

# MINUTES OF MEETING

## Vermilion River Stewardship

Wednesday, 8 November 2017

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club, 55 Club Road, Worthington, ON

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Present: Linda Heron, Terry Little, Ron Basso, Marc Samson, John Reid, Byron Basso, Lesley Flowers, Margaret LaFramboise, Helen Makela, Ken Makela

### 1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Ron Basso

Seconded by Helen Makela

**Carried**

### 2. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting: 14 June 2017

One amendment - Lesley was misspelled

Moved with amendment by Byron Basso

Seconded by Marc Samson

**Carried**

### 3. Reports

#### • Executive – Addendum 1

- Switched over VRS website from NetFirms to Get Business Hosting
- A local website hosting service
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Notes – 19 June 2017
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Notes – 24 July 2017 – Vale

Motion to adopt the Executive Report by Byron Basso

Seconded by Ken Makela

**Carried**

#### • Finance – Addendum 2

- Balance is \$2350.49
- *\$500 of that balance is set aside for sediment core study on Simon Lake – Watershed Advisory Panel grant*
- Stephen Monet will keep the grant on the books for now and will consult with the WAP and get back to Linda

Motion to adopt the Finance Report by Ron Basso

Seconded by Byron Basso

**Carried**

### 4. Old Business

#### • Wabagishik Rapids Update– Linda

- No new FIT contracts were awarded for hydroelectric
- Long Term Energy Plan has no new procurement targets for hydroelectric
- Any new generation will go through a competitive bidding
- Slim chance of Xeneca getting a power procurement contract before the ER expires
- Linda is attending an all-day IESO Workshop in Sudbury tomorrow

#### • Lower Vermilion Source Water Monitoring Project - Linda

- Vale presentation to Carolyn Hunt and 3 other Vale employees from the Environment Group went well
- They were very interested in our results – all positive

- Linda will present to Simon Lake Community Stewardship Group on Monday, 20 November, University of Sudbury on 21 November, and GSWA in February 2018
- **Vermilion River Access/Road Issues** – John Reid
  - **Wabagishik Road**
    - COGS completed ditching, culvert repair, road work and signage at Wabagishik but parking is still an issue
    - John will contact an adjacent landowner regarding the possibility of a lease or purchase of land for parking **Action**
  - **Wirtanen Road**
    - VRS made a submission to City Council on 1 September
    - City Council refused to accept their responsibility for the stub roads
    - Huge implications for property owners with only river access

## 5. New Business

- **Penage Woman's Institute** - Lesley
  - The Institute would like to support the VRS and is looking for direction

**Actions:**

  1. Lesley will propose that the Penage Women's Institute write a letter to the COGS suggesting support for the VRS annual river cleanup
  2. Lesley will suggest that the PWI appoint a representative to serve on VRS's Board of Directors
  - Motion to create a Liaison Director position at the next AGM  
Moved by Marc Samson  
Seconded by Ron Basso **Carried**
- **IESO Forum** – Linda
  - Linda will attend an all-day workshop to see what is planned for the north
- **Lorne Falls Generating Station**
  - Linda will contact Vale to arrange a tour **Action**
- **Annual General Meeting**
  - Set for March 14, 2018

## 6. Round Table Discussion

- Motion to hold the next river cleanup at Ella Lake on Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Moved by Ron Basso  
Seconded by Helen Makela **Carried**

## 7. Next Meeting: January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Annual General Meeting: 14 March 2018**

**Vermilion River Cleanup: 26 May 2018 – Ella Lake**

# Vermilion River Stewardship

## EXECUTIVE REPORT

8 November 2017

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### Report from Chair

#### Meetings:

- 16 June 2017 – Met with Tom Price regarding Vermilion River issues
- 17 June 2017 – ORA General Meeting, North Bay
- 19 June 2017 – Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- 28 June 2017 – IESO Webinar
- 29 June 2017 – Class EA – Sudbury Water and Wastewater Master Plan – PIC 2
- 11 July 2017 – Great Lakes Protection Act Alliance – online monthly meeting
- 14 July 2017 – CELA online meeting – Conservation Authorities Act
- 17 July 2017 – Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- 18 July 2017 – GSWA Meeting
- 19 & 20 July 2017 – Great Lakes Summit – Toronto
- 24 July 2017 – Strategic Planning Committee Meeting with Vale
- 26 July 2017 – Ontario Trillium Foundation Webinar
- 21 September 2017 – Great Lakes Protection Act Alliance – online monthly meeting
- 26 September 2017 – GSWA presentation to City Council – Re: Eurasian Milfoil
- 16 October 2017 – GSWA General Meeting
- 21 October 2017 – ORA Annual General Meeting
- 25 October 2017 – Email Fundraising: Getting, Sending & Optimizing – Webinar
- 26 October 2017 - Great Lakes Protection Act Alliance – online monthly meeting
- 1 November 2017 – Green Gathering
- 2 November 2017 – GSWA – Private Drinking Water Protection Committee Meeting

