

Minutes of:
Lesser Slave Watershed Council
February 8, 2018
Kinuso Seniors Center, Kinuso, AB

Present at meeting:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sector Represented</u>
Tammy Kaleta	Recreation and Tourism (chair)
Kaylyn Jackson	Watershed Coordinator
Meghan Payne	Executive Director
Bob Popick	Oil and Gas
Brian Gilroy	Town of High Prairie
Claude Smith	Agriculture
Todd Bailey	Forestry
Sean Gramlich	Town of Slave Lake
Jules Asterisk	NGOs
Wendy Freeman	Member at Large
April Isadore	Driftpile First Nation

Regrets

Charmain Larsen-Willier	Sucker Creek First Nation
Jamie Bruha	Alberta Environment and Parks
Richard Simard/Robert Nygaard	Big Lakes County
Brian Rosche/Brad Pearson	MD of Lesser Slave River
Shane Knutson	Cabin and Cottage Owners
Murray DeAlexandra	Commercial Fishing
Scott Mayston	Trappers

17 of 21 Board Seats filled.

1. Call to order and Welcome

- Meeting Called to order by Chair Tammy Kaleta at 6:40 pm

2. Adoption of February 8, 2018 meeting agenda

- Copies of Feb 8, 2018 Meeting agenda were distributed.
- Chair asked for additions to the agenda.

Motion 17-15: Bailey/Smith – *Motion to Adopt the Feb 8, 2018 meeting agenda as presented.*

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the December 14, 2017 meeting minutes

- Copies of the December Minutes were distributed.
- Chair asked if there were corrections or changes to note.

Motion 17-16: Popick/Bailey – Motion to Adopt the December 14, 2018 Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

4. Treasurers Report & Financial Updates

- Executive Director provided copies of the November – January Treasurers report to the Board.
- Remainder of 2017-18 AEP grant was received on January 30th, much later than required. Thanks to Jamie for helping resolve the issues in receiving our payment.
- Alberta Environment and Parks Grant Application package is due February 20th. Required items include: strategic plan, operational plan and budget, grant budget template, grant application forms, director list, and certificate of good standing.
- Last Payment from Albert Eco trust for modeling work should arrive soon.
- Still waiting to hear about community Facility Enhancement Program grant and our request to the WRRP program for 122,500 for the SHIM work on LSL.
- We applied for the 2018-19 ACA community education grant to host another ice fishing event in 2019.

Motion 17-17: Asterisk/Smith – Motion to accept the November 15 to January 15th treasurers report.

CARRIED

5. Review action items

Action Item:	Who	By When	Progress
Board of Directors will review the December 10 th Draft IWMP and have any feedback to Meghan and Sandi before January 11, 2018	ALL	January 11, 2018	Jule and Wendy provided brief comments. MDLSR staff provided detailed comments on municipal recommendations
Staff will prepare a quarterly watershed science based article for the spotlight that will inform people about our watershed.	Kaylyn and Meghan	January	In progress – 1 st theme will be shoreline function and health.
Board members will send feedback and ideas for ice fishing event to Kaylyn.	Board	January 10	Event is planned, volunteer needed
Send updated strategic plan to BOD for review and feedback	Meghan	Dec 18, 2017	Done – no feedback received, need a motion to support
Kaylyn will look into Living Lakes Canada CABIN Training	Kaylyn	Time permitting	

Work on engaging oil and gas companies and getting their sponsorship for WQ.	Meghan & Bob	March 6, 2018	In progress – Meeting set for March 6 th in Calgary. Working on getting the invitations to the right people at the companies who operate in our watershed. Sean LeCroix of Aspenleaf has been very generous in donating their board room and helping with making contact.
Outline of LSWC policy document	Board	Time permitting	In progress, not high priority for BOD
Review the final Watersmart Report	Board	By Feb 8	Watersmart report was emailed to the board in draft. Todd provided some comments that were sent to the modelers with Sandi's feedback. Revisions were made to the final report. Report will be sent to municipalities and other stakeholders as information to inform planning.

Motion 17-18: Smith/Asterisk – *Motion to approve the Alberta WaterSMART report: Quantifying the effects of land use and climate change on stream flow and lake levels in the Lesser Slave Watershed and pay the final invoice for project work.*

CARRIED

6. Round table discussion

a. **Jule – Seeking a letter of support for Keepers of the Athabasca's Flowing into Right Relationships**

- A series of short introductory workshops providing people with basic information and insight on different issues relevant to indigenous people and local concerns.
 - BOD was provided with a copy of summaries for each topic.
 - BOD had questions on content and wanted more information about the modules.
- Keepers is hiring a new coordinator who will be booking these programs with schools, community groups and municipalities.
- Jule will notify LSWC when workshops will be held in our watershed so that staff and interested board members can attend.

- So far there are 3 elders and 7 facilitators who will be presenting the workshops based on topic/location.
 - Board wanted specific information about the credentials of the people delivering the workshops.
- Question about whether local First nations have been engaged in this and have they been asked to support this work?

