



Minutes

MRWCC Board Meeting

May 30, 2024 – 1:00 PM

County of Warner ASB Meeting Room

Present:

Ron McNeil, Ed Sloboda, Jollin Charest, Cheryl Dash, Warren Cunningham, Will Lindeman, William King, Scott MacCumber, Ross Ford, Roger Houghton, Ben Ellert, Ken Brown, Joan Hughson, Richard Oster, Jon Boyle, Jill Makins, Tim Romanow, Mary Lupwayi

Absent:

John Ross, Peggy Losey, Kristen Dykstra, Ken Miller, Darcy Wills, Janna Casson, Jessica Olsen, Tyler Eresman

1. Welcome and introductions

- Vice Chairman Ron McNeil welcomed everyone to the meeting
- He brought the meeting to order at 1:06 pm
 - He introduced new staff:
 - Jill Makins – Riparian Stewardship Coordinator
 - Jessica Olsen – Outreach Assistant (returning summer student, position sponsored in part by the Canada Student Jobs program)

2. Approve Agenda

Motion 1: Will Lindeman moved to approve the agenda as presented. Warren Cunningham seconded. Carried

3. Minutes from March 21, 2024 meeting

- Past minutes were reviewed

Motion 2: Ed Sloboda moved to accept the minutes as presented. Will Lindeman seconded. Carried

4. Organizational election

- Executive Board election
 - Chairman
 - Nomination brought forward: **John Ross** as Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Nomination brought forward: **Ron McNeil** as Vice Chairman
 - Treasurer
 - Nomination brought forward: **Will Lindeman** as Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Nomination brought forward: **Warren Cunningham** as Secretary

- Nominations were called out 3 times as they were read. No further nominations were received

Motion 3: Scott MacCumber moved to accept the Executive Board nominations as presented and elections to cease. Ross Ford seconded. Carried.

- Team Leader election
 - Community Awareness and Involvement Team
 - **Ed Sloboda**
 - Research and Monitoring Team
 - **Ben Ellert**
 - Water Supply and Management Team
 - **Ken Brown**
 - Transboundary Watershed Team
 - **Ron McNeil**
- Nominations were called out 3 times as they were read. No further nominations were received

Motion 4: Ken Brown moved to accept Team Chair appointments. Ross Ford seconded. Carried.

5. Grants

- AEP core grant update
 - Received \$320,000 for this fiscal year ending March 2025
- Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk
 - Received \$60,000 for last fiscal year
 - \$70,000 was approved for this fiscal year, ending March 2025
 - The grant was for 2 fiscal years
- Cows and Fish/MRWCC CNFASAR – Little Fish, Big Stewardship Project
 - Received \$74,500 for 2023/24 fiscal year
 - For equipment purchase for the project
 - \$300,000 for 2024/25
 - To be distributed between MRWCC and Cows and Fish expenses
- Canada Summer Jobs
 - Approved for \$4,200 for this fiscal year
 - To cover part of Jessica's wages

6. 3rd Edition TSOW project update

- TSOW Report release celebration
 - To be held on June 7th, 2024 at the Milk River Visitor Centre
 - Draft agenda has been circulated
 - Logistics underway
 - Invitations sent
 - Receiving registrations
 - The report has more pages than anticipated
 - Final revisions of chapters in June and July
 - Anticipating completion to be end of July

- Looking at budget and printing costs to determine number of copies to be printed for the MRWCC internal use
- Other organizations will need to request and pay for number of copies
- SODCAP has confirmed to pay their share of \$20,000
- MRWA has been dissolved and there is no response to any communication
- There is need to honour Tom Gilchrist

Action 1: Executive Board to take a role in the SOW progress and Ben and Ross to assist.

7. Community headwaters tour

- Proposing the tour to take place end of July
- An opportunity to have the community tour the Headwaters
- To be included in the list of attendees:
 - MRWCC
 - Municipal reps
 - Water users
 - Other public stakeholders
- Logistics were discussed
- Will need to charge a \$50/person fee for the trip to help recover the cost of transportation and meals

Action 2: Mary to update Board members on the status of the tour

Action 3: Mary to check the timing of First Nation's pow-wow gathering to ensure it does not coincide with the Tour

8. Canoe Trip – June 28th, 2024

- Reach: From Roland Barn to Gold Springs Park
- Ads are Underway
- Transportation: Ed's van and WOSPP tour bus
- Fee: \$40 for 30 spots
- Asking participants to Bring Your Own Boat (BYOB)
- Some costs to be covered by CNFASAR so there will be a brief presentation on the Little Fish, Big Stewardship project
- Those attending to register with Mary

9. Office space update and car parking requirements

- The MRWCC is using the small meeting room in the Town office for office space
- With additional space, the rent has gone up from \$375 to \$500 per month
- We are arranging to have an additional internet router at a reduced Not for Profit rate, to ensure we have adequate and faster internet for the additional office space
- The MRWCC is assigned only 2 parking slots
- Asking all Board members when visiting the office to park up front in the visitors' parking spots or on the roadside

10. Round table discussions

- Warren:
 - Waterflow has been at 85% due to low snowpack and cold spring
- Ross:

- Water releases are currently at 450 cfs at Sherburne
- Ben:
 - Open house on July 18th at the Agriculture and Agri Food Canada open field day

11. Other items

12. Meeting Adjournment

Motion 5: Ed Sloboda moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:35pm.

13. Next Meeting Date

- September 26, 2024

Signatures:

Chairman: _____

Secretary: _____