

## MEETING SUMMARY

International Rainy - Lake of the Woods Watershed Board  
 September 27, 2016  
 Teleconference  
 13:00 – 15:30 CT

| <b>ATTENDANCE</b>                                   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>PARTICIPANTS</b>                                 |  |
| <b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>                                |  |
| Michael Goffin (Board Canadian Co-Chair)            | Environment and Climate Change Canada                  |
| Gail Faveri   | Environment and Climate Change Canada                  |
| Dennis Brown  | Local Canadian Member                                  |
| Todd Sellers  | Local Canadian Member                                  |
| Karen Cederwall                                     | Local Canadian Member                                  |
| Colonel Calkins (Board U.S. Co-Chair)               | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers                           |
| Nolan Baratono                                      | Local U.S. Member                                      |
| Jim Stark   | U.S. Geological Survey                                 |
| Mike Hirst  | Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District |
| Charlene Mason                                      | Local U.S. Member                                      |
| Shane Bowe  | Red Lake Department of Natural Resources               |
| Matthew Gouin                                       | Local U.S. Member                                      |
| <b>INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION</b>               |  |
| Wayne Jenkinson                                     | Canadian Section                                       |
| Nick Heisler  | Canadian Section                                       |
| <b>BOARD ENGINEERING ADVISORS/SECRETARIAT</b>       |  |
| Daniel Rokitnicki-Wojcik (Cdn Secretariat)          | Environment and Climate Change Canada                  |
| Scott Jutila (U.S. Engineering Advisor/Secretariat) | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers                           |
| <b>OTHER</b>  |  |
| Kelli Saunders                                      | International Watershed Coordinator                    |

| <b>ABSENTEES</b>                              |  |
|---|--|
| <b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>                          |  |
| Kiley Shebagegit                              | Local Canadian Member                                  |
| Trina Rawn                                    | Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change |
| Mark Lee                                      | Manitoba Sustainable Development                       |
| Greg Chapman                                  | Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry     |
| Lori Dowling-Hanson                           | Minnesota Department of Natural Resources              |
| Suzanne Hanson                                | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency                     |
| Al Pemberton                                  | Red Lake Department of Natural Resources               |
| <b>BOARD ENGINEERING ADVISORS/SECRETARIAT</b> |  |
| Matt DeWolfe (Cdn Engineering Advisor)        | Environment and Climate Change Canada                  |
| <b>INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION</b>         |  |
| Mark Gabriel                                  | U.S. Section   |

## Welcoming Remarks and Introductions

The U.S. Board co-chair called the meeting to order and thanked the Board and specifically the co-chairs of the AEHC for their effort to complete the Board's recent letter to the IJC regarding the Water Quality Plan of Study.

### 1. Review of Meeting Agenda, Status of Action Items and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

No changes to the agenda were identified. Action items were addressed as completed, or with status updates. Changes to the draft meeting summary from the August basin meetings were discussed and further changes are to be provided to the Secretaries for revisions.

**Action:** Secretariat to revise the August basin meetings summary with input received from Board members.

### 2. 2016 Fall Semi-Annual Meetings

In preparation for the Fall Semi-Annual meetings to be held in Ottawa October 24-27, Board U.S. Co-Chair reminded committee co-chairs that their input to the Board's presentation will be requested once the document has been drafted.

The Board's summary bullets for the upcoming semi-annual meetings were reviewed and minor revisions were suggested.

The Watershed Board agreed to approve the summary bullets with the changes identified.

### 3. Board Business

#### Updating Work Plan

To keep the Board's work plan current, it was suggested that the three standing committees review and update the status of work plan items as necessary. Any changes can be provided to the secretaries to incorporate into the document.

**Action:** The EC, AEHC, and WLC will review and update the Watershed Board's Work Plan by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Board Meeting Schedule

A revised meeting schedule was included with the meeting materials and was reviewed by the Board to identify any changes. With respect to the possibility of holding an in-person meeting of the Board during the March Forum week, members suggested that Board secretaries look into the logistics for such a meeting. A face to face board meeting in March will make it more convenient for members of the IAG to meet with the board.

**Action:** Secretariat to discuss meeting options (date, time and location) with the March Forum organizers to firm up details.

#### 4. Roundtable

##### Engagement Committee

The EC provided an update on a number of current activities including:

- ongoing updates to the Board's webpage
- the completion of standard presentations for Board use
- updates to the Board's Strategic Communications Plan
- working towards engagement opportunities with local First Nations

**Action:** Board members to review the standard presentations developed by the Engagement Committee and provide any changes by October 19<sup>th</sup>. A link to the presentation will be provided.

The Watershed Board agreed to approve the updated Strategic Communications Plan.

##### IWI Project Updates

IJC staff provided a brief update on the status of the proposed IWI project on the impacts of a petro-chemical spill in the basin to be completed in collaboration with the HPAB. Discussions are being held to find a solution and to bring both groups together on this proposal. If successful, a revised proposal would target submission for spring 2017.

The other proposed IWI project concerning the effects water levels on phosphorus and sediment loading to the Lake of the Woods is also targeting a spring 2017 submission.

##### Binational Science Plan

A brief update on recent activities and planned meetings regarding a binational science plan was provided by members. In general, there was not much information to share at this time.

Members discussed that the Plan of Study will likely dominate the discussion during the Board's appearance at the upcoming semi-annual meetings and that the Board's presentation should reflect this.

IJC staff indicated that the Board's recent letter regarding the Canadian government's announcement and views from the August basin meetings was received and that Commissioners will respond shortly. The IJC is currently seeking to meet with Governments during the semi-annual meetings to receive an update and discuss potential roles for the Commission in this initiative.

##### Support for the March Science Forum

Given the earlier discussion on using the March Forum to target a joint Board-Advisory Group meeting and also on the importance of the event in general, it was suggested that the Board write to the IJC highlighting the importance of the event and that consideration should be given to providing support to ensure long-term stability and success of the Forum.

**Action:** Secretaries to work with Board co-chairs to complete and submit a letter to the Commission highlighting the importance of the Forum to the Board.

#### IAG Membership

IAG co-chairs identified a new Canadian member of the IAG, Darrell Martindale of New Gold Inc. to be approved by the Board.

The Watershed Board approved Darrell Martindale, as a Canadian member of the Industry Advisory Group.

**Action:** Secretariat and IAG co-chairs to provide Darrell with a certificate and orientation material.

#### Aquatic Ecosystem Health Committee

The AEHC provided a brief update on a few current activities including:

- background and status of the IJC's Water Quality Objective review
- status of the AEHC's reporting template

#### Climate Change Framework Working Group

A brief introduction and summary of activities of this newly formed IJC working group was provided. The Board currently has 4 members participating on the working group who are currently working towards completing a report by the end of the calendar year. Board members are contributing by identifying basin specific research needs as well as other strategic priorities with respect to climate change.

## **5. Review of Action Items and Adjournment**

Action items were reviewed by the U.S. Co-Chair and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 15:30 CT.