

**BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)  
FINAL- Minutes of Meeting #1, February 6, 2018  
1035 O'Brien Rd, Renfrew ON**

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**Attendees:**

**SAC:** Don Eady (Mayor of Renfrew), Deborah Farr (Mayor of NAW), Janice Visneskie (Mayor of KHR), Michael Donohue (Mayor of A/B Twp.)

**Algonquin's of Pikwakanagan:** Steve Benoit

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

**Secretary:** Channa McEachen (RPG)

**Regrets:**

Jennifer Murphy (Mayor of Bonnechere Valley), Robert Kingsbury (Mayor of Horton Twp.)

**1. Introduction of Members and Review of Contact Information**

A round table introduction of everyone present took place.

Shawn Cameron (RPG) welcomed the new Bonnechere River Standing Advisory Committee. He thanked the members for showing an interest and becoming involved. He talked about the role of the SAC, which is to provide advice to the power producers on BRWMP implementation and provide a better communication link to each of the represented stakeholder's by the member present.

Contact information was discussed and an email will be sent to SAC members to notify who their representative is going to be and their alternate. A list will then be composed and information distributed accordingly.

Deborah Farr (NAW) suggested each have 2 contacts for the freshet updates provided by RPG.

Shawn Cameron (RPG) agreed to send daily freshet updates to the SAC member and the alternate put forward by each Stakeholder.

**1.1 General discussion Q and A**

**SAC committee role**

Power producers are considered the managing body for the Bonnechere River Water Management Plan (BRWMP) document. The MNRF still has the last decision on any changes to the document.

The main role of the SAC is to serve as an advisory group, as defined through a terms of reference.

Shawn Cameron (RPG) provided an update on levels at Round Lake and Golden Lake. It is RPG's intention to continue to lower Round Lake to the lowest allowable limit again this year.

Golden Lake dam has been empty of logs since November 7, 2017. This was a month sooner than last year.

Precipitation (rain) and timing of Freshet are both major factors on how the spring progresses. If Freshet occurs early prior to having Round Lake empty it certainly puts the system in a bad position to manage levels. This is a concern every year and impossible to forecast ahead.

Debra Farr (NAW) asked about snow in the Park.

Steve Benoit (PIK) commented that his information indicates snow is below average.

Michael Donohue (A/B) added that an issue this spring could be the saturated ground. The wet year of 2017 has saturated the ground and limited any ability to absorb spring run-off.

### Amendments

Janice Visneskie (KHR) inquired if anything was heard about the amendment KHR submitted.

Shawn Cameron (RPG) explained that he had asked John Swick of MNRF recently and his response was it was still being reviewed.

Amendment process: amendment requests are to be submitted to the Power producers. The Power producers screen the amendment request and then forward to the Ministry for their screening. The decision is returned and if accepted by MNRF a more formal submission is then required to be submitted. The complete process is outlined in the Technical Bulletin.

### Meeting minutes

Draft meeting minutes will be sent out to the SAC committee members.

Michael Donohue (A/B) suggested that any changes be brought to the next meeting and discussed prior to the SAC accepting the minutes.

This process was accepted.

## **2. SAC Announcement**

SAC committee announcement will be made on both the RPG website and Facebook page. Meeting minutes will also be posted on both pages after their approval. Shawn Cameron encouraged each SAC member to do the same or at least create a link from their pages.

Shawn Cameron (RPG) discussed how RPG has created a Facebook page to improve communication and help with daily updates during Freshet.

**3. Review – Draft Terms of Reference**

A copy of the draft Terms of Reference was electronically sent to each SAC committee member before the meeting.

A motion was made to accept the Terms of Reference as presented.

Moved by: Michael Donohue  
Seconded by: Janice Visneskie

**Carried**

**3.1 Selection of Chair**

The issue of selecting a Chair, Co-chair, and Secretary was discussed briefly. This is to be discussed further at the next meeting as some members were absent.

A motion was made to postpone the election of Chair, Co-chair and Secretary until the next meeting.

Moved by: Don Eady  
Seconded by: Janice Visneskie

**Carried**

Shawn Cameron (RPG) fulfilled the role as interim Chairperson until such time as one is selected.

**4. Date of Next Meeting**

A discussion regarding the best day for future meetings occurred. The majority thought that Wednesday afternoons would work well. A more central meeting location will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Wednesday March 21, 2018** – Bonnechere SAC meeting #2 @ 2pm in Renfrew at **1035 O'Brien Road.**

**5. Adjournment**

Be it resolved that the meeting adjourn at 3:09 p.m.

Moved by: Michael Donohue

**Motion Carried**