

BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
DRAFT - Minutes of Meeting #28 – February 16, 2012
Eagle's Nest, Eganville

Attendees:

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

Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn:, Danny Sarazin

MNR: Joanna Samson, Tom Giesler, Jeremy Jones

Waterpower Producers: Peter Boldt (RPG), Shawn Cameron (RPG), Janusz Rydel (Multistream); Andreas Vornweg (Vornweg Waterpower), Frank Scheer (Eganville Generation Corporation)

Guests: John Gulland

Regrets: Jan Leroux, Murray Bimm, Murray Borer

1. Housekeeping Items

1.1. Introductions:

- Round table introduction were made to introduce John Gulland who is a part of the Golden Lake Property's Owner's Association and is sitting in as an observer for the meeting.

1.2. Expense Claims

- Expense claims were handed out to the group. Joanna informed the group to please submit their expenses every meeting from now on.

1.3. Review of Agenda & Walk-on items

- No additional item was added to the agenda

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

No changes were made to the minutes. The minutes were approved.

3. Power Producers Update

Janusz (Douglas/Multistream)

- Freeze up was good this year, no frazil ice build-up
- Permit for dredging the river channel is still pending with the MNR, although it seems to be difficult to explain
- Currently 3 turbines are running; close to full power

Frank (Eganville Generation Corporation)

- Similar to Janusz, no frazil ice build up this winter, which is a big difference from last year

- We got approval from Transport Canada to go ahead with the new boom but we need a plan of attack for getting them in place by May 15th, which can be hazardous
- Niall updated the group that he had called TC and is waiting to hear back on the possibility of having something written on the boom.
- Frank wondered about the registration of the dam and Tom Giesler responded that it was all part of the approval.

Andreas:

- Low water in fall and has remained low since then.
- Normal freeze-up, never saw frazil ice (Turbine draws from the bottom)
- Not running turbines at the moment. Put logs in towards the lower limit and is now just waiting for spring. It is not worth the hassle this time of year. When freshet comes, we start running again.

Shawn (RPG)

Round Lake:

- well into the drawdown at 3-4cm/week
- March 14/15th target is 170.13, which is 3cm off of the lower limit.
- Freeze-up occurred 1st week of January,
- ice depth of 12 inches

Golden Lake:

- logs have been out of dam since December 12th
- Freeze up was pretty much the same time as Round Lake
- 12-15 inches of ice on the lake, this is less than last year.

Lake Clear:

- 15 inches of ice on the Lake (more than last year)

Flow has been decent overall. Cold days it slows down which helps to balance the warmer days.

Tom G. informed the group that all four operators have submitted their 2011 annual report.

Don Pouliot indicated that 8 inches of ice push had occurred on St. Pats Bay, although you would not see it if you didn't know it was there. A ridge had formed quite a distance out from the shoreline. Another push was also noted out on Golden Lake, but nothing occurred near Bonnechere Park.

4. WMP Review Update & SAC Member Recruitment

Joanna gave an update to the group as to what to expect for the fall in terms of the new planning process

- The review will commence this fall
- There may be a some additional SAC meetings throughout the process however, for the most part, things will remain the same. Your role will change slightly. There will be more

things to review and we will be looking to you as our link/guide for the public consultation process. A public consultation plan will be put together with your input.

- A new standing agenda item will be added to the SAC agenda, entitled “ the planning process”
- A working group, made up of MNR staff, power producers and potentially other agencies will be established.
- A terms of reference for the review will be developed with the power producers and shared with the SAC for review and comment

SAC recruitment:

Joanna informed the group that a recruitment process will take place to replace 3 SAC members. Currently, with the loss of Kevin O’Connor, we are down to 6 of 9 members. We would like to have a full compliment of members entering into the review process. Advertisements and a mailout will occur in the spring, inviting interested individuals to submit an application. An interview process, similar to the original recruitment of the SAC in 2005, will then take place.

If everything goes according to plan, we anticipate having new members in place for the next meeting in June. An introduction/orientation for new members can be a part of the June agenda.

With Plan review commencing in the fall, Joanna also asked existing SAC members to confirm their interest in remaining a SAC member. She expressed that although we would very much like to see you stay, if you are contemplating resigning your position for any reason, this might be an opportune time as a recruitment process will be taking place.

ACTION: SAC members to let Joanna know if they wish to remain on the committee by the end of February.

5. Walk-on agenda items

5.1 Golden Lake Bathymetry Update (request by D. Pouliot)

Peter gave an update on the Bathymetry work that is being done on Golden Lake. He indicated that although the ACRES model was designed for the entire system, the area at Golden Lake does not function like the model says.

- Bathymetry was mapped from Beatty Island to the dam (known constriction) last summer with WESA (consultant out of Carp).
- Next step is to build a model that can pour water through at different rates. The main question being – where does the dam take control?
- No one truly knows how this exit at Golden will work; only assumptions have been made at this point.
- Another big question is if we are able to get things down on Round Lake, what will happen to Golden? What is the adverse affect?

Next Steps:

- Model calculation to determine at a certain point in time, Golden will pass X amount of water. We really want to understand how Golden Lake will react.

- Timing schedule will depend on dollars, however hopes to have most of it done by September.

Discussion and questions took place:

Don Pouliot questioned if the original ACRES study assumed more water? Peter responded that if the original model didn't have anything to do with heights, they were not take into consideration.

Lucy King commented that she didn't think that the bathymetry work will solve the problem. Jeremy Jones agreed with her, however, that emphasized that it may help us to understand it better and come up with some alternative solutions. Tom Giesler indicated that it could lead to some changes in terms of operation and that all information is knowledge.

John Gulland asked the group why the Licence of Occupation on Golden Lake was in place on Golden Lake. He indicated that a common theme amongst GLPOA members is that they do not understand it, why it is there, and why it can't be changed.

Joanna Samson indicated that a better explanation can be provided in the new plan.

ACTION: MNR to look into the L.O. on Golden Lake and whether or not it can be changed.

6. Next Meeting Date

Thursday June 7, 2012 6:30pm, @ Eagles' Nest in Eganville

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.