

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

**Minutes of Meeting #8, August 15th, 2019
1035 O'Brien Rd, Renfrew ON**

Attendees:

SAC: Rob Norris (KHR), Cairine Cybulski (Bonnechere Valley Twp.), Glenn Bingham (NAW) and Steve Osipenko (Horton Twp.).

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

Secretary: Channa McEachen (RPG)

Regrets:

Michael Donohue (Mayor of A/B Twp.) Don Eady (Mayor of Renfrew), Steve Benoit (Pikwakanagan) and Janusz Rydel (Multistream Power Corp).

1. Walk-on items

2. Meeting #7– Approval of minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended.

Moved by: Cairine Cybulski

Seconded by: Glenn Bingham

Carried

3. Communication – Power Producers

Shawn C (RPG) reported to the SAC group that he has been working on the amendment most of the time since the SAC group last met.

Operational wise – low flow times.

RPG carried out maintenance during this time. If the water flows continues to go down we may need to utilize storage water. It has been a non-eventful summer, very dry with lack of precipitation.

Cairine C (BVT) asks about certain level the water has to be at to flow through the plant.

Shawn C (RPG) answered that it isn't the level that is of concern but the flow. 2 CMS is the minimum flow to keep everything flushed. It isn't about making power but keeping the system flowing. If the water flows reduced below ~ 2 cms we would try to maintain by utilizing water from the reservoirs, (Lakes).

Rob N (KHR) water level is about 15cm higher now than it was in 2012, when the system was in a drought condition.

Jack R (EGS) we are running one unit part time. Part time on, part time off. In the process of getting parts for other two units.

Jack R (EGS) provided the group with a copy of the Pier Review regarding the fishing pier in Eganville.

Shawn C (RPG) added that work at Lake Clear Dam was going to start on Monday August 19, 2019. Concrete repair, estimated time is a month of work.

4. Concerns received/information share – all

Shawn C (RPG) haven't had any concerns as of yet. Much better communication with Municipalities and Property Owners this time.

Glenn B (NAW) we now understand you are doing a controlled drawdown and lowering all you can. You really can't control Mother Nature.

5. Other

KHR Amendment – presentation (RPG)

Shawn C (RPG) presented the SAC group with a presentation of the KHR Amendment that details the background, amendment process, amendment details, and graphs showing Round Lake 1st submission and what is being submitted as the current proposal.

Rob N (KHR) as the SAC group we are supposed to review things that come through as 3rd party. Review and make comments to the Power Producers to pass along.

Cairine C (BVT) My concern is comments closing on August 24, 2019, doesn't leave much time.

Rob N (KHR) as a SAC group we can only make recommendations in principal

Shawn C (RPG) requested a letter of support from the SAC if all were comfortable as it could help with the approval process with MNRF.

Cairine C (BVT) noted that when you look at Jan 1 to end of Feb. levels are still lowering, still considerable amount to be drawndown.

Shawn C (RPG) drawdown is staged to meet fish needs and is recommended by MNRF.

Glenn B (NAW) where did Bowfin do their testing?

Shawn C (RPG) Round Lake, tributaries.

Glenn B (NAW) so they didn't consider Golden Lake.

Shawn C (RPG) Round Lake is where the major changes will be so that is the focus at this point to get the amendment approved.

Cairine C (BVT) in the past a row of logs was left in the Golden lake Dam during Freshet for fish passage. Is that still being done?

Shawn C (RPG) No, drawdown was done differently back then as there wasn't a water management plan. Currently with the BRWMP in effect, identified restrictions', and the adverse weather we are seeing we need all the discharge we can to try to get Golden Lake levels down during Freshet.

Glenn B (NAW) I watched the drawdown with the order from MNRF. It was appreciated the thought for us below Round Lake.

Shawn C (RPG) I've been asked many times if the amendment will fix it all? Something I can't answer. Will it mitigate? I believe it will as we are reverting back to what worked years ago before the BRWMP. If approvals get delayed there is some room to deviate from the proposed drawdown plan. Magic date is October 21st to hit target levels to maximize the drawdown.

Steve O (H. Twp.) what outcome did you see this year?

Shawn C (RPG) Extremely high year. Different type of flood. Wasn't the overland water seen in 2017. Was mostly system water from snow melt. Golden levels ended up slightly lower than 2017 and Round levels were roughly the same. It's believed the extra drawdown contributed to the 2019 outcome.

Glenn B (NAW) my personal opinion is we continue as we are doing now, working together all have the same initiative to make things better.

Shawn C (RPG) gave credit to all the groups for pulling together. I believe there has been a lot more education due to the flooding that people can use to better understand the operation of the system.

A motion was made that the SAC supports the amendment in principle as presented by Shawn Cameron (RPG) on the behalf of KHR.

Moved by: Steve Osipenko (H. Twp.)
Seconded by: Glenn Bingham (NAW)
Carried.

Recorded votes:

Steve O (H Twp.), Glenn B (NAW), Cairine C (BV), Rob N (KHR). All were in favour.

Rob N (KHR) Thanked Jack R (EGS) and Shawn C (RPG) for the Dam tour. Plan on doing a Renfrew Dam tour before or after the next SAC meeting.

Jack R (EGS) putting into perspective Golden Lake dam to Eganville. It has been brought up that in 2017 EGS was holding back water, realistically this could never happen due to the elevation difference. This information is stated in the BRWMP.

Shawn C (RPG) our dams are small at the lakes. Renfrew and Eganville are larger and have the ability to discharge a lot of water because they are built on chutes (major changes in river bottom). Compared to OPG structures are dams are very small. The control dams at Golden, Round and Lake Clear were intended to hold water over the summer and have all the logs out by spring.

Adjournment

Be it resolved that the meeting adjourn at 3:00pm.

Moved by: Cairine Cybulski (BV)
Seconded by: Glenn Bingham (NAW)
Carried.