

## International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board

### Summary of Discussion For Review

Thursday, September 17, 2020 9 – 11 am CT (10 – noon ET)

Virtual Meeting

Chair: COL Jansen

#### 1. Welcome, Introductions and Virtual Housekeeping

##### U.S. Member Participants

COL Karl Jansen (Board Co-Chair)  
Nicole Blasing  
Mike Hirst  
Kelly Sjerven  
Jim Stark  
Patty Thielen  
Doug Franchot  
Joshua Jones  
Matt Gouin  
Pam Tomevi  
Scott Jutila (Secretary; Engineering Advisor)

##### International Joint Commission

Mark Gabriel  
Wayne Jenkinson

##### Canadian Member Participants

Michael Goffin (Board Co-Chair)  
Erika Klyszejko  
Todd Sellers  
Kiley Shebagegit  
Trina Rawn  
Lucas King  
Karen Cederwall  
Matthew DeWolfe (Engineering Advisor)  
Wellsley Hamilton (Secretary)

##### Additional Participants

Kelli Saunders, International Watershed Coordinator  
Abby Moore, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Rebecca Seal-Soileau, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Megan Garner, Environment and Climate Change  
Canada

#### 2. Review of Meeting Materials

No additions to the agenda were identified. The Action Items from August 18<sup>th</sup> below are ongoing or in progress. All other action items were completed or updates were provided under specific agenda items during this meeting.

LEAD	ACTION	STATUS
Board	1. Fill Canadian Co-chair position for Engagement Committee.	Table and create new action item. Seek recommendations from Public members and IJC.
Board	2. Provide CAG co-chairs with recommendations for additional CAG members (2 Canadian, 1 US).	Ongoing
US Co-Chair	3. Coordinate with Red River Basin for a presentation on nutrient management plan to Board.	In progress, new action item created. Secretariat to circulate nutrient plan from Red River Board to IRLWWB members.

LEAD	ACTION	STATUS
AEHC Co-chairs	4. Circulate AEH Report (with info up to 2019) this fall.	Ongoing, new action item created AEH Report to be circulated in Spring 2021.
Jim Stark and Secretariat	5. Coordinate HPAB on mining project presentation.	Ongoing
CAG Co-Chairs and Secretariat	6. Extend membership term of 4 CAG members.	Ongoing
IJC and Secretariat	7. Coordinate setup of SharePoint site for the Board.	Ongoing
Secretariat	8. Circulate 2019-2020 Annual Report to Board for final approval.	In progress – US Secretariat to complete revisions.
Secretariat	9. Coordinate with Resource Agencies on public meeting opportunity.	Ongoing
Mike Goffin (ECCC)	10. Support and move forward with implementation of 2-guage proposal for Wheeler’s point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing. ECCC internal discussions are underway. Commitment to ongoing funding.</li> </ul>
IRLWWB	11. Send ideas about local stories for newspaper articles to Kelli Saunders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing.</li> </ul>
Board Co-chairs and Secretariat	12. Add “Watershed Concerns and Awareness” as a standing agenda item for meetings. Consider individual concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing.</li> </ul>

- **ACTION:** Board members to provide comments on the August 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary over the next week.
- **ACTION:** Secretariat to post approved meeting minutes on IRLWWB website.

### 3. October 2, 2020 Public Meeting

The Secretariat informed the Board that the virtual public meeting is scheduled for October 2 at 12:45 CT (1:45 ET). The Canadian Secretary is working with Stratos Consulting to facilitate the meeting. MS Teams is the recommended platform.

A notice was posted on the IJC and IRLWWB website to advertise the meeting. The notice was circulated to Board and CAG members as well as the Watershed Coordinator. The IJC is engaging local media. Virtual meeting log-in information will be shared with all Board members. Members of the public who wish to attend have been asked to RSVP so they can be provided with the login information.

An updated draft presentation was included in the meeting package. Updates to various slides in the draft presentation were provided by their respective Co-chairs. One Co-chair from each Committee and Advisory group is invited to present their slides during the meeting.

MPCA and ECCC are confirmed to present updates on the TMDL and Science Plan respectively following

the Board presentation and Q&A from the public. The presentations will be similar to those presented during the Resource Management Agency meeting in August.

- **ACTION:** Secretariat to organize time to test technology and brief presenters prior to public meeting.
- **ACTION:** Secretariat to circulate updated public meeting and agency update invitation.
- **ACTION:** Board Members to share the public meeting details with their networks.

