

**MADAWASKA RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT REVIEW
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
MINUTES OF MEETING #29 – JANUARY 11, 2006
BOARD ROOM OF OPG/OSPG RENFREW OFFICE**

Attendees:

SAC – JP de Grandmont, Lucien Lacombe, Brian Moran, Steve Roy, Brian Wright

MNR – Mike Bohm, Joanna Samson, John Swick

OPG – Don Ferko, Linda Halliday, Chris Tonkin

Regrets:

Damian Hanel, Carole Workman

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6: 35 pm by Chair, Brian Wright.

2. Review of Agenda

No items were added to the Agenda.

3. Delegations

No delegations.

4. Approval of Minutes of meeting #28, November 2, 2005

In 5.4, sentence 1, take out “Algonquin Park.” In sentence 2, change” into the York River” to “into the watershed.”

MOTION: On motion moved by Lucien Lacombe, seconded by Steve Roy, the Minutes were accepted as amended.

5. Business arising:

5.1 The Planning Process

Joanna Samson reported that the goal is to have a draft of the amended plan by the end of March, and that the SAC would receive information on the Issue Section for comment before the next meeting.

Information has also been received from power producers on Waba Creek. This will also be circulated to the SAC.

5.2 Five Year Report

The Five Year Report is almost complete. It was suggested that only the maximum/minimum/average flows for 2004 on each reach be shown on the graphs to maintain simplicity. Reference would be made to a location where the graphs for the other years could be obtained. These could be posted on the OPG website at a specified date. (MNR data would also be included.) Questions were asked about the validity of this decision if the details were not available. It was suggested that the graphs be available in the report in colour for clarity. A comment was that the public would appreciate simpler graphs. (2005 data would be recorded in the Annual Report for that year).

5.3 Levels and Flows

Don Ferko circulated the elevations and flows summary for 2005.

Three periods of higher than normal flow were seen in Spring, June and December.

Bark Lake dropped below minimum flow in the summer. The graph also shows the early drawdown for ice issues. The lake is currently dropping by about 10 cms/day to reach about 308.3m by the end of February from its current 312m.

On Kamanisseg Lake the heavy rain events show as water flows through lake are high at certain periods.. The necessary drawdowns are shown on the graph.

Below Mountain Chute the passage of water is evident on the graphs.

At Stewartville the high inflows are shown.

Steve Roy asked for more detailed information on the Stewartville Reach. It can be provided in the future once the hourly web pages are available online.

5.4 Bancroft SAC representative

Mike Bohm reported that Bancroft District has restructured into two Areas from three, and there is now a Water Resources Coordinator, **Craig Dodds**. He will be the public contact as well as a liaison with MNR Pembroke and OPG to work on water level and flow issues.

There will not be a designated representative on the Madawaska SAC. Bancroft District needs to know the name of the OPG representative who would be its contact.

Lucien Lacombe commented that erosion and spawning bed issues are not being addressed in the Bark Lake reach. Mike Bohm commented that there are fluctuating water level issues at Camel Chute just like those above the Village of Madawaska, and that MNR does not know the exact location of every spawning bed. The public could assist by passing on information to the MNR representatives.

Lucien Lacombe also reported on specific erosion issues in the Village of Madawaska.

ACTION: OPG Erosion Committee will investigate these and make suggestions about what could be done.

John Swick suggested that the Water Resources Coordinator for MNR Bancroft District also be consulted about this. Issues around the highway would be the responsibility of MTO.

5.5 Public Issues Reporting Process

Chris Tonkin distributed an example of the new OPG Public Contact Information Sheet. The OPG mapping system gives a great deal of information including location, licence information, etc. For SAC meetings a detailed summary of the location and nature of the issue could be shared without the identity being revealed. This should satisfy the

requirements of the SAC, compliance with the Water Management Plan and other functions. A session on this program will take place at a future meeting. Chris thanked Steve Roy for his graphical input at the summer meeting.

5.6 Waba Creek SAC representative

The prospective SAC representative from the Waba Creek reach has not indicated when he might be able to join the SAC.

ACTION: Linda Halliday will make contact to ascertain his plans with respect to joining the SAC.

5.7 Ontario Energy Market training

Chris Tonkin gave a very detailed and informative presentation on the Ontario Energy Market.

6. Summary of Public Issues since last meeting

MNR – none

OPG – 2 property inquiries and 2 erosion investigations on the Madawaska.

A safety boom is being installed in the Madawaska River above the Arnprior weir. Barriers and signs on the islands below the Arnprior weir have resulted in over 20 trespass charges.

SAC - none

7. New Business

7.1 SAC membership

Carole Workman has regretfully resigned from the SAC after starting a new position at the University of Ottawa. Linda Halliday has already sent a letter of congratulation and appreciation for her input to the SAC.

It was decided that 3 new members should be solicited, including a representative from the Waba Creek reach.

ACTION: SAC members were asked to think about new potential members and advise Linda Halliday if there is a prospective member to be contacted. Advertisements will be placed in local newspapers once again.

8. Announcements

Mike Bohm is leaving Pembroke to work in Peterborough on a permanent basis and Paul Moreau will be taking his place on the Madawaska SAC.

The SAC members thanked Mike very sincerely for the work he has done on the Madawaska River WMP and support he has given to the SAC over the years.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on March 22nd. at the Renfrew office.

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm, there being no further business.