

# Minutes of Meeting Vermilion River Stewardship

Wednesday, 9 March 2016

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club  
25 Club Road, Beaver Lake, ON

---

**Present:** Linda Heron, Sheri Purdon, Marc Samson, Byron Basso, Ron Basso, Dale Kilbey, Neetlje Van-Roon, Helen Makela, Ken Makela, Runo Mako, Jim Pomerleau, Ann Pomerlou, Erik Oja, Betsy Little, Bob Little, Anoop Naik

**Regrets:** Terry Little, Eija Hietaharju, Marte Holouka

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Motion to Adopt Agenda by Helen Makela  
Seconded by Marc Samson

**CARRIED**

**2. Presentation by Anoop Naik, Conservation Sudbury**

Results of VRS 2013 to 2016 Vermilion River Water Quality Study

- Provided draft Final Report
- Add sample sites to the Final Report
- 2 duplicate slides – copper
- Unit consistency

**3. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting: 11 November 2015**

- Letter went out to Waterpower Group on 5 January 2016 – copied to IESO
- Lesley Flowers audited VRS's Financial Books
- Paid ORA Membership - \$100
- Sheri was to collect info from Health Unit about blue-green algae blooms

Motion to adopt 11 November 2015 Minutes of Meeting, by Ron Basso

Seconded by Ken Makela

**CARRIED**

**4. Reports**

- Executive Report – Addendum 1
- Presented at University of Sudbury, Indigenous Studies

Motion to adopt Executive Report, by Byron Basso

Seconded by Dale Kilbey

**CARRIED**

- Financial Statement – Addendum 2

Motion to adopt Financial Report, by Dale Kilbey

Seconded by Marc Samson

**CARRIED**

**5. Old Business**

• **Lower Vermilion Source Water Quality Monitoring Project**

- Carrie completed her Master's Thesis, is now validating data, to prepare for publishing her study
- Saved VRS several thousand dollars – we would have had to pay to have it validated
- Meeting Notes – 24 November 2015 & 16 February 2016 (Addendums 3 & 4)
- 29 February 2016 meeting was cancelled by Anoop
- Couldn't reach KGHM at all – are they still working on the mine?

- Strategic Planning Committee will meet on 15 March 2016 to prepare Final Report
- Will be a summary of results from all the individual studies, including conclusions
- Final Report is due by 31 March 2016
- Once Final Report is submitted we will follow up on the results and recommendations of our Lower Vermilion Source Water Quality Monitoring Projects.
- **Boat Wakes & Bank Erosion – Marte – Deferred**
- **Blue-green Algae – Sheri – Deferred**
- **Waterpower**
  - **Wabagishik**
    - Visiting the public file on 24 March 2016
    - Made application to FIPPA for list of terminated FIT Contracts
  - **Cedar Rapids**
    - No response from Waterpower Group
    - 40 new FIT applications under 500 kWh
    - Wrote letter to Minister Chiarelli requesting a meeting
    - Successful applicants will be announced in May sometime

## 6. **New Business**

- **GSWA Board Member**
  - No one willing to be a VRS representative on GSWA Board of Directors
- **River Clean-up 2016 - Sheri**
  - Will do another clean-up this year
  - Focused on Ella Lake and Wabagishik – perhaps expand it
  - Betsy and Bob would do their lake/river area – Grassy Lake
  - Further discussion at next meeting
- **Watershed Studies**
  - Public Consultation was held today
  - Vermilion River is not slated for a watershed study
  - Only sub-watersheds are being studied
  - Vermilion River is main drain for bulk of Sudbury development and needs to be studied as a Master Watershed Study, and then all the sub-watershed studies would then have more meaning and provide for more effective planning, remediation and mitigation
  - Linda will forward comment link and info to Betsy and Bob Little

