

Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance (MPWA)**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting****Centre Chevalier (Upstairs Meeting Room), Falher – Tuesday January 29th, 2019**

	Name	Sector
	Ian Daisley	Forestry
	Bob Cameron	Conservation/Environmental
	Catherine Brown	Research /Education
	Jim Webb	Lower Watershed First Nation
	Michelle Gairdner	Large Urban Municipality (Alternate)
	Dave Walty	Public Member-at-Large
	Elaine Garrow	Rural Municipalities
	Dave Hay	Recreation/Tourism/Fisheries
	Shelleen Gerbig	Agriculture
	Dave Coish	Federal/Transboundary Relations
	Rick Keillor	Public Member-at-Large, MPWA Chair
	Sandra Miller	Oil & Gas (Alternate)
	Dan Benson	Provincial Government
Regrets	Chris Thiessen	Large Urban Municipality
	Elaine Manzer	Small Urban Municipalities
	Ashley Rowney	Utilities
	Darren Calliou	Metis Settlement General Council
	Troy Stuart	Middle Watershed First nation
	Sarah Belak	Oil & Gas
Speakers	James Proudfoot	Alberta Environment and Park, Water Technologist
Staff	Rhonda Clarke-Gauthier	Executive Director
	Adam Norris	MPWA Watershed Coordinator
	Megan Mader	MPWA Education & Outreach Coordinator

ACTION LOG:

<u>Chairman</u>	Mr. R. Keillor
<u>Executive Director</u>	Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier
<u>Finance Committee</u>	Mr. B. Cameron, Mr. R. Keillor, Ms. S. Gerbig, Ms. A. Rowney, Executive Director
<u>Education & Stewardship Committee</u>	Ms. S. Gerbig, Ms. E. Manzer, Ms. A. Rowney, Mr. B. Cameron, Exec Director, E/O Coordinator, Ms. M. Gairdner
<u>Technical Committee</u>	Ms. A. Rowney, Mr. R. Keillor, Mr. B. Cameron, Ms. E. Garrow, Mr. I. Daisley, Mr. D. Walty, Watershed Coordinator, Exec Director
<u>Integrated Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee (IWMP SC)</u>	Mr. B. Cameron, Ms. E. Garrow, Mr. I. Daisley, Mr. R. Keillor, Mr. J. Webb, Mr. C. Thiessen, Mr. D. Walty, Watershed Coord., Exec Director
<u>Nomination Committee</u>	Mr. B. Cameron, Mr. D. Benson, Mr. C. Thiessen, Exec Director
<u>Summit 2018 Committee</u>	Mr. B. Cameron, Mr. R. Keillor, Mr. D. Walty, Mr. D. Benson, Ms. E. Manzer, Watershed Coordinator, E/O Coordinator, Exec Director

Chair

Lead	Meeting No.	Description	Status
Chair (with nomination committee)	Action 1.7	As opportunities arise, investigate reps for the remaining vacant Board seats.	In progress.
Chair and Executive Director	Action 6.1	Draft a letter to Treaty 8 Chief and Council, who have the authority to designate a person be involved with the MPWA on behalf of Treaty 8, emphasizes Board's advisory role.	In progress
Chair	Action 2/20/2015 -1	The Chair is to put in a formal request for funds to NADC.	To do

Executive Director

Lead	Meeting No.	Description	Status
Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier	Action 1.3	Investigate the requirements and the process for gaining charitable status.	In progress.
Mr. J. Sobze, Mr. A Siad-Omar and Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier	Action 4.2	Partnership with novaNAIT Boreal Research Institute to assemble an online searchable database of information sources on the Peace River Watershed	Have started to populate database with information
Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier	Action 4.8	After Board meeting, Rhonda provides info. Releases that can be shared with each sector. Communication inquiries will go to Rhonda.	Ongoing
Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier	Action 6.4	Craft official correspondence requesting funding/support for Board members can distribute and request funding.	Continuing
Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier	Action 9.2	Look into applying for Casinos	
Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier	Action 7/30/2015-2	MPWA to develop protocols and procedures for dealing with challenges that will be present during the planning processes including grievance process, appeals, etc.). Staff to research and prepare.	In process
Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier	Action 7/30/2015-5	Send letter campaign to partners and potential partners regarding funding, and letters of support for MPWA work.	As required

