

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

**Minutes of Meeting #7, April 25th, 2019  
1035 O'Brien Rd, Renfrew ON**

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**Attendees:**

**SAC:** Don Eady (Mayor of Renfrew), Rob Norris (KHR), Cairine Cybulski (Bonnechere Valley Twp.), Glenn Bingham (NAW) and Steve Benoit (Pikwakanagan).

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

**Secretary:** Channa McEachen (RPG)

**Regrets:**

Steve Osipenko (Horton Twp.), Michael Donohue (Mayor of A/B Twp.)

**1. Walk-on items**

**2. Meeting #6– Approval of minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended.

Rob N (KHR) made 2 corrections.

**Moved by:** Don Eady  
**Seconded by:** Steve Benoit  
**Carried**

**3. Business Arising from approved Minutes**

**Letter Re: Killaloe Mill**

Rob N (KHR) to follow up with Mayor Janice Visneskie.

#### 4. Communication - Freshet

Jack R (EGC) reported to the group that EGC has been having issues with their generators. More water will need to be bypassed through the dam. Two units have been affected.

Janusz R (MPC) reported to the group that Douglas production is normal at this time and there is a lot of water. Still have 10 logs in and more to pull if required. Completed the weir repair at the dam last year and everything is under control.

Shawn C (RPG) reported to the members that a snow sample site was set up on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Snow on the ground 50cm with a SWE of 151.

Shawn C (RPG) displayed a snow sample map of the established site and explained that RPG passes information onto surface monitoring (swmc). A Snow sample is done every two weeks as part of the SWMC schedule.

Rob N (KHR) asked if MNRF was working with RPG on the snow sampling.

Shawn C (RPG) answered that MNRF provided the snow sampling equipment and has helped with training.

Steve B (Pik) asked if the snow sampling was done in just one spot, permanent ongoing.

Shawn C (RPG) answered yes, the site is GPS's and uses ten different sample points around a central location. The site is located in the Bonnechere watershed and the 10 sample points are averaged.

Shawn C (RPG) reported to the SAC committee that Freshet calls have been every two days. Christina Davis from MNRF has return to run them.

Lake reports – Shawn C (RPG) presented daily Freshet graphs to the group. Round Lake rise rate is currently 16cm a day.

Golden Lake rise rate is decreasing. Tributaries lessening. Golden Lake getting larger as levels increase, holding more water. Weather is calling for more rain. Golden Lake has reached 2008 levels as of April 24, 2019.

Lake Clear has exceeded 2017 levels. On April 24th, Renfrew County Paramedics flew the outlet of Lake Clear with the Drone to look for obstructions affecting the Lake Level. One area is being looked at more closely, down from Manning Rd. toward the Lake Clear Dam.

Rob N (KHR) reported that there are some members that would like to have all the logs out of Round Lake just as they are all removed from Golden Lake.

Steve B (Pik) questioned when they stocked the lake with Pickerel and inquired about a report done in 2008.

Shawn C (RPG) reported that he was only aware of a Lake Trout Study done on Round Lake.

Cairine C (BVT) communicated that it seems that MNRF concern is focused on Lake Trout. You never hear about pickerel. It would be interesting to see what MNRF has done.

Rob N (KHR) high water going through Golden Lake affects spawning.

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

Janusz R (MPC) reported that he is concerned about Victoria Day-May long weekend and the amount of people on the river with the water so high.

Shawn C (RPG) advised Janusz R (MPC) to speak to Mike Nolan from the Renfrew County Paramedics. Very good resource for messaging.

Rob N (KHR) Need to communicate with the County and their role. County didn't get to a Beaver Dam before Freshet which resulted in neighbour having damage to cottage and boat house. The County should be patrolling and cleaning these things up pre freeze up.

Don E (Mayor of Renfrew) advised going to County and get put on Publics Works Agenda. Take your concern to a committee meeting.

Steve B (Pik) suggested reviewing what has been going on the last few years. Maybe culverts need to bigger in some areas. Will forward a list of trappers for nuisance beavers.

#### **6. Other**

KHR – Amendment

Rob N (KHR) reported to the committee that there was a meeting held at RPG on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Minister John Y. (MNRF), Janice V (KHR), Rob N(KHR, RLPOA), Erin C. (MNRF) and Shawn C

attended. Rob N (KHR) worked closely with RPG to prepare the resubmission that was sent in to MNRF waiting on a response.

Jack R (EGC) asked if MNRF gave a timeline.

Rob N (KHR) answered that they talked about Public Consultation in the spring. Direct consultation with Algonquin's of Ontario (AOO). MNRF will work with putting the meeting together.

Jack R (EGC) asked if this amendment is approved, when is the proposed start for the draw down.

Shawn C (RPG) if the amendment moves forward, we have suggested it to start right after Thanksgiving.

Steve B (Pik) we talked about the previous studies. I hope these are considered when considering amendment. Resources at AOO would look at those studies.

Cairine C (BVT) referenced an article from Sept 2018. KHR resident concerned about wells going dry. Would that be an impact?

Rob N (KHR) believes that wells are affected by water tables not level of the lake.

Cairine C (BVT) questioned how up to date the current BRWMP is.

Shawn C (RPG) replied that the most current version is available on the RPG website.

Cairine C (BVT) reported to the group some comments she has received about the daily freshet graphs. Lake Clear is 52 weeks; Round Lake and Golden Lake are 365 days. Cairine asked if there was a way to just show the spring. Ron Rimmer of the GLOPO has been posting graphs he has recreated comparing lake levels from 2017 to 2019.

Shawn C (RPG) replied there would be confusion with changing the graphs in the middle of Freshet. Lake Clear has a weekly reporting requirement and the others are daily.

Steve B (Pik) asked why the 14 average was on the graph.

Shawn C (RPG) it depicts the average levels since the creation of the BRWMP. It gives a better idea of where levels could be throughout the year.

Glenn B (NAW) asked if there had been any more consideration in a Dam Tour.

Shawn C (RPG) replied that can be arranged, best to wait until water levels settle down`.

The next SAC committee meeting date is to be determined.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Cairine Cybulski (BVT). Moved by Glenn Bingham (NAW) and seconded by Don Eady (Mayor of Renfrew)

Meeting adjourned at 3:39pm.