

INTERNATIONAL ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD OF CONTROL

Minutes of the April 20, 2010 Board meeting Held in Washington, DC

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 AM April 20th and chaired by COL Jack Drolet, Alternate U.S. Chair. Those in attendance were:

United States		Canada
	Board Members	
COL J. Drolet Mr. J. Bernier Mr. T. Brown Dr. T. Hullar Dr. F. Sciremammano, Jr.		Mr. J. Vollmershausen Mr. A. Carpentier Ms. J. Frain
	Secretaries	
Mr. J. Kangas		Ms. G. Faveri
	Regulation Representatives	
LTC D. Snead Mr. G. Cotroneo (Alt.)		Mr. D. Fay Mr. R. Caldwell (Alt.)
	Associates	
Mr. T. Lavigne Ms. C. Fisher Mr. Z. Jeffries Mr. K. Koralewski Mr. J. Oyler Mr. B. Whitcomb Ms. D. Lee (part time)		Mr. J. Lapierre Mr. L. Cao Mr. L. Lefebvre Mr. S. Robert

1 Approval of agenda

The agenda was adopted with the addition of items under other business (attached).

2 Current Conditions

Mr. Cotroneo presented the current conditions. Total and basin supplies were below average in March. Lake Ontario levels have been steady in April, resulting in a further departure from average. Levels are within the range specified by the orders of approval. Lake levels are about 40 cm (16 in) lower than they would have been under pre-project conditions. There are -10 cms-weeks of deviations on Lake Ontario as a result of unintentional deviations the first week of April. The first freshet (of the lower Ottawa River basin) was reported in March and only resulted in a small increase of Lac St. Louis levels. No second peak is expected. There is very little risk of exceeding either the upper or lower water level criteria for Lake Ontario over the next six months.

3 Regulation Strategy

The Board agreed to follow the regulation plan, while providing for critical needs. The Board noted that Montreal levels have fallen recently and could become critical in the fall. The Board considered storing water to be able to provide assistance to the downstream later but decided not to store the water at this time. It noted that relief could be provided to river interests by over-discharging as needed later as the lake was well above the lower limit. Also, the Board did not deviate the past two years when levels were near the upper end of the regulation range and, to be consistent, decided to not deviate at this time.

4 Communications Committee Update

a) Review of communications strategy for 2010-2011 Dr. Hullar reported on a meeting of the Communications Committee, held earlier in the day. The Committee is developing several proposals for enhanced Board communications with the public, including linking the multi-city teleconference sites by video, developing a blog for the Board, and creation of a Facebook page. Video clips could be used on the Board webpage to address issues. A paper will be provided to the Board from the Committee that describes these efforts.

b) Review of FAQs The Board deferred discussion of the FAQs.

c) March 2010 teleconference The Board noted that there were some audio problems with the teleconference. The Committee will discuss this with the teleconferencing company in planning the September event.

5 Update on environmental deviations

a) Status of summary report for February workshop

Mr. Kangas updated the Board on finalizing the workshop report. Some of the presenters had not yet provided comments or concurrence. Another effort will be made to obtain concurrence so that the report can be finalized and forwarded to the IJC.

b) Status of *ad hoc* group Mr. Cotroneo and Mr. Fay provided an update on the creation of an ad hoc group of environmental experts, as directed by the Board at its March meeting. Seven experts have been contacted; a mutually acceptable meeting date has proven elusive. It was also noted that Mr. Caldwell will be reporting on recent analyses of past deviations at an upcoming workshop on the St. Lawrence River.

6 Board presentation for Appearance

COL Drolet showed the Board the slides that he intended to use the following day in briefing the IJC on the Board's activities. Board Members and staff provided comments and clarifications.

7 Other Business

a) Lake Ontario Coastal Wetlands Initiative Mr. Kangas and Mr. Brown briefly discussed the initiative, recently forwarded from the IJC to the Board. The Board may be asked to participate on a management committee. This initiative may lead to obtaining the data needed for the Board to start an adaptive management program.

b) March 2010 minutes Mr. Kangas led a page-by-page review of the draft minutes. Comments will be incorporated and a final version provided to the IJC for posting to the Board's web site.

8 Schedule of upcoming events

The Board Secretaries noted the upcoming schedule of events. The Board's next conference call is planned for June 11. However, the May 12 date will be kept as a placeholder. The next Board meeting will be held September 9 in Kingston; the next multi-city meeting with the public will be on September 21 with in-person meeting sites in Owego and Cornwall.

The Board meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

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Board Meeting of April 20, 2010

Washington, DC

Approved Agenda

1. Approval of agenda
2. Current conditions
3. Regulation strategy
4. Communications Committee update:
 - a) Review of communications strategy for 2010-2011
 - b) Review of FAQs
 - c) March 2010 teleconference
5. Update on environmental deviations
 - a) Status of summary report for February workshop
 - b) Status of *ad hoc* group
6. Board presentation for Appearance
7. Other Business
 - a) Lake Ontario Coastal Wetlands Initiative
 - b) March 2010 minutes Port of Montreal CEO
8. Schedule of upcoming