

## Great Lakes Water Quality Board – 193<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

### Summary of Discussion

July 20, 2016

Teleconference

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#### **Canadian Member Participants**

Rob de Loë (Co-Chair)  
Rob Fleming  
Marcel Gaucher  
John Jackson  
Dean Jacobs  
Betty Matthews-Malone  
Mark Mattson  
James Wagar  
Mark Wales  
Gayle Wood

#### **U.S. Member Participants**

Dave Ullrich (Co-Chair)  
Jon Allan  
Sandy Bihn  
Anne Cook  
Cam Davis  
Jessica Dexter  
Jane Elder  
Frank Ettawageshik  
Simone Lightfoot  
David Mengebier

#### **Observers**

Daniel Rokitnicki-Wojcik – Environment and Climate Change Canada

#### **Commission Staff**

Antonette Arvai – Great Lakes Regional Office  
Matthew Child – Great Lakes Regional Office  
Sally Cole-Misch – Great Lakes Regional Office

#### **Commission Liaisons**

Dave Dempsey – US Section  
Cindy Warwick – Canadian Section

#### **Secretariat**

John Wilson – Great Lakes Regional Office

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### **1. Welcome and Introductions (Co-Chairs)**

The Co-Chair welcomed everyone to the 193<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Board. Members and other participants identified themselves over the phone.

### **2. Update on Work Group Activities**

#### *Legacy Issues (J. Dexter & G. Wood)*

An update was provided to members for the work group's Lake Erie project. Members were informed that the work group is hoping to circulate the draft project report to the Board shortly. The Lake Erie portion of their 2016-2017 work plan has also been updated as suggested by the Commission as well and will be submitted along with the report once it has been reviewed and approved by the Board.

#### *Emerging Issues (J. Elder)*

Members were briefed on the outcomes of the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience workshop hosted by the work group on July 12-13 in Windsor, ON. Next steps for the project including the development of the work group's report were also discussed.

*Public Engagement (M. Mattson)*

An update was provided on the work group's planning efforts for the Board's next in-person meeting that will be held in November in Thunder Bay, ON. Members were also informed that the work group is currently considering the next steps that might be taken in terms of the analysis of the Binational Poll results that it completed last year.

*Indicators (D. Ullrich)*

Members were provided a brief update on the Board's involvement in three Science Advisory Board led projects including: Communications Indicators, Identifying Future Improvements to Great Lakes Indicators, and Information Coordination and Flow.

**3. Commission Updates (Commission staff)**

Members were briefed by various staff members on the following:

- **Public consultation on PBDE report and next steps**  
Members were informed that the Commission released the Board's report on PBDEs in the Great Lakes for public comment with the intent to receive and analyze public views on the report before Commissioners make a determination on whether to transmit the document, as approved by the Board or modified in light of public comment, to the Canadian and U.S. governments as a Commission report.
- **Triennial Assessment of Progress (TAP) report and Progress Report of the Parties (PRoP)**  
The Commission's TAP report staff management team recently sent a request to the Board asking for comments on proposed review criteria for the PRoP. The request was sent to members prior to the meeting and Co-Chairs requested responses by August 8<sup>th</sup>. Responses will be summarized and passed along to the TAP team.
- **Great Lakes Public Forum**  
Commission communications staff reminded members that the governments of Canada and the U.S. will hold the Great Lakes Public Forum in Toronto on October 4 – 6, 2016. The Commission will contribute to the Forum by holding two public meetings on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the meetings will be to discuss and receive Public input on the PRoP which will be considered for inclusion in the TAP report.
- **Update on potential changes to the Commission's Directive to the Board**  
Commissioners are currently considering two changes to their Directive to the Board that include not requiring to hold one of the Board's two yearly in-person meetings at a Commission Semi-Annual meeting and changing the timing of the submission of work plans to prior to the Fall Semi-Annual meeting rather than prior to the Spring Semi-Annual. The Board will be informed of the Commissioner's decision on these issues once they have been finalized.

**4. 2017 – 2018 Work Plan (R. de Loë)**

Board Members were provided with an update on progress made regarding the future projects discussed during the last meeting of the Board held in Washington, DC. Members discussed the next steps for developing a work plan for fiscal year 2017/2018 which will now have to be submitted prior to the Commission's Fall Semi-Annual meeting held in October.

In addition to continuing or completing current work group projects as appropriate, the Co-Chairs proposed the following for 2017/2018:

- Work groups to consider projects that will encourage increased cooperation and coordination with the Science Advisory Board
- New Projects for consideration to address the following Great Lakes issues: Wetlands (Emerging Issues Work Group) and Manure/Animal Waste (Legacy Issues Work Group)

Co-Chairs requested that each work group work with staff to develop draft work plans for consideration by the Board. The work plans should document any additional work required for current projects and watching briefs as well as consideration of the new projects proposed by the Co-Chairs. The draft work plans will be discussed during the Board's next teleconference in September.

ACTION ITEM: Work groups to work with staff to develop draft work plans for the 2017/2018 for discussion on September 16<sup>th</sup> teleconference.

#### **5. Next Meetings (D. Ullrich)**

Members discussed options and plans for the next teleconference and in-person meetings of the Board. The Board's meeting schedule for rest of 2016 will be as follows:

- September 16, 2016 @ 9:30 to 11:00AM ET: Teleconference
- November 9 -10, 2016 – Thunder Bay, ON.

#### **6. Public Comments & Adjourn**

No public comments were received and the meeting was adjourned with the Co-Chairs thanking members for their participation.