



**Lesser Slave Watershed Council
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2020 – Online Zoom Meeting**

Present at meeting:

Name

Meghan Payne
Alyssa Belanger
Todd Bailey
Tammy Kaleta
Brian Gilroy
Nicole St. Jean
Pearl Lorentzen
Rebecca King
Lisa Bergen
Dean McKenzie
Duane Nichols

Sector Represented

Executive Director
Watershed Coordinator
Swan River FN (Chair)
Tourism and Recreation
Town of High Prairie
Forest Sector
Member at large
Town of Slave Lake
Alberta Environment and Parks
Oil and Gas Sector
Agriculture

Regrets

Ken Noskey/Lynn Smith
Jule Asterisk
Roderick Willier
Richard Simard/Fern Welch
Brian Rosche/Brad Pearson
Shane Knutson

Peavine metis Settlement
Non-Government Organizations
Sucker Creek First Nation
Big Lakes County
MD of Lesser Slave Rive
cottage owners/country residential

Board Vacancies:

Commercial Fishermen, Trappers, First Nation X 3, East Prairie Metis Settlement

1. Call to order and Welcome

- Chairman Todd Bailey Called the meeting to order at 4:35.

2. Adoption of June 18, 2020 meeting agenda

- June 18, 2020 agenda was emailed to the Board, and displayed on screen.
- Chair called for additions or amendments to the agenda.

Motion 19-33: Kaleta/King – Motion to adopt the June 18, 2020 Meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the May 14, 2020 meeting minutes

- May 14th, 2020 Draft meeting minutes were emailed to the board prior to the meeting.
- Chair asked if there were any errors or omissions in the draft minutes.

Motion 19-34: King/Kaleta– Motion to approve the May 14, 2020 draft meeting minutes as presented.

4. Review of may Action items

- May action items were sent to the Directors with the meeting package.

LSWC directors are asked to personally submit their feedback to AEP through the channels outlined in the engagement Package.	ALL	May 25, 2020	done
Staff will be registering for the mooring disturbance standard webinar and preparing a submission for the LSWC.	Staff and ALL	May 25, 2020	done
Directors will use the engagement materials prepared by Staff to engage with individuals they know who would be a good fit for the Board seats up for election at the AGM.	Board	June - September	After June Board meeting package will be prepared and sent out.
Meghan will send a feedback table to the Board of Directors and they will share their thoughts regarding proposed board seat amendments. Meghan will compile for review and discussion in June.	Staff and Board	By June 11	On this agenda later
Municipal directors, please talk to your CAO's about ensuring the request for feedback gets completed by end of May.	Municipal Reps	By May 31	Have only received feedback form Big Lakes and Town of Slave Lake, moving on with implementation report now.
LSWC Board members asked to please renew their annual memberships. Staff will send out new forms and online link to do it online.	ALL	By June 30	New membership forms and link to renew online has been sent.

5. Round Table

- Alberta Water Council has officially released the Protecting Sources of Drinking Water in Alberta Guide and Companion Document. Meghan played the AWC's video that explains the Guide and how to use it. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiBK9lyKEVM>
- SRFN received an ECO Action grant and have started the process of grayling habitat surveys on the Swan River. They got partial funding from their initial ask, they are exploring additional funding to make the project more robust. Also were approved for the First Nations ADAPT grant for community flood mapping.
- Dean M – oil and gas sector is still waiting on Government grant money that was being rolled out, there are a lot of people applying to the fund. GOA has relaxed monitoring requirements during COVID, hopefully they put the requirements back in place. The industry is very slow overall, but it sounds like with the provincial funding there will be reclamation activities going on.
- Rebecca K – TOSL staff provided great feedback on IWMP implementation. Their new CAO has started.
- Brian G – TOHP is also hiring a new CAO, Brian M is retiring. Have hired a new Treasurer as well.
- Duane – Ag. Service Board is meeting and will be discussing putting forward a recommendation to the County to declare a state of Agricultural Disaster due to the excess water and the impact it has

had on crops across the county. The declaration by local government helps facilitate insurance claims for ag. producers.

- Marten Beach – there was disaster relief funding available from the province but only for permanent residents, not seasonal.

