



**Lesser Slave Watershed Council
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 15 2020 – Online Zoom Meeting**

Present at meeting:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sector Represented</u>
Meghan Payne	Executive Director
Alyssa Belanger	Watershed Coordinator
Todd Bailey	Swan River FN (Chair)
Tammy Kaleta	Angling and Recreation
Susan Nielsen	Agriculture Sector
Nona Elliott	Cottagers and Country Residential
Pearl Lorentzen	Member at large
Rebecca King	Town of Slave Lake
Darcie Acton	MD of Lesser Slave River
Dean Mackenzie	Oil and Gas Sector
Lisa Bergen	Alberta Environment and Parks
Nicole St. Jean	Forest Sector
Shane Knutson	Tourism and Economic Development
Lynn Smith	Peavine Metis Settlement

Regrets

Brian Gilroy/Judy Stenhouse	Town of High Prairie
Richard Simard/Fern Welch	Big Lakes County
Roderick Wilier	Sucker Creek First Nation
Cori Klassen	Non-government Organizations

1. Call to order and Welcome

- Chair Todd Bailey called the meeting to order at 4:30.

2. Adoption of October 15, 2020 meeting agenda

- October 15th, 2020 agenda was emailed to the Board, and displayed on screen.
- Chair called for additions or amendments to the agenda.

Motion 20-01: King/Lorentzen– Motion to adopt the October 15, 2020 Meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the September 17, 2020 meeting minutes

- Sept. 17, 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 20-02: King/MacKenzie – Motion to approve the Sept 17, 2020 draft meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

4. Roles and responsibilities of LSWC directors

- Please review the Board Governance policies prior to the Nov 5th

Action – Directors are to email Meghan once they have reviewed the Governance policies doc.

5. Election of Chair, Vice Chair

- Chair Todd Bailey, and Vice Chair Tammy Kaleta have finished their 2 year terms in their executive role and these positions are up for election.
- Our Treasurer is Duane Nichols, and Secretary is Allison Moeller who are both in year 2 of 2 of their terms.
- Chair called for nominations for the Chairman position
 - Nomination of: Todd Bailey by: Pearl Lorentzen
 - Nomination seconded by: Dean MacKenzie
 - No other nominations made
- Chair called for nominations for the Vice Chairman position
 - Nomination of: Tammy Kaleta By: Nona Elliott
 - Nomination seconded by: Susan Nielsen
 - No other nominations made

Motion 20-03: Kaleta/MacKenzie – Motion to cease nominations for chair and vice chair positions.

CARRIED

Motion 20-04: Acton/Lorentzen – Motion to appoint Todd Baily as chair and Tammy kaleta as vice chair for a 2 year terms

CARRIED

6. Treasurers report and financial updates

- August 15 to Oct 15 2020 treasurers report in the Meeting drop box, and displayed on screen.
- Second installment of the AEP grant is due October 15th in the amount of \$115,000
- Environmental Damages Fund request was approved.
- Alberta Ecotrust request for support for Lake Water Quality Monitoring was declined.
- Staff will be seeking support from industry and local governments to implement lake monitoring.

Motion 20-05: King/Kaleta– Motion to approve the August 15 – Oct 15th, 2020 Treasurers report as presented.

CARRIED

7. Strategic Planning Session – November 5, 2020, Slave Lake, AB

- November 5th, 2020 at the Slave Lake Inn and Conference Center in the upstairs conference room. No option to join online.
- Sandi Riemersma will be travelling to facilitate the session and prepare our new strategic plan.
- Lunch needs to be pre-selected ahead of time, because due to covid we cannot do a buffet.

a. Summary of 2020 community survey

- LSWC staff released a community survey in June 2020.
- Had 86 responses from people around the watershed.
- Slide show of results can be found in the LSWC Board Drop box folder

8. Project Updates & Discussion

a. IWMP Implementation

Swan River workshop series – October 8, 15, and 22

- First 2 sessions have went really well, there has been a lot of great information shared, and lots of good discussion.
- Would be nice to see more LSWC directors log in for the 3rd session on Oct 22.
- Follow up will include sharing a summary document with the discussion presentations, and contact information of the participants.
- LSWC will support ongoing communication and help facilitate work to fill data gaps, strengthen partnership, and increase collaboration.

