

# INTERNATIONAL OSOYOOS LAKE BOARD OF CONTROL

## Conference Call

December 12, 2017, 9:00 – 11:00 AM PST

### BOARD MEMBERS

Cindi Barton	Chair, U.S. Section
Bruno Tassone	Chair, Canadian Section
John Arterburn	Board Member, U.S. Section
Col. Mark Gerald (absent)	Board Member, U.S. Section
Kris Kauffman	Board Member, U.S. Section
Ford Waterstrat	Board Member, U.S. Section
Ted White	Board Member, Canadian Section
Sue McKortoff (absent)	Board Member, Canadian Section
Brian Symonds	Board Member, Canadian Section
Anna Warwick Sears (absent)	Board Member, Canadian Section

### BOARD STAFF and BOARD MEMBER ASSISTANTS

Andy Gendaszek	Secretary, U.S. Section
Gwyn Graham	Secretary, Canadian Section
Kevin Shaffer	Technical Assistant to Col. Mark Gerald

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Meeting was led by the Canadian Chair; meeting agenda was accepted with no changes and finalized.

### DECISION ITEMS

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the September 6, 2017 conference call and October 17, 2018 Annual Board and Public meetings with edits. The summaries will be posted on the Board website.

### HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

Osoyoos Lake levels have remained within the rule curve through December since decreasing below 912.0 ft on July 26, 2017. High lake levels during spring and summer 2017 resulted from high discharges within the Okanagan/Okanogan and Similkameen Rivers. Rain during October and November caused the discharge of the Similkameen River to increase, but not high enough to cause backwater effects at Zosel Dam. The snow pack from October through December 2017 as measured at Mission Creek snow pillow (Okanagan Basin) and Blackwall Peak snow pillow approximated the historical average. The U.S. National Weather Service issued a La Nina

advisory on November 9, 2017 indicating that cooler, wetter conditions are likely to prevail in the Okanagan/Okanogan Basin for winter 2017-2018.

### **IJC SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING: OTTAWA**

Canadian Chair Bruno Tassone presented the Board's semi-annual report to IJC Commissioner's at the Ottawa semi-annual meeting, which was attended by a Board Member Sue McKortoff and U.S. Chair Cindi Barton. The Commissioners were pleased about the documentary film and requested a copy. The Commissioners were advised of the Board's plan to submit a proposal to IWI to fund a coordinated distribution plan. The film was playing on a loop at the IJC reception and Board members present at the reception were available to answer questions. In addition, board members attended a workshop about harmonization of cross-border data and presentations of the Great Lakes Water Quality Board, Health Professional Advisory Board, and Lake Champlain and Richelieu River Board.

### **ANNUAL BOARD MEETING: OSOYOOS**

The Annual Board and Public Meetings were held in Osoyoos on October 17, 2017. The documentary film was premiered at the Public Meeting and received compliments from the public and present IJC Commissioner. At the Board meeting the Applicant updated the Board about the condition of Zosel Dam, which is currently 30 years old and the current state of the Washington State capital budget, which has not been approved. In addition to short-term maintenance needs, the Board identified a need to request a long-term maintenance plan for Zosel from the Applicant. Bathymetric data for the Okanogan River channel upstream of Zosel Dam were presented by the Applicant at the Board meeting and the potential to collect additional high-resolution bathymetric data for Osoyoos Lake was discussed. The USACE will investigate if the resolution of current bathymetric data is adequate or if higher-resolution bathymetric data is needed to support operational models of Zosel Dam and Osoyoos Lake.

### **IWI PROPOSALS FOR HIGH-WATER MARK MONUMENTS AND FILM DISTRIBUTION PLAN**

Proposals to fund the film distribution plan and high-water mark monuments were submitted to the IJC IWI program in October. The proposals were tentatively accepted by the IJC with conditions. Feedback about the proposals and the conditions for the proposals will be forwarded to the Board upon receipt.

### **ZOSEL DAM WEBCAM AND STAFF GAGES**

Zosel Dam Webcam and Staff Gages were funded by IJC. The USGS is currently working to install the staff gages and webcam prior to the spring freshet. The staff gages will be installed in the

forebay and tailwater such that they are not in a way of Dam operations or in an anomalous location.

## **2017 CONFERENCE CALLS**

Quarterly conference calls will occur on the second Tuesday of each quarter (3/13, 6/12, and 9/11). The 2018 annual Board and Public Meeting will occur on 9/17 or 10/1 and will be hosted by the U.S. Section with the Board and Public meetings located at the Border Station Conference Room and Oroville High School, respectively.

## **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

1. **Completed:** Board Secretaries will investigate funding of adding webcams to Zosel Dam.
2. **Completed:** Funds for staff gages at Zosel Dam has been requested from the IJC.
3. **In progress:** Board Secretaries will continue to look into availability of additional bathymetric data for Lake Osoyoos.
4. **In progress:** Board Secretaries will update IOLBC website with documentary film trailer.
5. **In progress:** Board Secretaries will prepare a bibliography to initiate the Organization step of the Preparedness Process proposed by CAWG.
6. **Completed:** Board members to consider feasibility of establishing an 1894 Osoyoos Lake record flood high water mark.
7. **Completed:** Board Secretaries will remove references to 2017 spring high lake levels from the homepage of the IOLBC website and updates on the “Lake Level Status and Trends” subpage will be archived. Homepage will be updated with finalized agenda for October IOLBC Public Meeting.
8. **Completed:** Documentary film working group will assess options for distribution and report to Board.

## **NEW ACTION ITEMS**

1. Board Secretaries will request update from Applicant regarding plan for short-term and long-term maintenance of Zosel Dam.
2. Board Secretaries will provide a draft update of the IOLBC workplan for the March call.
3. Board Secretaries will investigate the possibility of funding short excerpts of “A River Film” about focused themes through the spring IWI request for proposals.