

Minutes
WUQWATR Board of Directors December 15, 2017
Wascana Place, 10:30AM

Present: Fred Clipsham, Garth Burns, Garry Dixon, Sandra Bathgate, David Sloan, Jim Elliott, Barry Gunther, Rod Halyk, Geoff Merifield, Sherwin Petersen and Kelly Butz.

Absent:

Staff: Colleen Fennig

Guest:

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:37 am.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion (Dixon/Gunther) (M/S/C) that the agenda be approved as circulated.

3. In Camera (10:41 – 11:24)

4. Board Minutes – October 20, 2017

Motion (Sloan/Dixon) (M/S/C) that the October 20, 2017 meeting minutes be approved as amended. Under Correspondence 6 b), it should read EcoMuseum – Fort Qu'Appelle – Aura Lee McPherson and on page 4, Sherwin Petersen left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Motion (Dixon/Elliott) (M/S/C) that the November 3, 2017 executive meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

Motion (Elliott/Gunther) (M/S/C) that the dates of the March 30, 2017 and June 23, 2017 minutes be corrected.

5. Business Arising

- Rose Gilks won't be able to participate in our strategic planning.

6. Correspondence

- Jared Wolfe – Prairie Water Kickoff on January 29-30 in Saskatoon. It was agreed that Colleen, Sherwin and Fred be our participants. Colleen will ask if three can attend.

- There will be a governance training seminar on January 30 in Regina and 31 in Saskatoon. They want at least four to five board members to attend.

- Kerry Holderness – Quill Lakes backgrounder. Kerry put an article in Humboldt paper. Minister Duncan put a letter to the editor in the Leader Post.

7. Reports

a) Financial Report

Motion (Merifield/Sloan) (M/S/C) that the Balance Sheet and the Income/Expenses Statements ending September 30, 2017 be approved.

Motion (Sloan/Petersen) (M/S/C) that the Board table the Balance Sheet ending November 30, 2017 to the next meeting.

Motion (Gunther/Halyk) (M/S/C) that the Board approve the Income/Expenses Statement ending November 30, 2017.

There was a question of the accounts payable being negative. Colleen will talk to the bookkeeper.

Motion (Elliott/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the Board approves the Transaction Details as of November 30, 2017.

b) General Manager/AEGP/ALUS (Colleen Fennig) (attached)

Motion (Sloan/Gunther) (M/S/C) that the Board approve the transfer of \$32,602.53 from the interest-bearing ALUS trust account to the ALUS trust chequing account in order to pay the upcoming annual payments (previous contracts)

Motion (Gunther/Petersen) (M/S/C) that the Board approve the transfer of \$28,557.83 from the ALUS projects account to the ALUS trust chequing account in order to pay the 2017 contracts (establishment costs and annual payments) and the 3rd party verification fee (\$2,855.00)

Motion (Halyk/Merifield) (M/S/C) that the Board approve the transfer of \$2,929.90 from the ALUS project account to the chequing account to pay for half of the ALUS signage.

Motion (Gunther/Bathgate) (M/S/C) that the Board approve the transfer of \$62,173.62, which is the remainder of the 2017 contract annual payments to the ALUS income-bearing trust account once the final payments from ALUS Canada is received (late January).

c) Chair & Executive Committee

- The true measure of any climate change mitigation plan is the impact on the resiliency of the community and the economy
- resiliency is the ability to which the community can adequately react to the observed changes in a timely manner

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:30 p.m. Dan McGill and Clinton Molde arrived. The meeting resumed at 1:26 p.m.

8. Presentation

- Introductions were made. Dan McGill is in the Regina office and the Head of two programs, Aboriginal Services and Community Consultations and Regulatory Compliance & Assurance with WSA. Clinton Molde is Executive Director of Integrated Water Services with WSA which deals with Watershed Services and Regional Offices around the province.
- 2.2 million acres in the Quill Lakes basin
- Quill Lakes is 730 square kilometres
- Water peaked this year at 520.93 metres and froze in at 520.5.
- Spill level is at 521.47 metres.
- In the 1930's, the TDS was about 70,000. Today the TDS is about 8,000 on average and at the outlet area of Big Quill. In Little Quill, it is about 4,000 and fish can be caught there.
- In comparison, Little Manitou Lake is about 100,000. Ocean water is about 30-35,000.
- Last Mountain Lake has a natural variance between 1,000 and 2,400 from year to year depending on runoff and flow. It is tested on a monthly and sometimes weekly case on the lake and some of the inflowing creeks. There is a database that this information can be seen publicly.
- Jansen Lake has a TDS of 1830.
- The CPR line near Dafoe will be raised this year.
- From the average lake elevation to today, there has been 31,000 private and 58,000 public acres lost due to flooding. At spill elevation, there would be another 20,000 private acres lost.
- With the KGS report, there were 26 options considered. A lot of the options didn't have a big impact. There were no economic analyses of the various changes to water levels of the options.
- The Kutawagan creek proposal had a 4-6 cubic metres a second proposed flow. Evaporation this year had an equivalent of 50 cubic metres a second impact on the lake.
- The rainfall forecast is very uncertain.
- Unauthorized drainage compliance has begun with an office in Wadena
- WSA is working with landowners to bring them into compliance and technical assistance to help them develop projects to keep the water from going into the Quill Lakes
- the whole ag water management strategy is province wide and it is to bring their drainage works into compliance with approvals
- if the drainage doesn't have a point of adequate outlet then the drainage works need to be closed or the water has to be kept on the land
- to know whether there has been drainage works there, WSA is using air photos back into the 1950s
- the mapping of the basin will be done this year and the work on the ground will be done piece by piece
- complaints about illegal drainage are being dealt with separately

