

STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
Minutes of Meeting #14, March 30, 2023
Via Zoom

Attendees: VIA Zoom

SAC: Rob Norris (KHR), James Brose (NAW), Steve Osipenko (Horton Twp.), Kevin Legris (A/B Twp.), Merv Buckwald (BV),

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

Regrets: rep from Pikwàkanagàn, and Mike Guest (Town of Renfrew)

Secretary: Shawn Cameron - RPG

Rob Norris welcomed the group to the Teams meeting; roll call was completed and a quorum was noted.

Shawn Cameron communicated he had reached out to BV and Algonquins of Pikwakanagan for representation. BV provided Merv Buckwald and the AOPFN due to recent election will provide someone once things get settled.

2. Walk on Items

None noted.

Meeting #13– Approval of minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from March 23, 2022, SAC committee meeting.

Moved by: James Brose
Seconded by: Steve Osipenko
Carried

Chair position – annual renewal

A motion was made by James B (NAW) to nominate Rob N (KHR) for another term as Chair of the SAC. Seconded by Steve O (Horton Twp). All in Favour by a show of hands. **Carried.**

Communication –Power Producers

Jack R (EGC & MPC) gave the SAC a report on the operations in both Eganville and Douglas. Eganville - River is open, flows are quite a bit lower compared to last year's. Running at 60% capacity. Plans to replace logs in sluice 3 with steel and replace station transformer over the summer.

Rob N. (KHR) asked why use steel logs instead of wooden,

Jack R. (EGC) replied that as the wooden logs get older, they erode around the knots and leak more which becomes difficult to seal. Although the steel logs cost more, they last much longer and do not have same issues with leaking.

Douglas –River just cleared of ice so now able to get into the trash racks. Planning some concrete repairs and pinning of the piers at the dam this summer. Dealing with generator issues. Last rewind is not holding up as it should be and affecting several of the generators.

Shawn C. (RPG) river is open, and flows are below average for this time of year. No issues at this point.

Concerns Received – All

James B (NAW) heard concerns that levels at Golden Lake were extremely low last fall and affecting some water intake pipes.

Steve O (Twp Horton) no comments but we did have started the County freshet calls. Seems only Southern Ontario at this point has flood concerns.

Rob N. (KHR) heard that residents are pleased with current water levels before Freshet. New KHR Mayor and council supports the amendment.

No other concerns received with Admaston/Bromley or Bonnechere Valley.

Shawn C. RPG described the low water levels last fall in Golden Lake. The system was dry and not much precipitation. Although levels have been lower, they haven't been that low at that time of year. Logs were added which is not a usual practice to maintain and raise level to prevent breach of the BRWMP lower limit. The logs were again removed early in January 2023.

Shawn C (RPG) reported to the group that he has received questions on start of the Round Lake drawdown. Shawn C. explained the official drawdown is set for after Labour Day. If there is enough water in the system summer levels at Round Lake will maintained longer. The Target line was developed from averages. RPG must position level to keep flow rates for the drawdown to start. Shawn C. used the water level charts to explain this process.

Shawn C. updated the SAC that RPG is still working through the process to complete repairs to the Golden Lake dam this summer and next. Currently working through consultation with the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation.

Freshet: Snow Data, System Water Levels

Shawn C (RPG): river open in Renfrew; flows are below average. Timing is later than last year.

Round Lake – No substantial increase yet. Level remains ~10cm above lower limit.

Golden Lake – No substantial increase yet. Level is below 18-year average.

Lake Clear – No substantial increase yet. Level is below 18-year average.

Snow in the park – schedule to go again on April 3rd. Chart shown was from March 15th at that time there was 60cm of snow and a snow water equivalent of 162mm. A little more than last year at this time.

Shawn C. (RPG) as with every year Mother Nature controls the outcome. All we can do is prepare the best we can.

James B. (NAW) inquired when the daily Freshet emails from RPG would commence.

Shawn C. (RPG) the emails will begin when Spring conditions progress. If no real concerns the emails will not be daily. RPG also uses Facebook.

Date of Next Meeting

To be determined.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:00pm by James Brose (NAW) and seconded by Steve Osipenko (Horton).

All members in Favour. **Carried.**