

Minutes of:
Lesser Slave Watershed Council

February 19, 2015
Kinuso Seniors Center, Kinuso, AB

Present at meeting:

Name:

Meghan Payne
Megan Graham
Tammy Kaleta
Brad Pearson
Kristy Wakeling
Todd Bailey
Stephan Plouffe
Claude Smith
Shane Knutson
Bob Popick
George Gross

Sector Represented:

Executive Director
Watershed Coordinator
Chair
MD 124
ESRD
Forestry
Town of Slave Lake
Agriculture
Cabin and Cottage Owners
Oil and Gas
Forestry

Regrets:

Michael Hunka
Jamie Bruha
Gary Braithwaite
Edna Willier
Doug Horner
Murray DeAlexandra
Brian Rosche
Robert Nygaard
Michael Long

DFO
ESRD
Member at Larger
First Nation member at large
Trapper
Commercial Fisherman
MD of LSR
MD of Big Lakes
Town on High Prairie

Board Vacancies:

Métis Member at Large
ENGO

Meeting called to order by intern chairperson Todd Bailey at 7:15 pm

1. Adoption of February 12, 2014 Agenda

Motion 14-35: Smith/Plouffe - *Motion to adopt the Feb 19th, 2015 Agenda.*

CARRIED

2. Adoption of November 13, 2014 minutes.

- Board reviewed the minutes as circulated.

Motion 14-36: Smith/Bailey - *Motion to adopt the January 8, 2015 meeting minutes as presented.*

CARRIED

3. Treasurers Report

- Board reviewed the Dec 15, 2014 to Jan 15, 2015 treasurers report provided by the Executive Director.

Motion 14-37: Plouffe/Wakeling- *motion to adopt the Treasurers' report as presented.*

CARRIED

4. Round table discussion

- The Annual General Meeting will be held in High Prairie on June 11, 2015.
 - What would the board be interested in as a keynote speaker?
 - Lakeshore development speaker?
 - Integrated land management?
- Tammy - Jousard community Association Fishing Tournament is March 7th.
 - LSWC Staff will be there for a portion of the day to help with registration, distribute Watershed information including new IWMP fact sheets, and engage with community members.
 - Board members are encouraged to attend rather than pay staff.

- Stacey at Todd Bailey's office has stepped up at the last AGM and joined the Education and Stewardship committee. This committee has not met yet but should do so soon.

Action: Chair and staff will set up an E&S committee meeting

- Stefan told the group that the Slave Lake the marina feasibility study should be done soon and he will share with the board.

- Meghan received a complaint from a member of the public regarding an ESRD project at the South heart River Bridge on HWY 749. The project was completed in such a way that will casue a wash out of sediment, and the poorly placed stakes and canvass intended to reduce erosion. The recommended course of action os to call the environmental complaint line.
 - Kristy Wakeling is also aware of this site and had concerns about the integrity of the project work done in the fall of 2014.

5. 2015-18 Strategic Plan

- The Board had a strategic planning session with Larry Stewart of Alberta Culture and Tourism on January 29th. Based on the feedback from the session Meghan has updated the LSWC strategic plan.

- The flip chart and discussion notes from the session are available from Meghan via email upon request.
- Board reviewed and discussed 2015-18 strategic plan and made changes as agreed upon.

Motion 14-38: Bailey/Smith - *Motion to adopt the 2015-18 LSWC Strategic Plan as modified during the Feb 19, 2015 Board meeting.*

CARRIED

6. 2015-16 Operational Plan

- Meghan asked the board to provide the number of hours a month they spend on LSWC related work. This is important for our grant applications and reporting.

Action: Each board member is to provide a best estimate of time spent per month on LSWC business.

a. Projects

IWMP

- 2015-16 work will include stakeholder communication and engagement as outlined in our communication and engagement plan as the appropriate project phases.
- LSWC Steering Committee will work with contractors who are experienced in watershed planning, the structured decision making process, and facilitation of meetings and engagement events.
 - *Identify Outcomes* - with agreed upon priority issues we will define desired outcomes (ideal conditions) that the plan is striving to achieve. These outcomes will need to be agreed upon and supported because they will be the basis of what the indicators and actions will be.
 - Compilation of current policy and management actions.
 - *Develop indicators and targets* based on technical info. Indicators will measure chemical, biological, or socioeconomic attributes of the watershed. Measuring these indicators will monitor the success of the plan.
 - *Draft a list of actions* to meet the outcomes, who plays a role, and how each can be monitored.

WRRP

- The LSWC applied for a 2015 WRRP grant to start our Watershed Restoration work.
- Project - Need to find a landowner to cooperate with the project. We have a lot of potential interested people but we need to find a site that is achievable

b. Outreach activities

- The Following activities and programs are included in the operational plan in addition to our ongoing programs.

Green Acreages Guide Workshops

- Supported by TDFEF
- IN May in High Prairie and Slave Lake
- Target Audience are country residential dwellers.