#### Presentation:

- 24 July 2017 – SPC presentation to Vale, Re: Water Quality Study Results

#### Correspondence:

- 26 June 2017 – EBR-012-9791 – Strategic Policy for Bait Management in Ontario
- 12 July 2017 – Sudbury Water & Wastewater Master Plan – VRS Submission
- 28 August 2017 – Federal Review of Environmental and Regulatory Processes – ORA Submission
- 1 September 2017 – Wirtanen Road Access to Vermilion River Properties – VRS to Mayor and Council
- 28 September 2017 – EBR-012-0644- Ontario Statement of Environmental Values – ORA Submission

**Linda Heron**  
Chair

# Meeting Notes

Strategic Planning Committee  
Monday, 19 June 2017 – 10:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Penage Community Centre

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

The Committee continued to review the charts to identify areas of concern.

- Linda will contact Lisa Lantaine, Vale to see if we can set up a meeting to share our data with middle management – hopefully early in July
- What are the cumulative and synergistic effects of the numerous heavy metals coming out of CC-12
- If these elevated levels of heavy metals coming out of CC-12 were cleaned up, how would it effect water quality downstream
- Free metals combine and become complex again?
- Linda will create a spreadsheet to keep track of all our notes on each element

## **Selenium, total:**

- Exceeds ODWQS and CWQG at CC-12, but not PWQO
- (Copper Refinery)
- Needs further analysis

## **Silicon, total:**

- No limits
- Appears natural, but highest at WIT-7

## **Silver, total:**

- Exceeds PWQO & CWGC downstream of WWTF
- Highest at JUN-13
- Needs further analysis

## **Sodium, total:**

- Aesthetic value 200 mg/L
- Exceedances of 20 mg/L must notify Local Medical Officer of Health
- Exceedances of 20 mg/L from LIL-11 to MC-18
- Alternatives to sodium?
- Needs further analysis

## **Solids, total suspended (TSS)**

- Natural?
- Doesn't appear to be of concern

## **Stream Condition**

- Find out what it is – more info.

## **Strontium, total**

- Elevated at CC-12, all the way to MC-18

- Needs further analysis

### **Sulphate, dissolved (SO)**

- Elevated at CC-12, all the way to MC-18
- Dissolves in water and in blood
- Needs further analysis
- What are the synergistic effects
- If these elevated levels coming out of CC-12 were eliminated, how would it affect water quality downstream
- Free metals combine and become complex again?

### **Tellurium, total**

- A spike at FB-20 in 2014
- Lockerby mine? – slag dumps
- What happened at FB-20 in August 2014?

### **Temp**

- Only PWQMN sites
- Only 2013 and 2014
- Why isn't entire campaign included
- Should go through Anoop's notes to include missing temperature data
- Needs follow-up

### **Thallium, total**

- Exceeds PWQO at CC-12 in all 3 years
- Point source
- What are synergistic and cumulative effects

### **Tin, total**

- No limits
- Spotty – mining effluent

### **Titanium, total**

- No limits
- Platinum group metals tied up in nickel stream
- GR-23 spiking in 2015??

### **Tungsten, total**

- Not an issue

### **Uranium, total**

- Only JUN-13 in 2013
- No concern

### **Vanadium, total**

- Appears to be natural
- No concern

**Next Meeting:** 3 July 2017.

Meeting Notes  
VRS Strategic Planning Committee  
24 July 2017, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Penage Community Centre, Penage Road, Whitefish, ON

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**Present:** Strategic Planning Committee: Al Stanley, Lesley Flowers, Sheri Purdon, Dale Kilbey, Linda Heron  
Vale: Carolyn Hunt, Lisa Lanteigne, Allison Merla, Wendy Wisniewski

**Purpose of Meeting:**

To provide Vale with an opportunity to review the results of VRS's 3 year Lower Vermilion Water Quality Monitoring Project before the information is presented to the public at large, as well as municipal and provincial government.

