MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE MEETING
Great Lakes Regional Office
Windsor, Ontario
February 7, 11-12, and 14, 2014

The International Joint Commission met in Executive Session on February 7, 11-12, and 14, 2014, at the Commission’s Regional Office in Windsor, Ontario, with Gordon Walker in the Chair.

COMMISSIONERS
Lana Pollack               Chair, U.S. Section
Gordon Walker             a/Chair, Canadian Section
Dereth Glance             Commissioner, U.S. Section
Benoit Bouchard           Commissioner, Canadian Section
Richard Moy               Commissioner, U.S. Section

SECTION STAFF
Chuck Lawson              Secretary, U.S. Section
Camille Mageau            Secretary, Canadian Section
Paul Allen                Manager, Policy, Programs and Communications, Canadian Section
Joe Babb                  Senior Advisor, U.S. Section*
Bernard Beckhoff          Public Affairs Advisor, Canadian Section*
Glenn Benoy               Senior Water Quality and Ecosystem Advisor, Canadian Section*
Frank Bevacqua            Public Information Officer, U.S. Section
Tara Buchanan             Environmental Advisor, Canadian Section*
Antionette Cade           Special Assistant, U.S. Section*
Mark Colosimo             Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section*
Susan Daniel              Legal Advisor, U.S. Section
Dave Dempsey              Policy Advisor, U.S. Section
David Fay                 Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Nick Heisler               Senior Adviser, Canadian Section*
Brian Maloney             Staff Assistant, U.S. Section*
Gavin Murphy              Legal Advisor, Canadian Section*
Anselme Nsoga             Senior Human Resources Advisor, Canadian Section*
Isabelle Reid             Executive Assistant, Canadian Section*
Victor Serveiss           Environmental Advisor, U.S. Section*
Sarah Lobrichon           Policy Advisor, Canadian Section*
Cindy Warwick             Policy Advisor, Canadian Section*
John Yee                   Chief, IM and IT Services, Canadian Section*
Ted Yuzyk                  Director, Sciences and Engineering, Canadian Section*
GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
Stephen Locke Director
Antionette Arvai Physical Scientist
Raj Bejankiwar Physical Scientist
Jennifer Boehme Physical Scientist
Mark Burrows Physical Scientist
Colin Branton Student Intern
Matthew Child Physical Scientist
John Nevin Public Affairs Officer
Leah Quin Student Intern
Lizhu Wang Physical Scientist
John Wilson Physical Scientist

* Participated in the meeting via teleconference

Note: Items 1-7, 13, and 19b were discussed during the Commissioners' conference call of February 7, 2014. Items 18 and 19c were discussed on the Commissioners' conference call of February 14, 2014. Other items were discussed during the February 11-12 Executive meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. Commissioners approved the agenda with the addition of two items under Other Business.

MINUTES

2. Commissioners approved, as amended, the draft Minutes of the January 16, 2014 Commissioners' conference call.

APPOINTMENTS

3. A. Health Professionals Advisory Board
Commissioners approved the appointment of Dr. Laurie Chan as a Canadian member of the Health Professionals Advisory Board for a term of two years to conclude on February 11, 2016, and the re-appointment of Dr. Howard Shapiro as a Canadian member of the Board for a term of two years to conclude on February 06, 2016.

B. International Red River Board
Commissioners approved the appointment of Keith R. Mykleseth as a U.S. member of the International Red River Board of Control for a term to conclude April 11, 2016.
C. International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board
Commissioners approved the reappointment of Mr. Denis Brown as a Canadian member of the International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board for a three year term, from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2017, and the appointment of Ms. Lori Dowling-Hanson as a U.S. member of the Board for a term from February 11, 2014, to March 31, 2015.

BRING FORWARD

4. Commissioners noted that the IJC had only received interim responses from governments regarding the International Upper Great Lakes Study, and they agreed that every opportunity should be sought to encourage government to respond to that report and other outstanding Commission submissions including the Souris River Plan of Study and the Lake Champlain-Richelieu River Plan of Study.

ACTION ITEM LIST

5. Commissioners reviewed the latest Action Item list and Communications Activities list and received an update on planning for a strategic planning workshop in March.

BOARD APPEARANCES AGENDA

6. Commissioners reviewed and approved the proposed agenda for Board Appearances at the April 28-May 2, 2014, Semi-Annual meeting.

