

## Turtle Lake Watershed Inc. Minutes

**Saturday, April 28, 2012**  
**Turtle Lake Mission**

**Board Attendees:** Bob Gourlay, John Cameron, Jim Range, Nancy Range, George Rozdilsky, Alden Halseth, Louis Bossaer, George Rozdilsky, Scott McRobbie  
**Visitors:** approximately 10 visitors attended

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 A.M.

President Jim Range opened the meeting and welcomed the members and visitor. Jim reviewed the agenda and asked for any additional items. None were presented.

Bob Gourlay read the minutes from the August 27, 2011 Board meeting and asked for errors or omissions. None were noted. John Cameron motioned the minutes be adopted, Seconded by Scott McRobbie, Carried by a show of hands.

### **Financial Report**

Bob Gourlay reported that the TLWI bank account as of March 31, 2012 was \$7,555.54.

Bob moved the financial report be adopted as read and discussed. Nancy Range seconded, motion carried by a show of hands.

Bob reported that because the 2011 Audited Financial Statements were not submitted to Corporations Branch within the required time frame, the Turtle Lake Watershed Inc. was deregistered. Bob explained that because of the time between the year end and the AGM, where the minutes have to be presented and adopted, it makes it difficult to submit them on time. Bob then presented the 2011 Audited Financial Statements. Louis Bossaer moved the Audited Financial Statement be adopted as presented and discussed, Scott McRobbie seconded. Bob will forward the Audited 2011 Financial Statements to Corporations Branch and arrange for the TLWI to be re-registered.

### **New Business**

Shoreline damage from ice – Bob Gourlay reported on the shoreline damage along the east and south sides of Turtle Lake. This winter, winds, temperatures and high water levels have been combining forces, causing damage to shoreline areas along the east and south shores of Turtle Lake. To address this issue, the RM's of Mervin and Parkdale, working in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, have formed a committee to monitor and address these concerns.

Water levels at Turtle Lake, through natural factors, cycle above and below a weir, at the South Bay outlet in the RM of Mervin. This weir was constructed in April of 1986 by the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority at 654.78 metres above sea level. In the past two years the "winter lake levels", which typically fall to within 3-5 inches of the top of the weir, have remained much higher. This winter, the lake level was 10.5 inches above the weir and the water flow has been reduced significantly. The blockage appears to be a beaver dam several hundred metres down stream from the weir. Instead of the weir being the point upon which the lake levels cycle, it is now the beaver dam at 10.5 inches higher.

Over and above the current ice damage, the municipalities are also concerned about heading into spring runoff with higher lake and water table levels. There of course is the issue of removing the beaver dam in the winter, which potentially poses a host of "down-stream" concerns to land owners and First Nation jurisdictions.

Many of the visitors in attendance were clearly not supportive of removing the beaver dam. President, Jim Range informed them that the Turtle Lake Watershed Inc. did not have any statutory authority to remove a beaver dam and that, that authority resides with the RM of Mervin. However, the TLWI Board does take on the responsibility of

keeping its membership informed of the issues and will continue to take initiatives that protect the aquatic ecosystem, if indeed it is threatened.

### **2012 Programs**

Motion: 01-12: Jim Range, moved that the TLWI research and post an article on the TLWI website informing lake residents of the damage along the lake, and the process required for getting permission to make any alterations to the shoreline or municipal reserve. Seconded John Cameron, motion carried.

Motion: 02-12: Louis Bossaer, moved that a printed hand-out be produced that could be: distributed at Hamlet AGM's, inserted into tax notices, or included in the St. Walburg and Glaslyn Chamber of Commerce lake kits. Seconded by Nancy Range, motion carried.

Motion: 03-12: George Rozdilsky moved that the Turtle Lake Shoreline Clean Up be conducted from July 1-7, 2012 and that he will produce and distribute a pdf of a poster that board members can copy and post in their local communities if they so choose to conduct a clean up event. Seconded by Alden Halseth. Motion carried.

Motion: 04-12: Scott McRobbie moved that the TLWI Board meeting be held on June 23 and August 25; and that the AGM be held on July 21. Seconded by Bob Gourlay. Motion carried. (please note: following the meeting, John Cameron learned that the church is not available on June 23, therefore this meeting will be scheduled for June 16) Bob Gourlay will approach Gord Sedgewick to see if he will be a speaker at the AGM, topics might include: Responsibilities of those conducting Shoreline work and the latest state of the fishery at Turtle Lake. John Cameron will make arrangement for a BBQ lunch at the AGM.

**The meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.**

### **Next Regular Board Meeting**

Saturday, June 16, 2012, 10:00 A.M. – Noon, Turtle Lake Mission