

Minutes

WUQWATR Annual General Meeting – Humboldt, April 8, 2015

1:05 PM

Present: Fred Clipsham, Jim Elliott, David Sloan, Gary Dixon, Tim Davies, Rod Halyk, Don Bowman and Geoff Merifield (others)

Staff: Duane Haave, Colleen Fennig, Angela Miki and Jennifer Lockert

1. Introductions

Meeting was called to order by Rod Halyk at 1:05 p.m. The Board of Directors and Staff were introduced. The Mayor of Humboldt, Malcolm Eaton, welcomed us to their city.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion (Merifield/Davies) (M/S/C) that the agenda be approved as presented.

3. Minutes of May 1, 2014

Motion (Sloan/Davies) (M/S/C) that the minutes of May 1, 2014 be approved.

4. Business Arising (no report)

5. ALUS Introduction

Rod Halyk introduced the ALUS (Alternative Land Use Services) Program, a partnership between Delta Waterfowl and WUQWATR. Jim Fisher, Delta Waterfowl's Director of Conservation Policy, provided further details of the Saskatchewan initiative. Jennifer Lockert, Project Coordinator, provided a slide presentation on what it is, how the ALUS Program will work in our watershed and what it has done since its beginning in Saskatchewan.

Meeting was recessed for a break of 15 minutes and resumed at 1:50 p.m.

6. Reports

a. WSA Presentation (Warren Thompson, Regional Manager, Yorkton)

They look after the Qu'Appelle basin, the Assiniboine Basin and the Quill Lakes Basin. He explained what drainage works were and how they are regulated or controlled. There will be changes to drainage legislation and regulations coming later this summer. He outlined the application, assessment and issuance of the approval. He provided the rationale for the changes to the drainage regulations. The new regulations will be risk-based, a new approval process, an enforcement strategy with the use of financial penalties. The regulation change will be this spring or summer. The new legislation will likely come in 2016 or 2017. The initial applications will be on line. Warren also discussed the current status of the Quill Lakes and what may or may not be used to deal with the higher levels including setting up a watershed association. He also talked about what the province is doing around LIDAR remote sensing maps.

b. General Manager's Report (report provided)

Duane Haave provided his report on the activities of WUQWATR over the past year.

c. AEGP Report

Colleen Fennig provided details on the AEGP program and the changes for 2015.

17:24

d. Treasurer's Report

Tim Davies presented the audited financial statements of 2014.

Motion (Davies/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the audited financial statements of WUQWATR for the 2014 year be approved.

Motion (Davies/Sloan) (M/S/C) that WUQWATR appoint Marcia Herback as our 2015 Auditor.

e. SAW Report

David Sloan provided an update on the activities of the Saskatchewan Association of Watershed in the past year. There have been a few changes on the Board of Directors with some watersheds struggling to have representation. Hopefully, smoother times will be ahead. There are also two members at large and WUQWATR's chairperson, Fred Clipsham, is one of them. There has not been any progress from a Land & Infrastructure Resiliency Assessment (LIRA) workshop last year due to funding and commitment problems. SAW did a climate change report supported by Natural Resources Canada. SAW did a strategic plan last year. There is an e-newsletter coming out of SAW. SAW had an MLA reception on November 3rd. We did a map with overlapping constituency and watershed boundaries. SAW hopes to make a presentation to the Deputy Ministers when they meet next. The Annual conference is coming to Melfort on April 13-15 with the Tornado Hunter as the feature speaker. There are now 11 watersheds represented with Old Wives Lake finishing their plan this winter. SAW is looking to host a drainage meeting in the north, perhaps Shellbrook. Next year's annual conference is going to be in Yorkton.

Motion (Dixon/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the verbal reports presented today be accepted.

No resolutions were presented.

7. Other Business (none)

8. Adjournment

Motion (Davies/Merifield) that the meeting is adjourned.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.