

WUQWATR Board Meeting Minutes – August 16, 2019

9:30 a.m. U of R IECS Board Room

Present: Barry Gunther, Sandra Bathgate, Jim Elliott, Rod Halyk, Sharon Rodenbush, Tom Fink, David Sloan, Lori Bresciani, Garth Burns and John Langford

Absent: Sherwin Petersen

Staff: Melissa Bramham

Guest: Delbert Schmidt

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m. Introductions were given.

2. In Camera Session

Melissa left the room at 10:15 a.m. The in camera session began at 10:15 a.m. and ended at 10:51 a.m. Melissa returned to the room.

3. Approval of Agenda

There will be some motions coming from the in camera session. There also needs to be a motion to approve board travel expenses. Under the next meeting dates, there be some discussion of future meeting dates. There was also some information provided around the new minister and meetings that Melissa will be presenting.

Motion (Gunther/Rodenbush) (M/S/C) that the agenda as modified be approved.

Motion (Elliott/Fink) that Melissa Bramham has completed successfully her annual performance review.

Motion (Gunther/Halyk) (M/S/C) that the General Manager bring back a report on a salary grid and CPI recommendations for the other staff.

Motion (Gunther/Burns) (M/S/C) to increase Melissa's salary to 61,100 effective June 1, 2019.

Motion (Langford/Gunther) (M/S/C) that Melissa's salary be further increased the cost of living based on Saskatchewan provincial government cost of living rate as of June 1, 2019.

It was further agreed that the draft board minutes once circulated to the Board and Melissa for review that the remainder of the staff see the draft minutes and that they stay confidential until they are approved at the next meeting.

4. Minutes of June 21, 2019

Motion (Gunther/Fink) (M/S/C) that the amended June 21, 2019 board minutes be approved.

There was a question about whether the February 15, 2019 minutes were approved. Jim will check as to whether they were appropriately corrected and passed.

Under 7 a. "New members will take office"

Under 7 b. "Lori reached out to the City of Regina" and "Barry recommends to receive and "and "Sherwin recommends".

Under 8 a. "Need contract signed and then potentially have a meeting with Minister Merit"

Motion (Burns/Fink) (M/S/C) that Delbert Schmidt be acknowledged as a board member of WUQWATR.

5. Business Arising

a. Organization Truck Lease

Motion (Langford/Bresciani) (M/S/C) that Melissa be allowed to rent a vehicle for the near term until we come up with a long term strategy.

Motion (Gunther/Rodenbush) (M/S/C) that the previous motion on June 21, 2019 to lease a truck be rescinded.

b. Qu'Appelle Basin River Monitoring Committee / Lake Winnipeg Basin Fund

Melissa provided an update on a possible three year contract/project through the U of S that might include some work in our watershed. More details to come at next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned for lunch briefly from 11:45 to 12:15 p.m. Casey McMahon joined us for lunch.

c. Riparian Health Presentation with Casey McMahon

A summary of the riparian area of Wascana Creek that ran through the Cathy Lauritsen Off Leash Dog Park in Regina was given showing poor, fair and good shoreline health patches. Problems identified were slumping and lack or poor vegetation cover. A memo to the City of Regina followed up with a site visit happened as a result of our meetings. We are waiting to see where this fits within the City of Regina's priorities. Funding requests were sent to private funders as well as the City of Regina and other governments. Various options were reviewed.

d. Composite Map of CAP, ALUS and Other Projects

A map was provided by Casey to the Board.

6. Tour of U of R Facilities

A tour of the labs and offices of the U of Regina IECS space was done.

5. Business Arising (cont'd)

e. WSG Business Case Update for August 22/23

An update was provided by the Executive. Sharon will be attending the meetings on August 23rd representing WUQWATR.

g. ALUS \$74,457.40 Investment

There was direction to look at tendering our financial services to a variety of institutions and use our funds as leverage to get the best prices.

Motion (Schmidt/Langford) (M/S/C) that the General Manager with advice from the Executive invest ALUS Funds.

Motion (Elliott/Bathgate) (M/S/C) that the previous ALUS investment recommendations be rescinded.