- MD Ag departments will provide a presentation on weed management.
- Participation incentives: draw to win rain barrel, food, take home a tree.
- Advertising: Social Media, radio, paper, MD mail outs, members
 - Kristy said there is an invasive weed person that can come and give a presentation.

Watershed 101 Webinar

- April 22, 2015 at 6pm (Earth Day)
- Board will be sent the log in information and the webinar will be advertised through the college, social media and during reading week.
- Meghan and MJ will be delivering the live webinar from the NLC in Slave Lake.

Watershed Wise board and learning resources

- Purpose: to develop an interactive learning resource that LSWC and members can use to educate people of ALL ages about the watershed and the different things that impact watershed health.
- Draft lesson plan is developed as contractor is designing all of the graphic components of the watershed background and magnets.
- Estimated to be complete in May 2015.
- LSWC will have ownership of the materials and design and can reproduce the kit for sale through the contractor if we wish to in the future.

Stakeholder Education forums

- One of the outcomes from our strategic planning session was the need and desire for more education.
- Purpose of education forums would be to bring people together for a day to hear information from the LSWC, experts, and government on sector related topics.
- Operational budget will support the associated costs.
- Potential topics include: Lakeshore Management, Managing Agricultural Lands, Forest and Industry - new technology to improve operations.

Little Green Thumbs

- Megan Graham
 - We won't be accepting any new schools next year; Ag in the Classroom cannot fund new gardens. Next school year (2015-2016) will be a "maintenance year"
 - Going to be visiting the schools to check progress and give a presentation.
 - Our garden is doing amazing, we have been updating our Facebook and Twitter
- The Board reviewed the 2015-16 operational plan and budget prepared by the Executive Director and projected as a working document.
- This finalized document will be submitted on March 2nd with our 2015-16 Grant Application.

Motion 14-39: Knutson/ Plouffe - *Motion to adopt the 2015-16 LSWC Operational Plan interim for the purposes of applying for our operational grant.*

CARRIED

7. Information Items

a. AWC Lake Management Project team

- Meghan has been appointed to the Albert Water Council Lake Management Project team as the WPAC alternate. Hugh Sanders, chair of the Battle River Watershed Alliance, is the regular WPAC alternate.
- Robert Nygaard is also on the project team representing rural municipalities.
- Meghan went to the First meeting in Edmonton

b. Municipal Support

- The Town of High Prairie has confirmed \$5000 in support for the 2015 year.
- Town of Slave Lake sent their 2014 support check in Jan 2015.
- 2015 Requests for support will be sent to 3 local governments.

c. Canada Water Week

- March 15-22, 2015. Theme: Know you H2O
- Activates to promote the watershed include:
 - Radio watershed facts
 - Spotlight coloring contest & CWW write up
 - Face Book trivia contest
 - Town of HP sign advertising (free)
 - Rain Barrel Sales
 - Library group movie on watersheds

d. Rain Barrel Fund Raiser

- Sales are open from now until May.
- Rain Barrels cost LSWC \$55 and we are selling for \$65 to make a \$10 per sale profit.
- Tammy - Corporate Sponsorship.
 - Get local companies to buy into the project by providing 2\$ per barrel sold. Will be recognized on the stickers we will be making for each rain barrel.
 - Donations to the LSWC are Tax deductible
- As of Feb 19th we have sold 20 and we have only advertised via facebook. Throughout Canada Water Week we will promote rain barrels, at the Gun Show, Green Acreages Guide and the Slave Lake Trade Show.

e. Water North Coalition

- Next meeting is in Slave Lake on Feb 26th.
- The LSWC is participating as a non voting member with the role of providing information, resources, and recommendations to aid in the goals of the group.
- Meghan attended the last meeting in Peace River. There was no participation from any of the Towns, MD's, or First Nations in the watershed.
- WNC Terms of Reference and membership list is available via email from Meghan.

Action: the WNC would like a letter from the LSWC acknowledging our participation as a non voting member for their records.

d. Alberta Water Research and Innovation Strategy Workshop

- Hosted by ESRD on March 4th, 2015 in Edmonton
- Meghan P will be attending
- The Water Research and Innovation Strategy provides direction for water research and innovation in the province. The workshop will bring together key stakeholders in order to gain a better understanding of their different ongoing or planned initiatives that fit within the context of the Strategy. This is a great opportunity to share the research and knowledge development initiatives undertaken by WPACs

8. Upcoming Committee Meetings and Events, Meeting adjournment

Feb 26, 2015 - Water North Coalition meeting (Meghan P) - Slave Lake

March 12, 2015 - Regular LSWC Board Meeting - 7pm at the Kinuso Seniors Center

March 15-22 - Canada Water Week

March 20, 2015 - Alberta Water Research and Innovation Strategy Workshop (Meghan P)

March 26, 2015 - IWMP Steering Committee Meeting -

Motion 14-40: Claude/ Wakeling- Motion to adjourn the meeting

CARRIED