

Turtle Lake Watershed Inc. Board Minutes

Saturday, June 11, 2016 10:00 A.M., Turtle Lake Mission

Board Members Present: Court Peddle, George Rozdilsky, Dave Blackwell, Bob Leslie, Bernie Lukan, Scott McRobbie, Jim Range, Nancy Range

Guests Present

Colleen Reddekopp, Department of the Environment; Wolf McGregor and Zoey Schaeffer, Conservation Officers from Chitek Lake, Thomas Abe, North Saskatchewan River Basin Council.

Call to Order:

President Jim Range called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Jim welcomed everyone, welcomed the guests and led the group with introductions. Jim passed out a copy of both the meeting agenda and minutes of the past meeting.

Nancy Range read the minutes from the April 23, 2016 meeting. Jim Range asked if there were any errors or omissions. Jim noted the error in the Financial Report in the minutes. The recorded balance of \$9,976.70 was to have read \$7,996.70. Dave Blackwell moved the minutes be adopted with the correction; seconder, Scott McRobbie. Carried by a show of hands.

Financial Report:

President Jim Range made a brief report of the financial statement; the TWLI currently has a bank balance of \$7,996.70.

Report from the Ministry of the Environment: Colleen Reddekopp, Conservation Officer.

Ms. Reddekopp introduced the two Conservation Officers from Chitek Lake in attendance, Wolf McGregor and Zoey Schaeffer. The issue of Zebra Muscle and Invasive Species control has been on the forefront as a rising environmental threat. The issue and subsequent control is very complex and concerning to all. As our entire province only has two decontamination units, the Ministry has very limited capacity to monitor boats moving through this province. Ms. Reddekopp underlined that present health of Saskatchewan lakes is largely in the hands of the residents of the province;. We were reminded that the end product of Invasive Species Contamination is the ultimate destruction of fish habitat and the biodiversity of our lakes. Ms.Reddekopp's ended her presentation by emphasizing the importance of education as the most effective tool against the spread of invasive species.

Jim Range further added that the purchase of the 15 signs regarding Invasive Species Protection approved at the April meeting of the TLWI has to be deferred until these signs are available for purchase.

Report from Jim Range regarding Water Testing

Jim Range reported information gained re: water testing programs presently in place for both Emma Lake and Christopher Lake. Approximately 50 hours are required to sample the lakes; the bill for sampling the larger lake was \$1200; \$800 for the smaller lake. Total lab charges were approximately \$500. These tests are done on an annual basis and are funded by the Lakeland District Municipal government with a total cost of approximately \$4500. The Christopher Lake Emma Lake Watershed association contributes \$1000 to the Lakeland District Municipal Government to assist with costs of water testing..

Moved by Court Peddle, seconded by Bob Leslie that Wayne Hyde of Christopher Lake be approached regarding his willingness to perform water tests on a contractual basis. Jim Range agreed to make this inquiry. Doug Caldwell has agreed to work on this project as a volunteer. Victor Hamm would attempt to ascertain whether our RM would be interested in supporting a water testing program.

Presentation by Thomas Abe of the North Saskatchewan River Basin Council.

Thomas Abe made a most interesting multi-media presentation to the group about the Love Your Lake project. Funded jointly by the Canadian Wildlife Federation and Watersheds Canada, this voluntary program has been initiated due to increased development and density around Canadian lakes and related water quality issues. The goal of the program is to improve and maintain the health of Canadian Lakes by improving the health of the shoreline. The program is in the process of being implemented at Christopher, Emma, Murray and Jackfish Lakes. The implementation of this program is being complicated by proposed changes to the Saskatchewan Privacy Act. More information about the Love Your Lakes program may be obtained at LoveYourLake.ca. Information in this regard will be posted on the Turtle Lake website. Thomas was asked if the North Saskatchewan River Basin Council would make a presentation to the larger lake community at the AGM.

Jim Range mentioned a card of condolence would be sent to the family of John Cameron, long time TLWI member, after his recent passing.

Discussion followed about updating and maintaining the website.

Moved by Dave Blackwell, seconded by Bernie Lukan, that the decisions regarding the election of officers be deferred until after the AGM. Carried. It was noted that Turtle Lake Lodge requires a new representative member.

Scott McRobbie reported that the lake level is presently 6" above the benchmark, one inch above water levels at spring break up. It was noted that at one time we were 23" above this mark.

Jim Range agreed to call the RM of Parkdale to make inquiries as to the nature of the development that is presently in progress at Indian Point. An email will be sent out to inform the members of the TLWI.

Moved by George Rozdelski, seconded by Scott McRobbie that a policy regarding parting gifts for TLWI members be established as follows: 3 to 5 years service, \$50; 5 to 10 years, \$100; over 10 years, up to \$150. Carried.

The meeting date for the AGM was set for 7:00 pm, Thursday, July 21 at the Mission.

The proposed agenda for the AGM will include:

- a. Invasive Species presentation by the Ministry of the Environment
- b. Love Your Lakes presentation by the North Saskatchewan River Basin Council
- c. Election of Officers

Adjournment: moved by Court Peddle, seconded by Bob Leslie.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 A.M.