

**MADAWASKA RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT REVIEW**  
**STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting #44, Wednesday March 25, 2009, 6:30 PM**  
**Best Western Renfrew Inn, Renfrew**

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**Attendees:**

**SAC:** Steve Roy, Lucien Lacombe, Dan White, George Newton, Brian Moran, Lyle Stewart

**MNR:** Karen Handford, Joanna Samson

**OPG:** Don Ferko, Chris Tonkin, Martin Kelly

**Regrets:** Brian Wright, JP de Grandmont, Linda Halliday

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Chair, Damien Hamel

**2. Review of Agenda**

Joanna Samson requested presentation under new business.

**3. Delegations:**

No delegations

**4. Approval of Minutes of Madawaska SAC meeting #43, January 14, 2009**

Seven changes were requested:

- ◆ Section 5.2 Steve Roy requested the first question be restated to be more explicit. Requested to insert “water level gauges”.
- ◆ Section 5.2 Question 2 should be prefaced by inserting “with regard to Stewartville hourly water level data for May to August 2008”

**Motion:** Proposed by George Newton and seconded by Brian Moran, the Minutes of meeting #43 of the Madawaska SAC, January 14, 2009 were approved as amended. Carried unanimously.

**5. Business arising from the Minutes:**

**5.1 The Planning Process (Joanna Samson)**

Draft documentation preparation coming along well but likely Open House sessions will need to be held in the end of June. Doug Skeggs has been working on edits and supplying those to Kent Tubman for publishing design. Publisher has first 5 chapters. Ideal to have the completed draft plan from publisher no later than end of May. All notices and mail outs would need to be done at that time to give 30 day notice to Open Houses.

Steve Roy very pleased that public consultations will be held in June or early July.

**ACTION:** Chris Tonkin will ensure OPG will publish the Open House advertisements and booking of venues.

Discussion about potential venues for Open Houses. Suggestions in lower end: Arnprior, Calabogie Community Centre, McNab/Braeside Municipal Council Chambers. Suggestions for upper end: Barry's Bay Legion or Seniors Centre, Palmer Rapids. These types of sessions are held typically during week with two times slots; 1-4pm & 7-9pm. Preferably they are held back to back days or with a day in between.

OPG is holding the Public Stakeholder meetings on May 19<sup>th</sup> in Arnprior, May 26<sup>th</sup> in Deep River and July 15<sup>th</sup> in Palmer Rapids.

#### Chapter 7 Review of Comments (Don Ferko):

Most comments received were general in nature. Clarification that "Ongoing" refers to work that is being done but is continual in nature. "Incomplete" item has had no work to date or not enough progress to mark as complete.

Lucien Lacombe's commented regarding Information Need 7.2.2.3 that a survey of the furbearers in the Conroy's Marsh area has not been done but was marked as Complete since it was grouped with other information needs in that area. This will be listed in Chapter 6 which ranks the ongoing information needs that are not complete.

Discussion that the structure of the final document should easily identify the pertinent information in each chapter by reach.

#### Chapter 8 Review (Joanna Samson):

Discussion about section 8.5.1 with respect to the minimum flow requirement took place. Dan White asked that a sentence be included describing that because of the flow requirement, the level of White Lake may drop below the 0.03 ft allowable margin during drought conditions. Joanna indicated she would include a sentence to this effect.

There was some discussion as to how MNR would handle this type of situation. The dam operation would record this variance and any calls/questions, would be fielded by MNR.

Some discussion also occurred with respect to Info Need 7.5.1.1 regarding testing and verification that the notch in the log at the White Lake dam. Lyle Stewart indicated the size was not the appropriate size and that it should be looked at again.

There was discussion about the merit of separating this chapter into "Options" and "Changes". Joanna to rephrase the introductory paragraph to explain that some of the original options have been considered, revised or resulted in adopted changes. Consider changing the title to "Option Development and Resolutions".

#### Effectiveness Monitoring (Joanna Samson):

Joanna solicited ideas and suggestions to expand this chapter beyond biological and ecological monitoring to potentially include other types of monitoring such as communication effectiveness (eg. Reduction in number of complaints received).

DH – suggested a quantitative record of public issues and responses and level of satisfaction.

CT – the WMP identifies what to be done and as long as being done then in compliance.  
JS – explained that this could be seen as a type of “Report Card” to demonstrate successes achieved to date and goals for moving forward.

FYI – the licencing program for shoreline allowances has reached 95% participation.

**ACTION:** Joanna will send a sample table from the Bonnechere River WMP to the SAC and asked that they provide any feedback to her by next week.

## **5.2 Levels and Flow Update (Don Ferko)**

Most of last year the levels were high until October then turned drier until January.

Spring flows began in March but slowed when the temperature dropped again.

Mountain Chute has quite high levels due to the work on the system but expect to be within 1 m of the usual range in April.

Hydro One lines are out so not able to generate power, just passing water.

Forecast is for significant rain coming along with the snow pack melt. Comparison to last year - don't have high inflows and do have lower snow pack depth and water content.

## **6 Summary of Public Issues since the last meeting:**

### **6.1 MNR**

No public issues recorded

### **6.2 OPG**

#### **Carried over action item:**

OPG will provide additional details about the number of public contacts received concerning Kamaniskeg Lake and Stewartville at the next SAC meeting.

### **6.3 SAC**

No public issues recorded.

Dan White requested help from MNR regarding a squatter in a trailer within the high water mark. JS explained that MNR is technically the landowner on Crown Land. **Action:** Dan White will send Patrick Soulliere, Senior Land Technician an email to describe the trailer location and photos and copy Joanna.

LL – Question: what is the maximum level in Bark Lake? Response is 313.94 but try to maintain at 313.80 but OPG may have purchased flooding rights on various property deeds. Those levels are not the operating licence for the lake.

**7 New Business:**

Joanna Samson presented volunteer appreciation award to Steve Roy for his 14 years of extensive and invaluable contribution to the development of the original review document, its implementation and the development of the new WMP.

**8. Date of next meeting:**

The next SAC Meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at OPG's Renfrew office.

Dinner: 6pm

Start time: 6:30pm

**9. Adjournment**

On motion proposed by Dan White, seconded by Lucien Lacombe, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm, there being no further business.