

Minutes 9 November 2009

Meeting Location: Canad Inn Portage la Prairie

10:00AM – 2:55PM

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

Regrets: Allan Gaudry & Bill Finney

Technical Secretariat: Laura Manson and Colleen Andreychuk

Guests: Ian Wishart

Meeting call to order at 10:00AM

1. **Approval of the agenda:** Addition of other business. Approved with addition.
2. **Approval of minutes (September 21, 2009):** Linda moved to approve and Tracy seconded. Carried. Minutes accepted.
3. **Presentation – Ian Wishart, President, Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) on the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP):** KAP has been given the files on the EFP program that were held by the Farm Stewardship Association of Manitoba (FSAM). KAP is now in charge of the administration of the EFP program. The Province of Manitoba is now directly involved in the EFP program and administering the funding. The process of applying for an Environmental Farm Plan is still seamless. The amount of funding has remained the same at \$6 million a year. If farmers are looking for information on EFPs they can go to their local MAFRI Go Office.

Due to the significant public promises made by the Province to reduce greenhouse gases and meet the Kyoto Protocol, the Province is buying carbon-offsets created by farmers.

Action: Laura/Colleen to follow up with Ian to obtain information on Environmental Farm Plans for posting on the LMSB website.

4. Report from the Chair (Goldsborough):

- a. **Letter to Minister:** Gord advised the members that he sent the letter which had been discussed at the September meeting to Minister Melnick. He informed her of the Board's ongoing activities. Gord asked the Minister about the extension of the Board's mandate for another three years. Board members who are interested in continuing or not continuing are to inform Gord as soon as possible. A copy of the letter was provided to all Board members. Gord will be meeting with the Minister on November 10th.
- b. **Website:** Gord noted the lack of service and poor value from the current web provider, Intrinsix, and would like to break the contract with them. While tasked with creating a website for the Manitoba Water Council (MWC) Gord found a company called "squarespace" that has a user friendly Content Management

System that anyone can use to create a website. Gord created a website that costs \$14 a month to host.

Pending verification of the Province of Manitoba's contract with Intrinsic, the LMSB will request the Province of Manitoba to terminate the contract and replace it with another website. Dan moved to approve and Gary seconded. Carried. Motion accepted.

Action: Gord will find out who the current domain name (lakemanitoba.ca) is registered too. Laura and Bob to verify the terms of the contract with Intrinsic.

- c. **The Manitoba Water Council (MWC):** The MWC is to hold a number of public consultations on the Wetland Review. Along with the public consultations, the MWC will hold a number of individual stakeholder consultation meetings that will ensure interested stakeholder groups are heard. Bill Finney will be asked to represent the Board at one of the public consultations.

Action: Board members to review the wetlands section of the Public Meetings Report prior to the December meeting. The Board will finalize a position to present at the MWC consultations at the December meeting.

- d. **Future Presentations:** Gord would like to invite Vicki Burns (Lake Winnipeg Foundation) to speak at a future meeting. Vicki is involved with community foundations. Manitoba leads the country in the per capita number of community foundations. The LMSB could encourage communities around the lake to establish community foundations. These foundations could be a way of funding various projects. The Board also expressed interest in having Don Flaten speak at the LMSB December meeting.

Action: Gord will invite Don Flaten to present to the LMSB at the December 14 meeting.

- e. **Presentations:** Gord gave two presentations about the LMSB in October. Once at a Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners (MACO) meeting and one at the Portage la Prairie and District Foundation meeting.

- f. **Crown Corporations Council (CCC):** This group oversees crown corporations throughout the province. Gord attended a workshop in late October. The information provided was not directly relevant to the functioning of the LMSB.

- g. **Market for Rough Fish:** Amanda Stevenson is fisher on Lake St. Martin and she fishes with her father on Lake Manitoba. The Board was informed that she is advocating a market for rough fish in Manitoba. If a market is established, Gord will suggest fishing at the bottle necks of the Delta Marsh entrances in the spring, and at the exits in the fall. The Board was informed that the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation (FFMC) no longer represents Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan has opted out of the Corporation and the province now controls the market.

