

Minutes of:
Lesser Slave Watershed Council

December 5th, 2013
Kinuso Seniors Center, Kinuso, AB

Present at meeting:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Stakeholder Group Represented:</u>
Meghan Payne	Executive Director
Lindsie Fairfield	Watershed Coordinator
Murray De Alexandra	Chairman/Commercial Fishing
Gary Couch	Member at Large
Murray De Alexandra	Commercial Fisherman
Brian Panasiuk	Town of High Prairie
Kristy Wakeling	ESRD
Brian Rosche	MD of LSR
Ed Podollan	MD of Big Lakes
Lynn Sandquist	Agriculture
George Gross	Forestry
Tammy Kaleta	Recreational Fisherman
Stephen Plouffe	Town of Slave Lake
Gary Braithwaite	ENGO - SARDA

Regrets:

Sherrie Hay	Tourism
Brian and Nona Elliott	Cottage country residential
Edna Willier	LSIRC - First Nations

Board Vacancies:

Oil & Gas

Meeting called to order by Chairman Murray De Alexandra 7:10 pm

Introduction of all members

1. Adoption of November 28, 2013 Agenda

Amendment - Remove Thorsten's presentation from the agenda.

Addition - update on application for Blue Water Satellite Imagery Project 4f.

Motion 13-15: Rosche/Couch: Motion to adopt agenda as amended

CARRIED

2. Adoption of October 17, 2013 Minutes

Motion 13-16: Rosche/Wakeling: Motion to adopt the October 17th, 2013 Minutes as presented.

CARRIED

3. Introductions and welcome to new board member appointments.

- As a result of the Municipal election the LSWC lost 3 long time members: Guy L'Heureux, Wilfred Willier and Rob Irwin. Additionally, a new ESRD representative will be replacing Monica Dahl whose responsibilities have changed within ESRD.

- Meghan has ordered thank you plaques for each of them.

- New board appointments include:

 - Stefan Plouffe - Town of Slave Lake

 - Edward Podollan - MD of Big Lakes

 - Brian Panasiuk - Town of High Prairie

- Background, roles and duties of the LSWC and WPACs in Alberta

- Importance of public involvement and engagement

4. Project updates

a. IWMP

- Aquality provided a draft summary document intended to capture the comments and feedback from the SDM and planning workshop in High prairie on Sept. 19.

- Project team has reviewed the draft and sent comments and feedback to the author for revision.

- Final draft of summary document has been received.

- ESRD has been billed for this portion of the project work.

- A half day session will be held in February to discuss the draft Terms of Reference document and give a last chance for people to provide feedback. LSWC staff will invite all of the original invitees and all those who attended the first workshop.

- LSWC will be presented with a final TOR document for approval in early March 2014.

b. Water quality

- 2014 State of the Watershed - Water Quality update will tie together all of the water quality projects we/ESRD have been working on and incorporate new data into an up to date water quality assessment for the watershed.

- Curtis Brock is working with Meghan to put together a detailed project description.

- Curtis has added Lesser Slave Lake to the list of AB lakes to be samples yearly starting in 2014. More information for the board when it is available.

- Colin Cooke has been working to complete the past paleolimnology work started by Roderick Hazewinkle. Colin is handing the analysis of the 2012 core samples from the east and west basins and will be completing the technical report in kind.
- Summer student Carrie calibrated the BATH Tub model with 1999 data for our lake. More nutrient modeling work is needed to incorporate the newest data sets from open water season of 2012 and 13. Darcy McDonald will be able to provide technical advice for this part of the project.

c. Bathymetry

- Field work is complete and the coverage of the survey area is good. ESRD has been sent an invoice for that portion of the work.
- AMEC has sent preliminary maps of the survey area and a draft geodatabase.
- Main deliverable is the data package that will be uploaded to GOA FTP site for public use and to assess changes to shoreline, and what changes to water level may have on the lake and the fish.
- Final report completion expected in February 2014.

d. Ag. Service Board partnership

- The LSWC and PCBFA met with the MD of Big Lakes ag field person to discuss the ASB 2014-16 funding application.
- We jointly applied for funding for riparian restoration projects (HP RRAT), water quality monitoring (LSWC), farm nutrient reduction projects (PCBFA) and public awareness.
- MD of Big Lakes is without an Ag. Fieldman at this time so when a new person is hired Meghan will be in touch regarding the ASB program.

e. Little Green Thumbs

- Teaching Training workshop to be hosted at the LSWC office on the evenings of December 10 & 11 to introduce teachers to the garden kits and to outline program components. 5 teachers will be in attendance representing Grade 4 at High Prairie Elementary, Life Skills at St. Andrew's, and Grade 1 and Grade 4 at Jousard school. The program will start in classroom in January 2014.
- The program is entirely funded by Ag for Life and largely supported by Agriculture in the Classroom Saskatchewan.

f. Blue Water Satellite Imagery Project

- Potential funding from ACA grant to fund imagery and report, which is data and map based thus a contractor will be required to apply it into layman terms and report based aside from maps.