VRS presented the [Lower Vermilion Water Quality Monitoring Project, posted on our website here](#).

**Discussion:**

- The sediment core sampling demonstrates that Vale has significantly improved emissions into the air and water over the years; however, there are still several heavy metals that are in the severe and significant effect levels. VRS is optimistic that the data resulting from our study will encourage additional improvements in mitigation of some of the areas where limits are exceeded or nutrients contribute to degraded water quality.
- Vale's environment team was surprised at how extensive the project was and would appreciate receiving access to all data and reports
- VRS offered full access to all data, reports, graphs and relevant material
- VRS requested a tour of the water and wastewater treatment plants, as well as a tour of the Lorne Falls Hydroelectric Facility

**Action Items:**

1. Carolyn will make arrangements for the Vermilion River Stewardship to have a tour of the Water and wastewater treatment plants, as well as the Lorne Falls Hydroelectric Facility.
2. VRS to make water quality and sediment sample reports, data and presentations available to Vale:

All data and reports are available on our [Google Drive here](#) - as follows:

- 2013 to 2014 Phytoplankton Study:
  - Strangway-Spatial-determinants of deteriorating water quality in the Vermilion.
  - An investigation of land-use impacts on water quality and phytoplankton communities of the Vermilion River and major tributaries, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, by Carrie Strangway (Master's Thesis).

- An investigation of land-use impacts on water quality and phytoplankton communities of the Vermilion River and connecting sidearms, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, by Carrie Strangway. VRS Meeting 16 July 2015 - Audio Version. (This audio version was an earlier presentation before the Thesis was finalized.)
- Land use impacts on water quality & phytoplankton communities, by Carrie Strangway. VRS Meeting 14 October 2015 - final presentation – no audio.
- 2013 to 2015 - Water Quality Graphs
- 2013 to 2015 - Data Spreadsheets
- 2013 to 2015 – Raw Maxxam Data
- VRS – Final Reports & Presentation
  - OTF Report: Lower Vermilion Source Water Quality Monitoring Project – 5 August 2016.
  - Conservation Sudbury Report: Vermilion River Watershed Surface Water Quality Report on Current Conditions – 31 March 2017.
  - Lower Vermilion Source Water Quality Monitoring Project - VRS Presentation to Vale – 24 July 2017.
- Sediment Core Study
  - Recovery of Chironomidae from metal contamination in a multi-stressor environment: a paleolimnological analysis of a circumneutral Sudbury, Ontario lake, by Zara Jennings. A thesis submitted to the Department of Biology in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours), Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, April 2014.

<b>Vermilion River Stewardship</b>				
<b>Income - Expenses - Budget</b>				
	<b>Dec 31 2016</b>	<b>2016 Budget</b>	<b>Dec 31 2017</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>				
Contributions	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
Membership Dues	500.00	800.00	400.00	800.00
Grants - Other	248.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
Project income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising	0.00	0.00	125.00	0.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>748.97</b>	<b>800.00</b>	<b>675.00</b>	<b>800.00</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	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>KGHM International - Donation</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Grant Proceeds</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>748.97</b>	<b>800.00</b>	<b>675.00</b>	<b>800.00</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Office	30.00	100.00	25.00	100.00
Website	192.90	160.00	177.47	200.00
Honorarium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Membership Fees	220.00	120.00	120.00	120.00
Meeting Expenses	0.00	250.00	180.80	250.00
Miscellaneous	248.97	500.00	0.00	500.00
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>691.87</b>	<b>1,130.00</b>	<b>503.27</b>	<b>1,170.00</b>
<b>Project expenses</b>				
Labs - Sampling	11,121.00	16,000.00	0.00	0.00
Conservation Sudbury - Technicians	9,226.00	5,691.00	0.00	0.00
Travel Expenses	9,214.00	5,670.00	0.00	0.00
Operating Expenses	1,998.00	2,350.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Project Expenses</b>	<b>31,559.00</b>	<b>31,711.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>32,250.87</b>		<b>503.27</b>	
Current period Surplus/Deficit	(31,501.90)		171.73	
Previous period Surplus/Deficit	33,668.16		2,166.26	
<b>Actual Project Deficit/Surplus</b>	<b>\$152.24</b>		<b>\$152.24</b>	
<b>Actual VRS Deficit/Surplus</b>	<b>\$2,014.02</b>		<b>\$2,185.75</b>	
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>2,166.26</b>		<b>2,337.99</b>	