

Board Meeting

November 8, 2018; 11:30 am – 4 pm

Rm 41, 419 – 3rd Street SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 0G9

Teleconference option:

Phone in: 1-855-392-2520

Access Code: 8126260#

Present: Garry Lentz, Gary Franz, Karen Saffran, Ryan Davison, John Michalopoulos, Audrey Goodwin, Greg Heebner, Janelle Villeneuve (teleconference), Ron Linowski, Marilou Montemayor,

Regrets: Alf Belyea, Diane Harty

Visitor: Chad Willims, AEP, replaces Heather Sinton (retired), Director Southland Environmental Planning, works on SSRP implementation

Lunch at 11:30 am

Minutes

1. Call to order by the Chair: 12:00

Introductions

2. Approval of the agenda with correction: New Business was numbered when it shouldn't have been. Added on a report of the WPAC managers meeting, October 30, 2018 (#9).

Moved to approve the agenda with the correction and addition by Audrey Goodwin; seconded by John Michalopoulos.

CARRIED.

3. Approval of the previous meeting's minutes October 11, 2018.

- Edit on Water Quality: "ALS used higher detection limits than those used by AEP and A&F. Use current AB environment quality guidelines. Do not use 1999 Alberta guideline values for Total N and Total P as these are outdated."

Moved to approve the October 11, 2018 draft minutes with edits by Karen Saffran; seconded by Ryan Davison.

CARRIED.

4. Jerry Fitzgerald's bio was read. The board was pleased to welcome Jerry as member of the Technical Committee.
5. Approve/update of SEAWA compensation grid
 - Tabled to the Executive Committee – Review the proposed updates to the SEAWA Compensation Grid and present to the board when finalized.
6. Board development training report:
 - Facilitators did a fantastic job; lots of topics covered in a day.
 - Important topics covered: conflict of interest policy, governance structure, understanding financial statements, guiding principles/values, risk analysis,
 - Board training should occur on an annual basis.
 - Board development training was a good way to get the WPACs together, proposed having a rotation for hosting training.

Mention of WPAC Roles:

- In 2016, AEP advised SEAWA to put on hold SoW and IWMP projects and focus on community engagement, education and outreach.
- In January 2017, environmental stewardship role was added; encouraged to get project funding from existing provincial programs (e.g., WRRP, Climate Change).
- SEAWA was advised to use the SSRP for guidance in watershed management.
- SEAWA may bring up to AEP about producing a new SoW and an IWMP.

Recruitment for committees:

- Committees are currently filled with mostly board members.
- Board members should speak with those they know to try and fill committees with non-board members.
- Audrey Goodwin is now the only member of Policy Committee.

Add a section on Conflict of Interest in the Board of Directors Terms of Reference.

Discussion of Risk:

- The risk analysis results for the IWMP conducted in 2012 was presented. These results are still currently relevant to SEAWA as an organization. There were six risks identified: 1) No engagement, 2) Insufficient data, 3) Inadequate resources, 4) Lack of cooperation, 5, Population growth and development, and Climate change.
- Number 1 and 2 are the top (critical) risk.
- Four out of 6 of SEAWA's greatest risks are not related to the watershed but to the organization itself. SEAWA lacks the authority to make changes to its roles; only functions as an advisory board.

7. Approve Organizational structure
 - Organization structure was updated.

8. Strategic Plan Review:

SEAWA Board Meeting Minutes 08Nov2018, approved 13Dec2018

Environmental scan is not needed at this time. It's like going back to the beginning of the organization. We should be going forward now. Educational forums are great but we should do practical projects on the ground that help resolve watershed issues.

Current strategic plan and key activities are still current. Next year's objectives or detailed activities will be new.

SEAWA supports SSRP (Goal 6).

- SEAWA's input into the city of Medicine Hat's MDP were aligned with the SSRP Implementation Recommendations.
- SEAWA may ask AEP again about doing a SoW and/or an IWMP.

Charitable status application has been planned since SEAWA started.

- Process has been started by the approval of the membership at AGM 2017 of the following: 1) revision of SEAWA's objects as a registered not-for-profit society, and 2) revisions of its Mission to reflect the charitable purpose of 'education'.

Additional topic: the city of Medicine Hat is planning to install a facility that will dispose of the sludge by-product of the drinking water treatment plant in an environmentally safe manner. This is beneficial to the watershed.

Saamis Archaeological Site - SEAWA should increase its effort to educate people about the importance of healthy riparian areas.

9. Next meeting - December 13, 2018.

Audrey Goodwin moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Gary Franz.
CARRIED.