

# Wabamun Watershed Management Council

## Board Meeting

4:00PM, May 20, 2020

### Board Meeting Minutes

In Attendance (by Zoom): Neil Fleming, Arin MacFarlane Dyer, Stan Kobylko, Dave Ball, Randy Heil, Jordyce Van Muyden, Don Meredith, Carman McNary, Petra Rowell, Stan Franklin

1. Welcome and Introduction of guests.
2. Review and approval of Agenda.  
Carman/Stan K      Approved
3. Review and approval of February 19, 2020 Board Meeting minutes.  
Dave/Carman      Approved
4. Website, Newsletter, Mail Chimp and Facebook updates.
  - Don submitted his report and indicated that there are now 213 WWMC members on our mail out list.
  - Neil reported on Facebook activity and advised that there are now 267 members.
5. Treasurer's Report.
  - Neil presented Kelly's report as Kelly had not yet signed into the meeting. The current balance of funds is \$10,166.42 which includes grant funds received from the Land Stewardship Centre.
  - Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.  
Jordyce/Carman      Approved
6. LSC Grant Update
  - Neil had distributed the LSC Grant Agreement prior to the meeting. Given the COVID 19 complications, a public and in person "WMP Rollout" in 2020 will be unlikely. Further discussions will be necessary to determine possible alternative methods to achieve this goal.
7. WMP Update and Communication Engagement Strategy
  - Petra indicated that all of the municipal representatives of the WMP Steering Committee had been contacted and were requested to provide the draft WMP to their respective Mayors and Councils. The

exceptions are the SV Kapasiwin and the Paul First Nation. Petra will follow up with both. All of the municipalities were requested to provide any feedback or comment on the Plan by June 15th as the draft Plan was to be posted on the WWMC website and other social media on July 1, 2020. Petra also asked if the community associations in Fallis and Keephills and the Duffield municipality should be provided with the draft for comments as well. It was agreed that should be done.

- Don spoke to the draft Communication Plan (Draft 3) that he had prepared and circulated. It was generally agreed that the current circumstances make it unrealistic to plan for public open houses this summer. In the fall even if restrictions on public gatherings are relaxed, it was felt that it would be too late in the season to be able to attract a significant number of members of the watershed community.
- Instead, Petra, Don and Arin will draft a public engagement strategy to use to inform the community about the WMP, solicit feedback and promote participation in a WMP webinar(s) to be held in mid to late August.
- The goal would be to finalize the WMP in early September and use the winter months to develop the implementation plan by Spring 2021.

#### 8. TransAlta Engagement Meeting.

- This meeting was held on Skype on May 14. The meeting was attended by 5 WWMC Board members and Petra Rowell. TransAlta had 7 management staff in attendance. They were Shannon Leggo (Manager, Environmental Health and Safety), Keith Yasinski (Manager, Investment Optimization), Jacob Harris (Manager, Reclamation Centre), Brandon Stewart (Manager, Engineering and Maintenance), Ken Munch (Regulatory Specialist), Stacy Lauder (Alberta Thermal External Relations) and Ken Wollard.
- TransAlta staff had reviewed the latest draft of the WMP and indicated that there were comments and edits that they would like to provide. It was agreed that would be provided to Petra during the week of the 18th.
- The final design of the reclamation is a work in progress but will follow earlier plans that we have seen. They were requested to keep us informed as the reclamation proceeds and are sensitive to our concerns about water volume and quality that will enter the lake from the reclaimed site. They are also aware of our concerns about potential nutrient loading from the site if the current agricultural land use (Highvale ASP) is maintained. They agreed that this should be a discussion item to be raised with Parkland County as the reclamation proceeds. (At some point it would be important to do our own water modeling scenario based on the final design of the reclamation plan to

satisfy ourselves that the reclaimed site will deliver to the lake what we believe it is required to do.)

- TransAlta agreed to assign two of its staff to sit on the WMP Technical Advisory Committee.

9. Sponsorship Recognition.

- Neil and Kelly will develop a proposal for sponsorship recognition and will submit it to the Board for consideration and approval.

10. ALMS Healthy Lakes Water Sampling Program.

- The final report from 2019 testing has been received and the section of the report on Wabamun Lake has been reviewed and was the subject of discussion in the recent WWMC Newsletter.
- The WWMC will participate in the 2020 sampling program that begins in mid to late June. Stan F will coordinate volunteers and boats as required. Possible volunteers with boats are Randy, Carman, Neil and Jordyce.

11. Dock and Moorings.

- WWMC was invited to participate on an AEP stakeholder webinar on a new proposed mooring policy (docks, moorings and buoys) for Alberta lakes and rivers. Carman will circulate a screen shot of the "rules" proposed. This is a proposal for a new policy that will not be considered by the Minister until sometime in June. Consideration will be given to posting the "rules" on the WWMC website if and when the policy is approved and finalized.

12. CN Rail Track Twinning on North Shore.

- Carman provided an update of this project. First of all he indicated that CN had been working on the road bed and crossing at Whitewood Sands (site of 2005 derailment). Observations by locals raised concerns about the stability of the road bed.
- CN has apparently placed the project on hold for the balance of 2020 but will likely proceed at some point after that.

Next Meeting: June 17, 2020