Municipal Progress

- Town of Slave Lake has discussed the municipal implementation actions from the IWMP and have identified some as high priority for them to work on.
- LSWC staff will be supporting this with information materials, resources, and presentations if requested.
- Updating the master drainage plan and also adding in calculations to estimate volume of storm water discharge.

b. Watershed Resiliency

Staff Capacity Building

- Meghan has completed EFP Tech Training and is now certified, Alyssa is completing some of the last requirements.
- ARECA is hosting online webinar type EFP Tech training rather than in person workshop and staff will be participating in them throughout November.

West Prairie River Intactness and Risk assessment

- Have been approved for the Environmental Damages fund grant in the amount of \$35,280 to fund a riparian intactness and risk assessment on the West Prairie River system.

- This is the source water for the town of HP, and part of Big Lakes county, and this river has water quality challenges including high fecal coliform counts and a lot of sediment transport. Has never had a riparian assessment completed.
- Staff are working on a contract between Fiera Biological and the LSWC, and a have requested LIDAR and SPOT imagery from the GOA so that the project work can begin.
- In addition to the EDF grant, \$7500 of Big Lakes County support, and \$8500 of our WRRP grant and about \$4000 from Town of High prairie past contributions make up the remainder of the project budget.

Producer projects

- 2 on the go, and both are waiting for approval on CAP grant applications.
 - About 30 hours of staff time went into these to date.
- 1 initiated in Big Meadow – EFP required, and weather needs to cooperate
- 1 Long Term Water Management plan and funding request submitted to Ag and Forestry for a well development. Request was approved for support from the CAP program for \$5000. (total cost of 15,000)
- Have been getting more calls and walk ins to enquire about how we can help landowners with their Environmental Farm Plans, and access grant funding.

c. Water quality monitoring

- Last field sampling was Oct 13-14
- Data entry will be completed and results send to Palliser Environmental for preparation of annual summary report.
- Flow and weather station data will be obtained from AEP.
- 2020 data set will be added to Mackenzie data stream.
- Lake WQ sampling equipment has been purchased.
- WQ probes are being sent for service at PINE so they can be used this winter.
- Lake monitoring over fall and winter will only include DO, pH and conductivity measurements, and lab analysis starting in summer 2021, once remaining funding is confirmed.

9. Education Outreach Initiatives

- Watershed Graphics and Videos
 - Staff are working to prepare a Request for Proposals to have a professional graphic designer create a series watershed graphics that are specific to the Lesser Slave
 - Goal – to have information materials that translate watershed science into simple text and visuals
 - Budget – we have incurred a lot of savings due to the lack of travel staff have been doing since COVID, so we have money to allocate to the development of materials that support E&O goals.
 - Stage 1 – graphics

- Stage 2 – animated videos
- Little Green Thumbs program
 - Being modified for COVID friendly participation.
- Local new paper submissions
 - Monthly articles being submitted to HP and SL papers.
- LSWC Blog
 - Our website platform has a built in blog, so staff will be publishing blog posts on watershed topics soon.
- 2021 calendar
 - Will be printed mid-November.

a. Elliott Rosche Memorial Bursary Committee

- The LSWC has approved the development of a memorial bursary to honor and remember Brian Elliott and Brian Rosche.
- A working committee will oversee the development of the bursary program, terms and conditions, etc.
- Committee will meet at the LSWC office and work out the details associated with the bursary and prepare a Terms of Reference for the Board to approve before it is made public.
- Committee members: Alyssa Belanger, Meghan Payne, Nona Elliott, Rebecca King and Cori Klassen if she is interested.

10. Wrap up and meeting adjournment

Next Meetings:

November 5, 2020 – Strategic planning Session 9:30-4:30 at the Slave Lake Inn and Conference Center

November 19th, 2020 – November Board meeting – 4:30pm on Zoom

Motion 20-06: Lorentzen/King – Motion to adjourn the Oct 15, 2020 Board of Director Meeting at 5:30pm

CARRIED