

# Minutes of Meeting

## Vermilion River Stewardship

Wednesday, 11 December 2013

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Club Road, Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club

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**Present:** Linda Heron, Byron Basso, Ron Basso, Marc Samson, Dale Kilbey, Helen Makela, Ken Makela, Bob Little Betsy Little

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by Byron Basso

Seconded by Helen Makela

**Adopted**

**2. Adoption of 13 November 2013 - Minutes of Meeting**

Moved by Ron Basso

Seconded by Dale Kilbey

**Adopted**

**3. Reports**

- Executive – Addendum 1

- Finance – Addendum 1

Moved that the reports be adopted – Ron Basso

Seconded by Marc Samson

**Adopted**

**4. Old Business**

- Lower Vermilion Source Water Quality Monitoring Project – Update
  - **Strategic Planning Committee** is meeting with Conservation Sudbury in February to see if there are any areas where adjustments in our sampling schedule and protocol are necessary.
  - **Google Maps** has a function where sample sites can be shown, along with data such as clarity, oxygen, phosphorus, or any other parameters and useful information.
    - I will see if there is a student at Laurentian that might set it up for us.
    - It is a very user friendly way to show some of our results to the general public.
  - **Sediment Core Results**
    - Zara Jennings has some results back on the heavy metal content and will put it all in a spread sheet when she has some time, to compare it with the 1986 MOE data.
    - Zara noticed a sharp increase in Manganese
      - Dale remembered there being smelter problems at Raglan where they couldn't control the temperature so they used manganese in the smelter.
- **Wabagishik Rapids Environmental Report** – Update
  - Xeneca has not responded to VRS's Part II Order request
  - Erik Emilson will be responding to Xeneca's letter before January the end of the year.
- **Lively/Walden Wastewater Treatment Plant – Part II Order**
  - Notes of 3 December Meeting with City of Sudbury staff & John Connard – Addendum 2
  - Linda recommended withdrawing our Part II Order request

- A big improvement in the quality of effluent outflow will be realized when:
  - Inflow and infiltration of stormwater runoff, leaking manholes, pipes, etc., is repaired
  - Jacob Street Station repairs are repaired.
  - Lively plant is closed - it has contributed a great deal to our water quality problems.

**Motion** by Marc Samson: Linda to send a letter to the Minister of Environment withdrawing VRS's Part II Order request, seconded by Dale Kilbey. **Carried**

- **Brochure**
  - Linda presented our new VRS brochures
  - Several members took brochures to distribute at local venues
- **KGHM International** – Victoria Mine Project – Sheri
  - Ian Horne will make a presentation at our meeting on 12 March
- **Tour of Totten Mine** – Linda
  - Carolyn Hunt has agreed to arrange for our members to tour:
    - Totten Mine on Family Day in February
    - Lorne Falls dam site in the spring
- **Annual General Meeting**
  - **The speaker** will be Erik Emilson, PhD Candidate, Living with Lakes Centre
    - Will present on his recent published paper, and another paper he is about to publish
  - **Lunch**
    - Sheri has arranged for Eija to make sandwiches
    - Sheri will make poula
    - Linda will pick up a mixed vegi-tray
  - **Elections**
    - Marc Samson will conduct the elections for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary Treasurer
    - 2014 Membership dues must be paid in order to hold office or to vote.

5. **Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting**, 15 January 2014, 7 to 9:00 pm. Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club.

**Addendum 1**  
**Vermilion River Stewardship**  
**EXECUTIVE REPORT**  
**11 December 2013**

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**Report from Chair**

**Presentation:**

- 13 November 2013 – Traditional Works, University of Sudbury, Indigenous Studies
- 28 November 2013 – Sheri & I Presented our VRS Brochure to the Lake Advisory Panel

**Meetings:**

- 18 November 2013 – GSWA General Meeting & gave presentation about VRS
- 18 November 2013 – GSAP – Presentation to Council – Official Plan
- 19 November 2013 – Meeting with MNR, Haliburton
- 20 November 2013 – Private Drinking Water Protection Committee
- 22 November 2013 – Navigable Waters Protection Act – NDP Media event
- 23 November 2013 – ORA AGM, North Bay
- 3 December 2013 – VRS, SLCSG, City staff & Consultants - Re: Lively/Walden WWTF Part II Order request
- 10 December 2013 – VRS & SLCSG– Re: Lively/Walden WWTF Part II Order request

