

STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
Minutes of Meeting #15, March 28, 2024
Via Zoom

Attendees: VIA Zoom

SAC: Rob Norris (KHR), James Brose (NAW), Steve Osipenko (Horton Twp.), Kevin Legris (A/B Twp.), Peter Habel (AOPFN).

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

Regrets: Merv Buckwald (BV), and Mike Guest (Town of Renfrew)

Secretary: Shawn Cameron - RPG

Shawn Cameron welcomed the group to the Zoom meeting at 1:15 p.m.; a quorum was observed.

Peter Habel was introduced and welcomed as the representative for AOPFN.

2. Walk on Items

None noted.

Meeting #14– Approval of minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from March 30, 2023, SAC committee meeting.

Moved by: James Brose
Seconded by: Steve Osipenko
Carried

Chair position – annual renewal

Rob N. joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Steve O. to nominate Rob N (KHR) for another term as Chair of the SAC.

Moved by: Steve Osipenko
Seconded by: James Brose
Carried

All were in favour.

Rob N. accepted the role for another year.

Communication –Power Producers

Jack R (EGC & MPC) gave the SAC members a report on the operations in both Eganville and Douglas.

Eganville - Running 1 unit with another off and on. Flows less than last year. Typically have water spilling during this time of year. Plan to replace the station transformer this summer.

Douglas –River flows well below normal. Running 2 units out of 6. 1 unit is currently being rewound because of a poor repair previously. If happy with this repair likely send others one at a time to have done the same way.

Shawn C. (RPG) flows are well below average for this time of year. No issues at this point. Not a typical Freshet so far. Production is below target.

Concerns Received – All

James B (NAW) heard concerns that water levels at Golden Lake were a little low going into the fall.

Shawn C. RPG explained the system was dry and there wasn't enough precipitation. The summer had some rainy events but not the fall.

Shawn C (RPG) reported he had some concerns about reaching summer water level in 2024. It is still early but certainly with the lack of run-off and precipitation achieving levels could be difficult. There is no way to anticipate what kind of Freshet will take place. The best practice is to drain the lake to anticipate the worst for the best protection.

Shawn C. (RPG) also had received emails of support for how the water was drawn down over the winter to prepare for Freshet as some residents minds were at ease.

Shawn C. updated the SAC that RPG has completed Phase 1 of the repairs to the Golden Lake dam, and that Phase 2 (final phase) is being planned for summer 2024. Currently working through a consultation process with the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation for phase 2. The anticipation is to be ready to start July 15, 2024.

Freshet: Snow Data, System Water Levels

Shawn C (RPG): river open in Renfrew; flows are well below average. No run-off to speak of.

Round Lake – No increase due to Freshet. Stop logs started to be added March 12, 2024

Golden Lake – No increase due to Freshet. Stop logs started to be added March 12, 2024

Lake Clear – No increase due to Freshet. Currently looking to start adding stop logs at the start of April.

Shawn C. shared his screen to show each of the water charts as of March 28,2024.

Snow in the park – Last sample was March 15, 2024. No snow left.

Ice samples were completed for 2024. RPG only completed 3 samples as conditions were sketchy for staff due to inconsistent weather. The ice thickness was less than other years.

Rob N. (KHR) communicated that he found the SAC minutes difficult to locate on the RPG website.

Shawn C. (RPG) described that under the “About Us” tab there is a drop-down menu where the SAC minutes are located on the RPG webpage.

Rob N. (KHR) also asked if the past water charts saved on the RPG website could be converted to date instead of days of the year.

Shawn C (RPG) will investigate what would be involved in making these changes and further described that historically they charts were weekly then in days of the year to align with the BRWMP.

Date of Next Meeting

To be determined.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1:53 p.m. by Steve Osipenko (Horton).

All members in Favour. **Carried.**