#### 4. October, 2020 Semi-Annual Presentation to the IJC

The Secretariat identified that the Board is scheduled to appear virtually before the IJC on October 20, 2020 from 10-11am ET. Information in the public meeting presentation will be updated and tailored for the IJC presentation.

- **ACTION:** Secretariat to provide Board members with the 2019-20 annual report on September 21 and submit final to IJC on October 9.

#### 5. Review of IWI Proposals

The IJC has informed Boards that they will be sending out a request for IWI project ideas on September 24th. Final proposals will be due on October 30th.

The Wild Rice Mapping proposal was not included in the meeting package, but earlier versions were shared with the board previously. Wayne Jenkinson and Lucas King are reviewing the budget in light of changes to the proposal due to COVID-19 restrictions. The proposal is on track for the fall request for proposal process.

Col Jansen identified that the Water Levels Committee Data sources to Support Inflow Forecasting work is a Review of Orders that the Committee was directed to undertake by the IJC when the new directive was issued. As such, it will be funded by the IJC Canadian section, rather than being an IWI project. It would be beneficial for the Adaptive Management Committee to review the proposal, but Board approval is not necessary.

Todd Sellers reviewed the State of the Basin Report IWI proposal. A copy of the IWI proposal was included in the meeting packages. The last State of the Basin Report was completed seven years ago, in 2014. As such, it is time for a new report with updated baseline information. The Gap analysis and priority issues in the basin should also be updated. \$33,000 CAD of IWI support is being requested. This is a partnership project. The intent is to leverage funding and resources from the Lake of the Woods Watershed Foundation. Work on the report would comment in Spring 2021 with a deadlines of March 2022 for completion. A draft report can be provided in advance and may be helpful to support some of ECCC's freshwater policy renewal work.

The IWI Cumulative Effects of Mining proposal was presented by Jim Stark. The proposal has not been endorsed by the Aquatic Ecosystem Health Committee yet and there is no Canadian lead identified as of yet. Mike Goffin identified that the transboundary benefits of this proposal should be strengthened. The proposal makes reference to economic benefits early in the document. It should be clear that this is not an economic assessment or evaluation. He also highlighted the potential conflict certain Board members who have government day-jobs may

have leading on this particular proposal, which could create a challenge to identify a Canadian counterpart, given the workload of the public members.

- **ACTION:** Board members to provide any comments on IWI project proposals to Secretariat by October 17th.
- **ACTION:** Wild Rice Mapping and State of the Basin Report proposals to be submitted to the IJC by September 24.
- **ACTION:** Jim Stark to consider comments on the Cumulative Effects of Mining proposal and discuss next steps with the AEHC.

## 6. Roundtable

No other watershed issues of concern identified. No additions to the Board 2020-21 Workplan at this time.

Mike Goffin informed the Board that ECCC is developing an implementation plan to update the Wheeler's Point Gauge. The plan will be shared with the USGS and the Board. The plan will focus on reconnaissance and planning this year. The bulk of the work will be undertaken next year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Based on a request from the Osoyoos and Kootenay Water Boards the IRLWWB has been asked to give presentations on October 6 and October 8 at their respective Board meetings. The Kootenay Board is primarily interested in Water Level Committee work, including the recent rule curve work and data visualization. In addition to the Water Level Committee work, the Osoyoos Board is interested in the history and evolution of the Board's governance and mandate, which includes both water quantity and quality. The Secretariat and Water Levels Committee have drafted presentations. Todd Sellers will present to the Osoyoos Board with Erika Klyszejko and Scott Jutila will do the presentation for the Kootenay Board.

Shoreline erosion along Shoreview drive is becoming a growing concern from last spring. Scott Jutila identified that flows were low and steady this summer, meaning there was more peaking and ponding, which could lead to more fluctuations in river. Depending on the profiles, poor drainage with overland flow could also be an impact. Pam Tomevi said that she was working with some of the land owners. An area engineer has done some soil borings, but the issue is very complex and they are in process of securing a geotechnical engineer with expertise in this. Both the City and County are involved in the issue. Funding is tight for the County and they are trying to secure a grant. Additional assistance is welcome.

## 7. Other Board Business

The 2020-21 Annual Meeting Schedule was included in the meeting package for reference.

## 8. Review of action items and adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am CT.

*Drafted by: Abigail Moore USACE, Wellsley Hamilton, ECCC, Scott Jutila USACE*