

Minutes of:  
**Lesser Slave Watershed Council**  
**December 13, 2018**  
Kinuso Seniors Citizen Center, Kinuso, AB

**Present at meeting:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sector Represented</u>
Meghan Payne	Executive Director
Todd Bailey	Forest Sector, Chair
Manuela Campbell	Member at large Alternate
Doug Campbell	LSWC Member
Tammy Kaleta	Recreation and Tourism
Brian Gilroy	Town of High prairie
Lisa Bergen	Alberta Environment and Parks
Richard Simard	Big Lakes County
Rebecca King	Town of Slave Lake
Bob Popick	Oil and Gas
Brian Rosche	MD of Lesser Slave River
Wendy Freeman	Member at Large
April Isadore	Driftpile First nation
Shawn Gramlich	Town of Slave Lake

Regrets

Anastasia Boshman/Shane Knutson	Cottage and Country Residential
Duane Nichols/Brianne Brault	Agriculture
Charmaine Willier Larsen	Sucker Creek First Nation
JD Dennis/Jule Asterisk	Non Government Organizations

14 of 21 Board Seats filled

**1. Call to order and Welcome**

- Board meeting called to order by Chair Todd Bailey at 6:35.

**2. Adoption of December 13, 2018 meeting agenda**

- Copies of December 13, 2018 Agenda circulated
- Chair called for changes to the agenda

**Motion 18-16: Simard/Popick**– Motion to adopt the December 13, 2018 meeting agenda as presented  
CARRIED

**3. Adoption of the October 11, 2018 meeting minutes**

- Copies of the October 11, 2018 meeting minutes were circulated.
- Chair called for a motion to accept the minutes.

**Motion 18-17: Kaleta/Gilroy** – Motion to adopt the October 11, 2018 meeting minutes as presented

CARRIED

**4. Treasurers Report & Financial Updates**

- We received the remainder of our 2018/19 grant on December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Submitted an application to the Loblaws Water fund on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Seeking \$25,000 to add pesticides, herbicides and fungicides to our water quality program in 2019 at 10 sites.
- Submitted an application to the Watershed Restoration and Resiliency Program for \$70,000 to continue to deliver watershed resiliency projects and extension events over the next 2 years.
- Copies for the September 15 to November 15<sup>th</sup> treasurers report circulated to the Board.

**Motion 18-18: Rosche/Gramlich** – Motion to adopt the Sept 15 to Nov 15, 2018 treasurers report as presented.

CARRIED

**5. Review action items from October**

Action Item:	Who	By When	Progress
RSVP to Meghan for Oct 25 <sup>th</sup> board information session.	ALL	ASAP	Done
Send draft letter to Minister of Environment to Kaylyn for edits prior to sending to the board.	Tammy	ASAP	Sent to Board Dec 3, Meghan spoke to Minister Phillips about this directly and she suggested that we email her when things like this come up so she is aware and can have staff act on them.
Meghan will contact Terri Weibe, TOHP Treasurer and enquire about unspent FCSS dollars and whether or not the LSWC could qualify for them	Meghan	ASAP	Complete, we are not eligible for FCSS funding
Aid the Marten River Community Association in applying for a WRRP grant for their study	Meghan	BY Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>	Done – the community association is putting in an application for WRRP.
Have banking information updated once June minutes are approved	Meghan	November	Charmaine has to sign paper work. Minutes from June did not include Manuela on the list of approved signed so we need to make a motion to add her to the list of people with signing authority.

Aid Meghan in getting a Resolution of support for IWMP from Municipalities.	Brian R - LSR	By October 30	Waiting for MDLSR. All others have provided a letter to the LSWC.
Provide Meghan with a Legal land location of the area of concern in Jousard so Meghan can follow up with Big Lakes County to find out what herbicide was used.	Anastasia,	Time permitting	NO progress, remove from action items.
Review the AWC's Staff Handbook, suggest edits and provide a draft for the Board to review.	Meghan, Todd, Tammy, Manuela, Bob	November 8 <sup>th</sup>	AWC template has been edited. Waiting for info from Town of HP regarding benefits etc.  Talk to Terri Weibe about this as she handles the Benefits program.

**Motion 18-19: Gilroy/Simard** – Motion to add Manuela Campbell to the Directors with signing authority on the LSWC's accounts at ATB Bank.

CARRIED

## 6. Executive Director Updates

### a. WPAC Managers Meeting

- WPAC Managers met in Red Deer on October 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Brian Free from AEP joined us but did not have any information to share on the status of the WPAC role review or other outstanding actions.
- A lot of discussion about the Water for Life partnership with the Province and how we are not being treated as partners by AEP at this time.
- WPAC's wrote a letter to Robert Stokes, Executive Director of the WPAC program expressing our concerns about the grant process, timeliness of funding, and the lack of communication between AEP and the WPACs that has been ongoing since 2017.
- Have not received a response from Robert Stokes however Rob Harris has assumed the role of director of community engagement branch and has reached out to the WPAC's and stated that he will work towards planning a WPAC forum in January and addressing some of the outstanding actions.
- Brian G mentioned that we should look at wetland offset dollars for WPAC's

### b. Staff & Board Policy Development

- Meghan and Manuela have gone through the AWC staff policy template and made changes based on our needs.
- Meghan is waiting for information on benefits program to add to the manual.