JUNE 2014 EXECUTIVE MEETING

7. Commissioners discussed a number of proposals for the location and scope of the June 2014 Executive meeting and requested that staff and the lead commissioner for west coast matters draft more detailed proposals for consideration by the Commission.

GREAT LAKES AND MISSISSIPPI RIVER INTERBASIN STUDY (GLMRIS) REPORT

8. Commissioners received an update on the GLMRIS report, noted that the report had been released January 6, 2014. They reaffirmed the Commission’s previous position regarding the need to create an ecological separation between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River systems as soon as feasible.

HUMAN HEALTH INDICATOR PHASE II: RISK INDICATORS

9. Commissioners discussed the HPAB proposal to develop a work plan to convene a workshop on Human Health Risk Indicators and requested that the Board further develop the proposal for discussion at their Spring Semi-annual appearance before the Commission.
GREAT LAKES BALLAST WATER COLLABORATIVE

10. Commissioners approved the request to support the travel of several participants to the March 3-4, 2014, Great Lakes Ballast Water Collaborative meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland.

IJC 2013 ACTIVITIES REPORT

11. Commissioners discussed the draft 2013 Activities Report and agreed to provide comments to staff within the week.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE BUDGET FY 2014-15

12. Commissioners reviewed the 2014-15 Great Lakes Regional Office Budget. They expressed their support and appreciation for the level of detail provided in the individual workplans and requested that similar information be provided for the administrative aspects of the budget. Approval of the budget will be considered at the April Semi-Annual Executive meeting.

SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD AND WATER QUALITY BOARD RESTRUCTURING

13. Commissioners approved the appointments of Dr. Christina Smeniuk and Ms. Anne Neary as Canadian members of the Science Advisory Board’s Science Priority Committee and the Research Coordination Committee, respectively. Commissioners also approved the appointment of Dr. Andrew Muir as a U.S. member of the SAB’s Research Coordination Committee. The timelines for the mailing appointment letters to new board members and thank you letters to old board members was also approved, as was the public announcement of the new boards on March 3, 2014. Commissioners also approved, as modified, the Directives for the Science Advisory Board and the Water Quality Board.

2012-2015 GREAT LAKES PRIORITIES CYCLE

14. Commissioners received updates from the IJC Management Teams on the activities of the four Key Themes. With respect to the Lake Erie Ecosystem report, Commissioners provided detailed comments on the latest draft of the LEEP Report and approved the timetable for the release of the report to governments and to the public and for the pre-release briefings.

INTERNATIONAL WATERSHEDS INITIATIVE (IWI)

15. Commissioners received an update on IWI activities, including ideas for possible strategic initiatives coming out of the December IWI workshop. Commissioners reviewed the final layout of the IWI brochure and requested revisions. Concerning the review of IWI projects, Commissioner’s invited staff to refer any disagreement to them particularly if it was question of relevance to the IJC mandate.
INTERNATIONAL ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD OF CONTROL
BOARD RENEWAL STRATEGY

16. Commissioners reviewed a number of options for renewal of the International St. Lawrence River Board of Control and agreed to a two-phase approach. The first phase will refresh the membership when some current Board members’ terms are completed in late May, while maintaining the same size of Board. The Commissioners would, in the second phase, consider including additional perspectives by expanding the Board membership with Tribe and FN members and local citizen members.

LAKE ONTARIO-ST. LAWRENCE RIVER REGULATION

17. Commissioners provided comments on the draft IJC report to governments on Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River regulation and requested that staff provide a revised draft in early March.

GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE RIVER ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

18. Commissioners reviewed the draft Terms of Reference and initial work plan for an Adaptive Management Committee and requested that staff provide the Great Lakes Control boards with a briefing on the plan at the March 25-26, 2014, meetings of the boards.

OTHER BUSINESS

19. A) Upcoming speaking events or publications
Commissioners discussed upcoming speaking engagements.

B) GLWQA Annex 1
Commissioners received a readout of discussions held with the Parties concerning the IJC's internal workplan to meet its Annex 1 commitments. Staff are to work with the Parties to address any misunderstandings.

C) International Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study
Commissioners approved the appointment of Glenn Benoy as the Canadian Co-Chair of the Water Quality Plan of Study team.

DECISIONS TAKEN VIA POLLING

Great Lakes Research Proposal
On February 5, 2014, Commissioners approved a letter to researchers concerning a draft grant proposal concerning adaptive management governance in the Great Lakes to be submitted to the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study Task Team

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Secretary
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Camille Mageau
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