## 7. **Next Meeting – 13 April 2016**

## ADDENDUM – 1

### Vermilion River Stewardship EXECUTIVE REPORT

9 March 2016

---

#### Report from Chair

##### Meetings:

11 November 2015 – VRS General Meeting  
16 November 2015 – GSWA General Meeting  
24 November 2015 – Strategic Planning Committee Meeting with Conservation Sudbury  
8 December 2015 – Experimental Lakes Area – Online Webinar  
10 December 2015 – Fundraising Events – Online Webinar  
18 January 2016 – GSWA Board Meeting  
20 January 2016 – VRS Annual General Meeting  
16 February 2016 – Strategic Planning Committee Meeting with Conservation Sudbury  
25 February 2016 – GSWA Railroad Report Meeting

##### Presentation:

23 February 2016 – University of Sudbury – Indigenous Studies

##### Correspondence:

10 November 2015 – Press Release – Hydro Impacts 101: The Trade-offs  
15 November 2015 – EBR-012-4935 – Nestle' Canada – Permit to Take Water  
23 November 2015 – Hardesty Rail Terminal Project  
15 December 2015 – EBR-012-5444 – Policy Framework – Aggregate Resources Act  
16 December 2015 – EBR-012-5666 – Cap and Trade  
5 January 2016 – Letter to Waterpower Group – Proposed Cedar Rapids GS

**Linda Heron**  
Chair

Income - Expenses - Budget	VERMILION RIVER STEWARDSHIP					
	Income - Expenses - Budget					
	Dec 31 2014	2014 Budget	Dec 31 2015	2015 Budget	Dec 31 2016	2016 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>						
Contributions	75.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Membership Dues	665.00	915.00	345.00	800.00	175.00	800.00
Grants - Other	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Fundraising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest	1.21	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	126.21	0.00	101.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>867.42</b>	<b>917.00</b>	<b>966.70</b>	<b>800.00</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>1,300.00</b>
<b>Project Income</b>						
2012 - December						
2013 - June	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
2013 - December	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
2014 - June	24,300.00	24,300.00	0.00		0.00	
<b>KGHM International - Donation</b>			15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
<b>Total Grant Proceeds</b>	<b>24,300.00</b>	<b>24,300.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>25,167.42</b>	<b>25,217.00</b>	<b>15,966.70</b>	<b>15,800.00</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>16,300.00</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>						
Office	21.48	150.00	0.00	100.00	5.00	100.00
Website	157.00	111.00	146.32	160.00	0.00	160.00
Honorarium	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Membership Fees	125.00	120.00	20.00	120.00	100.00	120.00
Meeting Expenses	130.80	100.00	326.70	250.00	0.00	250.00
Miscellaneous	126.71	0.00	101.70	0.00	0.00	500.00
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>560.99</b>	<b>581.00</b>	<b>594.72</b>	<b>630.00</b>	<b>105.00</b>	<b>1,130.00</b>
<b>Project expenses</b>						
Labs - Sampling	24,501.80	25,000.00	0.00	16,000.00	11,121.00	16,000.00
Conservation Sudbury - Technicians	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	5,691.00	9,226.00	5,691.00
Travel Expenses	1,140.00	4,200.00	0.00	5,670.00	8,864.00	5,670.00
Operating Expenses	1,178.43	4,400.00	918.00	2,350.00	918.00	2,350.00
Equipment	1,474.03	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
<b>Total Project Expenses</b>	<b>43,294.26</b>	<b>48,600.00</b>	<b>918.00</b>	<b>31,711.00</b>	<b>30,129.00</b>	<b>31,711.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>43,855.25</b>		<b>1,512.72</b>		<b>30,234.00</b>	
Current period Surplus/Deficit	(18,687.83)		14,453.98		(30,059.00)	
Previous period Surplus/Deficit	37,902.01		19,214.18		33,668.16	
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>19,214.18</b>		<b>33,668.16</b>		<b>3,609.16</b>	
<b>Actual Project Deficit/Surplus</b>	<b>\$17,629.24</b>		<b>\$31,711.24</b>		<b>\$1,582.24</b>	
<b>Actual VRS Deficit/Surplus</b>	<b>\$1,584.94</b>		<b>\$1,956.92</b>		<b>\$2,026.92</b>	

## Meeting Notes

Strategic Planning Committee & Conservation Sudbury  
Tuesday, 24 November 2015 – 1:00 am to 2:30 pm  
Conservation Sudbury Offices