Action: Laura to scan and make copies of the agenda and proposed changes obtained

by Tracy Filion at the Fishermen's Regional Meeting held on Tuesday Sept. 22/09 and distribute to Board members for their information.

h. Israel: Gord will be going to Israel in the New Year to attend a water symposium from January 11-15, 2010.

i. Probe Research: Gord provided a letter of reference to Probe Research so they could bid on a major contract. The letter was read to the Board and the Board agreed with it.

j. Manitoba Conservation Districts Association (MCDA): The Board will send two members to the MCDA conference in Brandon this year. The conference is from December 7 – 9, 2009. Dan will attend the conference.

5. Hydrological Update (Harrison): A summary of the current conditions of Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin, the Fairford River, Lake Winnipegosis and the Waterhen River were distributed to the Board. The current level of Lake Manitoba is 811.72 feet, with a change of -0.43 since September 19, 2009. The current level of Lake St. Martin is 800.13 feet, with a change of -0.80 feet since September 19, 2009. The flow of the Fairford River is 4700 cfs, with a change of -2300 cfs since September 19, 2009. The current level of Lake Winnipegosis is 830.85, with a change of -0.30 feet since September 19, 2009. The current flow of the Waterhen River is 3885 cfs with a change of -365 cfs since September 19, 2009. A plot of historic Lake Manitoba water levels since 1923 was distributed. The plot shows how different management of the lake impacts water levels.

a. Fairford Dam Operation: A Forecast and Winter Operating Plan for Fairford Dam was distributed to Board members. Bob reviewed the background. Gary moved to endorse the operating plan Dan seconded. Carried. The Forecast and Winter Operating Plan for the Fairford Dam was endorsed by the Board.

b. Shoal Lake Study: Manitoba Water Stewardship reviewed the study and would like to have KGS expand the study to environmental issues and modify the model development. A draft report will not be available until February 2010 at the earliest.

6. Financial Report – 2008-09 Fiscal Year (Manson): The Board reviewed the financial report. The Board discussed potential projects to take on in the next few months. Linda, Tracy and Colleen will form a sub-committee and will meet prior to the December meeting to scope out the options of involving school age children.

7. Census Report (Goldsborough, Manson): An update on the Census Report was provided. The Board was informed that the report was expanded to include all political areas that include direct drainage to Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin and Pineimuta Lake. The Board informed Manson that data on Long Plain, Dakota Plain and the unincorporated

area above Crane River is missing. This will be added by Manson. The conclusion will be made relevant to the LMSB mandate and terms of reference. Gord, Dan and Laura will come up with a list of major findings that will make up the conclusion. The Board will review the updated report at the December meeting.

8. **Annual Report (Goldsborough):** The Annual Report will summarize the Board's activities thus far. Gord is currently working on it and will provide it to the Board to review at the December meeting.
9. **Probe Report (Goldsborough, Manson):** The Probe Report is complete and no changes are required.
10. **Deighton Beach (Schroedter and Filion):** Tracy is waiting for a letter containing further information. Deighton Beach will be discussed at the December meeting.
11. **Westlake Integrated Watershed Management Plan (Milani):** Milani provided a handout summarizing the IWMP meetings he has attended thus far. Milani brought a copy of the Westlake CD terms of reference that will be distributed by Manson to the Board. Sarah Coughlin will be asked to present at the January meeting. Sarah Coughlin and Wes Pankratz will be informed that the LMSB would like to be involved in the Whitemud River Watershed Conservation District (WRWCD) IWMP process.
12. **Lake Manitoba Fisheries Management Plan (LMFMP) – Feedback and Comments:** The plan will be discussed at the December meeting. Members will provide comments and feedback as well as contact information at this time. The fisheries sub-committee will meet in Winnipeg prior to the December 14th meeting to discuss the LMFMP.
13. **Next Meeting:** Monday December 14th at the Canad Inn Polo Park in Winnipeg. Speakers: Ducks Unlimited and Don Flaten. The January meeting may be at the Narrows Lodge.
14. **Meeting Adjourned:** 2:55PM