Motion 17-19: Freeman/Bailey – *Motion to write a letter of general support to Keepers of the Athabasca regarding their workshop series.*

CARRIED

b. Other WPAC Items

- Does the board have an interest in getting together with the Athabasca WAPC?
 - Interest but BOD want to wait until they have staff fully in place
- The next WPAC meeting is Feb 28th in Red Deer. There will also be an education and outreach staff meeting at the same time. The following day Meghan and Kaylyn will both be attending the NAWAMP and ABCEE wetland education forum in Leduc.
- Todd Bailey shared some information about the regional Forest Management plan that is being developed. Meghan is participating in both the High Prairie and Slave Lake public Advisory Committees.
- Tammy informed the group that a boat was sunk into Lesser Slave Lake off of Jousard in about 12 feet of water. AEP has been notified and spoken to the person responsible. At last update there was no plan to retrieve it.

7. IWMP final feedback and adoption

- Final draft plan was sent to the board in December. A few small comments have been received from board members since then.
- Jamie Bruha indicated that Alberta Environment staffs are confident that their feedback and recommendations have been incorporated and the plan has their support.
- The MD of LRS staff provided detailed comments on the recommendations for municipalities. Sandi addressed their comments and made some minor changes to the document. The table of comments and how they were addressed is available from Meghan upon request.
- Next steps include presenting the board approved plan to each of the 4 municipalities in February and March and asking them to review the final document and draft a resolution of support.
 - Town of SL – March 13
 - MD LSR – March 14th
 - Big Lakes County – March 14th
 - TOHP – TBD, no response to request
- Sandi has completed a draft summary document. This will be a shortened version of the full plan and will be what we use for plan engagement and wide distribution.

- Sandi has also completed a power point presentation for Meghan to use to present the plan to municipalities, indigenous communities and other stakeholders. It can be customized depending on the audience.
- Alan Dolan is reviewing the final IWMP document, the summary and the presentation for us and providing strategic advice on communication and engagement of the final plan.
- There is money allocated in the 2017-18 budget to cover the cost of a graphic designer to design the summary document and front cover and have them printed.
- Next year's work:
 - Develop detailed workplan for high priority projects
 - Work with AEP to determine what technical work they can complete in house – Lesser Slave River desktop INF work, update and calibrate MIKE SHE and MIKE 11 Watershed Model, and other high priority items.
 - Continue monitoring program
 - Establish a tracking system for plan recommendations
 - Stakeholder communication – sharing the plan and learning what actions are in place already that support the plans objectives.
 - Support municipalities in developing implementation projects or policies.

Motion 17-20: Popick/Gramlich – *Motion to approve the Lesser Slave Integrated Watershed Management Plan with the edits made since December and to move forward in finalizing the document completing the summary document.*

CARRIED

8. 2018-20 Strategic Plan

- Board was emailed the LSWC's 2018-21 Strategic plan and asked to provide comments to Meghan. No feedback was received.

Motion 17-21: Smith/Gilroy – *Motion to approve the LSWC 2018-21 Strategic Plan as presented.*

CARRIED

9. 2018-19 Draft Operational Plan

- Copies of the draft plan were distributed to the Board and reviewed.
- Operational plan is organized by strategic goal with actions listed to achieve the objectives of each goal.
- The operational plan also indicates which program area each of the actions relate to. These are the program areas identified by Alberta Environment and Parks in our 2018-19 grant package and we are trying to align our work with them.
 - Watershed Planning (WP)
 - Watershed Evaluation and Reporting (WER)
 - Education and Outreach (EO)
 - Stewardship of water and the aquatic environment (S)
 - Core operations and Board Governance (COR)

- We need to add another section for education and outreach that talks about going into schools etc.
- Meghan will email updated plan to the board before submitting

Motion 17-22: Gramlich/Bailey – *Motion to approve the draft operational plan for submission with our Alberta Environment and Parks application on Feb 20, 2018.*

CARRIED

10. Kids can catch Event & Lesser Slave Lake 101

- Ice Fishing Event is planned for Saturday, Feb 17th from 10:30 am to 3pm at the Jousard Community Hall.
 - ACA and Canadian Tire have donated rods that people can sign out.
 - Children’s Resource Council & Boreal center will also be in attendance with activities and displays.
 - Sponsorship from many local businesses for door prizes and supplies and food.
 - More experienced ice fishermen volunteers would be good.
 - LSWC will be at frost fest in Slave Lake at the Boreal Centre on February 10th running a fish ID station and Lesser Slave Lake Trivia game.
- Watershed 101 lake stewardship event is being hosted in Slave Lake on April 19, 2018.
 - Target audience – municipal councilors and staff, campground and report owners, realtors and tourism folks, anglers, anyone with general interest.
 - Presentations will include:
 - an overview of the watershed – Meghan
 - an update on fish health and status in LSL, AEP fisheries Biologist
 - Legislation 101 – policy overview
 - Shorelines and riparian areas - Cows and Fish
 - Invasive plants and animals – Nicole Kimmel
 - Lake and Agricultural Stewardship – Kelly N, Moose Lake stewardship Society
 - Stewardship tools and programs – Brian I, Land Stewardship center
 - ALUS program in Northern Sunrise County - Becki, Program Coordinator
 - Watershed Plan overview or Water quality program overview – Meghan

11. Adjournment and next meeting

- Next Board meeting – March 8, 2018

Motion 17-23: Smith/Popick– *Motion to adjourn the Feb 8, 2018 Board meeting at 9:15pm*

CARRIED