

Minutes of:
Lesser Slave Watershed Council
October 11, 2018
Kinuso Seniors Citizen Center, Kinuso, AB

Present at meeting:

Name

Meghan Payne
Kaylyn Jackson
Todd Bailey
Tammy Kaleta
Manuela Campbell
Rowan Robertson
Richard Simard
Brian Rosche
Anastasia Boschman
Charmaine Willier-Larsen
Brian Gilroy

Sector Represented

Executive Director
Watershed Coordinator
Forest Sector
Recreation and Tourism
Member at large (alternate)
Recreation and Tourism (alternate)
Big Lakes County
MD Lesser Slave River
Cabins and Country Residential
Sucker Creek First Nation
Town of High Prairie

Regrets

Jamie Bruha/Lisa Bergen
Shawn Gramlich/Rebecca King
April Isadore
Bob Popick/Spencer Zelman
JD Dennis/Jule Asterisk

Alberta Environment and Parks
Town of Slave Lake
Driftpile First Nation
Oil and Gas Sector
Non Government Organizations

14 of 21 Board Seats filled.

Vacancies: 3 First Nations, 2 Metis Settlements, Trappers & Commercial Fishermen.

1. Call to order and Welcome

- Chair Todd Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

2. Adoption of October 11, 2018 meeting agenda

- Copies of the October 11, 2018 agenda circulated.
- Chair called for additions to the agenda.

Motion 18-10: Rosche/Kaleta – Motion to accept the October 11, 2018 Meeting Agenda as presented

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the September 13, 2018 meeting minutes

- Copies of the September 13, 2018 draft meeting minutes were circulated.

- Chair called for a motion to adopt the September 13, 2018 minutes.

Motion 18-11: Nichols/Kaletka – Motion to approve the September 13, 2018 draft Board meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

4. Treasurers Report & Financial Updates

- Executive Director distributed copies of the Aug 15 – Sept 15th treasurers report.
- Switching Directors and Officers liability insurance to local cc-operates so that everything is through the same broker.

Motion 18-12: Rosche/Campbell – Motion to accept the August 15 – September 15 treasurers report as information

CARRIED

6. Review action items from September

Action Item:	Who	By When	Progress
Visit www.lslrfmp.com to learn about the Forest Management Plan and prepare questions for September 20 th	ALL	Sept 20, 2018	Complete
Draft a letter for the Minister of Environment and Parks from the LSWC expressing our concerns and experiences with the Bob Cat under ice situation and the lack of legislation to enforce penalties.	Tammy	October 31, 2018	Tammy presented the first draft of the letter at the October board meeting, it will be forward to Kaylyn and Meghan for edits/imput and then sent out to the board for review.
Speak to town of High Prairie CAO about their questions around water use on the West Prairie River and determine how we can provide information to support decision making.	Meghan	ASAP	Complete, CAO did not have any specific questions.
Ask Chief Roland Twinn to join us on October 25 th for a half hour talk about First nations culture and Water	Shawn Gramlich	By October 1	Done – Shawn Spoke to Chief Twinn and Meghan emailed him. No response to email as of yet.
Have banking information updated once June minutes are approved	Meghan	October 1	IN progress

Aid Meghan in getting a Resolution of support for IWMP from Municipalities.	Brian R - LSR Brian G - TOHP Shawn G – TOSL	By October 30	No progress aside from Big Lakes county.
Write a letter to the Town of High Prairie , Town of Slave Lake and MD of Lesser Slave River seeking support of \$5000 a year for a 3 year commitment.	Meghan	By Sept 18 th	Done.
Review the AWC's Staff Handbook, suggest edits and provide a draft for the Board to review. Meghan will email it on Sept 14 th .	Meghan, Todd, Tammy, Manuela, Bob	November 8 th	No progress to date Has been reviewed, members will meet individual to start making changes Meghan and Manuela meeting Thursday Oct. 18th to start editing

Action - High Prairie has FCSS has grant money that needs to be awarded or given back. Kaylyn and Meghan will check and see if there is any possibility of the watershed council qualifying. Meghan will contact Terri Weibe, TOHP Treasurer.

7. AEP interim report & updated operational plan

- As a part of our grant agreement with AEP we are required to submit an interim report and updated budget.
- Copies of the updates operational plan and budget were distributed.
- Reporting also requires a performance evaluation and monitoring plan. We will be using the same document as last year with updates.
- Meghan and other Executive Directors are again requesting standardized reporting templates for the WPAC grant program. In particular the performance monitoring and evaluation planning. It is on the Oct 30, 2018 Managers meeting agenda.
- After reporting components are submitted we will receive the remaining 25% of our 2018/19 operational grants.
 - Last year it was not received until February. Timeliness of payments is also on the Agenda for the Managers meeting.

Motion 18-13: Gilroy/Campbell – Motion to approve the updated draft operational plan for the 2019/19 fiscal year for submission to AEP with the interim grant report.

CARRIED

8. Project Updates

a. IWMP Project

- Big Lakes County has made a motion of support for the Plan and we are anticipating a letter from them soon.
- Town of Slave Lake, MD of Lesser Slave River and Town of High Prairie have not response to the requests for support that were made in March and again in September.

Action – Brian R, Brian G, and Shawn G are to follow up with their administration on the status of the request.

