

**Wabamun Watershed Management Council**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wed. February 15, 2023@ 4:00-6:00 pm**  
**Location: Zoom**

**In Attendance:** Sue Styles, Dave Ball, Rob Weideman, Denny Thomas, Neil Fleming, Don Meredith, Stan Franklin, Randy Heil, Arin MacFarlane-Dyer, Megan Thompson, Michelle Foster.

**1. Welcome and Introduction of Guests.**

Gord Wilson (Point Alison), Carrie Wiklund (Enbridge) and Nicole Baker (Enbridge).

**2. Approval of Agenda:** (Denny/Don).

**3. Guest presentation: Open Access Wabamun Carbon Hub.**

Presenters: Carrie Wiklund (Enbridge Senior Advisor and Environmental Lead) and Nicole Baker (Enbridge Senior Advisor, Community and Indigenous Engagement)

- Carrie Wiklund and Nicole Baker provided a PP presentation on the project, a copy of which will be provided to Sue.
- The project involves carbon capture and underground storage from operations at Capital Power (Genesee) and Lehigh/Heidelberg (cement plant).
- CO<sub>2</sub> would be liquified and transported by pipelines from each of the two sites to a series of wells in proximity to each site. At the well sites it would be injected under pressure into cap rock formations about 3000 meters underground.
- The discussion focused on the Capital Power component in view of its proximity to the Wabamun watershed and the First Nations with traditional rights and lands in this area.
- A test well is presently being drilled south of the NSR more or less in a N/S line with the Genesee Plant. The geotechnical information from this well will inform future decisions about placement and depth of injection wells.
- The liquid CO<sub>2</sub> once injected into the saline aquifers in the deep formations will interact with the saline solutions and eventually form solid material.
- Enbridge has been actively engaged with First Nations in the area and anticipates that the Nations will have an ownership position in the project once it is operational.
- It was noted that carbon capture and storage as envisioned by this project is not new. There are already examples in Alberta (Shell "Quest" project since 2015) and in Saskatchewan.
- The financial model has not been worked out but the basic format will be that each of the emitters will be charged for the storage of their carbon. The reduction of carbon emissions will apply to their regulatory obligations, will reduce their carbon tax liability and will be a basis for determining eligibility for Federal incentive programs.

- Carrie Wiklund will be our contact person in respect of the project as it evolves.

**4. Approval of Minutes** from January 18, 2023 WWMC Board meeting.  
(Denny/Neil) Approved.

**5. Executive/Committee reports.**

- **Chair Report** - As submitted.
- **Treasurer's report** - As submitted.
- **Communications Report** - As submitted.
- **Fundraising Committee** - As submitted.
- **Governance**
  1. Charity designation - Dave reported on the "Canada Helps" site that has been looked at as a vehicle for receiving and processing donations to the WWMC. Dave pointed out that CRA does not permit charitable donation receipts to be given in respect of "sponsorship" donations/fees. The question arose that if we use Canada Helps would we also accept and process individual donations directly from donors. It was agreed that this would be referred to the Executive Committee for a decision.
  2. Google Workspace - Don reported on his research on this platform and recommended that the WWMC subscribe to the free version of the platform. **Motion by Don/Dave - Approved.**

**6. Watershed Plan Implementation.**

- **Steering Committee Meeting.** Sue reported that she, Neil and Doug Thomas attended the Steering Committee meeting on January 26th. Minutes of that meeting have been circulated to the members of the Board. NSWA has received a multi-year grant to undertake Regional Stewardship Projects within the NSR watershed. The deadline for submission of applications for 2023 is April 2, 2023. Any suggestions for a restoration project should be provided to Sue.
- **Wizard Lake Tributary Water Quality Report.** Sue also noted that Associated Environmental has produced a Tributary Water Quality report for Wizard Lake. This report was apparently funded by the County of Wetaskiwin and could be a template for similar investigations of other watersheds.
- **Education/Outreach.** Neil reported that he and Sue made a watershed presentation to a Grade 7 class at Wabamun School on January 13th. Neil also advised that the WWMC will be represented at the "Kids Can Catch" event to be held at the Wabamun pier on January 18th. Neil, Sue, Randy and Stan will be attending on behalf of the WWMC.
- **Winter Water Sampling.** Stan reported that the February sampling took place on January 14th with the usual crew of Neil, Sue and Stan.
- **Cyanobacteria Remote Sensing Project.** Funding for this project has been approved and Wabamun will be one of the lakes included in the project. There will be three sampling events (June/July and August) on days when the sky is clear and hopefully sunny that coincide with a satellite pass over the area. Stan will be providing his boat for the 3 events.

- **Living Lakes Canada.** The decision on funding approval for this project is not expected before the end of March.
- **TransAlta Highvale Mine Reclamation.** Denny reported on the status of our discussions with TAU and our request for confirmation of funding arrangements for the review of the Reclamation Plan by Dr. David Chanasyk.
- **TransAlta Fly Ash Recovery Project.** TAU has advised that this project is now totally owned and in the hands of Lafarge. We will follow up with Lafarge regarding their removal and transportation plans and will review that information with Dr. Chanasyk to see if the project raises any concerns or risks regarding the health of the lake.
- **TransAlta Solar Project.** TAU has provided further information about this project. It appears that it will proceed and will take up approximately 1100 acres in the NW corner of the Highvale Mine site. This long-term use of this portion of mine site will need to be considered by Dr. Chanasyk in his review of the broader issues associated with the Highvale Reclamation Plan.

**7. Next Meeting: March 15, 2023 (4:00PM - 6:00PM) Zoom.**

**8. Adjournment at 6:30PM.**