

Lake Manitoba Stewardship Board

Draft Minutes 4 March 2009

Meeting Location: Lake Manitoba Narrows Lodge

Present: Gordon Goldsborough, Bob Harrison, Gary Morlock, Tracy Filion, Linda Schroedter, Dave Miliani, Dan Coyle, Bill Finney

Regrets: Don Smith, Harold Fleming, Rae Trimble-Olsen, Norman Traverse, Allan Gaudry

Technical Secretariat: Laura Manson

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda approved with additions of 7) Fisheries Sub-Committee Report; 8) Update on Census Report; and 9) Hydrological Update.
2. **Approval of Minutes** (Draft Minutes January 19, 2009): Amend item 5: Change last sentence to “The recommendation made by Water Stewardship in the Forecast and Winter Operating Plan for Fairford Dam was accepted by the Board”. Amend item 4c: Change Red River Basin Commission Meeting to International Red River Board Meeting. Minutes approved with above amendments.
3. **Fairford River Water Control Structure Fish Study:** The Board was informed that Terms of Reference for a fish study on the Fairford Fishway have been developed by Manitoba Water Stewardship. The study involves the Fairford Fishway Working Group. The Board would like to be kept up to date on the study and its conclusions.
4. **Report from the Chair:**
 - a) **LMSB Annual Report:** The Chair received a letter from Christine Melnick acknowledging the LMSB’s First Annual Report. The Annual Report can now be distributed to the public.
 - b) **LMSB Mail:** The Board has received considerable mail since the announcement of the open houses. It was agreed that a general form letter will be created to respond to all mail.
 - c) **News Clippings:** Board members are tasked with watching the newspapers and clipping out relevant articles. These articles will be PDF, circulated, and then posted on the website with acknowledgement of the author and its source.
 - d) **Probe Survey:** The survey questionnaire is being tested. Letters have been sent to the Rural Municipalities asking for their participation in the study.
 - e) **Website:** The Chair informed the Board that the site is now functioning but is not yet final. Information on the public open houses can be obtained on the site.
 - f) **International Red River Board Meeting:** The meetings were held in Winnipeg on January 22, and January 23, 2009. The Board's mandate is

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to assist the International Joint Commission in preventing and resolving transboundary disputes regarding the waters and aquatic ecosystem of the Red River and its tributaries and aquifers. This is accomplished through the application of best available science and knowledge of the aquatic ecosystem of the basin and an awareness of the needs, expectations and capabilities of residents of the Red River basin. 2009 is the 100th anniversary of the Water Boundaries Treaty of 1909.

- g) **Alonsa Conservation District:** Milani will represent the Board on the technical advisory committee of the CD's Integrated Watershed Management Plan.
5. **Formal Criteria for letters of support from the LMSB:** It was agreed to check with the LWSB about their guidelines for dealing with letters of support. The Technical Secretariat will report back at the May meeting. The Board will decide at that time if they need to develop guidelines for dealing with letters of support.
 6. **Lost Nets Proposal:** The issue will be tabled until the next meeting.
 7. **Census Report:** A draft is complete and will be circulated to the Board before the May meeting.
 8. **Hydrological Update:** A summary of the current hydrological conditions was circulated to the Board. The outflow from the Fairford Dam was increased on February 6, 2009. Since January 2009, Lake Manitoba has declined to about 811.7 ft whereas the level in Lake St. Martin has increased by 0.50 ft to 800.6 ft.
 9. **Fisheries Sub-committee update:** Fisheries Sub-committee update: The Fisheries Branch (Water Stewardship) will be compiling existing documentation into a Fishery Management Plan for Lake Manitoba. The timeframe for producing the document is not known. The Fisheries Sub-Committee will meet to discuss management, conservation, and protection issues that the Committee hopes will be addressed in the plan, and to discuss how the LMSB might assist with any consultative process planned to present the Management Plan to the stakeholders.
 10. **Work plan:** A first draft of the work plan for the 2009/2010 fiscal year has been completed.
 11. **Arrange place and time for next meeting:** The next meeting dates are set for May 5 and 6 at the Delta Marsh Field Station.
 12. **Adjournment:** 1:00PM