

Minutes of:
Lesser Slave Watershed Council
April 12, 2018
Kinuso Seniors Center, Kinuso, AB

Present at meeting:

Name

Meghan Payne
Kaylyn Jackson
Bob Popick
Brian Gilroy
Richard
Todd Bailey
Wendy Freeman
Lisa Bergen
Shane Knutson
Murray DeAlexadra
Brian Rosche
Jule Asterisk
April Isadore
Charmaine Larsen-Willier
Rowan Robson

Sector Represented

Executive Director
Watershed Coordinator
Oil and Gas
TOHP
Big Lakes County
Forest Sector
Member at Large
GOA
Cottage and Cabin Owners
Commercial Fishing
MDLSR
NGO
Driftpile First Nation
Sucker Creek First Nation
LSWC Member

Regrets

Tammy Kaleta
Claude Smith
Shawn Gramlich/Rebecca King
SAcott Mayston

Tourism and Recreation
Agriculture
Town of Slave Lake
Trappers

16 of 21 Board Seats filled.

1. Call to order and Welcome

- Meeting called to order by chair Bob Popick at 6:35pm.

2. Adoption of April 12, 2018 meeting agenda

- Agendas distributed, chair called for amendments or additions.

Motion 17-30: DeAlexandra/Rosche – Motion to adopt the April 12, 2018 meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the March 8, 2018 meeting minutes

- Draft minutes from March 8th were circulated.
- Brian Gilroy was missed on the attendance list, this has been corrected.

Motion 17-31: Popick/Rosche – Motion to adopt corrected minutes the March 8th, 2018 meeting minutes as amended.

CARRIED

4. Treasurer's Report & Financial Updates

- February 15 – March 15th treasurer's report circulated to the Board.

Motion 17-32: Gilroy/Simard – Motion to accept the Feb 15 to March 15, 2018 treasurer's report as presented.

CARRIED

- No word on 2018-19 operating grant as of April 12th.
- No word on round 5 WRRP grant applications yet.
- Operating account is empty. Board needs to approve the transfer of \$30,000 from project account to operating account.

Action: Meghan can check in to see if we can get a better interest rate for our bank accounts

Motion 17-33: Simard/Gilroy – Motion to approve the transfer of \$30,000 from the projects account into the operating account; to be paid back when operating grant arrives.

CARRIED

5. Review action items

Action Item:	Who	By When	Progress
Register for Lesser Slave Lake 101 by going to www.lswc.ca and using Eventbrite link.	Board	ASAP	A number of board members have registered
Promote Lesser Slave Lake 101 to sectors and organizations	Board and Staff	March/April	Registration closes on the 16 th .
Work with WPAC collective to develop an overtime agreement that will satisfy new workplace legislation	Meghan	April	In progress
Prove the Board with more detailed information about “flowing into the right relationship” workshop series <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Content of modules - Development team and credentials - Engagement with GOA? - Academic professionals involved? - Who are instructors and credentials? - Funders so far 	Jule	April Board meeting	Some information was sent to the board in an email.
Let staff know if you can help at High Prairie Gun Show April 21 & 22.	All	BY April 12	Kaylyn has a schedule

Board will review 2016 by laws and send Meghan recommendations for changes by April 12, 2018	All board	By April 12	Later in the agenda.
Reach out to lakeshore property owners in Faust to seek their interest in a riparian restoration project	Murray/Wendy	April 12, 2018	No progress yet. need to contact Kelly Shmiller

Discussion Re: Action items

Letter of Support for "Flowing into the right relationships"

- Keepers intend to deliver the workshops for free over the next two years in order to gather momentum and interest. After two years they plan to start charging in order to make the workshops sustainable.
- Currently they are approaching schools (grade 4 and up classes), community groups, church groups and municipalities etc.
- The anticipated end result is getting people of all backgrounds to work and communicate better together and work towards sustainability of our water.
- It was clarified that the letter of support was intended to be used in grant applications that Keepers were/are applying for.
- The board would like to see more information on what specific grants are being applied for and what parameters for reporting and objectives they entail
- The board acknowledges that the themes of the workshops is useful but would like to know the curricular connections, key audiences and see the course syllables if possible.

Motion 17-34:Rosche/Simard– Motion to rescind the Feb 8, 2018 motion to provide a general letter of support to the Keepers of the Athabasca for their Flowing into the Right Relationships" series.

CARRIED

Motion 17-35:Rosche/Bailey– Motion that Keepers of the Athabasca shall send grant applications requiring a letter of support to the Executive Director for review and recommendation of support to the board in a timely manner.

CARRIED

6. Round table discussion

Todd Bailey - Forest management plan

- work on the plan is going well and everything is currently on track to be submitted in 2020

Board Development Session

- Because board meetings are too pressed for time to have speakers or guest presenters the board would like to plan a board development day in September
- Potential topics include: Lesser Slave Regional Forest Management Plan, Keepers of the Athabasca workshop demo, and Alberta WaterSMART watershed modelling project.

- Meghan will start planning and securing speakers and send out a doodle poll in order to decide on the best date/time.

Lake Sediment Core Samples

- Keepers of the Athabasca worked with CPP Environmental to take sediment core samples from Lesser Slave Lake as per the agreement with SUEZ.
- Two samples were taken from the mouth of the Swan River, one sample was taken off of the shoreline by Faust
- Jule will keep the board updated on results etc. from these samples

7. Board Business

a. Policy discussion

- Meghan will be working to develop most needed staff and board policies one at a time based on priority.
- Some of the most urgent staff ones include:
 - Staff hours and vacation, Business code of conduct, Overtime, Sick leave, Benefits, Working alone policy
- Most urgent board policies include:
 - Procurement policy – how we hire contractors.
 - Book keeping and accounting policy
 - Board meeting process guidelines
 - Communications policy
- As a first step Meghan has prepared a policy development template for the board to review and adopt.
- Copies distributed for review and discussion. Once adopted the draft policies will be created in this format.
- Board has been sent a drop box link that has examples of other WPAC policies.

