 22, 2021**

**Motion (Rodenbush/Langford) (M/S/C)** that the minutes of January 22, 2021 be approved as presented.

**6. New Board Appointments**

**Motion (Langford/Rodenbush) (M/S/C)** that Scott Hegglin be appointed to replace Jack Davidson as rural representative from the sub-watershed of Last Mountain Lake.

**7. Old Business**

a) Business Arising from the Minutes

None was noted that was not included in the agenda.

b) Items from Board orientation and meetings

- Board Orientation – good review of the organization
- Meeting with MLAs - included Trent Wotherspoon, Carla Beck, Meara Conway and Erica Ritchie. Included was staff person Cory Oxylgren. They were interested in our activities. They were open to us providing them with comments further re the MOA cuts or other points in the future.

Discussion of history and MLAs were open to further input in the future.  
Ideas for the future could go to the Engagement Committee.

- 2021 Strategic Plan copies – Hard copies are available upon request.

## **8. Correspondence**

a) Acknowledgements from MLA to letters for CAP funding cuts.

b) MOA Funding Cut

- The minister at the face-to-face meeting appears firm on the cut.
- The transition is for 6 months but can wrap up earlier (preferred)
- Wish to maintain contact with farmers and ranchers in our watershed involved in the program for future correspondence and programs.
- Need to engage our rural residents more
- Will be working on a 6 month transition contract

## **9. Contracts**

a) Arm River Colony Project

- This is being extended again.

b) Insurance Renewal

**Motion (Petersen/Halyk) (M/S/C)** that the insurance premium of \$1219.00 be paid.

## **10. Reports**

a) Chair & Executive Committee (attached)

**Motion (Gunther/Bathgate) (M/S/C)** that the executive report be accepted as presented.

b) Staff Report (attached)

**Motion (Gunther/Halyk) (M/S/C)** that the staff report be accepted as presented.

John Langford left the meeting at 10:01 due to power outage.

c) Financial Report

**Motion (Petersen/Rodenbush) (M/S/C)** that the Balance Sheet as of April 14, 2021 totaling \$254,572.65 be acknowledged.

**Motion (Bathgate/Gunther) (M/S/C)** that the Profit Loss Report as of January 1 to April 14, 2021 with a net of \$4,007.00 be acknowledged.

**Motion (Halyk/Gunther) (M/S/C)** that the Account QuickReport for January 1 to April 14, 2021 with a total of \$21,420.34 be acknowledged.

John Langford returned at 10:57 listening by phone.

**Motion (Rodenbush/Bathgate) (M/S/C)** that the Budget vs. Actuals for April 15, 2021 with a net loss of \$102.00 be acknowledged and that a revised budget be prepared because of the MOA funding cut in the next 2 weeks.

Kirsten reported that we be hiring a summer student this year hopefully covered through federal grants.

**Motion (Gunther/Rodenbush) (M/S/C)** that Projected 2021 Budget be approved in principle based on the funding will come as indicated to have a net surplus of \$5.

d) 2021 Audit

The draft audit was received over night and details were noted. It mentions money market investments but that is a catchall phrase including our GIC investments.

John Langford returned to full zoom access at 11:12.

**Motion (Bathgate/Gunther) (M/SC)** that the draft audit be accept and recommended for approval at the AGM.

e) SAW Report (report provided)

There was some discussion around the interest of SAW meeting with SARM potentially around the motion passed at the recent convention.

SAW conference in happening in North Saskatchewan River Basin in mid June.

**Motion (Langford/Rodenbush) (M/S/C)** to acknowledge the verbal report.

f) Sub-watershed Reports

- Last Mountain Lake – levels are very low and loss of PFRA dam will impact levels;
- Upper Qu'Appelle – Riverhurst Marsh Project impacts on our watershed; concerns over drought and what water is coming into the watershed; good levels means erosion on BPL unprotected shorelines
- Lanigan/Manitou – concerns around Humboldt Lake re new city sewage lagoon project effluent; Manitou Lake levees are low; Delwood reservoirs run low last year; fish kill in reservoir
- Wascana Creek – dry in the area; Moose Jaw river not running

f) Committee Reports

**Motion (Langford/Rodenbush) (M/S/C)** that the terms of reference for the Communications Committee be approved as circulated.

