

**MEETING RECORD FOR THE 145<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE GREAT LAKES  
SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD, JUNE 6, 2007**

**University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Michael J. Donahue (United States Co-chair) ..... URS Corporation, Farmington Hills, MI  
John Carey (Canadian Co-chair).....NWRI, Burlington, ON  
John Braden .....University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL  
William Bowerman ..... Clemson University, Pendleton, SC  
David Carpenter ..... University at Albany, Rensselaer, NY  
Pierre Filion .....University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON  
C. Scott Findlay ..... University of Ottawa, ON  
David Lean..... University of Ottawa, ON  
Judith Perlinger .....Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI  
Deborah Swackhamer ..... University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
Jay Unwin ..... National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc., Kalamazoo, MI  
Marcia Valiante..... University of Windsor, ON

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Milton Clark..... United States Environmental Protection Agency, Chicago, IL  
Allan Jones..... Burlington, ON  
Donna Mergler ..... University of Quebec, Montreal, PQ  
Joan Rose .....Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

**LIAISONS & IJC STAFF**

Douglas Alley ..... International Joint Commission, GLRO  
Kay Austin ..... International Joint Commission, Washington DC  
Peter Boyer..... International Joint Commission, GLRO  
Jim Houston ..... International Joint Commission, Ottawa ON  
Joel Weiner ..... International Joint Commission, Ottawa ON

### 1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Brief self introductions were made.

### 2. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was accepted as presented.

### 3. **Membership Status Report**

The secretary updated the Board on reappointments and new appointments effective June 30, 2007. He reported that Canadian members Dr. Mergler has been reappointed, and Drs. Taylor, MacIsaac and Diamond have been newly appointed. U.S. member Dr. Carpenter has been reappointed and Drs. Koonce and Klecka have been newly appointed. Dr. Donahue acknowledged the outgoing members Drs. Perlinger and Braden and thanked them for their service and contribution on behalf of the Board.

### 4. **2005-2007 SAB Priorities Report**

The secretary introduced the draft report and indicated that it represented a compilation of Board activities following the outline that was previously approved by the Board. He noted that the section of the report addressing fish consumption was distributed under separate cover.

Dr. Carey commented that the report needed a “plain language introduction” to establish the context for the activities. He added that following that piece, each activity needed to be summarized in terms of (1) the issue, (2) what was learned, (3) what was relevant in terms of the Great Lakes, and (4) recommendations to the IJC and/or WQB. He suggested that any other material related to the activity should go to an appendix. The Board concurred with Dr. Carey’s suggestion.

### **Summary of Comments and Action by Section**

#### **Section 1 – move to appendix**

#### **Section 2**

- Wingspread Consultation; requires an introduction and reference for the stand alone report. **Mr. Boyer to provide the rewrite.**
- Microbial Source Tracking; needs a relevancy section linking it to Great Lakes water quality; needs to address inadequacy of current methods, real time benefits, and causal factors. No recommendations, as they will follow in the next cycle within the context of the 2007 – 2009 Nearshore Framework. **Dr. Carey to provide the rewrite.**

- Dam Removals; too broad and superficial for recommendations; context needed to explain why this is an issue; opportunities are being lost to learn about dam removals as they proceed without scientific assessment; knowledge base is incomplete and therefore decision making is inadequate; there can be unintended consequences of action e.g. dam removal on the Hudson River turned a 50 mile superfund site into a 200 mile site; more work needed, possibly during the next cycle. **Drs. Bowerman and Donahue to provide the rewrite.**
- Omega 3's and Fish Consumption; needs paragraph on the HPTF/SAB workshop for context; needs a Great Lakes context e.g. uncontaminated fish are good but contaminated fish need to balance risks and benefits; improved monitoring needed for adaptive management; to be addressed in 2007 – 2009 Priorities; IQ decrements need references; question: what is the retention time for mercury in muscle? **Drs. Lean and Carpenter to provide the rewrite.**
- State of Groundwater and Urban Impact; requires brief introduction on SAB context and reference to stand alone multi Board report. **Mr. Unwin and Ms. Valiante to provide the rewrite.**

Dr. Carey suggested that section 2 be ordered according to level of Board effort i.e. Sustainable Cities, Groundwater, Agreement Review, Omega 3's and Dam Removals.

### Section 3

- Climate Change; add context of 2007 - 2009 Priorities in terms of an integrative issue. **Dr. Swackhamer to redraft recommendation and Mr. Boyer to provide rewrite of text.**
- Weight of Evidence; use Great Lakes as an exemplar; include first paragraph with recommendations and put rest in Appendix; debate about whether to include the wider context of precautionary principle r.e. Wingspread linkage; recommendation to be reworked. **Dr. Findlay to provide the rewrite.**
- Diabetes-PTS Link; link 2007-2009 Priority under fish consumption. **Dr. Carpenter to provide the rewrite.**

### Timeline

#### **Timeline for 2005-2007 Priorities Report as approved at the 143<sup>rd</sup> Meeting**

1. February 27 2007 ; 144th Meeting – Table of Contents and Draft Recommendations provided by WGs
2. April 13 2007; Draft 1 –for use at Semi Annual Meeting and circulated for review and comment by the SAB
3. May 31 2007; Draft 2 — for review and comment at 145<sup>th</sup> Meeting at IJC Biennial Meeting June 6-8 2007, Approval in Principle
4. July 31 2007; Final Draft and Approval –; Submission to Information Services for publication

## **Suggested Timeline to Final Draft Report**

1. June 30 – rewrites and submission by contributing members
2. July 13 – circulate 2<sup>nd</sup> draft for review
3. July 27 – final comments and approval in principle
4. August 3 – Report Final and submitted for formatting, copy editing and translation

## **5. Science Advisory Board Organization and Structure**

The secretary distributed the Co Chairs memorandum to Commissioners of May 10, 2007, which was approved by the Commission. Dr. Donahue suggested that a subgroup be formed to address the issue and Drs. Swackhamer, Bowerman, Donahue, Carey and Mr. Unwin volunteered to serve.

## **6. Future Meetings**

The future meeting date of September 27-28, 2007 in Windsor was confirmed. The secretary was directed to contact the members by email regarding proposed meeting dates #147 and #148.

## **7. Other Business**

A very brief discussion was held with respect to 2007 – 2009 IJC Priorities and it was suggested that new priorities and activities be approached in terms of (1) Great Lakes relevance, (2) IJC relevance and value added, (3) proposed action be clear, simple and effective, and (4) address science-policy linkages. Dr. Carey suggested that activities among the Boards could be managed separately, but then integrated into single approach.

## **8. Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Board, Dr. Carpenter moved that the meeting be adjourned with seconding by Mr. Unwin. The Board then moved next door to reconvene as a joint meeting with the WQB.