

Wabamun Watershed Management Council
Board Meeting Minutes
Wed. January 18, 2023@ 4:00-6:00 pm
Location: Zoom

In Attendance: Sue Styles, Dave Ball, Natalie Birnie, Denny Thomas, Doug Thomas, Neil Fleming, Don Meredith, Stan Franklin, Randy Heil, Arin MacFarlane-Dyer, Megan Thompson.

1. **Call to Order at 4:05.**

2. **Welcome and Introduction of Guests.**

Kristen Andersen, Dave Cross, Krista Quesnel, Gord Wilson.

3. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved by consensus.

4. **Guest presentation - Kristen Andersen - Bulrush Restoration Demonstration Project**

Kristen Anderson provided a Power Point presentation regarding the proposed Wabamun Lake Bulrush Restoration Project. Kristen indicated that the seeds collected last Fall have been sent to a grower and could produce approximately 500 plants that would be ready for planting by June. Site selection, design of planting and approvals will need to be addressed if the project is to proceed this summer. The supply cost for each plant would be \$2.50 and if installed by the grower it would be \$3.50 per plant. Regulatory approval under the Water Act may be required or possibly a Temporary Field Authorization under the Public Lands Act. Total costs would be in the neighbourhood of \$13,000. Kristen indicated that pursuing most grant funding sources would require more time than we have but that they may be chance to get an application in to the Alberta Conservation Association whose deadline is quite close.

The consensus was to proceed if adequate funding could be obtained. An application to ACA will be considered and a project committee was formed consisting of Megan, Neil, Denny and Michelle.

5. **Approval of Minutes** from Nov 16 /2022 WWMC Board meeting.

Denny/Neil Approved.

6. **Executive/Committee reports**

- Chair Report As submitted.

- Treasurer's Report As submitted.

- Communications Report

Don submitted Mail Chimp data and indicated that the Winter Newsletter should be out by the end of January. There will also be a comprehensive Annual Report from Sue that will go out at about the same time.

Neil reported that there are now 755 members on Facebook. Doug commented on the amount of dog feces that was present on the ice along the Seba shore. Neil will do a posting regarding the negative impact on aesthetics and water quality related to fecal contamination.

- Fundraising Committee As submitted.

- Governance

1. Financial Audit. A discussion took place regarding bylaw requirements for audit of financial statements. Dave moved the following motion/ seconded by Stan:

"In accordance with bylaw Article 6, Section 2 "Financial Audits", the Board of Directors resolve that for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the financial statements of the WWMC shall be approved, signed and dated within 90 days of the year end by the Treasurer, David Ball and the Board Member, Doug Thomas."

Motion carried.

2. Registered Charity Designation. CRA requirements for managing and accounting for donations was discussed. Denny reported on his research regarding "Canada Helps" as a possible conduit for donations. Dave will look into the organization's website regarding options and costs.

3. Membership application and renewal. Don reported on the discussions at the last Executive Committee meeting regarding the mechanics and timing of notices regarding the new one year memberships.

4. Operational Plan Draft - to be revisited at review of Strategic Plan.

7. Implementation of Wabamun Lake WMP

- WLWMP Steering Committee - next meeting January 26, 2023.
- WWMC Outreach - Neil advised that the Invasive Species demonstration will likely be in July at the Wabamun boat launch or the Provincial Park. There will also be information sessions at 3 of the Farmers' Markets this coming summer.
- Winter Lake Keepers - The January sampling took place on January 16th.
- Cyanobacteria remote sensing project (UofA and ALMS) - waiting on word whether the necessary grant funding has been approved.
- Living Lakes Canada potential project (Foreshore Management) - no information regarding the status of grant approval and lake selection.
- NSR Surface Water Quality Management Planning Initiative - Arin provided some background on the program. As the program examines water sources coming into the NSR, the only watercourse relevant to Wabamun is Wabamun Creek. Within the Wabamun watershed, storm water issues would be governed by existing storm water policies of the GOA and municipalities.
- TransAlta Highvale Reclamation - Denny, Sue and Stan continue to work with Dr. David Chanasyk to secure TAU's agreement to fund his review of certain components of the Highvale Reclamation Plan. Arin confirmed that Water Act issues arising from the Plan are dealt with by AER staff. Meetings with TAU regarding solar and reclaimed ash projects have not yet been scheduled.
- Municipalities - Neil reported on the septic system inventory that has been undertaken for a portion of the SV Seba Beach. Dave Cross from Parkland County reported that there may be a delay in opening the South Shore boat launch due to insufficient water depth in the channel. Some dredging will likely be required.

8. Next Board Meeting: February 15, 2023 4:00 - 6:00 PM (Zoom)
with a presentation from Enbridge on the Open Access
Wabamun Carbon Hub