

Turtle Lake Watershed Inc. Board Minutes

Saturday, May 13, 2017 10:00 A.M., Turtle Lake Mission

Board Members Present: Victor Hamm, Dave Blackwell, Bob Leslie, Bernie Lukan, Don Taylor, Court Peddle, Darryl Geissler for Clint Johnstone, Jim Range, Nancy Range

Guests Present: Thomas Abe and Ashley Yakemchuk, North Saskatchewan River Basin Council, Janet Warrington, Louise Stuart

Call to Order:

President Jim Range called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Jim passed out a copy of the meeting agenda and asked that it be reviewed for additions and deletions.

Nancy Range read the minutes from the August 20, 2016 meeting and asked if there were any errors or omissions. Nancy Range moved that the adoption of the minutes. Seconded by Don Taylor. Carried.

Financial Report:

Nancy Range handed out copies of the financial statement. The present balance of the TLWI account is \$10,891. 89. Invoices were sent out for both 2016 and 2017 seasons; dues have been remitted from all hamlet communities and have been deposited. Nancy moved the adoption of the financial report. Seconded by Victor Hamm. Carried.

New Business:

Thomas Abe of the NSRBC brought the TLWI group up to date on the Zebra Muscle issue reporting Zebra Muscles have been recently found in Montana, Cedar Lake, Manitoba, Lake Winnipeg and in the Duck Mountain Provincial Park in Singush Lake. Thomas went on to add that 11 boats that crossed Saskatchewan were detained in Alberta after being found contaminated with Zebra muscles. New Saskatchewan legislation has been enacted with a mandatory requirement for travelers with a boat to stop for boat inspection at existing checking stations. At the US/Canada border, a form must be completed which will help to identify and provide follow-up for all high-risk watercraft entering Saskatchewan from the United States.

On the topic of water testing, concepts of cost sharing for equipment as well as logistics for sampling and water samples analysis. Ashley Yakemchuk, water technician for the NSRBC has had her employment terminated due to Saskatchewan government cutbacks. As Ashley 's term of employment ends in May, alternative arrangements will have to be made for water testing. It was emphasized and supported in principal by the TWLI Board members that we wish to have water

samples taken both in summer and late fall and that identical parameters be tested so as to maintain the value of the existing data base on this lake. Nancy Range volunteered to transport water samples to the SRC lab in Saskatoon.

Moved by Dave Blackwell, seconded by Court Peddle that NSRBC prepare a proposed contract of water testing services to be rendered and related costs for the June 24, 2017 meeting of the TLWI. Carried by show of hands.

Regarding the implementation of the Love Your Lake project, the NSRBC requires adequate funding from the RM of Mervin along with their authorization prior to implementation. Should adequate funding be granted, the goal would be to start the program during the summer of 2017 for the RM of Mervin lakeshore properties. Assessment of the remaining properties on the lake would be completed in the summer of 2018.

Moved by Don Taylor, seconded by Dave Blackwell that \$1500 from TLWI funds be added to the RM funds to help assure the 2017 go ahead for the Love Your Lake project on Turtle Lake. Carried.

Victor Hamm reported findings of the recent RM study of Turtle Lake. Water quality overall has improved over the 2003 RM commissioned study completed during severe drought conditions. The RM of Mervin is open to future development in the Turtle Lake area. However, there will be no future additional development until 75% of the existing properties have a permanent structure on them.

AOB

Bernie Lukan attended an information event sponsored jointly by Husky Energy and Serafina Oil. Bernie made a report on the information shared regarding developments in the oil industry that are to be constructed near Spruce Lake, Saskatchewan. It was suggested that these two companies be contacted to provide information about this project for the TLWI website.

Scott McRobbie, long serving member of the Turtle Lake Watershed Inc., passed away suddenly in October of 2016. For some years, Scott completed and recorded weekly monitoring of Turtle Lake water levels at the weir.

Moved by Dave Blackwell, seconded by Bernie Lukan that the years of dedicated service to TLWI be acknowledged in the form of an engraved plaque. Carried.

Jim Range agreed to make arrangements to order the plaque.

Don Taylor stated at present, water in Turtle Lake is 16" over the weir. Discussion followed regarding the recent closure of the bridge and implications of its eventual replacement. Jim Range agreed to contact the Ryan Domotor of RM of Mervin regarding the careful replacement of the weir. Critical placement of this

structure is required to maintain consistency and accuracy in the monitoring of lake levels.

TLWI is lacking a website manager. Thomas Abe suggested we could work together regarding website maintenance with the NSRBC. In addition, we could share in the use of their projector and screen for our meetings, a need we have identified. Louise Stuart suggested we contact Tracey Misco in this regard. The matter has been tabled for future discussion.

Court Peddle moved adjournment. Carried. Time 12:26 pm.

The next meeting of the Turtle Lake Watershed Inc. is Saturday, June 24, 2017 at the Turtle Lake Mission.