- A draft will be sent to the board for review and discussion as some sections will require a board decision.
- The LSWC will need to develop an OHS plan as well that covers working alone, working in the field, etc. This is a provincial requirement.
- The NSWA and the Red Deer WPAC are working on development of Board Policies. Meghan will be working with them to put together the outline of a Board policy manual for the LSWC as time permit.

**c. Other**

- On December 12, 2018 Meghan, Todd, Richard, Brian, JD and Shawn met with the minister of Environment and Parks Shannon Phillips in Slave Lake for 30 minutes at her request.
  - showcased our work on the IWMP
  - Talked about the need for better enforcement of Water Act
  - Expressed the need for a political decision around the proposed recommendations for management of Horse Lakes/Buffalo Bay.
  - Talked about the risk of Aquatic Invasive Species to our lake and local economy.
  - Expressed concerns about grant process and lack of communication between AEP and WPAC's.
  - Minister requested that we email her when we want to bring things to her attention and we don't always have to send formal letters.
- Office Lease is up for renewal. Land lord is increasing rent from \$1000 to \$1300 a month for the next 2 years. Meghan will be signing a new lease this month and providing a list of items that require attention like the lights ballasts and air conditioning.

**Motion 18-20 - Campbell/Simard** - Motion to approve Meghan to sign a 2 years lease with Mike Larose at \$1300 plus GST a month for our office rent.

CARRIED

**7. Project Updates**

**a. IWMP Project**

- LSWC Directors provided with a copy of the IWMP workplan for the year.
- Have received letters of support from Town of Slave Lake, Town of High Prairie and Big Lakes County. Waiting on a formal statement of support from MD of Lesser Slave River.
- Final plan is ready for printing, just waiting on support from MDLSR before printing.
- Met with 5 Alberta Environment and Parks staff in Edmonton on December 10<sup>th</sup> to talk about the IWMP's implementation and the 44 recommendations for the GOA.
  - More discussion needed with specific individuals regarding wetland mapping, modeling, and other actions.

**b. Water Quality Monitoring**

- 2018 field season is complete and our data set is with Sandi so that she can prepare the 2018 WQ summary report.

- All of our 2017 data has been put into the template provided by Mackenzie Data stream and we are waiting for them to launch their new platform and it will be live. Expected to be early in the new year.
- If we receive funding from Loblaws we will be collecting herbicide/pesticide samples in May and June at 10 of our sites. These samples are \$480 each.
- Big Lakes County has allocated \$3000 to conduct fecal source tracking work. Sandi is working to connect with the researcher who may be able to do the analysis for us and finalize plans for collection in the next season.

**c. WRRP**

- Reporting for our 2016-18 grant is due at the end of December.
- Have applied for \$70,000 to the WRRP program to continue to deliver on the ground watershed resiliency projects. We will likely hear of funding in March.
- If we don't get funding we will only have \$15,000 from Big Lakes ASB top work on projects on a smaller scale.
- When Big Lakes County hears if their funding request is successful they will be hiring an ALUS coordinator and getting the program up and running. The LSWC will have a seat on the ALUS Project Steering Committee.

**8. Education and Outreach**

**a. Kids Can Fish Event – February 16, 2019**

- Event will take place in Jousard at the JCA hall and out on the ice on Saturday February 16, 2019.
- High Prairie Tolko staff are getting involved as volunteers and sponsoring food.
- We have an ACA grant of \$1100 to contribute towards costs.
- Have rented Jerry's Ice shacks for the day and that will be our base of operations on the ice.
- Will start advertising it in the new year

**Action - Reach out Keith Denoncourt to see if we can help support a slave lake event if one is being planned at the Lesser Slave River again.**

**Action – Board members who want to help out for the Kids Can catch event please email Meghan or Kaylyn**

**b. Other**

- Little green thumbs teachers are all getting their gardens started. We received \$3000 from TD Friends of the environment to buy 2 more complete garden kits for 2 new classrooms.
- Kaylyn has been working on an education and outreach strategy for the LSWC that will guide our work. A draft should be available for the board to review in the new year.
- Idea for a fundraising event in 2019 – “Water, wine, and wild game” dinner event.

- Can't do it this year because hunting season is over and we will need to line up donation of venison, elk, moose and birds.

#### **9. Round Table Discussion**

- Tammy - Talked to Arnold Viersen about the watershed council at the UCP election in High Prairie. He was very uninformed about the environment in general. He told Tammy that he is interested in attending a future LSWC meeting to learn more about the LSWC.

**Action - Meghan will send an email to his office letting them know our next few meeting dates.**

- Local municipalities were involved in a GOA summit in Slave Lake on December 13th that involved northern politicians and MLA's and Premier Notley.

#### **10. Meeting Adjournment & Next Meeting Date**

Next Meeting date: January 17, 2018

**Motion 18-21: Kaleta/Popick – Motion to adjourn the December 13, 2018 board meeting at 8:15**

CARRIED