

SUSTAINABILITY OF LESSER SLAVE LAKE INITIATIVE

Minutes of

Watershed Committee

April 24, 2003

Kinuso Senior Center, Kinuso, Alberta

1. CALL TO ORDER

George Keay, Chairperson, was unable to attend the meeting.

Jeff Burgar, acting Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Watershed Committee members in attendance:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Stakeholder Group Represented</u>
Jeff Burgar	Town of High Prairie (<i>alternate</i>)
Lisa Brown	Town of Slave Lake (<i>alternate</i>)
Lynn Sandquist	Agriculture
Murray Cronk	Oil/Gas Industry
Cindy Koop	First Nations
Gordon Sanders	Forest & Related Industry
Graig Bissell	Municipal District of Big Lakes
Rod Burr	Alberta Environment

Absent:

George Keay	Chairperson
John Brodrick	Town of High Prairie
Doug Lowe	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Grant Gramiak	Tourism Operators/Groups
Ray Stern	Town of Slave Lake
Murray DeAlexandra	Commercial Fisherman Association/Related
Denny Garratt	Municipal District of Lesser Slave River
Larry Marquardt	Recreation/Tournaments

Others in attendance:

Peter Rippon	Slave Lake Pulp
John Downey	Facilitator, Lesser Slave Lake Community Development Corporation

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Cindy Koop asked to include an item #6.2 “LETTERS FROM 3 FIRST NATIONS REGARDING LESSER SLAVE LAKE WATER LEVEL INCREASE”

Moved by Lisa Brown, **seconded by** Gordon Sanders, that the agenda be adopted as modified.

Motion Carried

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Jeff Bugar asked the Watershed Committee for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

Moved by Gordon Sanders, **seconded by** Murray Cronk, to nominate Denny Garratt for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

Jeff Bugar called for nominations 3 times. There were no other nominations.

Motion Carried

Denny Garratt was not present to accept or decline the nomination.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES, February 27, 2003

Moved by Gordon Sanders, **seconded by** Lisa Brown, that the minutes of February 27, 2003, be adopted as presented.

Motion Carried

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Alberta Environment, Rod Burr (*Updates*)

Rod Burr gave a brief update on the three Open House meetings held in March on the Phase I Water Management Plan draft Terms of Reference. He stated that Tim Toth has a summary of the meetings. Alberta Environment was expecting the public to have offered more feedback. The numbers in attendance were: High Prairie ~ 45, Slave Lake ~ 25, and Faust ~ 7. Rod stated that there were concerns voiced regarding siltation upstream of the weir at the Slave Lake meeting. This issue has been incorporated into the Phase I Terms of Reference. At High Prairie there was a 50/50 split between those wanting the weir raised and those wanting it left as is. He stated that the consensus of the people who attended the meeting in Faust was to leave the weir alone.

In response to a question on lake water quality, Rod informed the Watershed Committee that Alberta Environment might do another study on water quality and compare the results with the previous study conducted in 1991-93.

Rod then presented the revised draft Terms of Reference (Phase I) and gave an overview of what items had been changed or added. He asked the Watershed Committee to let him know if it sees anything that needed to be changed so Alberta Environment can make the adjustments.

Moved by Rod Burr, seconded by Gordon Sanders, that the Watershed Committee accept the revised draft Terms of Reference as presented.

Motion Carried

Moved by Craig Bissell, seconded by Gordon Sanders, that the Watershed Committee accept the process to date and continue to move forward.

Motion Carried

Action Step: Rod asked the Watershed Committee to have comments or feedback on the draft Terms of Reference submitted to him by Friday, May 2.

5.2 Water Management Plan, *Operating Principles*

There was some discussion regarding the contents of the sample copy of the Basin Advisory Committee Operating Principles. Rod offered to make adjustments to the sample copy, incorporate any additional points from the guidelines the Committee originally developed, and send out a revised copy to the Watershed Committee members before the next meeting.

Moved by Rod Burr, seconded by Lisa Brown, that the original sample copy of Operating Principles be altered to accommodate the needs of the Watershed Committee.

Motion Carried

5.3 Sub-Committee Report On The Weir, Denny Garratt (*Lesser Slave River Temporary Flow Regulation*)

Denny Garratt was unable to attend tonight's meeting to present the Sub-Committee's report on the weir. The report entailed a copy of a letter from Mack, Slack & Associates Inc., a consulting engineering firm regarding *Lesser Slave River Temporary Flow Regulation*. John Downey provided a copy of this letter and its attachments to the Watershed Committee members.

Moved by Gordon Sanders, seconded by Lisa Brown, that the letter and attachments be accepted as information.

Motion Carried

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Financial Report, Ending March 31, 2003

John Downey presented a Watershed Committee administration income statement for March 31, 2003.

Moved by Lisa Brown, **seconded by** Murray Cronk, to accept the income statement as presented.

Motion Carried

6.2 Letters From 3 First Nation Regarding Lesser Slave Lake Water Level Increase (Cindy Koop)

Cindy Koop presented letters from three First Nations regarding their views on Lesser Slave Lake water level increases. Sucker Creek First Nation, Kapawe'no First Nation, and Driftpile First Nation do not support temporarily raising the weir. Cindy stated that she would be receiving letters from two other First Nations that would be communicating the same views.

Moved by Cindy, **seconded by** Jeff Burgar, that the letters be accepted as information.

Motion Carried

Action Step: John Downey will send a copy of these 3 letters to each Watershed Committee member as requested by the Committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was decided by the Committee that the time and date for the next Watershed Committee meeting would be June 19, 2003

Moved by Lisa Brown, **seconded by** Rod Burr to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Motion Carried

Watershed Committee Chairperson