6. Treasurers report and Financial updates

- Executive Director emailed the treasurers report prior to the meeting and displayed on screen for discussion.
- Have not received 2020/21 operational funding from AEP yet.
- Received our \$20,000 FRIP grant payment from Vanderwell for 2020.
- Outstanding request to Environmental Damages Fund for \$35,280
- Draft year end is pretty much complete, Meghan is reviewing package from accountant and if no changes are required it will be finalized for approval at the AGM.

Motion 19-35: Gilroy/Lorentzen– Motion to approve the April 15 – May 15, 2020 Treasurers report as presented.

CARRIED

7. 2020 By Law amendments discussion

- Directors were asked to review the 2016 by laws and provide feedback and proposed amendments to Meghan by June 16th.
- Meghan summarized all of the feedback into a table. Board worked through table and discussed each amendment.

Action: Board of Directors will actively seek interested individuals for the open director's seats at the AGM using the engagement package sent by the Executive Director.

8. 2020 Annual General Meeting

- Date set for Oct 2, 2020 in High Prairie, AB
- By Law Amendments.
 - Notice of proposed by law changes has to be advertised a month prior to an AGM.
 - Bylaw changes may change board composition, so nominations for Director seats can not open until after the by law changes have been voted on at the AGM.
 - Staff will advertise the available board seats with the agreed upon proposed by law changes made, with a note that they are pending by law amendment vote at the AGM.
- AGM invites and notice of by law changes and board seats up for election will be sent out via email to our stakeholder contact list in late June, July, August and early September.
- Paid advertising in the newspaper, and on facebook closer to the event.

ACTION: Board members will renew their annual LSWC membership using the online link or the new form emailed by staff.

9. Project Updates & Discussion

a. IWMP

- Have not finalized a workplan, budget and contract with Palliser environmental yet. Once our 2020/21 operational grant is received it can proceed.
- Trying to set a date for the Swan River fall forum, September is busy for many of our desired attendees so we are looking at dates in October.
- Have a modeling team call next week and we are going to seek out a student from U of A who can help Shalini with some of the data review and formatting for the MIKE SHE model.
- Implementation report.
 - Have received feedback from Big Lakes County and the Town of Slave Lake regarding IWMP implementation progress. Will be finalizing the implementation report without feedback from the others.

b. Watershed Resiliency

- Staff have been promoting project opportunities on social media and at local businesses. Board of directors asked to share opportunities with Ag sector folks they know.
- Have engaged in a project with the Fogles, who have a 9 quarter section ranch south of High Prairie along the West Prairie River.
 - Completed Environment Farm Plan, submitted 2 Canadian Ag Partnership grant applications for their fencing, stream crossings, solar watering systems, and relocation of livestock holding area.
 - Riparian health assessment scheduled for August
 - Obtained fence posts and barbed wire as a donation from the HP RAT team.
 - Utilizing the LSWC solar water system until their grant application is approved.
 - Total Project value is about: \$248,50
- First interim report for our 2020-22 WRRP grant will be sent in by end of June.
- Will work with our partners to determine if we should have a fall tour this year.

c. Water quality monitoring

- Our site on the Lower East Prairie is not accessible. The lake elevation is so high that the road is flooded.
- Could not access lower swan site on June 17th due to road conditions.
- Results are being entered into spreadsheets as they are received from the lab.
- 6 more sampling events left this season.
- Ongoing conversations with AEP staff about monitoring on Lesser Slave Lake.

10. Education Outreach Updates

- In contact with local resorts & campgrounds about having pop-up booths on Friday afternoon/evenings
- Creating a display to have up at the HP library for 2 weeks over the summer

- Completed WPAC collective brochure, submitted to managers group for review
- WPAC E&O committee meeting in late August, date TBD
- Public survey out, 67 responses so far, open until July 1, 2020
- New membership form online and active, please ensure you fill it out and submit your \$5 fee by the AGM date
- In contact with local Girl Guide troop (Kinuso) about programming in the fall
- Little Green Thumbs Survey sent to teachers, no responses yet.
 - 6/8 teachers have told me they want to continue next year, have not heard from others
- Video editing for 'virtual field trips' with LSFES scheduled to be complete July 31, 2020
- Webinar now available on our YouTube channel
- Summer newsletter sent June 22

11. Wrap up and meeting adjournment

- September LSWC Board of Directors Meeting – October 10th - Online
- Annual General Meeting – October 2, 2020 in High Prairie

Motion 19-36: Gilroy/Nichols– Motion to adjourn the June 18, 2020 LSWC Board of Directors Meeting at 6:56pm.

CARRIED