- for the QLWA proposal, WSA, outside of the approval through the Ministry of the Environment, must still give approval to construct, approval to operate and have a habitat protection permit before they can construct and operate this project
- when the project was brought forward, they needed to do more hydrologic analysis, hydraulic modelling, water quality analysis, water quality monitoring program, land control and a need for consultation with public and First Nations
- with a rain or spring runoff event, it will probably need a 2-3 foot rise above the breach of the watershed in order to get any substantive flow of 4-5 cubic metres per second into the Last Mountain Lake
- with a major flood or runoff year, 1/3 of the flow generally goes into Last Mountain Lake and 2/3 goes by down the river and then it takes a year or more for that flow into Last Mountain Lake to come back out into the channel
- a big shift of regulatory compliance on water management will take a long time to reach a new normal
- the criminal justice system works well with 85-100% general compliance but today, we are likely at 2% compliance

Dan McGill and Clint Molde left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

7. Reports (Cont'd)

d) GM report (cont'd)

- there is likely a follow up meeting on the GIWS in the spring of 2018
- at the strategic planning session, the consultant needs to talk to us about our board performance review process and tune it up
- loss of local newspapers may impact our capacity to advertise events and may have to do more direct mail
- the new staff is Zach McClinton.
- the Research & Monitoring Committee meeting was held on December 12th and will be having a tri-watershed meeting in March.

Motion (Dixon/) to set a chequing account with a Global Payment Master Card and to have members of the Executive to sign the required paperwork. Colleen to provide wording for a motion via email.

Motion (Petersen/Merifield) (M/S/C) to register three staff for the 2018 Native Prairie Restoration and Reclamation Workshop in Saskatoon on February 7-8, 2018 (including one night hotel for Regina staff). The registration fee is \$275 per person.

Motion (Halyk/Gunther) (M/S/C) that the board set the dates for the 2018 board meetings to the following: Friday, February 16th, Wednesday March 28th (AGM and board meeting), Friday June 15th, Friday August 17th, Friday October 19th and Friday December 14th.

It was further recommended that either the June 15th or the August 17th meetings be in the Humboldt area.

Colleen be instructed to talk to the staff and review possible office locations including a store front presence, travel cost implications and access to board meeting space. Some suggested places include DU office, SARM office, APAS and various locations including inside and outside of Regina. This needs to be decided by end of March as our present lease ends. This will be given to the Executive for a decision.

Motion (Burns/Halyk) (M/S/C) that to pay the Wascana Centre Authority for the remaining three months of rent (January to March 2018).

Motion (Petersen/Gunther) (M/S/C) that we send the art poster contest packages to schools with a contestant prize of \$50, \$25 and \$25 and the teacher's classroom prize of \$100.

Motion (Sloan/Gunther) (M/S/C) that the AGM location be Lumsden with food.

Manager's meeting included a talk on Canadian Agricultural Partnership. 50% of the BMPs will be equitably spent across the province and 50% will be a targeted approach in each watershed. FIRWIP may be going paperless. They haven't talked about how they are going to involve the watershed groups. They do recognize that we will need some bridge funding. Governance training is in Regina Jan 30 and Saskatoon Jan 31. We will get a guide book for watershed groups. Funding for strategic planning is one of seven projects approved. Another is watershed policy development by the end of March. Staffing for WSA is going ahead to support and fill positions and a ½ time enforcement officer. They have two years to bring forward a new watershed act. Each watershed needs to do 3 articles for Natural Edge by the end of March. Within aquatic invasive species area, there has been two visible mussel sightings confirmed and decontaminated from the United States and another one caught through a tip.

Motion (Dixon/Burns) (M/S/C) that we affirm the 2018 membership fees be the same as 2017.

e) SAW report

- included in manager's meeting report

e) Reports from Watersheds

- Upper Qu'Appelle

- showed a number of photos of river shoreline damages

- meetings with WSA and landowners about channel cleanup to go with some proposal to deal with the current problems

- on Thunder Creek, there was a pipeline run by DU for thirty years and this is coming due in a couple of years and DU is looking to abandon the pipeline. There may be some

support to have the infrastructure kept in place. There are discussions with the Moose Jaw watershed and the Riverhurst irrigation district.

- Last Mountain Lake

- there is a Saskatchewan Water Council meeting in Saskatoon on January 22nd
[www.saskchamber.com/pages/the-water-council-of-saskatchewan]

- Wascana

- possibly getting some funding from FIRWIP
- need to have an advisory committee meeting
- Jim has been monitoring some slumping of Wascana Creek in the city
- Jim is working on some purple loosestrife removal for 2018
- Colleen to send out copy of Regina mail drop to board

- Lanigan Manitou

- new landfill at Humboldt
- needed a watershed reference map for people for trade shows
- water treatment plant expansion for Humboldt
- Humboldt doing a lagoon study to understand impacts on Humboldt Lake including monitoring
- still looking at a diversion study to keep water out of Little Manitou Lake

8. Next meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.