- Plan to be finalized and posted online by November.
- Major Stakeholders and those who participated in the planning process will receive a cover letter, summary report and postcard directing them to the full plan online.
 - Full plans will not be mass printed for budget reasons.
 - 50 print copies
 - We will also price out USBs which can be given if additional copies are requested
- Executive Director will be making appointments to present final plan to First nations and metis and talk about their implementation priorities and potential future project partnerships.
- A request has been made to Alberta Environment and Parks for a meeting with Upper Athabasca Regional Operations staff to talk about the GOA's watershed priorities and how they can support implementation.
- Municipal working group and Technical advisory committee will be replaced by the Implementation Committee. This will include Municipal staff and Councillors, AEP staff, and other organizations who are supporting implementation.
 - First Meeting after meeting with AEP and after municipalities have provided letters of support. Hopefully late November.

b. Water Quality Monitoring

- Last sampling event will be next week.
- Once all data is received from the lab Sandi will receive it and work on our 2018 summary report.
- Our 2017 data set is almost ready to be uploaded to the Mackenzie Data Stream web portal. Once the 2018 data set is verified we will also be submitting it to be posted.

c. WRRP

- All WRRP grant funds have been spent. Grant report is due in December.
- Applying for 2019/20 funding in the amount of \$50,000 to continue supporting on the ground stewardship projects and extension.
- Big Lakes County is also applying for ALUS program funding and our application will align with theirs.

- Rather than running the projects through the LSWC with partner support the projects will be ran through Big Lakes ALUS program and their coordinator will be responsible for all the administration etc.
- LSWC will contribute funds to the projects to cover costs like watering systems, fencing, vegetation etc. and be responsible for the grant reporting
- The ALUS program is set up to pay landowners for the lands they return to a conservation state and this will encourage more participation from people in the County.
- The LSWC will be a member on the ALUS steering Committee and we will be working closely with the ALUS coordinator.
- IF Big Lakes doesn't get funding for the ALUS program coordinator we will continue to deliver projects the way we have been in collaboration with Big Lakes, PCBFA and Cows and Fish.

Motion 18-14: Rosche/Gilroy– Motion to accept project updates as information.

CARRIED

9. Education and Outreach

- Staff are working on an education and outreach strategy for the LSWC to adopt and implement by April 1, 2019. Currently we are only working off of our strategic plan goals.
- This document will set more specific goals and objectives for education, outreach and communication delivered by the LSWC.
 - Will be used to evaluate ideas or projects before implementing them to ensure they align with our goals.
 - Will have an evaluation component so that we can measure the success of our efforts.
- Kaylyn will be attending a Wetland Education Network meeting next week to help develop standardized wetland messages for the province of Alberta.
- The LSWC has Secured funding through TDFEF to expand the Little Green Thumbs program with two new gardens
 - Kinuso school and Swan River First Nation Band School were approached
 - Kinuso School will be coming on board with the program
 - We are still waiting to hear back from SRFN Band School
- The LSWC is once again partnering with the High Prairie Rec Board to deliver PD Day programming, our first date is October 22nd pending adequate registration numbers
- Kaylyn will be meeting with Roni Davis from the High Prairie Children's Resource Centre to discuss potential partnership opportunities.
 - We will be evaluating them to insure they meet our goals and objectives

10. Round Table Discussion

Citizen Science in Alberta Workshop – Sept 24 & 25, 2018

- Meghan attended the 2 day workshop hosted by AEP and Miistakis Institute.

- Board members were emailed the meeting notes with web links to the various projects etc.
- Some citizen science apps that we can promote and utilize are:
 - AB Weed Spotter – report invasive weeds to Environment and Parks staff.
 - Naturelynx – Help ABMI collect information on Alberta’s biodiversity
 - Grizz Tracker – help- AEP staff find out more about where people are seeing, and not seeing grizzly bears.
- There are opportunities for us to develop some citizen science based programs but we must carefully plan them.
 - A well thought out question we need the answer to
 - Who is using the information collected? End user determined the level of Quality control and assurance required.
- Citizen science project on fish in lesser slave lake
 - could be a great way to engage with people and gather more data on fish population and catch rate

Martin River drainage study

- Martin Beach Community Association approached MD of LSR regarding a drainage study for the Marten River community.
- They have a quote for \$21,000 to complete the study
- The study is required before the community can move forward and apply for flood mitigation funding etc.
- They are actively seeking partners to help complete this study.

Action – Meghan will aid the Marten River Community Association in applying for a WRRP grant for their study before October 30, 2018.

Spraying of herbicide in Jousard conservation area

- conservation area on east side of Peace River Avenue is usually hayed. This year it was sprayed with a broadleaf herbicide aminophyrolid (needs to be confirmed)
- This has caused reduced forage quality

Action - Anastasia will get Meghan a legal land location or municipal address, Meghan will talk to Big Lakes County Ag Fieldman to determine if the County sprayed or if it was done via contractor by the Provincial Government.

11. Meeting Adjournment & Next Meeting Date

- October 25, 2018 – Board information session 2pm to 6pm at Town of Slave Lake Council chambers
- November 8, 2018 – Regular LSWC Board meeting.

Motion 18-15: Campbell/Boschman – Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm.

CARRIED