



## Minutes

### MRWCC Board Meeting

May 24, 2018 – 1:00 PM

### Town of Milk River Office

**Present:** Ken Miller, William King, Warren Cunningham, Ed Sloboda, Lorraine Nicol, Ross Ford, Joan Hughson, Will Lindeman, Ben Ellert, Suzanne Liebelt, Roy Audet, John Ross, Jim Willett, Brian Hills, Kristen Dykstra, Scott McGarty, Kandra Forbes, Tim Romanow, and Mary Lupwayi

**Absent:** Darcy Wills, Dennis Spackman, and Ron McNeil

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

- John Ross welcomed everyone to the meeting and brought the meeting to order at 12:55pm

#### 2. Approve Agenda

**Motion:** Ed Sloboda moved to approve the agenda as presented. Brian Hills seconded. **Carried**

#### 3. Minutes from April 26, 2018 meeting

**Motion:** William King moved to accept the minutes as presented. Lorraine Nicol seconded. **Carried**

#### 4. Organizational elections

- a. Member at large appointment
  - i. William King – Member at large (Milk River Natural Area)

**Motion:** Lorraine Nicol moved to appoint William King as Member at Large representing the Milk River Natural Area and Kennedy Coulee Ecological Reserve Management Committee to the Council. Warren Cunningham seconded. **Carried.**

- b. Executive Board election

- i. Chairman
    - Ed Sloboda nominated **John Ross** as Chairman. Seconded by Ron McNeil. **Carried.**
    - ii. Vice Chairman
      - Ed Sloboda nominated **Ken Miller** as Vice Chairman. Seconded by Ross Ford. **Carried.**
      - iii. Treasurer
        - Warren Cunningham nominated **Will Lindeman** as Treasurer. Seconded by Suzanne Liebelt. **Carried.**
        - iv. Secretary
          - Joan Hughson nominated **Warren Cunningham** for Secretary. Seconded by Ross Ford. **Carried.**

- Nominations were called out 3 times as they were read. No further nominations were received
- c. Team Leader election
  - i. Community Awareness and Involvement Team
  - Ross Ford nominated **Ed Sloboda**. Seconded by Will Lindeman. **Carried.**
  - ii. Research and Monitoring Team
  - Ed Sloboda nominated **Will Lindeman**. Seconded by Warren Cunningham. **Carried.**
  - iii. Water Supply and Management Team
  - Ross Ford nominated **Ken Miller**. Seconded by Scott McGarty. **Carried.**
  - iv. Transboundary Watershed Team
  - Suzanne Liebelt nominated **Ron McNeil**. Seconded by Will Lindeman. **Carried.**
  - v. Planning and Policy Team
  - Lorraine Nicol nominated **Ross Ford**. Seconded by Will Lindeman. **Carried.**

## 5. WPAC Operations Grant Status Update

- Robert Stokes sent an email explaining that Andrew Schoepf, the grant administrator for WPACs, is no longer with the Policy and Planning Division as he is now the Kananaskis Area Manager within the AEP
- Appreciate WPACs patience through this process and while there is no timeline for the grant agreement completion, they will continue to update the WPACs as information is received and to contact his office if there are any questions
- Some WPACs are running out of operating funds and are having to place staff on part-time basis
- We are trying to be fiscally responsible
- Have talked to Ann Tollestrup about ending the contract due to inadequate funding and having accounting work done inhouse and she understood the situation

## 6. 2018 AGM Report

- Worked well despite low attendance due to seeding season

## 7. Upcoming Events

- Canoe Tour – June 15, 2018
  - Registration is full
  - TFA has been approved thanks to Kandra
- 2018 WPAC Summit - June 19-22 in Peace River, AB
  - Those attending to register by tomorrow

**Action:** Tim to circulate the Summit agenda to the Board

- Strategic Planning Review – October 25, 2018
- Science Forum November 8, 2018

- Looking to incorporate a larger poster presentation
- Transboundary Grassland Workshop will be held in Alberta in December tentatively
  - In the early planning stages

## 8. Round table discussions

- Kristen:
  - WOSPP will be participating in a project for beach sampling this summer using a new indicator microorganism (enterococcus). Similar to last year, they will submit weekly beach samples to be tested for enterococcus
  - This year, WOSPP will not be submitting samples to be tested for thermotolerant coliforms (the old indicator microorganism)
  - Given the enterococci beach sampling results from WOSPP for the 2017 season that Pam Hodgkinson presented to the Board last November, this may impact whether or not a swim advisory is posted at WOSPP park this summer
  - Last summer WOSPP never hit the mark but did do source tracking as part of the study and found some cattle and human markers
  - Last summer an advisory was issued because it exceeded the marker
  - This summer due to budgetary constraints, they will not do the fecal coliform for WOSPP site
  - Looking to have this provincially accepted
  - Having issues with collecting sample timing at WOSPP to reach the lab in a timely manner
- William:
  - Management of the Milk River Natural Area and Kennedy Coulee Ecological Reserve looking at whether there is any sense in rebuilding the fence that was burnt last year
  - Without rebuilding the fence, access to the roster's comb site (an important historical site) will be difficult
  - Looking for a donation from the MRWCC so that the area can be fenced and still have easy access to the roster's comb site
  - Do we need permission to build the fence as it looks like it's on the Montana side of the border?
  - William advised that fencing is on the Canadian side
  - There are some left over material from another project that can be donated if approved

**Motion:** Ken Miller moved that the MRWCC donate a maximum of one bundle of fencing post material for the project as long as there is proper written consent from the Milk River Natural

Area and Kennedy Coulee Ecological Reserve Management Committee. Joan Hughson seconded. **Carried.**

- Brian:
  - Translocation of sage grouse that was supposed to be approved this spring has been cancelled
  - Ag. Canada is working with water security agency in Saskatchewan to turn over some of the reservoirs in Sask to the provincial government. One of the reservoirs runs into Alberta so there are some transboundary issues between Saskatchewan and Alberta to make sure there are no implications on how water is stored and used
- Lorraine:
  - Last meeting there was a discussion on the Health rep availability
  - Kristen is hoping to attend some of the meetings as long as there are no conflicts and can also report through correspondence
- Tim:
  - Thanked Scott for his part in soliciting items for the silent auction from the industry sector

**9. Other items**

**10. Meeting Adjournment**

- Ed Sloboda moved to adjourn the meeting at 1pm. **Carried.**

**11. Photo op.**

**12. Next Meeting Date**

- September 27, 2018

**Signatures:**

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_