Motion 17-36: Knutson/Isadore – Motion to approve the policy development template presented and utilize it in policy design moving forward.

CARRIED

b. By Law Review

- Board members were asked to review by laws and bring forward any proposed changes they would like to see. Have to be put forward by our May board meeting, any member can propose a bylaw change.
- Proposed changes:
 1. Amendment to Commercial Fisherman board seat – Alberta no longer supports a commercial fishing industry. Suggestion to amend the board seat to “Harbour authorities”

Action – Board has until May board meeting to propose by law changes. Need to be written out and reference which by law it is intended to replace.

c. AGM, Board elections & nominating committee

- AGM is going to be on June 7, 2018 at the High Prairie Elks hall downtown from 2-5 with a dinner to follow.
- 7 board seats are up for election these include:
 1. Forest sector & alternate
 2. Recreation and tourism & alternate
 3. Non-government organizations
 4. Cottage/cabin owners & alternate
 5. Commercial fishermen & alternate
 6. Trappers and Alternate
 7. Agriculture and Alternate
 8. Member at large alternate
- Todd B, Scott M and Claude S have given notice that they will not be putting their name forward again.
- Call for directors is going to be advertised from now until AGM. Board members received a copy via email.
- The Board is interested in trying to get an interesting speaker or comedian to speak during dinner.
 - Judy Stewart is being considered. Meghan will contact her

Action – Board members are asked to share the LSWC's Call for Directors and promote board seats up for election.

Action – Meghan will send letter of invite to FN's and metis settlements that explains that there is a board seat for appointment should they choose to accept it.

8. Project Updates

a. WQ monitoring

- 2017 summary report to be completed this week and sent to the board members and out funders and made public on our web page once approved.
- 2018 field season was going to start April 15th but due to winter conditions we will start May 9th.
- Partnership with Swan River First nation is ongoing, we will be taking monthly total and dissolved metal samples as well as additional routine parameters and they will be billed for the analytical costs.
- Meeting with Mackenzie Data stream to start the process. Board is encouraged to visit their website to learn more about the project.

b. IWMP

- Plan has been presented to all 4 municipalities throughout March and April.
- Will be following up with them on any final comments and seeking their motions of support.
- Government of Alberta Water for Life Cross Ministry Steering Committee presentation on March 22, 2018.

- Sandy and Meghan presented the plan to the committee members and left them with the final plan for review along with some questions about their departments involvement in implementation.
 - Their next meeting is June 28th and they should be done their review then.
 - Summary Document is with the graphic designer and once she has a mock up Meghan will send to the Steering committee for review and feedback.
 - Municipal working group is going to meeting in June to talk about implementation work plans.
 - Identify and quantify high value wetlands, potentially using AVIs from Forestry and info from GoA. Meghan and Lisa will discuss and work on this.
- Need to create a 2018-19 workplan and contract with Sandi once we have confirmation of grant funding.

c. CFEP – Water Bottle fill stations

- We applied to the Community Facility Enhancement Program for grant money to purchase water bottle fill stations for locations around High prairie.
- Grant was approved in the amount of \$11,500.
- Next steps include a project meeting with the Town staff and committee members involved in the project planning.

d. WPAC Summit

- June 20-22, 2018 in Peace River.
- Evening meet and greet for travelers on the 19th.
- River raft ride and BBQ planned for the 21, banquet and keynote on the 22.
- So far only Meghan, Kaylyn and Tammy are interested in going.
- WPAC managers will be having a quarterly meeting on the 21.

e. Riparian Projects

- we have 5 projects on the go
- 1 completed project and the rest are in progress.
- We intend to use the Town of High Prairie site as showcase site to get the community involved.
 - Host weed pulling and tree planting events with a celebration BBQ afterwards
- We have received an extension on our round three WRRP grant and all funds are allocated to projects which are in progress
- If you know a producer with riparian issues please have them speak to Meghan.

10. Education & Outreach Updates

a. LSL 101 – April 19th

- Have 60 people registered, 10 of them are presenters

- Advertised via Facebook, email list and on the Radio.
- Last day to register is Monday April 16th.

b. upcoming programs and projects

NAWAMP

- Kaylyn is a part of the Wetland Education Network's Public and Education Action Group.
- First Meeting is on April 16th
- We will be focused on compiling and standardizing wetland education in AB

Water North Coalition

- Kaylyn will be attending meeting on April 26th
- Strategic planning session is set for that day.

Action - Meghan will send a link to the WNC's website along with the minutes

X-stream Science training day May 7th

- Water quality monitoring/testing program developed for Jr High and High school students by the Battle River Watershed Alliance
- Once training is completed we will meet with LSFES staff and have them start advertising it in Fall 2018

AEP Water Channel

- Now live, Check it out for water education resources

ACA Grant

- for \$1090 awarded to plan another Kids Can Catch Event in 2018
- Will be hosting in Canyon Creek in Feb 2018

Slave Lake Trade Show

- LSWC will not be attending as it is cost prohibitive (\$500 registration, staff travel and overtime)
- LSWC will attend other markets and events in Slave Lake throughout the summer
- Board suggested that we write a letter to the SL chamber of commerce explaining why we will not be attending this year.

11. Adjournment and next meeting

Motion 17-37: DeAlexadra/Rosche – Motion to adjourn the April 12, 2018 board meeting at 9:05pm

CARRIED