

# Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: Wed. May 5, 2010

Recorded by: E. McIntyre

Meeting Location: OMNR Parry Sound Dist. Boardroom

Status: Approved; June 16 meeting

Caveat: Unless statements are in quotations, they have been paraphrased to express the intent of remarks made by individuals to whom they are attributed. For brevity, only discussion and comments of a significant nature as well as 'action items' arising from discussion are included herein. These minutes represent a true and accurate summary of proceedings to the best ability of the recorder.

Full Member	Pres.	Regrets	Abs.	Full Member	Pres.	Regrets	Abs.
John Bell	x			Bill McRobb	x		
Brian Emery	x			Eric McIntyre	x		
Dave Bulger			x	Doug Wright	x		
Terry Crawford, Pres.	x			Mike Palmer	x		
Ray Hachigian	x			Karl Schiefer		x	
Greg Mason	x			Gerry Haarmeyer	x		
John Crawford	x			Glenda Clayton	x		

Guests: None

Handouts provided to Council members included:

- April 2010 Lake Muskoka Water level graph & discharge graphs – Moon & Musquash Rivers
- 2010 Work Plan (summary)
- FMZ-14 Priority Issues – Survey sheet
- Financial Report
- White Squall S.O.D. project proposal
- E-mail (Banchard to McIntyre; Apr 27) Hydro generating proposal - Bala
- Lake Sturgeon in Ontario – Backgrounder (OMNR, June 27/08)
- Lake Sturgeon – An important part of Ontario's biodiversity (OMNR flyer)
- The Law and Aboriginal Treaty Rights – Ch. 4 Excerpt from Aboriginal Relations (MNR, 2008)

## 1.0 Guest Introductions & Welcome – No guests

## 2.0 Review March 24, 2010 Minutes/Action Items:

- 2.1 **Action: Ray to contact Andy Heerschap and set up a meeting to discuss proceeding with the Bala workshop and MNR's letter of March 10, 2010** (Done; see item 3.1 of these minutes)
- 2.2 **Action: Eric to contact Dave Phillips of Env. Canada with invitation to attend our alternate 2010 Workshop** (No Dave Phillips e-mail address at Env. Canada; request sent to general inquiry – no response received. See item 3.4 these minutes.)

- 2.3 **Action: Eric to contact Bob Florean and request that invoices relating to the Economic / Fisheries Revitalization Initiative be split 50/50 as they come in.** (Done; cheque has been deposited in our account.
- 2.4 **Action (Eric) Can provide a link on our website under “Links” on Home Page; request Parry Sound Sail reciprocate with a link to our website** (Done)
- 2.5 **Action: Eric to advise John Blanchard by e-mail ([johnblanchard@sportfishingmuskoka.com](mailto:johnblanchard@sportfishingmuskoka.com)). Also – contact Mike Walsh to advise if this is okay with Muskoka-Parry Sound Council.** (Done)

Motion to accept the minutes by Ray; second by Mike; carried.

#### **Discussion on release of Draft Minutes to Associate Members**

Action: Minutes not to be released to Associate members until they are approved.

### **3.0 Updates:**

- 3.1 Moon River Flow Regime
- Graphs showing Lake Muskoka water level and discharge to Musquash and Moon Rivers from April 1- 29 included in handout package
  - On or about Apr. 26 or 27, discharge to Moon River was reduced from 18 to 11 cms
  - Discussion:
    - Although the timing was unfortunate, the reduction of 7 cms did not have any appreciable impact on wetted perimeter below Moon Falls and few if any walleye eggs were exposed.
    - All-in-all, this year’s flow regime – under the circumstance of exceptionally low water, was pretty good

Ray gave an update re his meeting with Andy Heerschap re the Bala Workshop as well MNR’s reply to our Moon River water management recommendations:

- Bala workshop postponed until 2011 due to potential conflict with Swift River hydro-electric development proposal in Bala.
- Andy recommended we need to communicate more verbally vs. memos & e-mail. Council agreed.
- Discussed possibility of MNR person (excluding Eric) attending our meetings. Consensus was – no; MNR to be invited on an “as needed” basis. (Note: This was with no disrespect to MNR; concern expressed it would negatively impact the free and open discussion we currently enjoy.)
- If MNR has something that’s ‘rubbing them the wrong way’ – they too should bring it to our attention.
- **Action: We should invite MNR manager to one of our future meetings.**
- Andy indicated MNR will notify us of comments from MRWMP partners on our recommendations
- **Action: (Eric) to request post-freshet de-briefing conference call.**

### 3.2 Moon River Egg Collection:

- Project lead by Bill and conducted from March 31 – April 15
- 1 million eggs successfully collected. Approximately 30,000 to Cedar Brook Farms for advanced rearing to summer fingerling stage. Approx. 20,000 to Tadenac Club re in-situ rearing. Approx. 10,000 into Moon River Cottages pond for advanced rearing
- Remainder of fry planted into Moon River
- Project marred by incident of fish theft on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion re use of Woods Bay pond for future walleye culture

- **Action: (Eric) Advise Wally Johnson if pond is prepared for walleye culture in the future we will make fry available. This will be part of Council's CFIP project with the expectation of complete reporting of results.**

### 3.3 Economic/Fisheries Revitalization Initiative:

- Latest communication with Ivan: Awaiting input from Manager – Tourism Development Fund; under discussion internally
- Will revise project proposal once above complete; proposal will then be circulated to EGBSC and MASC for final approval
- Proposal then to be circulated to Jason Laronde to take before the AORMC as an agenda item