6. Correspondence

a. MOA Contract Signed 50% Received

Contract has been signed and have received half of the funds.

b. WSA Rapid Risk Assessment Awaiting Contract

RRA has been reduced from 28K to 20K. We are still waiting for the contract. David to contact them about delinquent contract.

c. AIS with SAW Contract Signed

We will be getting \$12,775 for the contract. We were getting information out on AIS.

d. Prairie Water Summit – Regina June 24/25

Melissa, David, Sandra and Tom attended the summit. David and Sandra made presentations. We have a printed copy of the presentations. David got emailed copies of the presentations.

e. Letter to Clint Kimmerly

Reply letter was sent.

6. New Business

b. Committee dates

The initial meeting will likely be face to face but may later go to email discussions.

Delbert was added to the Communications Committee. First date is September 9th, 9:30 a.m.

Barry will suggest possible dates for Entrepreneurial Committee.

WSA Engagement Committee will start in later part of October.

Business Improvement Committee will be on September 13, 11:00 a.m.

There will be a report coming from the Executive about the role, mobilization and function of the Watershed Advisory Committees and possible meeting dates. Need to identify the differences between ourselves and other water groups (WAC, C & D, Watershed Associations, Watershed Authorities and other groups) (Communications Committee).

9. Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be October 11th with a tour of the Water Treatment Plant.

The following meeting would be January 3rd. The preferred location for AGM might be Manitou Lake in April or early May.

Lori Bresciani left the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

7. Reports

a. Chair & Executive Committee (provided)

b. Financial Report

We need to provide electronic copies of the final audited statements to the Board. They have been filed with ISC. We did not determine an auditor going forward. We may also be looking at common auditors for a few watersheds.

Motion (Halyk/Gunther) (M/S/C) that we approach Amy ??? for a quote on an annual audit and whether she was available.

Motion (Bathgate/Fink) (M/S/C) that the audited statement for 2018 be signed by two board members.

Motion (Burns/Schmidt) (M/S/C) that the Transaction Report for July 31, 2019 be approved as presented.

Motion (Gunther/Langford) (M/S/C) that the Profit and Loss Report for January to July 2019 be acknowledge as presented. There were questions around Drainage (negative number) and Accounting and Professional Fees (variance from 2018). Answers will be emailed out.

Motion (Halyk/Rodenbush) (M/S/C) that the Income and Expense Report as of August 11, 2019 be acknowledged as presented.

c. General Manager & Staff Report (provided)

We may be losing one staff person. We should do an exit interview.

Motion (Rodenbush/Fink) (M/S/C) that the Board accepts the Chair's and General Manager's reports.

Jim Elliott left the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

d. SAW Report from Sherwin Petersen

Motion (Burns/Rodenbush) (M/S/C) that we should write two letters, one to the new minister (Ottenbreit) and welcome his attendance at a future meeting (possibly October) and the second to the legislative secretary (Stewart) for the Water Security Agency.

7. New Business

a. Budget 2019 Update

RRA budget was changed from 28K to 20K.

6. Reports (Cont'd)

e. Reports from Member Watersheds

i. John Langford is now the weed inspector for the City of Regina. There is a problem of European Buckthorn in Wascana Centre. There also needs to be some investigation

about how to limit noxious weeds travelling down the Wascana Creek. Melissa will check into how the South Sask dealt with this transport of noxious weeds.

ii. Sandra Bathgate mentioned that there is now some activity as a result of the Prairie Water Summit and the discussion of the water conveyance.

iii. Tom Fink stated that the dry areas are going to be flooded through breaching of the dykes in the Valeport Marsh. The control structure will come out this fall or early winter. Tom is active in the water rangers program. There were RFP and tenders sent out for a channel going from the natural spill point of the Quill Lakes through Lanigan Creek into Last Mountain Lake.

iv. Sharon Rodenbush talked about putting a case forward for Regina Beach and a possible project. Is there anything that you can give him ways to protect the riparian habitat along the beach front? Town of Lumsden is building a new sewage treatment plant.

8. Approval of Board Travel Expenses

Motion () (M/S//C) that the mileage expenses of the board members attending the meeting be paid.

10. Adjournment

NB* Sharon Rodenbush requested the following changes be made to her watershed report:

iv. Sharon Rodenbush indicated the proposed Arm River project would probably be well received by local residents. The mayor of Lumsden Beach is interested in receiving and posting on the Resort website some Beneficial Management Practices for Lumsden Beach residents so they may better protect riparian and lake front areas. The Town of Lumsden is building a new sewage treatment plant.