Finance Committee

Lead	Meeting No.	Description	Status
Finance Committee	Action 2.4	The Finance Committee will move forward and solicit dollars.	In progress

Education and Stewardship Committee

Lead	Meeting No.	Description	Status

Lead	Meeting No.	Description	Status
Ms. M. Mader	Action 1/29/2019-3	Ensure the Summer Lake Stewardship report is put on the website.	To Do

Technical Committee

Lead	Meeting No.	Description	Status
Mr. A. Norris	Action 1/29/2019-2	Find a passionate/inspirational speaker for the wetlands topic for AGM	To Do
Mr. A. Norris	Action 1/29/2019-4	Request involvement in the regional planning west of Wood Buffalo National Park from Mr. Matt Libel, Alberta Environment and Parks.	To Do

Directors

Lead	Meeting No.	Description	Status
All Directors and Alternates	Action 7/30/2015-6	Supply the office with contact names and addresses of potential funders and supporters in their sector.	To Do
All Directors and Staff	Action 1/29/2019-1	Forward IWMP survey to appropriate contacts.	To Do

1. Administration

1.1. Call Meeting to Order

- Meeting called to order at 9:34 AM by Mr. R. Keillor.
- Quorum was present.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda made by Mr. D. Walty and seconded by Mr. I. Daisley.

Accepted by Consensus

1.3 Approval of Minutes

- December 12th, 2018 Meeting Minutes were reviewed.
- Mr. R. Keillor would like to change/ update the names within the Action Log.
- Mr. I. Daisley suggested the Action Log should have a date and old/no longer relevant items should be removed.
 - Action Log will be updated.
- Mr. D. Coish asked about the Casino Fundraiser.
 - Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier provided background on the Casino Action Item.

Motion to approve December 12th, 2018 Meeting Minutes made by Ms. S. Miller and seconded by Mr. B. Cameron.

Accepted by Consensus

Note: If grammatical/spelling errors are noted, then it is acceptable to provide edits to Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier.

