

**BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)  
Minutes of Meeting #6, February 14th, 2019  
1035 O'Brien Rd, Renfrew ON**

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**Attendees:**

**SAC:** Don Eady (Mayor of Renfrew), Rob Norris (KHR), Steve Osipenko (Horton Twp.), Michael Donohue (Mayor of A/B Twp.) and Steve Benoit (Pikwakanagan).

**Waterpower Producers:** Shawn Cameron (RPG), Jack Roesner (Eganville Generation Corporation)

**Secretary:** Channa McEachen (RPG)

**Regrets:**

Cairine Cybulski (Bonnechere Valley Twp.), Janusz Rydel (Multistream Power Corp), Glenn Bingham (NAW)

**1. Walk-on items**

Housekeeping.

Shawn C (RPG) read the Administration section, in the Terms of Reference to the group as the present Chair, Rob N (KHR) term has expired.

- *The members shall select a Chair, a Vice-Chair and Secretary, who will serve on an annual basis, their term may be extended.*

A motion was made for Rob N (KHR) to stay on as Chair for the SAC Committee for another term.

**Moved by:** Steve Osipenko

**Seconded by:** Steve Benoit

**Carried**

**2. Meeting #5 – Approval of minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes for Meeting #5.

**Moved by:** Michael Donohue

**Seconded by:** Steve Osipenko

**Carried**

### **3. Business Arising from the approved Minutes**

None.

### **4. Quorum**

Rob N (KHR) requested that committee members that need to leave meetings before adjournment give him 10 mins notice before they leave. This will allow time to discuss important topics before a quorum is lost.

### **5. Communication (drawdowns) – Power Producers**

Jack R (EGC) reported to the group that EGC plant has been running well. Water flows have been lower compared to this time last year. Jack R (EGC) explained his plant to the group that it has 3 units. One running fulltime, 2<sup>nd</sup> unit running 6 hours out of the day and the 3<sup>rd</sup> unit is not running at all. The improvements that were done last year to the sluice gate have been working great.

Michael D (Mayor of A/B Twp.) asked Jack R (EGC) if the boardwalk project upstream was completed in October.

Jack R (EGC) yes, and went on to explain to the group that the rock that was put in was the wrong size and would go right through the intake grates and then into the units if any broke loose during high flows. Jack R (EGC) spoke to MNRF for approval to scoop out the rock and replace it with the correct size. This was completed before winter in 2018.

Shawn C (RPG) reported that RPG flows and production were below average the same as Jack R (EGC) reported. Cold weather freezing ground water and small tributaries are thought to be the issue. There was also no thaw in January as typically seen.

### **6. Concerns received/information share – all**

Shawn C (RPG) reported to the group that the amount of snow and possible issues with flooding this spring is a common topic being discussed. Snow does increase the risk, however it is still very difficult to predict. It all depends on how it melts, precipitation, and how fast the temperatures warm up. RPG will assure levels are lowered as much as permitted before Freshet and continue to monitor conditions.

John Swick (Ontario Parks) supplied Shawn C (RPG) with a technicians' name, Gregg Lunn who is an Integrated Resource Management Technical Specialist for Algonquin Park. Gregg L (OP) sent Shawn C (RPG) snow survey data. It indicates ~ 80cm of snow as of the end of January and a normal water/snow equivalent.

Steve B (Pikwakanagan) questioned where the snow graphs were taken from.

Shawn C (RPG) answered that they are taken from Ouse Lake in Algonquin Park.

There was a discussion if the snow course values provided would be representative of snow that would affect the Bonnechere River Watershed. Ouse Lake is part of the Madawaska watershed.

Shawn C (RPG) will look into snow stations closer to the Bonnechere, and look into how one might get installed.

### **Freshet Calls**

Shawn C (RPG) explained to the SAC committee that the Freshet Calls are an excellent tool. Kevin Briscoe (MNRF) confirmed that the calls will continue for 2019.

Steve O (Horton Twp.) will talk to Kevin B (MNRF) to assist.

### **7. RPG – water charts, before BRWMP vs after BRWMP**

Shawn C (RPG) displayed water level charts requested from last meeting which displayed weekly average levels, before the BRWMP vs after BRWMP. The comparison charts for both Golden Lake and Round Lake show trends that are increasing. It was further discussed if changes in weather patterns has influenced the levels or is it strictly the limits imposed in 2005 by the BRWMP.

### **8. Killaloe Mill – Letter**

A response letter was forwarded to the SAC members prior to the meeting from Carl Thompson from MNRF. The letter describes the Mill has been purchased and the dam is being operated.

Shawn C (RPG) has not heard from the new owner of the Mill.

Rob N (KHR) will discuss with the KHR Mayor.

Don E (Mayor of Renfrew) suggested asking the new owner of the Killaloe Mill for proof that MNRF gave them permission/authorization to run the dam.

### **9. KHR Amendment status**

Amendment is still in limbo.

Shawn C (RPG) and Rob N (KHR) have been working together to gather information to draft a re-submission document to address the MNRF's response.

Rob N (KHR) has requested a meeting with MNRF Minister John Yakabuski to go over the amendment response and discuss the process.

At 3:50 pm a quorum was lost so the meeting was adjourned.

**Moved by:** Steve Osipenko

An April meeting date to be determined.