- Application for grant due at end of January 2014.

Canyon Creek Fish Cleaning Application letter of support to Brian Rosche. Assistant for writing grant from Meghan available if needed.

5. DUC summary

- Successful event held on November 23 in High Prairie.
- Tickets sold: 157 Actual Attendees: 135
- Big Thanks to board members who helped out: Tammy, Brian and Nona
- Total funds raised for DUC
- Our committee will be recognized on a plaque for the 75th anniversary DUC Headquarters for reaching monetary fundraising goals
- Total Funds for LSWC: \$2200

Motion 13-17: Rosche/De' Alexandra to accept project updates: Rosche/De' Alexandra

CARRIED

6. WPAC Executive Director meeting summary

- The WPAC Executive Directors, Alberta Water Council reps, and Brian Free from ESRD met in Red Deer on November 25 for the quarterly meeting.
- The 11 WPACs are in agreement about putting joint WPAC funds from the CRWA conference into a Bob Phillips memorial endowment fund for a student at Medicine Hat College. The detail of the endowment fund are being handled by SEAWA staff.
- Harry from the Beaver River presented an overview of the 2013 WPAC Summit and shared feedback from participants.
- The NSWA will be hosting the 2014 WPAC Summit. Details and location to be determined.
- Ken Brown and Hugh Sanders are the current and alternate WPAC representatives on the Alberta Water Council. They were in attendance to provide an update on the AWC.
 - In the 2 years since Ken has been at the table the profile of WPAC's around the Water Council table has grown a lot.
 - AWC is looking for more involvement on project teams and working groups from the WPAC collective in the future.
 - The AWC is initiating 3 project working groups for 2014. These include: A strategic approach to water literacy (province wide education based program, Lake management project, and source water protection project. The AWC has not officially called for representatives for the WPAC's to sit on these project teams but will be doing so as soon as they are ready to kick off each.

- The Alberta Water Council is planning a water conference in June 2014. The theme is innovative use and reuse of water. More info to come when it is available.

- ESRD's Kate Wilson is leading the development of an Aquatic Invasive Species Education and Outreach Task Team. Live adult zebra mussels have been found in Lake Winnipeg. It is not a question of IF they reach us, it is WHEN and we need to be proactive. WPAC's will be participating on this taskforce and we see ourselves as having a large role to play in helping the GOA raise awareness about invasive species.
- The Alberta WPAC's will be taking a display to the Ag Service Board Conference in Medicine Hat for information sharing and networking. Folks from the southern WPAC's will be in attendance on our collective behalf.
- Verbal agreement that LSWC will work with ALMS to host conference in Slave Lake in 2014

8. Treasurers Report

- Meghan will be applying to ACA for funds to complete the Blue Water Satellite Scans on Lesser Slave Lake and have report written explaining the findings.
- Meghan has applied to TDFEF for education and outreach project expenses.

Motion 13-18: Kaleta/Sandquist to accept Treasurers Report

CARRIED

9. Round Table and Meeting Adjournment

Ice Jam on the LSR

- include information to SARDA on Back 40 for articles
- target fishing tournaments to target foreign boats - Golden Walleye
- have invasive species information in regulations
- include MORE articles in SPN/Spotlight - Pollodan
- 2 years MD of LSR Councilors and MD BL Committee met in regards to forming committee for lakeshore development planning. Would like to arrange to have another meeting prior to regional plan is made so that input and plan can be brought forward rather than regional plan designates development plan. Would like input from multiple sources including watershed council, MD's, ESRD, etc.
- Pollodan will bring forward to MD Council meeting on Wednesday to make committee work a priority.
- ALMS "Living by Water" program - property assessment score of environmental issues and pros and analyze 2 years later, usually performed by students (previously done by LSWC but carried out by Alberta government employee, so not overly successful to regulatory

pressure - Laura Edwards - helps improve education of changes to best management practice in development.

- Braithwaite - large fracking water requirements - propose use of grey water from municipal effluent lagoons to meet water needs, huge costs to companies; Wakeling - consider water balance - removing water from lake and not replace i.e. shipping elsewhere for industrial use

Motion 13-19:Rosche/Braithwaite To adjourn board meeting

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: January 16, 2014