

MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
Executive Meeting
Windsor, Ontario
September 12-14, 2017

The International Joint Commission met in Executive Session at the Great Lakes Regional Office in Windsor, Ontario, on September 12, 2017, from 1:00 to 5:30 PM EDT; September 13, 2017, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM EDT and September 14, 2017, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon EDT, chaired by Lana Pollack.

COMMISSIONERS

Lana Pollack	Chair, U.S. Section
Gordon Walker	Chair, Canadian Section
Rich Moy	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Benoit Bouchard	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Richard Morgan	Commissioner, Canadian Section

SECTION STAFF

Chuck Lawson	Secretary, U.S. Section
Paul Allen	Manager, Policy and Communications, Canadian Section
Glenn Benoy	Senior Advisor, Canadian Section
Frank Bevacqua	Public Information Officer, U.S. Section
Kevin Bunch	Writer-Communications Specialist, U.S. Section
Pierre-Yves Caux	Director, Science and Engineering, Canadian Section
Mark Colosimo	Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section
Susan Daniel	Legal Advisor, U.S. Section
David Fay	Senior Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Mark Gabriel	Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section
Dave Hermann	Senior Advisor, U.S. Section
Wayne Jenkinson	Senior Engineer Advisor, Canadian Section
Jeff Laberge	Information Management Analyst, Canadian Section
Mike Laitta	Senior Advisor, U.S. Section
Catherine Lee-Johnston	Environmental Officer, Canadian Section
Sarah Lobrichon	Policy and Communications Analyst, Canadian Section
Victor Serveiss	Environmental Advisor, U.S. Section
Cindy Warwick	Senior Advisor, Canadian Section
John Yee	Chief, IM and IT Services, Canadian Section
Shane Zurbrigg	Legal Advisor, Canadian Section

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF

Patricia Morris	Director
Antonette Arvai	Physical Scientist
Jennifer Boehme	Physical Scientist
Mark Burrows	Physical Scientist
Matthew Child	Physical Scientist

Raj Bejankiwar
Sally Cole-Misch
Mike Mezzacapo
Lizhu Wang

Physical Scientist
Public Affairs Officer
Sea Grant Fellow
Biological Scientist

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. Commissioners approved the agenda as amended with the addition of several items under Other Business.

BRING FORWARD

2. Commissioners reviewed correspondence to and from the governments.

ACTION ITEM LIST, COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES CALENDAR, AND COORDINATED CALENDAR

3. Commissioners reviewed the IJC Action Item List, Communications activities calendar, and the coordinated calendar, noting several modifications to be made.

MODERNIZATION OF THE IJC WEBSITE

4. Commissioners received an update on efforts to modernize the IJC website, noting that the staff website modernization working group conducted an extensive evaluation process of bids submitted and is in contract negotiations with the winning bidder. Commissioners directed staff to provide details at the next executive meeting on funding for the website modernization, looking at a five year forecast. A U.S. Commissioner was named to the website modernization committee.

GREAT LAKES TRIENNIAL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS REPORT

5. Commissioners reviewed and provided edits to the latest draft of the Triennial Assessment of Progress (TAP) report. They noted that staff authors expect to provide commissioners with the text of chapter seven of the report by Monday, September 25th. Commissioners agreed to have a follow-up conference call on Tuesday, September 26th to discuss the draft chapter. Pending commissioner review and discussion, the text of chapter seven will be sent to the communication's team, who will produce the Highlights report from its contents. It is anticipated that the full revision of the TAP report will be provided to Commissioners by Monday, October 2nd. Commissioners agreed to have a further conference call on Tuesday, October 3rd. Commissioners also reviewed possible options for public release of the TAP report but deferred a decision. Commissioners also agreed: on the report cover; that an embargoed copy of the report will go to governments a week in advance of public release; that embargoed copies will go to all members of WQB, SAB-SPC, SAB-RCC and HPAB just prior to public release; and that staff could finalize the technical appendix without the need for further Commissioner review.

IJC DATA POLICY

6. Commissioners reviewed and approved, as modified, a draft IJC data policy and directed staff to review the performance of the policy after it has been in place for one year. Commissioners requested more details on data storage (location and future plans) at the next executive meeting.

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ADVISORY BOARD

7. Commissioners received an oral update on the board's acute gastrointestinal illness project, noting problems with contract execution and staff efforts to help ensure such problems can be avoided in the future.

RAINY-NAMAKAN LAKES RULE CURVES REVIEW

8. Commissioners reviewed the summary of public comments on the draft commission decision on the Rainy and Namakan Lakes rule curves and provided guidance to staff on next steps. In response to some stakeholder concern in the basin, staff will provide commissioners with details on the operationalization of Option C with the Water Levels Committee.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN-RICHELIEU RIVER STUDY

9. Commissioners received an oral update on the study board's activities, noted that the study board is on track to deliver its work plan by October 2, 2017, and discussed funding for the study.

