

INTERNATIONAL OSOYOOS LAKE BOARD OF CONTROL

Conference Call

December 14, 2015, 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM PST

BOARD MEMBERS

Cindi Barton	Chair, U.S. Section
Bruno Tassone	Chair, Canadian Section
John Arterburn	Board Member, U.S. Section
Col. John Buck	Board Member, U.S. Section
Kris Kauffman	Board Member, U.S. Section
Ford Waterstrat	Board Member, U.S. Section
Glen Davidson (left at 1 PM)	Board Member, Canadian Section
Sue McKortoff	Board Member, Canadian Section
Brian Symonds	Board Member, Canadian Section
Anna Warwick Sears	Board Member, Canadian Section

BOARD STAFF and BOARD MEMBER ASSISTANTS

Marijke van Heeswijk	Secretary, U.S. Section
Gwyn Graham	Secretary, Canadian Section
Sara Marxen	Technical Assistant to Col. John Buck

GUEST

David Fay (IJC Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Meeting led by U.S. Chair; meeting agenda was accepted without change.

DECISION ITEMS

The Board approved the summary of the 2015 annual meeting. The summary will be posted on the Board website pending approval by the IJC.

The Board delegated review and approval of intermediate deliverables of the documentary being produced by the Washington State Dept. of Ecology to a subgroup of four Board members (Ford Waterstrat, John Arterburn, Brian Symonds, and Sue McKortoff). The Board asked the Secretaries to work closely with Ecology and suggest Board review at additional stages of documentary production, as needed.

REVIEW OF BOARD PROCESSES

The Board reviewed guidance provided by the IJC regarding Board decision-making processes. The Board will add examples and information about its decision-making practices. The Board will also document its protocol for communicating with the Applicant and the public.

REPORT ON IWI WORKSHOP, OTTAWA, ON, OCTOBER 27, 2015

The two Board members and Secretary who attended the workshop briefed the Board about the workshop. A follow-up workshop will take place in Washington, DC, in April 2016.

The IJC has asked all Boards to review the Workshop Summary Report and 1) by January 31, 2016, provide feedback on the 4th *IWI Report to Governments*, and 2) by February 28, 2016, respond to three questions related to moving the IWI forward.

REVIEW OF SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO IJC, OTTAWA, ON, OCTOBER 28, 2015

The Board reviewed feedback from the IJC about the semi-annual report the Board presented. The IJC was pleased about the expansion of the Board with local representatives, interested in learning more about the unusual hydrologic conditions in the basin in 2015, and supported taking a wait-and-see approach to determine if the rule curve will prove adequate under climate-change conditions.

UPCOMING SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO IJC, WASHINGTON, DC, APRIL 2016

The Board discussed trying to attend in-person at future IJC semi-annual meetings in Ottawa, ON, and Washington, DC. In person attendance is preferred by the IJC and the Board understands the benefits of doing so. The Board recognizes that the main impediment to participating in person is travel expenses. The Board may request IJC support for travel expenses to attend future meetings. During its next conference call, the Board will discuss which Board members and Secretaries are available to attend the IJC semi-annual meeting in April.

SCHEDULING OF FUTURE CONFERENCE CALLS AND MEETINGS

The Board scheduled conference calls for Tuesdays on March 15, June 14, September 13, and December 13, 2016, 9-11 AM PST.

The Board will hold its annual and public meetings in Oroville, WA, on September 20, 2016, followed by a fieldtrip the morning of September 21, 2016.

STATUS OF DOCUMENTARY (AN IJC-IWI PROJECT)

Ecology is close to releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to find a videographer to produce the documentary. Ecology also prepared its first intermediate product, an outline of the documentary, which was approved by the Board and submitted to the IJC by Ecology. Ecology anticipates meeting with the selected videographer and a small steering committee to prepare a more detailed plan for the documentary, possibly in February, 2016. The Board Secretaries plan to participate in the meeting with the videographer. The subgroup of four Board members (Ford Waterstrat, John Arterburn, Brian Symonds, and Sue McKortoff) will provide Ecology with suggestions for filming locations and people to interview.

POSSIBLE FUTURE STUDIES AND IWI PROJECTS

The Board discussed ideas for possible future International Watersheds Initiative (IWI) projects but recognized the need to update the Board's work plan to reflect project priorities prior to proceeding with possible IWI proposals.

The U.S. Section of the Board received an informal request from the U.S. Section of the IJC to prepare a proposal for exploratory water-quality sampling in Osoyoos Lake. The IJC would consider funding the work as part of the annual funding provided to the USGS for operating and maintaining international gaging stations. This informal request generated extensive discussion among Board members, because the work is thought to be beyond the mandate of the Board defined in the IJC Orders. On the advice of IJC staff, the Board will request clarification from the IJC before proceeding with a draft water-quality sampling proposal that was prepared by the USGS. It was noted that the Board had previously considered water-quality issues as part of the Plan of Study, leading up to renewal of the IJC Orders for Osoyoos Lake, but that this had been done in the context of possible effects of Zosel Dam operations on water quality.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board's 2015 annual public meeting took place as part of the 2015 Osoyoos Lake Water Science Forum and the Board will link to a summary of that meeting on its website.

The Osoyoos Lake Water-Quality Society is planning "Osoyoos Lake Appreciation Day" for May 21, 2016. This event presents an opportunity for the Board to share outreach materials.

STATUS OF OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS

Action Item: Ecology will develop an operations model for Zosel Dam with assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. **Status:** In progress; may need to collect stage data downstream from Zosel Dam.

Action Item: Board Secretaries will investigate possibility of adding webcams to Zosel Dam. **Status:** In progress.

Action Item: Ecology will develop ramping-rate guidance document with Board assistance. **Status:** In progress.

Action Item: Secretaries will prepare a summary of the hydrologic conditions in 2015 that led to the activation of Condition 10. **Status:** In progress; will be provided as part of the 2015 Annual Report.

Action Item: Secretaries will verify that the Board no longer needs to provide the IJC with monthly updates of hydrologic data and inform distribution-list members of on-line data access links. **Status:** Completed.

Action item: Secretaries will update Board website with 2013 and 2014 Osoyoos Lake hydrographs and historical and current temperature data. **Status:** Completed.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

The Secretaries will prepare draft language to add to the IJC guidance on Board decision making with examples of and information about Board decision-making practices.

The Secretaries will prepare draft language that documents Board protocol for communicating with the Applicant and the public.

The Secretaries will prepare a draft response with Board feedback to the IJC on 1) the 4th *IWI Report to Governments* (due to IJC by January 31, 2016), and 2) three IJC questions to Boards related to moving the IWI forward (due to IJC by February 28, 2016).

All Board members interested in attending the April 2016 semi-annual meeting will let the Secretaries know of their interest and whether they require IJC financial support for travel.

By mid-February 2016, Board members and Secretaries will suggest draft text for additions to the Board work plan, as follows:

- Anna Warwick Sears: Depending on IJC clarification, add water-quality projects to be conducted in coordination with British Columbia, Washington State, and other local governments and entities
- Canadian Secretary: Enhance communication regarding water supply and water use
- John Arterburn: State goal that Board members and Secretaries attend semi-annual meetings in person on a rotating basis
- Brian Symonds: Acknowledge that climate change may impact the rule curve and communicate relevant science about climate change on the Board website and by other means. Note that as part of development of the current Order, a climate-change study was conducted. It was noted that the Plan of Study reports were not easy to find on the Board website, which the Secretaries will correct.

The Secretaries will provide a more easily-identified link to the Plan of Study reports on the Board website.

All Board members will provide Secretaries feedback about the USGS water-quality proposal.