

BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
FINAL - Minutes of Meeting #26 – July 14, 2011
Eagles Nest, Eganville

Attendees:

SAC: Murray Borer, Niall McArdle, Murray Bimm, Ross Campbell, Don Pouliot, Lucy King

Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn: Jan Leroux, Danny Sarazin

MNR: Joanna Samson, Tom Giesler

Waterpower Producers: Peter Boldt (RPG), Shawn Cameron (RPG), Janusz Rydel (Multistream); Andreas Vornweg (Vornweg Waterpower)

Regrets: Jeremy Jones Kevin O'Connor, Frank Scheer (Eganville Generation Corporation)

1. Housekeeping Items

- 1.1. Round table introduction were made to introduce Daniel Sarazin to the group.
Daniel will be shadowing Jan and will be attending future SAC meetings.
- 1.2. Expense Claims
 - Expense claims were handed out to the group.
- 1.3. Review of Agenda & Walk-on items
 - Nothing was added to the agenda
- 1.4. Other
 - indicated that the power producers will have their annual meeting the next little while

2. Review & Approval of Minutes of Meeting #25– March 31, 2011

No changes were made to the minutes.

3. Power Producers Update

Janusz (Douglas/Multistream)

- Freshet was good; lots of water
- Everything seems to be working
- Spilling water; no power outages

Andreas:

- Normal year. Spillage running over the dam.

Shawn (RPG)

- lots of water
- ran full out to the third week in June
- July 1st, we saw more rain, removed logs from the dam
- Good spring in Renfrew

- Big rain even April 11th to note.

Peter (RPG)

Peter gave a synopsis of what happened this past spring on the lakes. He indicated that prior to 2000 there was consistent weather. He explained that in the last 10 years, there have been major fluctuations in weather patterns. We are seeing lots of rain in June, with severe weather events and the crest is hit. This could potentially be the new weather timing. Difficult to predict what will happen next year.

Peter & Shawn handed out charts for the 2010-2011 for both lakes up to July 13, 2011.

Peter explained the graphs to the group and indicated the following:

- Promised to be at the low end in March, which is where they were
- Typical line on Round Lake, as shown in the WMP, is a “fairy tale” – the 6 yr average line is what RPG is basing things now.
- The black dots on the graph indicate a day; in the spring we see lots of little dots together, when it really takes a vertical line – travelled to the top in 5-7 days.

Round Lake: we were at the bottom of the limit when freshet started. Achieved the lowest we could possibly achieve. Once the License of Occupation on Golden Lake is hit, seize pulling logs on Round Lake. Peter indicated that they have figured out that the basin is actually adding a lot more water to Golden Lake than originally thought. Because the water is not coming from Round Lake, it must be coming from the drainage basin.

Tom indicated that in Jan/Feb the water was coming from Round Lake as not much water would be coming from the basin.

Peter informed the group that the angle on Golden Lake is less than on Round (2-6cm). They are running flat on Golden. It can't go lower, because if there is an event in the winter and water goes up, the shoreline bond will be broken.

Murray Borer asked RPG if that is as low as they can get on Golden Lake. Tom replied that they can get lower.

Peter mentioned that the bathymetry work on Golden Lake would happen at the end of July. He indicated that the study will give RPG the answers but they won't be doing anything about it. They will however, provide data to MNR and any other party. Tom indicated that there maybe other avenues that the bathymetry may lead us to, for instance production may need to change.

GLPOA has a problem in the fall getting their boats out. RPG can give 3 weeks advance notice to when they are at the bottom of the trajectory.

ACTION: Peter to confer with Kevin regarding date/time.

Strategy:

- **Now:** Stabilize the lake by the first part of next week. Once it has flattened out, take a new point – draw a straight line and try to stay on it.

- **Fall:** start raising the water. 170.8 or 170.9 – all depends on the season in November

Joanna Samson explained to the SAC the next steps with respect to reviewing the 2 incidences from the spring. MNR has a number of questions that we are looking for an explanation. We will conduct a review of the incident, as outlined in the WMP (page 155). The first meeting with RPG is scheduled for August 24, 2011.

4. Information Needs

Joanna handed out the 2006 exercise that was conducted and reviewed the top 4 information needs. She indicated that we will be looking at these more closely as the Full Plan review commences in the fall of 2012.

1. Status of Amphibians and Reptile populations – no work done
2. Minimum flows - Joanna indicated to the group that MNR was looking to move forward on establishing minimum flows for each facility and for the system. Tom indicated that he had a goal to get out this summer with gauges below Tramore, below Douglas, and other areas. Peter indicated that this was not just about numbers, it's about levels as well.
3. Monitor the whole fish community – Joanna gave a quick snapshot from Darwin of the work that has been done to date.
4. Monitoring walleye success – ongoing.

5. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday Oct 19th, 2011 6:30pm, @ Eagles' Nest in Eganville

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.