1.4 Director Roundtable – Stakeholders & Concerns

- Mr. D. Benson – Has been doing a lot of extension work with the working well program this winter and with CAPP Funding, which has given him the opportunity to work with the Agriculture community. Once the election is called he will not be able to sit on the board during the election (28 days).
 - Ms. E. Garrow asked if he has gone to the rural meeting to talk to Ag service boards as she believes Mr. D. Benson's work would be informative for farmers.
- Mr. D. Walty – Spent time writing the cumulative effects section in the Grimshaw Gravel Aquifer section in the report. He is helping finalize the maps for the report as well. All the work he has been doing is on volunteer basis.
- Ms. C. Brown – NAIT Boreal Research Centre has changed the name to the **Centre for Boreal Research**. Seeding trees for reclamation projects has begun. There is a new reclamation video on the website - www.nait.ca/borealresearch .
- Ms. M. Gairdner – Grande Prairie council has approved funding for MPWA. This year they donated just over \$14,000 (cheque received January 28, 2019) next year will be roughly \$15,000.
- Ms. E. Garrow – Has been telling all of the councils and organizations she works with about the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance. She has invited MPWA to come and see the drone they have. The footage will be shared on their website. She has been losing a lot of her land into the river, but believes it is natural and is okay with it.
- Mr. D. Coish – Alberta is providing input on the Wood Buffalo National Park Action Plan. A DRAFT has been shared with public for comments and the final is scheduled for release February 1st, 2019.
 - Site C construction is ongoing. West Moberly First Nation's injunction to halt construction was not granted.
 - A court case before mid 2023 will determine whether Site C infringes on First Nation Treaty Rights.
 - Alberta and British Columbia met January 23rd and anticipate releasing a draft bilateral Water Management Agreement by early 2020.
 - Alberta-North West Territories State of the Ecosystem Reporting will be out soon.
 - The Mackenzie River Basin Board is forming a water quality sub-committee.
 - Water quality data for the 2018 Annual Report is being collected.
 - Groundwater work is occurring to map underground channels and permafrost.
 - WRWMP SC met yesterday about the Wapiti River Water Management Plan, approved the plan and agreed to move forward with public and First Nation engagement (March 11; 5:30pm - open house).
 - AEP Planning Branch has been putting resources into the Bighorn County and Caribou planning.
- Mr. J. Webb – Question about the minutes about the motion to start a discussion with Beaver Nation – this will be discussed later under 3.5
- Mr. B. Cameron – Peace River Environmental Society has some issues with the UNESCO process. The final Wood Buffalo Nation Park Heritage Site Action Plan will be released this week.
- Mr. I. Daisley – Received an email from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry last week about changes to the Water Act and indicated impacts for forestry – but they did not specify the changes. Ms. S. Miller will send the email with the changes to Mr. I. Daisley.,
- Ms. S. Gerbig – Has been focusing on the SARDA tradeshow and booths are sold out. Within the next few weeks they will announce the Tradeshow sessions.
 - The Saturday (March 16th) will have a farm family safety day. Mr. D. Walty will provide some information in regards to the bear program with AEP.

- Ms. S. Miller – Ms. Natalia Thornton has resigned from Seven Generations but is still a public member of MPWA. Today the Alberta Energy Regulator is releasing the Industry Water Use report to the public.
 - Received an email from CAPP with the changes to the Water Act – she will share with Mr. I. Daisley and MPWA staff.
- Mr. D. Hay – No updates at this time.

2. Reports and Updates

2.1 Chairman Report

- Had the opportunity to lobby his local MLA for funding.

2.2 Office Update

- Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier highlighted work conducted from December 12th, 2018 to January 29th, 2019 - report attached;
- Ms. R. Clarke- Gauthier handed out a questionnaire for the board. This exercise is to identify areas where the Board needs more education or information.

2.3 Financial Report

- Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier reviewed the Financial Statement up to January 29th, 2019
- Core Grant received an interim payment that was \$17,000 too much and now they have asked for it back. MPWA will reimburse the over payment.
- After January we will be around \$75,000 to cover expenses through March 31, 2019
- We have received notice that because of the election the grant review will be interrupted. Grant applications may be submitted after the election because they will not be reviewed before then.
- We do have enough money to cover operations to the end of the April, and some staff for running the AGM in May.
- Ms. R. Clarke- Gauthier asked what will happen with the carry over this year but has not received an answer. If we are unable to carry funds over to the new fiscal year we will be closed by the end of April.
- The managers of the 11 WPACS wrote a letter in November 2018 to Robert Stokes in regards to the election and the need for bridge funding but there has been no response to the letter. Hopefully answers at the Managers Meeting on Feb 5th.
- Mr. D. Walty would like to see if we could get enough funding from fundraisers to ensure operations through the first fiscal quarter until the core operations grant is typically received.

2.4 Education & Stewardship Committee – Ms. M. Mader

- Ms. M. Mader gave an update on the upcoming tradeshow MPWA will be attending – a volunteer sign up sheet was handed out for board members.
- MPWA has been accepted into the Peace Wapiti Teachers Convention in Grande Prairie to have a booth. Ms. M. Mader will be attending and trying to connect with more teachers and schools to do class presentations
- Will be participating in our annual presentations – Spring Riparian Tour, Walk through the Forest, & FINs.

