

**BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
FINAL - Minutes of Meeting #24 – December 9, 2010
Eagles Nest, Eganville**

Attendees:

SAC: Kevin O'Connor, Murray Borer, Niall McArdle, Murray Bimm, Ross Campbell

MNR: Jeremy Jones, Joanna Samson, Tom Giesler

Waterpower Producers: Peter Boldt (RPG), Shawn Cameron (RPG), Janusz Rydel (Multistream), Frank Scheer (Eganville Generation Corporation)

Regrets: Don Pouliot; Lucy King, Andreas Vornweg; Jan Leroux

1. Housekeeping Items

1.1. Introductions

- A round table introduction was conducted to introduce Jeremy Jones, the new Mountain River Area Supervisor to the SAC. Jeremy provided a summary of his background to the group.

1.2. Review of Agenda

- Nothing was added to the agenda

2. Review & Approval of Minutes of Meeting #23– June 16, 2010

Shawn Cameron's name was spelled incorrectly. The minutes were approved with this editorial change.

3. Power Producers Update

Janusz (Douglas/Multistream)

- Plant up and running Nov 5th, 2010! (The group congratulated Janusz and enjoyed a piece of cake in his honour)
- Enough flow for all 6 generators to be working
- Some frazil ice issues, weeds in the trash racks (covered) but they didn't stop the flow of water because of the new large trash racks
- Output 1.2 MW right now because

Frank (Eganville)

- Frazil ice issues, minor issue on Tuesday
- Yesterday morning the plant was down, all unit off until 10am
- 6 logs out, flows are good

There was a question to Frank regarding a 2nd dam for Eganville and Frank responded that the Township was looking into installing a hydro station 100 yards downstream of the old gristmill. Frank was under the impression that they applied for a FIT contract.

MNR has not seen any application to this effect. The bed of the river could possibly be Crown land and as a result Site Release would apply. The window for site release is currently closed.

Shawn/Peter (RPG)

- considerable flow, running full out
- had one frazil ice incident to date
- levels are up in the lakes
- **Golden Lake** is the key to the system.
 - o main strategy is to empty Golden Lake. The last few days of rain have driven it up.
 - o no logs have been in the dam for a week now and logs will not be put back in until spring.
- **Round Lake:**
 - o playing with the typical line and are currently pushing 9cm/week but want to slow this down to 4cm/week
 - o 11 logs still in the dam, putting more in.

MNR raised concern with the high level of the lakes during the fall and questioned where RPG thought they may be come freeze –up.

RPG indicated that they could not predict it at this time as the conditions are unique. Golden Lake is 2 months ahead. Typically all logs are out of the dam in February. As of December 6, 2010 – 40cms is flowing through the system which is more water than ever before at this time of year. RPG indicated that the strategy now will be to get Round Lake back into place and to slow it down to the 4cm/week by freeze-up, whenever that is.

MNR indicated that levels are still very high on both lakes. An amendment was processed to lower the bottom of Golden Lake to provide more flexibility for the spring. However, RPG still ran high this year. With the fall rains, it made it even higher.

RPG indicated that they will always err on the side of high water for hydro production and recreation. RPG also indicated that there was a substantial amount of fall rain this year. It was noted that this is a different strategy than in previous years because of the amount of water in the system. This is the first opportunity to attempt this strategy.

RPG also discussed two groups that they are currently working with.

- Golden Lake High Water Group (group of 8). A meeting will take place in January to talk about high water in the spring.
- Lake Clear – Beaver problems; good amount of siltation, not draining. Bonnechere Valley was asked to use the road allowance to build a road along the side of the creek, between little Lake Clear and Big Lake Clear. There is a PCB issue there. Materials need to be tested, placed into drums, and brought out of there.

4. Terms of Reference Review

The group took a quick look at the Terms of Reference for the Committee. This turned into a discussion of information needs which would be discussed at the next SAC meeting.

ACTION: Joanna to find original Information Needs exercise that was done previously with the SAC as a discussion point for the next meeting.

5. Walk-on Agenda Items

5.1. Kevin O'Connor: Inquired about the Bonnechere Watershed Group and if it was, or could be, affiliated with this group. Murray Borer indicated that this group is still active, however, it is more virtual than on the ground. They do a water quality study with 12 sample places with the MOE.

6. Next Meeting Date

THURSDAY March 31st, 2011 - 6:30pm, @ Eagles' Nest in Eganville

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.