### 3.4 2010 Work Plan – Lake Stewardship Workshop

- As a consequence of the cancellation of the Bala workshop on Muskoka River Water Management, we will conduct a Lake Stewardship Workshop this summer.
- Workshop theme: Climate Change – What it means to YOUR environment.
- In the process of lining up speakers and venue.
- Rather than pursue a marquis speaker like Dave Phillips, Eric suggested Kenton Otterbein would be an appropriate substitute. Also, call for speakers sent out to GB-5. GBF have indicated their interest in providing a speaker relating to water level issue on Georgian Bay.
- Other speakers recommended by Council: Grey Mayne (Env. Can.); David Pearson – Laurentian University; Pat Chow- Fraser (McMaster U.); John Midwood – McMaster U. **Action: Eric to investigate further and line up speakers.**
- Date & venue need to be selected. Suggestion: Parry Sound Curling Club for Wed. July 28<sup>th</sup>.

### 3.5 FMZ-14 Meeting (March 27<sup>th</sup>)

- Minutes were sent to Council members – on or about April 30<sup>th</sup>
- FMZ-14 Priority Issues survey distributed to members. To be completed and returned to Eric for tabulation and submission to UGLMU
- Joint FMZ-13 (Lake Huron) and FMZ-14 (Geo. Bay & N. Channel) planned for Raleigh Lodge in Port Severn; date to be confirmed.
- **Action: Eric to send Terms of Reference to Greg Mason**
- Terry gave an over-view of the Colpoys Bay sanctuary proposal; no consensus on a recommendation.

### 3.6 Regulation Fish Stickers

- Prototype has been sent to Annan & Sons Ltd for price estimate (Apr. 20)
- Memo seeking partners – GB-5 / Archipelago & MASC has been sent out

#### Discussion:

- Consensus there be no claw-back re partner contributions
- Sale price for tapes: \$1
- **Action: Eric to send Archipelago invoice for \$500 as project partner**
- **Action: Eric – order 10,000 tapes**

### 3.7 Meetings Attended:

#### 1. United Walleye Clubs meeting – April 10<sup>th</sup> / Sudbury

- Eric attended on behalf of the EGBSC
- Paul Venturelli – spoke about the importance of large females to fish population -> higher survival rate for eggs laid; larger eggs. Analysis of population resiliency related to regulations can be over-ridden by unreasonably high fishing pressure.
- Kris Vascotto – spoke about the widespread introduction of smallmouth bass throughout Ontario and its detrimental impacts on other fish species. Does not recommend any further introductions.
- Keith Scott – spoke about fish stocking in the Sudbury District; over 50 walleye lakes planted annually – most by CFWIP groups, only 3-4 planted by MNR.

#### 2. GBA Spring Meeting – April 13 (Toronto)

#### 3. Midland Council Meeting – April 26

- Introductory – Who & What we Are type meeting

## 4.0 Financial Report

- Financial statement presented to Council for review.

## 5.0 Business Arising / New Business

### 5.1 Partnership (funding) request – White Squall S.O.D. project

**Resolution: We contribute \$1k to White Squall SOD project as a supporting partner in the project. Motion by Gerry; Second by Mike; carried.**

### 5.2 Trumpeter Swan Survey

- Harry Lumsden has requested the EGBSC canvas our partners to report sightings of Trumpeter Swans
- Letter requesting same has been sent out to all partners
- Website has had a new tab for “Trumpeter Swan Survey” added providing instructions to volunteers

- 5.3 Pike Fishing Tournament
  - Eric attended pike tournament on May 2
  - Perhaps an opportunity may present itself next year to assist tournament organizers with a tagged fish. In exchange, data collection could be modified to collect useful information about pike populations being exploited.
  
- 5.4 Dick Gibbins – Carved fish donation & silent auction
  - Have contacted Canadian Tire (Rob Moorish). They've agreed to provide store space for a silent auction
  - Mr. Gibbins has indicated he will be returning in early June; will donate a muskellunge carving at that time.
  - Gerry – We should advise lake associations when auction is on.
  
- 5.5 Proposed Hydro Generating Station in Bala – FYI
  - Copy of Muskoka Lake Chamber of Commerce letter (via John Blanchard) included in handout – fyi
  
- 5.6 Requests for deputation to Muskoka Watershed Council and Muskoka Lakes Association
  - Eric has contacted both above organizations requesting an opportunity to make a deputation regarding Moon River flow regime
  
- 5.7 IJC – Impacts on Water Levels – St. Clair River Summary Report
  - Do we want to submit comments on the report? – Discussion – 'No'
  
- 5.8 2010 Freshwater Summit scheduled for June 1 & 2 in Bracebridge
  - **Action: Glenda to represent EGBSC at the Summit**
  
- 5.9 In Camera Session
  
- 5.10 **Action: Terry to request that Karl draft a letter to the Minister (MNR) re Council concerns related to:**
  1. Theft of fish from Moon River net during egg collection and OMNR response
  2. Conservation issue related to unregulated harvest of walleye at Port Sever by specific individuals
  3. FN harvest of Lake Sturgeon (Threatened species under the Endangered Species Act) at Port Severn

**Action: Eric to arrange for Council members (John Bell & Greg Mason) to confer with Chiefs of Wahta and Wasauksing FN re above.**

*(Supplemental: This action item postponed pending June 26 meeting with MNR.)*

**6.0 Date for Next Meeting:** Wed. June 16th