

Minutes of Meeting
Vermilion River Stewardship
Wednesday, 12 February 2014
7:00 to 8:30 pm
Penage Road Community Centre

Present: Ron Basso, Byron Basso, Aaron Basso, Betsy Little, Bob Little, Dale Kilbey, Linda Heron, Sheri Purdon and Lesley Flowers

1. Adoption of Minutes: moved by Ron Basso and seconded by Betsy Little that the agenda as printed be adopted. Carried.
2. Minutes: Moved by Byron Basso and seconded by Dale Kilbey that the Minutes of December 11, 2013 be accepted as printed. Carried.
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes: A letter withdrawing the VRS Part 2 order request regarding the Walden Wastewater Treatment Plant was sent to the Ministry of the Environment.
4. Executive Report: Moved by Byron Basso, and seconded by Ron Basso that the Executive report (see Addendum 1 attached) be accepted. Carried. Some discussion ensued regarding the fact that the California Energy Commission will not buy B.C. water power because they do not consider it clean energy. Linda Heron stated that she is using this reference in letters to the MOE, MNR and Ministry of Energy.
5. Financial Report: Moved by Betsy Little and seconded by Bob Little that the financial report be accepted. Moved by Lesley Flowers and seconded by Dale Kilbey that all bills be paid.
6. Old Business:
 - Lower Vermilion Source Water Quality Monitoring Project
Strategic Planning Committee and Conservation Sudbury met to review 2013 sampling results and to plan for the 2014 sampling year – Meeting Notes attached as Addendum 2. Some preliminary results for Nickel, Sodium and Phosphorus were reviewed but not all data has been put into graph form yet –a very time consuming process. UOIT, student will pick up phytoplankton samples in April and will go out with the sampling team during the summer. There may be a need to continue the project once this original project is completed. The Strategic Planning Committee will consider this and come back with more information.
 - Wabagishik Rapids Environmental Report – response letter sent by Linda Heron, Feb.06, 2014.
 - Lively/Walden Wastewater Treatment Plant- Part 2 Order was rescinded by VRS but not by Simon Lake. VRS reasons for withdrawal were reviewed.
 - Tour of Totten mine will take place in the spring along with Vale’s “family day”. A tour of Lorne Falls will also occur in the spring. During that tour we will ask about whether that dam is being peaked.
 - AGM- The minutes from the AGM will not be approved until the next AGM.

Action: Re the 2015 AGM: Moved by Aaron Basso and seconded by Ron Basso that The Lower Vermilion Source Water Quality Monitoring Project Final Report be given at the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

7. New Business

- Canada Incorporation Act: this bill has passed 2nd reading but is still being held up in committee. The VRS constitution needs some amendment before next AGM.

Action: Moved by Aaron Basso and seconded by Ron Basso that a constitution committee consisting of the following members Linda Heron, Betsy Little and Marte Holouka meet to prepare the needed amendments.

- Lake Advisory Panel Meeting on Feb.20th at 5:00 pm in room C-11 in Tom Davies Square should be attended if possible. The Hutchinson Report re Lake Capacity for Development will be presented.
- Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations has its AGM March 1, 2014. ORA is a member. Linda Heron asked if anyone was able to attend.

8. Other: Linda Heron is attending a workshop on the Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights on March 5, 2014 but it is likely that ORA will host the same workshop at their AGM in the fall in North Bay. This will be more accessible to us.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY APRIL 23, 2014 AT 7:00 PM, BEAVER LAKE SPORTS AND CULTURAL CLUB

Addendum 1

Vermilion River Stewardship

EXECUTIVE REPORT

12 February 2014

Report from Chair

Presentation:

- 5 February 2014 – Wahnapiatae Lake Stewardship – Skead
 - A new Stewardship looking for start-up advice and information about VRS

Meetings:

- 6 January 2014 - Private Drinking Water Protection Committee
- 15 January 2014 – VRS AGM
- 22 January 2014 – OPA Large Energy Procurement Webinar
- 30 January 2014 – GSWA Directors' Meeting
- 4 February 2014 – Strategic Planning Committee and Conservation Sudbury
- 6 February 2014 – Bank of Montreal – Change of signing authority
- 6 February 2014 – Green Space Advisory Authority

