

Wabamun Watershed Management Council
Executive Meeting
June 15, 2022 (Zoom)
Minutes

In Attendance: Sue Styles (Chair), Don Meredith, Arin MacFarlane Dyer, Dave Ball, Denny Thomas, Kelly Aldridge and Stan Franklin.

1. **Call to Order.**

Sue Styles called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

2. **Review and approval of Agenda.**

Approved.

3. **Review and approval of minutes from May 11, 2022 Executive meeting.**

Approved.

4. **On Going Business:**

- **TransAlta/Highvale Mine Reclamation** – Stan reported on his meeting with Stacey Lauder and Ken Munch on June 13th. There is agreement in principle regarding the proposed collaboration between TransAlta and the WWMC regarding a review of the components of the Reclamation Plan related to the hydrological interaction between the Highvale site and Wabamun Lake. Denny will contact Dr. Chanasyk to confirm that the project will be going ahead and will also draft a letter of understanding or agreement with WWMC outlining the scope and terms of the arrangement. It is anticipated that Dr. Chanasyk will be engaging with Golder and Associates (TransAlta's consultants) in early July following TransAlta's submission of the Reclamation Plan to the AER.
- **Sundance Water Treatment Plant** – Stan referred to his June 13th meeting with TransAlta wherein he was advised that the WTP plant should be operational in the very near future following performance testing. TransAlta indicated they expect that in addition to prescribed volumes determined for each calendar year, a portion of the volumes that would have been pumped during the period that the plant was down will be included in the monthly pumping operation. The intent is that the "water debt" to the lake will be repaid over a period of about 2 years.
- **Sundance Boat Launch** – Stan confirmed from Parkland County that a contract for the construction of the project has been signed and it is anticipated that the contractor will be on site by early July. Stan has

contacted Dave Cross at Parkland County and requested that the County post on the project webpage a description of the components of the project and the estimated construction schedule or critical path. The canal will have to be dewatered for a period of about 3 weeks to enable the contractor to conduct the in lake portion of the work.

- **ALMS LakeWatch Program** – The first sampling for the 2022 Summer Program was conducted in early June. Neil and Sue will be doing the July sampling with ALMS' technician. Stan reported on the webinar put on by ALMS in respect of the 2021 program and report (the report is linked on the WWMC website). Caleb Sinn presented a summary of the results contained in the Report. Stan indicated that no mussels or Eurasian milfoil were detected in any of the lakes sampled. Most lakes showed an increase in TDS (total dissolved solids). Within the group of TDS, chlorides showed an increase in most lakes. Caleb pointed out that at Wabamun all of the ions were increasing except for calcium. ALMS will be taking a further look at that for an explanation. Good news for Wabamun is that chlorophyll and total phosphorus (TP) trends decreased slightly. Arin will write a short summary of the 2021 report for inclusion in the June Newsletter.
- **WWMC Summer Education/AIS Boat Inspection Event** – Neil's report was provided in advance of the meeting. Neil, Sue, Stan and Kelly will attend the June 18th information session at the Seba Beach Market. The Seba Beach regatta will take place on the July 30th weekend. Subject to getting the necessary volunteers and equipment, the WWMC will have a float in the parade. On July 23rd AEP will host an official watercraft inspection station at Wabamun. Neil is organizing and has taken care of many details involved in hosting this event including locations for decontamination, coordination with municipalities and will need support for hosting a WWMC booth on that day.
- **Parkland County/Whitewood Sands Riparian Restoration Project** Sue reported on the live and Zoom presentation by Parkland County regarding this project. She indicated that the presentations were excellent and that the proceedings were recorded and will be available soon. Sue will provide the link once the video is available. The planting will take place in the fall.
- **Parkland County/Wabamun Area Vision** – Following the presentation by Parkland County at the last Board meeting a number of questions were submitted to the County regarding the Natural Setting Chapter of the Vision. A response has not yet been received. Arin will try to organize a group to foster communication and

collaboration with respect to the Vision. That group could include the County, NSWA, WWMC and potentially others, ideally those on the WMP Implementation Steering Committee. AEP will be undertaking a modelling exercise (using Mike She software) to support land use decision making to maintain lake health by testing various scenarios. This group would be the target audience.

- **WWMC Fundraising** – based on feedback at the meeting Sue will consider deleting a portion of the 2nd page of the proposed policy. The wording recommendations that donors and the WWMC consider retaining legal counsel on complex donation schemes. It was considered premature to anticipate that such situations would present themselves in the foreseeable future. Charitable status application is on hold until after the Special Meeting. Once the bylaws are updated and all policies finalized the application will be submitted.

5. **New Business:**

- **June 29, 2022 Special Meeting Agenda** – agenda confirmed and roles discussed.
- **June 29, 2022 Board Meeting Agenda** – discussed.
- **June Newsletter** – Don will look to Board members for contributions on Lake Watch, Riparian Intactness Assessments, Highvale Mine Reclamation, Sundance WTP, the Sundance Boat Launch, WWMC summer events (markets and July 23rd boat inspection at the Wabamun boat launch).
- **School Education Presentations** – the contact by Les Worthington, Principal, Wabamun School was discussed and the concept will be considered by the Board as a possible fall project.

6. **Next Executive Meeting: July 13, 2022 @4:00-6:00PM.**

Next Board Meeting: June 29, 2002 @4:00-6:00PM following conclusion of the Special Meeting called to approve revised bylaws.