



**Lesser Slave Watershed Council
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2020 – Online Zoom Meeting**

Present at meeting:

Name	Sector Represented
Meghan Payne	Executive Director
Alyssa Belanger	Watershed Coordinator
Todd Bailey	Swan River FN (Chair)
Tammy Kaleta	Angling & Recreation
Susan Nielsen	Agriculture
Richard Simard	Big Lakes County
Cori Klassen	Non-Government Organizations
Rebecca King	Town of Slave Lake
Darcie Acton	MD of Lesser Slave River
Allison Moeller	Forest Sector
Pearl Lorentzen	Member at Large
Dean Mackenzie	Oil & Gas Sector
Lisa Bergen	Alberta Environment and Parks
Nona Elliot	Cabin owners & Country Residential
Brian Gilroy	Town of High Prairie
Lynn Smith	Peavine Metis Settlement

Regrets

Roderick Willier	Sucker Creek First Nation
Shane Knutson/George Keay	Tourism and Economic Development

1. Call to order and Welcome

- Chair Todd Bailey called the meeting to order at 4:38.
- Meeting package materials sent via email, and include: Oct 15, 2020 draft meeting minutes, December 10, 2020 Meeting Agenda, December 10 Executive Director Report, Treasurers report, and Water update from AEP.

2. Adoption of October 15, 2020 meeting agenda

- December 10, 2020 agenda was emailed to the Board.
- Chair called for additions or amendments to the agenda.

Motion 20-07: Kaleta/Smith– Motion to adopt the December 10, 2020 Meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the October 15, 2020 meeting minutes

- October 15, 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 20-08: Lorentzen/MacKenzie – Motion to approve the October 15, 2020 draft meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

4. Board round table

- Actions for follow up from Round Table Discussion:
 - Meghan to set a time to meet new CAO Barb at MDLSR in the new year
 - Alyssa and Susan Nielsen to talk about how to better engage with Junior High teachers.

5. Treasurers report and financial updates

- Executive Director shared the Oct 16 – December 10th treasurers report with the board on screen.
- Received ½ half of AEP operational grant on November 5, 2020
- WRRP program application due January 4, 2021 – working on application with MDLSR
- EDF grant will be paid to us in March 2021 (\$35,227) for West Prairie Assessment project

Motion 20-09: King/Acton – Motion to accept the October 16 – December 10, 2020 Treasurers report as information.

CARRIED

6. Operational updates (sent via meeting package)

- ED Will work on draft operational plan for 2021/22 early in the new year for the board to review in February.
- Board must authorize lease payment for office, increase by \$100.

Motion 20-10: Gilroy/Lorentzen – Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a 2 year lease at the rate of \$1400 per month.

CARRIED

- Found potential hire to cover mat leave. Willing to do formal hiring process for mat leave, need guidance.
- WPAC Manager's Meeting, lack of updates from AEP staff since Rob Harris moved positions. Now have general email, not lots of communication, we understand that things are changing, but it is still frustrating not hearing from AEP.
- Alberta Water Council has sector engagement surveys out for the Wetland Policy Implementation Review, and the Alberta Water Futures Project
 - Meghan will submit feedback for the LSWC.

7. Strategic Planning

- ED and PESL have had a few follow up calls since the November Board session.
- In lieu of a Board meeting in January, the Board will have an online meeting with Sandi Riemersma to discuss the Draft Strategic Plan (to be emailed first week in January).

8. Project Updates (sent via meeting package)

- MD LSR Ag Service Board- onboard with supporting in-kind our work, especially through WRRP. Will be helping us with event planning, producer contacts, other in-kind support

- Cori- general: water quality podcast? Peace Country Beef and Forage Association invited Meghan to be on their podcast for one episode!
- Todd-West Prairie intactness. Have not received full report yet, just an update for work to date from Fiera. Data analysis underway.
 - How do we take the report into something for engagement? Working with other WPACs on that, since so many of us are doing them. Basically, translating the science into public language, and sharing with stakeholders.
- Pearl- Lake monitoring, has it started? No, samples will start in June. Field practice day will take place over winter to figure out timing, how it will work, etc. By winter 2021/22 will have things really underway. Will have to do weather window, samples collected within a week time frame.

9. Slave Lake AEP flood mapping project

- ED shared the Flood Hazard Mapping project update and request for engagement form the Intergovernmental Relations and Engagement Branch.
- Seeking confirmation of flood inundation mapping, AEP seeking confirmation of map boundaries.
- Town of Slave Lake, MD of Lesser Slave River and Sawridge First Nation are engaging directly with Alberta Environment and parks on this.
- Have asked what kind of feedback or input would be helpful from the LSWC.
- Board also concerned about the level of expertise expected from general public. It seems this engagement more for information sharing, rather than for seeking input from public, AEP needs to better explain what they are looking for in terms of engagement.
- Swan River Flood Mapping- There is highly technical component to the development of flood maps that requires working with hydrologists. A key component of the background work was interviews with community members, about historical flooding as a means to validate the models and maps.

10. Adjournment

Next Meeting

January 14, 2021 – 4:30 via zoom – Strategic Plan review with Sandi

February 11, 2021 – 4:30pm - LSWC Board Meeting

Motion 20-11: King/Moeller – Motion to adjourn the December 10, 2020 Board meeting at 6:10pm

CARRIED