Correspondence:

- 12 December 2013 – VRS to MOE - Withdrawal of Part II Order request
- 20 December 2013 – Xeneca response to VRS & ORA – Proposed Wabagishik Rapids GS
- 22 December 2013 – EBR 012-0405 – American Eel Recovery Strategy
- 13 January 2014 – EBR 012-0562 – MNR Technical Guidelines for Waterpower
- 6 February 2014 – VRS & ORA to Minister of Environment regarding Wabagishik Proposed GS

Linda Heron

Report from Treasurer:

- 13 January 2014 – Helvi's Catering – Lunch for AGM - \$180.80 – Linda donated \$50 towards total = \$130.80
- 7 February 2014 – Gougeon Insurance – Directors' and Officers' Insurance, \$918.00
- 7 February 2014 – Queen's University – Analysis for ICP – 30 elements, \$475.00
- 10 February 2014 – Linda Heron – Website and Domain Renewal - \$153.65

Addendum 2

Strategic Planning Committee

Meeting Notes

4 February 2014 – 10:00 to 12:00 pm

City Hall, Sudbury

Present: Lesley Flowers, Sheri Purdon, Anoop Naik, Paul Sajatovic, Linda Heron

Regrets: Dale Kilbey, Al Stanley

1. Review of 2013 Water Quality Sampling – Anoop

Presentation: Vermilion River Watershed Study

- 28 sample sites – 12 stations on 8 lakes and 7 PWQMN and 9 VRS Stations on 16 river sample stations.
- Amount of data to input is challenging
- Possibility to provide additional funds for software, or someone to help with data entry

Action: Anoop will report back with recommendations and dollar amount.

- Salt and conductivity have a correlation
 - high levels of salt near main roads – Hwy 144, Hwy 17 and Reg. Rd. 55
- Nickel – PWQ Objective for Nickel is 25 ug/L – levels as high as 300 to 350 ug/L
 - Nickel is known to be carcinogenic but there have yet to be firm limits put in place by health organizations
- Copper and arsenic were within acceptable limits
- Phosphorus
 - lab was not recording levels under .02 ug/L throughout 2013
 - Anoop has notified the lab that we require readings below .02 ug/L in 2014
 - Phosphorus levels held no surprises
 - Must be tested within 48 hours – lab receives it within 24 hours
 - Anoop suggested adding an additional phosphorus sample at each sample site to ensure accuracy

Action: Anoop will get a quote for an additional phosphorus sample.

2. 2014 Sampling:

- Anoop felt the 2013 schedule and sampling plan worked very well

- No adjustments are required
Anoop will be away from April until 25 May – and ready to start sampling at that time.

3. Lake Partners:

- Anoop suggested purchasing gas cards for 8 of our lake partners that have been very helpful - \$50 each
- Al trailed his boat to several sites throughout the summer
 - Used his boat on Grassy and Mud Lake

Action: Arrange lake partners to start the week of 25 May – Sheri?

Action: Gas cards for lake partners - \$50 each for 8 partners

Action: Linda to ask Al Stanley for an expense statement to cover his mileage.

4. Phytoplankton Samples:

- Anoop has September and October's samples (1 good sized box)
- Anoop would like to know how Carrie is progressing with the samples

Action: Linda will contact Carrie to see if she will be driving through Sudbury in the next few months and can pick up the phytoplankton samples.

Linda will ask Carrie and Andrea for an update on preliminary results.

5. Outstanding costs:

- Paul and Anoop suggested their time and costs have been greater than expected
- They will reassess and let us know if any adjustments need to be made

6. Next Project:

- Deadlines for OTF Applications are 1 March, 1 July and 1 November
- Paul and Anoop will start thinking about continuing the project and what adjustments would need to be made

Action: Linda will check with Carmen Robillard to enquire about timing for applying for a continuation of project.

7. Sample Mapping:

- Ottawa Riverkeepers has an excellent [interactive map](#) that would work well for our Vermilion River study
- May be a good project for the next phase of our project
- See if a student would help set it up
- Committee thought it was a great idea