

WABAMUN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
ESRD Spruce Grove  
Time 6:30 PM DECEMBER 16, 2015

In Attendance Kelly Aldridge, Paul Cardinal, Art Erickson, Neil Fleming, Stan Franklin, Stan Kobylko, Don Meredith, Craig Merrills, Dave Mussell, Kenn Petruk, Dan Saunders, Erin Reid, Gordon?

Guests: Shari Claire, Fiera Consulting

1. Review of meeting agenda:

The agenda was approved with the following additions: Motion: Kenn, Seconded: Paul

Parkland LUP Outcomes/Objectives/Actions for Wetlands and Other Groups - Kelly Meeting with MLA Erin Babcock – Stan Franklin and Neil Fleming

2. Review and approval of minutes from: September 28, 2015 Board meeting  
Motion: Art Seconded: Neil CARRIED

Review and approval of minutes from November 18, 2015 Board meeting  
Motion: Stan K Seconded: Art CARRIED

3. Executive Report – **See attached minutes December 7<sup>th</sup> executive meeting.**

4. Treasurers report – Neil reported that there have been no transactions since last month and the bank balance remains the same: \$12,174.74

5. Presentation by Shari Claire of Fiera Consulting: **Parkland County Wetlands Inventory Project**

Shari explained the three major components of the project:

1. An up-to date inventory of wetlands in Parkland County based on 2013 imagery.
2. A wetland loss report based on comparing 1950 air photos to current (2013) photos. Analysis of where, how and why the wetland loss occurred.
3. For current wetlands, determine “values” of each wetland based on various indicators. This is intended to inform the decision making by the county on which wetlands are most important to protect or restore.

Deliverables will include 4 new maps:

1. Current wetlands
2. Land Cover
3. Value of wetlands
4. Location of wetland losses

Shari explained that “ground-proofing” of the wetland data is not included in project, partly because it is very expensive and partly because it would delay the project completion until after the summer season.

We discussed the possibility of doing a wetland restoration project. We would want to select a lost wetland basin that was large and deep so that if restored it would act as a storm-water buffer to take up nutrients before they reach the lake.

Dave Mussell suggested some things WWMC could do to supplement the Parkland County Project:

1. Ground proofing the Wabamun wetland information;
2. Do a drone flyover of the Wabamun wetlands;
3. Work with ALUS to do a restoration project;
4. Determine groundwater discharge and recharge wetlands using LIDAR imagery and Landsat information;
5. Create a map of all the springs and creeks within the watershed with a view to determining where the most nutrients are coming from.

Shari explained that there are grants available for wetland restoration from the Alberta Environment and Parks Watershed Restoration Resiliency Program (WRRPP)... see link below.

<http://esrd.alberta.ca/water/programs-and-services/watershed-resiliency-and-restoration-program>

We discussed applying for Land Stewardship Grants. Kelly suggested that we not rush to define a project before a grant deadline. He thinks we should define a project and then look for funding, as there are many sources of grants available, including the WRRP program.

Stan suggested we all look at the Pigeon Lake Watershed sites PLWA.ca and PLWMP.ca

They have produced a report on Storm-water Management Practices for Landowners... we could consider some work in this area.

6. Parkland LUP "Outcomes/Objectives/Actions Chart for Stewardship and other Groups". – Kelly

Kelly explained that Parkland County has asked WWMC to respond to their portion of a chart to indicate which of their many suggested actions WWMC is willing to undertake, and which we are not. We agreed that the chart is awkward and not well focussed, but Dan Saunders said he thinks it will be our only opportunity to tell the County what we think is important. He suggested we respond to the entire chart, not just the portion for which Parkland thinks WWMC is responsible. After some discussion we decided to establish a committee to prepare a draft of a response to the chart. This response will identify what WWMC thinks is important to include in the land use plans for lake watersheds. **Motion: Gordon Kerr "That WWMC establish a committee to prepare a draft response to Parkland County's request for feedback on the responsibility charts, and report back to the board on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016."** **Seconder by Art Erickson...CARRIED**

**Committee to include:** Dan Saunders, Dave Mussell, Art Erickson, Stan Kobylko

**NB:** Others to review charts available on the Parkland website and provide input to the committee on critical issues.

7. Meeting with MLA Erin Babcock

Neil reported on a meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> at Erin Babcock's Office in Stony Plain. Neil, Stan Franklin, Kelly and Don attended the meeting. Our objective was to establish an ongoing relationship and dialogue with her. We explained who we are and our role within the GOA's Water for Life program. We gave her some documents and offered our services if she has any questions about lake issues in Alberta. She was very receptive and interested in our work.

8. Website report Don Meredith

Don provided us with some statistics on the use of our website between Nov. 12 and Dec 12, 2015.

52 people visited and there were 70 sessions. 209 different page views, "bounce rate" (people who did not go beyond first page) was 60%. 64% were new visitors, most common use was to look for council members and meeting information. The conclusion is that our site is working well and is valued by users based on the information they are looking for.

9. Discovery Wharf

Art Erickson offered give the board a presentation on the Village of Wabamun plans for a residential and commercial development within the Village. A special meeting will be held for this purpose, and to receive the draft response to the County on the WLSWLUP at on January 13<sup>th</sup> (see below).

10. Adjournment: 9:45 PM

Next Meeting: January 13h, 2016 - 6:30 PM at AEP in Spruce Grove