

Minutes of:
Lesser Slave Watershed Council

March 13, 2014
Kinuso Seniors Center, Kinuso, AB

Present at meeting:

Name:

Meghan Payne
Lindsie Fairfield
Murray De Alexandra
Brian Panasiuk
George Gross
Julie Brandle
Brian Rosche
Tammy Kaleta
Kristy Wakeling
Edna Willier

Stakeholder Group Represented:

Executive Director
Watershed Coordinator
Chairman/Commercial Fishing
Town of High Prairie
Forestry (alternate)
Town of Slave Lake (alternate)
MD of Lesser Slave River
Recreation
Fish & Wildlife
First Nations

Regrets:

Brian and Nona Elliot
Gary Braithwaite
Monica Dahl
Gary Couch
Ed Pollodan
Lynn Sandquist

Cabin and cottage owners
ENGO's
ESRD
Member at Large
MD of Big Lakes
Agriculture

Board Vacancies:

Oil & Gas
Tourism
Metis Settlements

Meeting called to order by Chairman Murray De Alexandra 5:55 pm

1. Adoption of March 13, 2014 Agenda

Motion 13-25: Kaleta/Panasiuk Motion to accept the March 13, 2014 agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Jan 16th Minutes, Adoption of Feb 13, 2014 Minutes as information

Motion 13-26: Kaleta/Wakeling Motion to adjourn January 16, 2014 LSWC meeting.

CARRIED

3. Guest Presenter -Angelo Murphy, Alberta Culture and Community Spirit

Topic: Board Roles and Responsibilities

- Angelo presented information about best practices and policies to the board.
- Copies of the presentation were given to all in attendance.
- Meghan will email an electronic copy to the board so that everyone can review this information.

4. Review of Jan/Feb Action Items

- Board vacancies:

Oil and gas - potential person from the Slave Lake Alberta Energy Regulator office or the Slave Lake Petroleum Association

Métis Settlements

Tourism - Board has folded; look for election from general member of someone within industry

- these and some of the other board positions where the member is in their second year will be up for election at the June AGM. Anyone wishing to join the BOD must pay a five-dollar membership either prior to or at the AGM.

- Board alternates

- Need active alternates for cabin owners, fishing and recreation, ENGO's, agriculture,

- Staff employment contracts - the executive has yet to set up a meeting to discuss and go forward with the development of LSWC employment contracts.

- Meghan has requested examples from other WPAC's for reference.

- Education and Stewardship Committee Meeting

- meeting date to be set in April

5. Approval of 2014-15 operational plan and budget

- Meghan emailed the final operational plan and budget that was submitted with the ESRD funding package to the board for review prior to the meeting.

Motion 13-27: Rosche/Wakeling Motion to approve the 2014-15 operational plan and budget.

CARRIED

6. Discussion and Endorsement of IWMP Draft Terms of Reference

- The timeline for the final Draft TOR is pushed back because we needed more time for project team review.

- *The board cannot endorse or approve the current draft at this meeting.*

- Aquality Environmental is expected to have the revised final draft to us by March 20, 2014. The Project team will review this document to ensure our feedback is incorporated.

- ESRD contract deadline was March 14, 2014. Meghan is speaking with our contract manager about extending it until March 28, 2014.
- LSWC Board of Directors will endorse the Final Draft Terms of Reference at the APriol meeting. This is the draft that will be taken forward for public, stakeholder and FN engagement.

•**IWMP Steering committee.**

- needs to be established soon to guide and oversee the IWMP project.
- discuss composition, participation, and roles of members.
- need to agree upon steering committee details as this will be put into the final Terms of Reference.
- include
 - 1) ESRD (Michelle Keohane, Monica Dahl),
 - 2,3) both MD's,
 - 4,5) Representative from two major towns (SL, HP),
 - 6) First Nations,
 - 7) Forestry,
 - 8) Oil & Gas,
 - 9) Agriculture
 - 10) member at large
 - 11) LSWC Executive Director

Motion 13-28: Kaleta/Rosche - To adopt sectors chosen for Steering Committee and to be included in ToR.