2.5 Technical Committee Update – Mr. A. Norris

- Another crossing structure has been completed since the last Board meeting – this one is an equipment crossing
- A table that outlines the MPWA technical Projects was distributed that will be used in the AEP operational grant application. It detailed projects, status, leads, anticipated achievements and alignment with the Strategic Plan and Integrated Watershed Management Plan
- Funding sources for operations and grants were reviewed.
 - Discussion around using project funding for staff costs and ensuring that projects are able to continue when operational funding is delayed or insufficient

2.6 IWMP SC Update – Survey

- Mr. A. Norris – March 2018 saw the completion of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan and the IWMP SC has been working on how to measure success. A survey has been created to aid in this evaluation and was reviewed by board.

ACTION ITEM 1/29/2019-1: Directors and Staff are to forward IWMP survey to appropriate contacts.

Motion to approve Office Report, Financial Report, E&S Committee, Technical Committee Update and the IWMP Update made by Ms. S. Gerbig and seconded by Mr. B. Cameron.

Accepted by Consensus

3. Other

3.1 Strategic Plan Draft Review (2019 – 2024) - Acceptance

- Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier walked the board through the updated DRAFT Strategic Plan. The plan was updated following the January 8th meeting.

Motion to accept the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan made by Ms. E. Garrow and seconded by Mr. D. Walty.

Accepted by Consensus

3.2 Letter Regarding Monitoring - Sent

- Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier sent out the letter to the Minister of AEP, regarding the need for a monitoring plan, that was discussed at the December 12th, 2019 meeting.
- The letter is on the Directors area of the website.

3.3 AGM Update – May 24th, 2019 – Notice of Election, Speaker

- The AGM will be in Peace River and Ms. M. Mader has been getting quotes for hotels in Peace River.
- Ms. R. Clarke-Gauthier went over the seats up for election.
- If Board members want to step down please give MPWA Executive Director written notice.
- Theme of this AGM: In stream flow needs – Andrew Paul has tentatively accepted the invite to speak at the AGM.
 - Wetlands may be the topic for the afternoon presentation

ACTION ITEM 1/29/2019-2: Mr. A. Norris to find a passionate/inspirational speaker for the wetlands topic.

3.4 LakeKeepers Winter Steward

- The LakeKeepers Program will run again next summer – we were involved with 3 lakes summer 2018.

- We have been invited to participate in the winter water testing pilot project
 - We would need Anglers who go Ice Fishing
 - Ms. Elaine Garrow suggested Dave Shmyr from Rycroft
 - Mr. B. Cameron volunteered

ACTION ITEM 1/29/2019-3: Ms. M. Mader will ensure the Summer 2018 LakeKeepers Stewardship report is put on the website.

3.5 Board Request for Information re: Beaver FN Water

- Mr. A. Norris contacted Kieran Broderick, Lands and Resource Advisor to Beaver First Nation, to discuss the Ponton River and Source Water for Beaver First Nation and access the new licence on the Ponton River and its associated use reporting.
- A potential approach to Source Water planning has been submitted to Beaver First Nation via Kieran Broderick as well as the request to begin a conversation around Source Water Protection for Beaver First Nation.

3.6 Letter from Amisk

- Amisk hydroelectric project sent a letter and they will not start Environmental data collection during the winter of 2019 due to a lack of funding.

Guest Speaker: James Proudfoot, Water Technologist, Regional Integrated Approvals – Water Act Licensing