SOURIS RIVER REFERENCE

10. Commissioners received an oral update on the initial steps being carried out in the Souris River flooding study that the governments requested the commission undertake in their July 5, 2017, reference letter.

POPLAR RIVER

11. Commissioners reviewed the status of the commission's responsibilities in the Poplar River basin, approved letters to the governments and the Poplar River Bilateral Monitoring Committee, and agreed that it would be useful to include the issue on the agenda for the Semi-Annual meeting with the governments.

INTERNATIONAL WATERSHEDS INITIATIVE

12. Commissioners reviewed the report of the Climate Change Guidance Framework workshop that was held during the spring 2017 Semi-Annual meeting and approved the report for posting on the commission's website.

CONFERENCE ON THE FIRST CENTURY OF THE IJC

13. Commissioners received an update on the conference on the first century of the IJC that will be held September 25-26, 2017, in Ottawa, Ontario and agreed to let staff know which commissioners will attend the conference.

OTHER BUSINESS

14. **A) June 2017 Executive Meeting Minutes**

Commissioners approved, as modified, the minutes of the June 20-22, 2017, Executive Meeting.

- B) July 2017 Commissioner Conference Call Minutes**

Commissioners approved, as modified, the minutes of the July 28, 2017, commissioners conference call.

- C) International Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Board**

Commissioners reviewed the September 7, 2017, letter from the co-chairs of the International Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Board, concurred with the board's proposed strategy for addressing conditions in the basin, and approved, as modified, a letter to the board providing the commission's concurrence.

- D) Science Advisory Board - Science Priority Committee**

Commissioners approved the SAB-SPC's request to hold a webinar with commissioners on the committee's report on the Information Coordination and Flow (ICF) project. Commissioners requested that the webinar be held on October 13, 2017, at 11:00 AM EDT.

DECISIONS TAKEN VIA POLLING

Science Advisory Board - Research Coordination Committee

On September 12, 2017, Commissioners approved the appointment of: 1) Ms. Deborah Lee to be U.S. Co-Chair of the Sab-RCC for a two-year term, effective from October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2019; and 2) Dr. Kathleen McKague to be a Canadian member of the SAB-RCC for a three-year term, effective from September 1, 2017, to August 31, 2020.

Fall 2017 Semi-Annual Meeting Board Appearance Schedule

On September 5, 2017, Commissioners approved the schedule of board appearances for the Fall 2017 Semi-Annual meeting, which will take place October 25-26, 2017.

Souris River Study Board

On September 5, 2017, Commissioners approved: 1) the appointment of Dr. Rebecca Seal-Soileau to be the alternate to the U.S. study board Co-Chair for a three-year term, effective from September 1, 2017, to August 31, 2020; and 2) the directive for the study board.

Water Quality Board

On August 28, 2017, Commissioners approved the appointment of Ms. Sandra Cooper to be a Canadian member of the board for a three-year term, effective from September 1, 2017, to August 31, 2020.

International Niagara Board of Control

On August 14, 2017, Commissioners approved the reappointment of Ms. Jennifer Keyes as a Canadian member of the board for a three-year term, effective from September 9, 2017, to September 8, 2020.

International Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Board

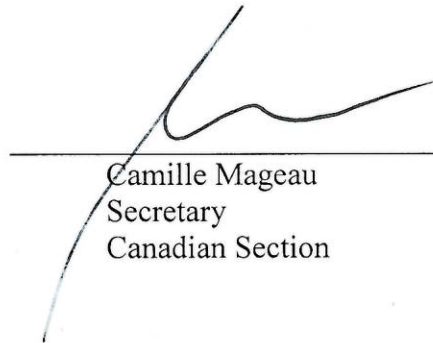
On August 14, 2017, Commissioners approved the reappointment of Mr. Jean Aubry-Morin as a Canadian member of the board for a three-year term, effective from November 1, 2017, to October 31, 2020.

International Lake Champlain-Richelieu River Study Board

On August 9, 2017, Commissioners approved the following appointments to the study board's Public Advisory Group (PAG): Dr. Marla Emery, Mr. Mark Malchoff, and Mr. Philip von Bargen to be U.S. members of the PAG; Ms. Josée Julien, Dr. Harm Sloterdijk, and Mr. Pierre Leduc to be Canadian members of the PAG; and Mr. Frederic Chouinard to be an alternate Canadian member for Mr. Leduc. The terms of the appointments are effective from August 9, 2017, to August 8, 2019.



Charles A. Lawson
Secretary
U.S. Section



Camille Mageau
Secretary
Canadian Section