CARRIED

•Feb 20th IWMP session:

- Meghan emailed the summary of the workshop to the board and all attendees for review and information. If there are questions regarding this document of the workshop please call the office to discuss.

•Meghan has letters for each First Nation in the watershed to be sent out. The letter explains that we are working on an IWMP project and expresses a desire to work together. The intent is to set up a meeting between Meghan, Edna Willier, and chief and consultation staff at each First Nation.

•This will be the first step in a series of conversations about the IWMP engagement plan and the IWMP project in general.

7. Project Updates

IWMP - Engagement Plan and Stakeholder Engagement on Draft TOR

- pending project contract from ESRD
- project proposal in draft, RFP for contract services will be developed by April 1 with project team input.

State of the Watershed - Water Quality update

- Pending project contract from ESRD
- RFP under development and will be sent to tech team members for input.
- Data requests and sourcing will be underway soon in anticipation of funding confirmation in April.
- New format and content to be included for future contracts that protects the LSWC legally from contractors that may not provide satisfactory work. Future contracts will reflect a product contract format, rather than a service contract which is what is currently in use.

LSR weir modification project

- Meghan will ask for a formal response from ESRD as to the status of this project, what the trigger lake level is and if the existing approvals are valid.

Little Green Thumbs

- there were some issues obtaining approval for the installation of the garden kits but after discussions with the HPSD maintenance department they were able to go ahead.
- LSWC staff will be making visits to the classrooms and giving presentations this spring.

Canada Water Week - March 17-23

- Facebook trivia contest
- Coloring contest
- Classroom presentations

Ag. Service Board

- we have confirmed that we will receive \$15,000 from the MD of Big Lakes through the ASB program. This money was earmarked for a west prairie river water quality study however there is a new Ag Fieldperson and we will be meeting to discuss the details of the ASB projects.
- Invasive species awareness on radar but waiting to see what action they are taking
- information in registration packages of fishing tournament
- Awareness campaign from LSWC - information packages
- ALMS conference

Rain Barrels and water efficiency - pending funding

- This project is aimed at town of HP and town of SL residents.
- we will be subsidizing the cost of brand new rain barrels for those who attend our home and garden water efficiency workshops.

Green Acreages workshops - pending funding

- plan is to hold 2 workshops (HP and SL) for acreage owners or country residential on agricultural land owners.
- Land Stewardship Centre has presentations, materials and resources to hold the workshop. LSWC staff and MD Ag departments would provide additional information and resources.
- May also add content about invasive plant species.

Living By Water - summer 2014

- if we receive the additional funding we will be looking at setting up campground group sessions for seasonal lot holders. Possible locations are Shaw's Point, Spruce Point Park, Hilliard's Bay or Red Sky

Action Item: Board members will actively promote the Living by Water program to people they know who have shoreline property and provide them with our contact information to sign up.

ALMS Conference - September 26-27, 2014

- At Slave Lake Inn & Conference Center
- Meeting with ALMS conference organizers next week
- Present historical information about the lake and region, stewardship content, First Nations storyteller, current issues such as nutrient loading, waste treatment facility
- Field trip component: start in Kinuso area and ending at BCBC, including waste treatment facility, old fish hatchery, Slave Lake weir, Devonshire beach (beach grooming), BBQ at northshore
- call for volunteers and sponsorship closer to event and planning is more underway

8. Treasurers Report

Outstanding Grant requests:

ESRD - operational and projects for 2014-15 - Feb 10, 2014

ACA - Blue Water Satellite Project (Jan 31, 2014)

TDFEF - Education and awareness costs (Feb 15, 2014)

RBC Blue Water - urban focused water quality improvements (Feb 4, 2014)

- Meghan Presented the February treasurers report for review and approval.
- Meghan Presented the March treasurers report for review and approval.

Motion 13-29: Rosche/Willier Motion to adopt the February and March Treasurers report as presented.

CARRIED

9. Meeting Adjournment

Motion 13-30: Rosche/Wakeling Motion to adjourn March 13, 2014 LSWC meeting 8:35 pm.

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date:

April 10, 2014 at 7:00pm