

Lake Manitoba Stewardship Board

Minutes 21 January 2008

Meeting Location: Ashern, Manitoba

Present: Gordon Goldsborough, Tracy Fillion, Harold Fleming, Linda Schroedter, Dave Milani, Bill Finney, Norman Traverse, Donald Smith, Gary Morlock, Dan Coyle, Randy Helgason, Bob Harrison, Rae Trimble-Olson

Regrets: Allan Gaudry

Technical Secretariat: Laura Manson

Invited Guests: Wanda McFadyen (Executive Director of Farm Stewardship Association of Manitoba)

- 1) **Approval of Agenda:** Draft agenda approved.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes:** Draft minutes approved.
- 3) **Allan's Proposal:** Fishermen are having trouble with their nets this winter due to a storm that hit in 2002. The MMF is developing a proposal to clean up the lost nets in the south basin of Lake Manitoba. This issue will be ongoing since the plastic nets do not degrade overtime. Gaudry has heard that there is funding available to clean up nets that are floating around in the south basin and so he is seeking principle support for the proposal from the Board. He feels that the Board's support would add more weight to the proposal and the issue as a whole. The Board agreed to endorse in principle cleanup of the lost nets around the lake on an ongoing basis. The Board would like to know more about the proposal that Allan is putting together and the Board would like the net clean up to apply to the lake as a whole.
- 4) **Proposed January 2008 Operation of Fairford Dam:** Manitoba Water Stewardship presented the Board with a proposal to increase the outflow from Lake Manitoba by 1000 cfs. If the Board endorses the increase it will occur this week or the next. The change in outflow will result in the flow on the Dauphin River increasing from 3000 to 3500 cfs over the next 4 to 6 weeks. A motion was put forth by Dan Coyle to endorse the proposal to increase the outflow by 1000 cfs and encourage Manitoba Water Stewardship to notify the impacted individuals and communities, seconded by Gar Morlock.
- 5) **Presentation by Wanda McFadyen:** Wanda McFadyen has been the executive director of the Farm Stewardship Association of Manitoba (FSAM) for 5 years. FSAM is a non-profit agriculture-agency run across Canada. The Manitoba program has been around the least amount of time but is one of the most successful across the country.
- 6) **Clarification of Board Operations:**

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- a) **Weather Policy:** If the weather is creating dangerous driving conditions a phone tree will be used to notify members that the meeting will be cancelled. In order for a meeting to proceed, 51% or 8 members must be present including the chair.
 - b) **Evaluation of Sustainable Beef (Cow-Calf) Manure Systems in the Interlake:** The report was distributed to Board members for information purposes.
- 7) **Report from the Chair:**
- a) **Subcommittees:** The science summit subcommittee has not yet met, however they will meet after today's meeting.
 - b) **Portage Planning District:** The Portage Planning District and South Basin Planning Initiative does not cover the entire south basin, however it is quite large and includes the Delta Marsh. The plan is being developed by a city planning class of students from the U of M. The class will put together a report with bits of information and they intend to have it completed by the end of March or beginning of April. Sasha Brown from the U of C did a graduate thesis (with Goldsborough) on planning in the Delta Marsh area and has compiled a lot of relevant information. The Chair will be speaking to the class at the U of M about this work in the near future.
 - c) **Website:** The website contract needs to be signed by Intrinsic. Hopefully by the Board's next meeting the website will be up and running.
 - d) **Public Consultation:** The LMSB should contact local officials to attend its meetings. This way the Board can be informed of local issues regarding Lake Manitoba and its watershed. The Chair has also spoken to Bill Barlow and Sharon Gurney of the LWSB about presenting to the LMSB about the work they have done.
 - e) **Fishery:** Rainbow smelt may be affecting the fish abundance in Lake Winnipeg; the pickerel are probably feeding on the rainbow smelt. The fishery on Lake Manitoba this year was poor and the fish seemed empty. Milani has been speaking to Todd Schwartz concerning the usage of the sonar camera on the Fairford fishway. The province currently has a committee looking at the fishway. The Board would like to contact the committee to determine how they are planning to use the equipment. A student at the U of M is constructing a physical model of the Fairford Fishway to determine how it will operate under different flow conditions.
- 8) **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on March 17, 2008 in Langruth.

Material Distributed at Board Meeting

1.0 Evaluation of Sustainable Beef (Cow-Calf) Manure Systems in the Interlake.

2.0 Proposed January 2008 Operation of the Fairford Dam.