- Reviewed the history of water legislation in Alberta and the looked at the Water Act.
 - Licenses are no longer permanent but can be renewed
 - Transfer of water is permitted
 - The ownership of all water is vested in the crown
- The *Water for Life* strategy supports the Water Act
- Other relevant legislation includes:
 - EPEA, Public Lands Act, Municipal Government Act, Agriculture Operations Practices Act, etc.
- Ms. E. Garrow asked how does Alberta Environment and Parks make sure that rural citizens are guaranteed fresh water?
 - Mr. J. Proudfoot indicated that he is available to discuss specific cases after wards.
 - First in time, first in right (FITFIR) still applies when drinking water is accessed through a junior license.
- Each license or registration is given a priority number (first in time first in right).
 - All licenses other then household are ranked according to seniority, not according to purpose of use.
- Preliminary Certificates are essentially a “promise” for water and if certain pre-conditions are met, a license will be issued.
 - Does not give the ability to divert water.
- Temporary Diversion Licenses – Short term diversion of water (Issued for a maximum time period of one year).
 - No priority or notice required.
- Some activities that require an approval include:
 - Construction of a dugout, drainage, water intake, dams, realignment of a water course, erosion protection.

- Environmental Assessment Process – must be completed pursuant to EPEA, before a Water Act authorization.
- As of January 18, 2019 the portals for submission of applicants has been updated – it is now OneStop.

3.6 Priorities of E&S Committee, Activities, Participants

- Current Participants: Ms. A. Rowney, Mr. C. Thiessen, Ms. M. Gairdner, Ms. S. Gerbig, Ms. E. Manzer.
 - We need to more members on the committee.
- Ms. M. Mader went over the Committee Goals and ongoing initiatives as well as Key Tasks within the Terms of Reference.
- Ms. C. Brown declined to sit on the committee at this time but is willing to help with certain future actions.
- Mr. B. Cameron has said he would sit as ex chair on the committee.

3.7 Review of Website Resources and Directors Information – WBNP, Minutes, Meeting presentations and resources

- Ms. R. Clarke–Gauthier went through the MPWA website with the Board of Directors reviewing the content and its location.
- Mr. J. Webb asked if the board be taking an active role in the Wood Buffalo National Park Heritage Site Action Plan recommendations?
 - The Technical Committee’s letter to Parks Canada regarding the Action Plan requested that MPWA be a part of the Flow Working Group and suggested that the Birch River Watershed could be used as a reference watershed.

ACTION ITEM 1/29/2019-4: Mr. A. Norris to request involvement in the regional planning west of Wood Buffalo National Park from Mr. Matt Libel, Alberta Environment and Parks.

4. Next Meetings

- March 21, 2019 – Rhonda will confirm with a doodle poll
- AGM – May 24th, 2019, Peace River

5. Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Mr. J. Webb to adjourn the meeting at 2:57 PM.

CARRIED

Office Report December 12, 2018 to January 28, 2019:

- Jan 8 – Board Strategic Plan Workshop
- Jan 8 - Weyerhaeuser PAG
- Jan 17 – Education & Outreach Conference Call with other WPACs
- Jan 17 – Powell Crossing work – WRRP Livestock Crossing
- Jan 22 – Call with Danielle Lafreniere from Associated Engineering
- Work coming out of Board Meeting – Strategic plan re-work, minutes, Beaver FN follow-up,
- Pay bills and update financials
- Wapiti River Water Management Plan discussions regarding requirements and needs for next step.
- Year-end write-ups and financial summaries for EDF and WRRP projects
- Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer Source Water Protection Plan
 - Dec 14 – Grimshaw Gravels meeting and draft editing
- Ongoing project and program management – technical and Education/Outreach - project scoping, partner confirmation, funding searches, etc.
- Member of the professional Agrologist’s Water Resources Practice Standards. Read through senior review team comments on Draft and responses.
- Preparation for 2019-2020 AEP Grant Application

A few upcoming events

- Jan 30 - ABMI Information Forum
- Feb 5 – Managers Meeting

Upcoming Dates: where volunteers are needed

- March 14-16 – SARDA Tradeshow
- April 5 & 6 – Peace River Tradeshow
- April 13 – Clearhills Country Tradeshow
- May 15 & 16 – Grande Prairie Petroleum Show

Submitted By: Rhonda Clarke-Gauthier, P.Ag, - Executive Director
Adam Norris, M.Sc, P.Biol, - Watershed Coordinator
Megan Mader – Education/Outreach Coordinator