**Correspondence:**

- 16 November 2013 – Lively/Walden Waste Water Treatment System - Comments
- 22 November 2013 – VRS to MOE – Re: [Lively/Walden Waste Water Treatment System – Part II Order request](#)
- 2 December 2013 – EBR 012-0290 – Re: [Coordinated Policy Guidance for Waterpower Projects](#)

**Financial Report:**

- Received our 3<sup>rd</sup> cheque in the amount of \$24,300 from Ontario Trillium Foundation
  - One more cheque due 1 June 2014.
- Grant in the amount of \$454 from the Lake Advisory Panel was to be used before the end of the year
  - Paid for brochures in the amount of \$264.03 by cheque
  - Balance of grant can be kept in lieu of time spent by our Brochure Committee in producing it.
- Balance in our bank account as of today: \$38,115.75

Linda Heron

**Addendum 2**  
**Meeting Notes**

Lively-Walden WWTF - Part II Order Request  
3 December 2013, 2:00 to 3:37 pm  
Sudbury Wastewater Treatment Facility

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**Present:** Brad Johns, Dan Miron, Mike Jensen, John Cannard, Derek Koziol, Sheri Purdon, Lesley Flowers, David Furino, Linda Heron

**Purpose of Meeting:**

Vermilion River Stewardship (VRS), Simon Lake Community Stewardship Group (SLCSG) and Margaret LaFramboise submitted Part II Order requests to the Minister of Environment on the Lively-Walden Wastewater Treatment Facility Environmental Report, and requested a meeting with the City of Sudbury and JL Richards to discuss our concerns, and the possibility of including tertiary treatment earlier than recommended in the Environmental Report (ER).

**1. Tertiary Treatment**

- VRS and SLCSG both requested tertiary treatment as early as possible
- Schedule: 2014 Design; 2015 design complete; 2016 budget preparation; 2017 start construction; completed in 2019/20
- City would like to do 5 years of water sampling before determining whether tertiary treatment is required
- Proposed limits and objectives don't appear to be much improved from what it is currently
- MOE sets the limits
- Wastewater technology is getting better so tertiary may not be necessary
- Effluent levels coming out of Walden and Sudbury WWTF are very good
- Sampling shows cleaner downstream than upstream
- Jacob Street station is being upgraded and it will make a big difference in cleaning up overflow events and effluent
- Lively plant has been a large contributor to effluent released and bypassed into the watershed
- When Jacob Street is upgraded and Lively is closed down it will make a big difference in reducing the amount of effluent released into the watershed
- Sudbury WWTF has improved – was 150kg/day of phosphorus – now 40 to 45kg/day
- Plant capacity is 79,000 m<sup>3</sup> – sometimes has to handle 300,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- City is working on the environmental assessment for Azilda
- City is mapping the Lively tunnel to understand its full capacity
- Jacques Barbeau talked to Brad Johns about implementing tertiary treatment suggesting it should be done
- City can't consider tertiary treatment until the plant is built and they have had a chance to study the effectiveness of treatment at the upgraded plant

**2. Inflow and Infiltration (I/I)**

- Backflow By-Law is addressing inflow and infiltration (I/I) in a limited area in Sudbury – it doesn't cover the Lively area
- Spent \$4,000,000 to repair I/I in Sudbury in 2013 – replaced badly leaking pipes
- Dollars are best to go to repairing I/I as that is where the real contributor to phosphorus and other nutrients really lies

- Dollars spent on tertiary treatment will not get the same return on investment - will only be reducing phosphorus by a very small amount
- Promote I/I repairs to our councillors
- Lively I/I problems may not be a priority at this time for repairs
- Other areas such as Conniston may take priority as it is worse-off

### **3. Conclusion**

- City requested we withdraw our Part II Order requests so they don't miss the budget deadline - project would have to wait another year
- VRS and SLCSG will go to their Boards and membership to suggest withdrawing our Part II Order requests
- VRS and SLCSG requested the City make their assessment of whether tertiary treatment will be necessary at the earliest juncture, rather than waiting until 2027
- VRS requested flow events be reported immediately so public is aware and can act accordingly
- Should post discharge and bypass events on a website – similar to Kingston Wastewater
- Make a delegation to City Council to discuss the tipping point
- Ask for prioritization of I/I repairs in budget
- Lend support to Paul Yajor in his I/I work
- Ask Paul Yajor what his plans and priorities are for repairs to I/I next year
- Contact Nick Benkovich to see how we can best assistance