---

### PRESENT:

**VRS:** Linda Heron, Sheri Purdon, Dale Kilbey, Lesley Flowers, Al Stanley

**CS:** Anoop Naik, Carl Jorgenson

### 1. Review of Water Quality Sampling – 2013 to 2015

- Sampling went well
- Sampling is complete – awaiting final lab results
- Schedule a special presentation of the results for all the volunteers
- Provide them with gas cards
- Sample was taken just below Hwy 17 Horse Farm
  - Sample results came back with no elevated e-coli or nutrients
  - Couldn't take an upstream sample - no public access available

### 2. Data

- **Data for Carrie Strangway**
  - Anoop will forward all spreadsheets for 2013 and 2014 in the first week of December
- **Timeline/Deadline**
  - Anoop committed to a firm deadline of 31 January 2016 for his final report to VRS
- **Data Layout**
  - Methodology used by Conservation Sudbury and lab
  - 3 years of data and analysis with graphs
  - Include all results that exceed limits or are relevant to areas of concern
  - Explanation of the phosphorus data anomaly in first year of sampling
  - Sites dropped in 2015, and rationale
  - It will be clear and understandable to the public/layman
  - Conclusions will not make recommendations
  - Outliers will be not be removed
  - Sometime after the deadline Anoop will prepare a chart that illustrates the intensity/progression of exceedances along the system
- **Validating Data**
  - Validation of Carrie's published Master's Thesis will be more than adequate to validate our study results
  - Carrie has included water sample results as well as phytoplankton results
- **Data Retention/Sharing**
  - CS will store the data at their offices – all data is backed up regularly
  - When project is complete, Anoop will ensure the Committee has a CD of the data
  - **Final Report**

### 3. VRS will prepare a Final Report that takes into account the

- CS Report
- Carrie Strangway's Master's Thesis – Land Use Impacts on Water Quality
- Zara Jennings 4<sup>th</sup> Year Thesis – Sediment Core Sampling

- Final Report will make recommendations based on a review of all data results and reports
- CS will submit final invoice to VRS once they receive the final lab invoice

#### **4. Future Grant Application**

- VRS Board of Directors decided to wait until after the Final Report is submitted to OTF, and will then look at all options
- No water quality sampling in 2016

## Meeting Notes

Strategic Planning Committee & Conservation Sudbury  
Tuesday, 16 February 2016 – 9:30 am to 12:00 pm  
Room C-12, Sudbury City Hall

---

**PRESENT:** Linda Heron, Sheri Purdon, Lesley Flowers, Anoop Naik, Carl Jorgenson

**REGRETS:** Al Stanley, Dale Kilbey

### 1. Review of 3 Year Vermilion River Water Quality Project – by Anoop

- Anoop will let Carrie know she has underreported the number of dams on the Vermilion River system – 12 control dams/weirs
- pH - within normal levels for the most part
- Surprised there wasn't more diversity of DO
- Good mixing in the river and lakes
- Total Phosphorus – elevations above 0.2 at 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and also at 23 (Grassy Lake)
- Total Nitrogen – elevated at 12 & 13 – Copper Cliff and Meatbird
- Sodium and chloride - elevated at sites 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 & 18
  - Seems to be coming from the Vale smelter complex
  - Ask for a tour of Copper Cliff complex
- Nickel at high levels at 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19
- Copper - high between 9 and 18
- Cadmium - high levels at 8 and 13
- Cobalt - high levels between 12 and 18
- Lead – high at 2, 13, 23 and 27 – need to explore why at 2, 23 and 27
- E-Coli - higher than provincial limits at 8, 11, 12, 14, 25, 26 & 27
- Mercury - levels are low
- Most elevated levels are generally between Kelly and McCharles Lakes
- Need to do a survey of those people on the Vermilion River that have water intakes – also identify those with drinking water intakes

### 2. Vermilion River Stewardship – General Meeting

- Anoop will present the results of our 3-year water quality study at our next VRS General Meeting on 9 March 2016, 7:00 pm – Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club
- Invite volunteers and KGHM to the meeting

### 3. Next Meeting & Final Report

- 29 February 2016, 1:00 pm at Conservation Sudbury offices