**Motion (Petersen/Gunther) (M/S/C)** that the work plan goals for the Communications Committee be approved as circulated.

**Motion (Halyk/Gunther) (M/S/C)** that the terms of reference for the Engagement Committee be approved as circulated.

**Motion (Petersen/Halyk) (M/S/C)** that the work plan goals for the Engagement Committee be approved as circulated.

**Motion (Gunther/Langford) (M/S/C)** that the terms of reference for the Business Development Committee be approved as circulated.

The Governance Committee will be meeting in May to work on their terms of reference and work plans.

**Motion (Petersen/Langford) (M/S/C)** that the changes to the WUQWATR letterhead be approved.

## **11. New Business**

### a) AGM Planning

- There were 41 people registered for AGM.

**Motion (Gunther/Bathgate) (M/S/C)** recommend Amy Jane CPA to be our auditor for 2021.

The meeting was recessed for lunch from 12:05 to 12:30 p.m.

### b) SAW Tree Project

This was discussed in the staff report.

### c) Upcoming Conferences and Seminars

Nothing was identified.

### d) Executive and Other Representative Elections

The election process was initiated by the Chair. Board members provided their choices to Kirsten Colvin via Zoom chat.

- Chair nominations were David Sloan, Barry Gunther and Sherwin Petersen. Barry Gunther and Sherwin Petersen declined the nomination. David Sloan was acclaimed Chairperson.
- Vice Chair nominations were John Langford, Sherwin Petersen and Sharon Rodenbush. John Langford and Sherwin Petersen declined the nomination. Sharon Rodenbush was acclaimed Vice Chairperson.
- Treasurer nominations were Sandra Bathgate and Barry Gunther. Barry Gunther declined the nomination. Sandra Bathgate was acclaimed Treasurer.
- Secretary nominations were Jim Elliott. Jim Elliott was acclaimed Secretary.

**Motion (Langford/Petersen) (M/S/C)** that the executive be elected.

**Motion (Halyk/Gunther) (M/S/C)** that our SAW representative be Sherwin Petersen. Barry Gunther agreed to continue to be the SAW representative alternate.

**Motion (Langford/Rodenbush) (M/S/C)** that the two voting delegates to the SAW convention on June 17/18 be Sherwin Petersen and Barry Gunther.

**Motion (Halyk/Petersen) (M/S/C)** that our representative to the Water Council be David Sloan.

e) Next Meeting

Upcoming board meetings were July 16<sup>th</sup>, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>.

f) Ideas and opportunities on Sustainability for WUQWATR (Pass on to Business Development Committee)

- Weed management as a specialty group
- Don't depend upon government funding where possible
- Working with Indigenous community on projects
- Working with urban BMPs opportunity to bring them forward
- More work with ALUS to build up interests and additional funding
- Get involved in information sharing and hosting meetings with irrigation project
- Links to climate change has interest and funding
- Federal funding on agricultural climate solutions in recent budget protecting existing wetlands
- Looking at reducing or be more efficient with overhead costs where possible
- Drought proofing and flood protection with the conveyance
- Communications with local residents and members (urban and rural) around what their issues and water expectations are going forward
- Promotions around Earth Day and other special days
- Fundraising with pictures and paintings around scenic water features
- Services around water quality and maintenance identifying weaknesses or contamination points (California model)
- Pursuing the farmland drainage policy with QPs and get into the rural community with what we can provide
- Pursue opportunities with working with C & Ds providing administration services
- Facilitating meetings for WSA, consultants, conveyance, Humboldt Lake group
- Pursue further relationship with Coop Refinery
- Carbon sequestration and no net loss with wetlands
- More self-reliance with funding

Board members are to provide initial information to the committee to help flesh out the proposals. Send information to Barry Gunther.

There is a plan for some work on a project on the Thunder Creek marsh area that flows into Moose Jaw Creek.

## **12. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

