

**BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)**

Minutes of Meeting #11, November 12th, 2020

Via Zoom

Attendees: VIA Zoom

SAC: Rob Norris (KHR), James Brose (NAW), Steve Osipenko (Horton Twp.), Steve Benoit (Pikwàkanagàn) and Don Eady (Mayor of Renfrew).

Waterpower Producers: Shawn Cameron (RPG), Jack Roesner (Eganville Generation Corporation) and Janusz Rydel (Multistream Power Corp).

Secretary: Channa McEachen (RPG)

Regrets: Cairine Cybulski (Bonnechere Valley Twp.) and Michael Donohue (A/B Twp.),

Rob Norris welcomed the group to the Zoom call, roll call was taken; quorum was met.

2. Walk on Items

None noted.

Meeting #9– Approval of minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from May 7, 2020 SAC committee meeting.

Moved by: Don Eady
Seconded by: James Brose
Carried

Communication –Power Producers

Jack R (EGC) gave a brief overview of operations in Eganville. Operations were shut down for the month of August due to maintenance, replaced 15 new steel logs. There was quite a bit of work completed this summer to the dam and plant.

Janusz R (MPC) reported that summer was good, water levels were normal and did not encounter any problems.

Shawn C (RPG) reported that all logs are out at Lake Clear as of Oct 2, 2020 and Golden Lake as of Nov 2, 2020. Round Lake still has 10 logs in. The rain that we had in August and September helped carry us through the dryer months of the summer. This fall has had little precipitation.

Concerns Received

Shawn C (RPG) reported to the SAC committee that concerns received are regarding inadequate water in wells. Seems dug wells are the issue. The level now is what would have been in late March before the new drawdown. The 3 concerns have been passed onto KHR Conflict/Resolution committee for review.

Rob N (KHR) inquired about the 3 concerns, 2 wells are running out and 1 dry.

Shawn C (RPG) answered yes, he believes so.

Rob N(KHR) reported that he has received 2 concerns. 1 was a resident who was unhappy with distance they had to go to float their canoe, and the other 2 did not like the look of the lower water.

James Brose (NAW) asked where the well issues were, Round Lake or Golden Lake.

Rob N (KHR) answered that well issues were at Round Lake and questioned James B (NAW) if anything was reported for Golden Lake.

James B (NAW) has been all positive with the earlier drawdown, hoping to not have issues in the spring.

Shawn C (RPG) RPG has committed to monitoring turtle/fish habitat. Staff is up every week in Bonnechere Provincial Park at the BOWFIN selected sites. Michelle (Bowfin) was up last week and had zero issues with what she saw for the turtle habitat. She also visited the shoals on the lake and was satisfied there is adequate sub straight for the Lake Trout.

Postponed the actual collecting of eggs and in water work this fall due to Covid-19.

RPG will also continue to collect snow samples, and it will be done twice a month as per Surface Water schedule.

Steve B (Pikwàkanagàn) asked if they will be collecting the snow samples in the same place as last year or will they have to move around due to logging.

Shawn C (RPG) answered that they were using the same GPS points as they used last year and coordinated the spot, so a move is not likely for many years.

Rob N(KHR) asked if Michelle (Bowfin) had been in contact with the AOO.

Shawn C (RPG) replied that Michelle (Bowfin) has been in contact with AOO (Algonquins of Ontario) and the AOO were understanding that the shoal work would not be done due to Covid-19.

James B (NAW) asked where are we with the Amendment? Is it finalized?

Shawn C (RPG) replied that a permit was issued that takes us to the end of Dec 2021. This will need to be renewed for next year. We are hopeful with the data collected during this year it will become permanent.

Rob N (KHR) added that MNRF (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry) portion is permanent just need MECP (Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks) to sign off.

Date of next meeting

To be determined. Expected late February before Freshet.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:37am by Steve B (Pikwakanagan) and Seconded by Steve O (Horton Twp) .

All members in favour. **Carried.**