

Board Meeting

May 13, 2021, 1-4 pm

Zoom link emailed to participants.

Attending: Ryan Davison, Alf Belyea, Mike Zmurchyk, Karen Saffran, Stuart Murray, Greg Paxman, Jean Beriault, Tina Regehr, Martha Munz Gue, Chad Willims, Allison Campbell, Marilou Montemayor (ED).

Minutes

1. Call to order by the Chair, 1:06 pm, Ryan Davison
2. Adoption of the agenda; any deletion/addition to the agenda (**Doc1**),
Moved by Alf Belyea to adopt the agenda with no additions/deletions; seconded by Stuart Murray.
CARRIED
3. Review and approval of the Board meeting draft minutes April 8, 2021 (**Doc2**).
Review of action items - Marilou Montemayor – Revision on #4 that decision will be delayed to May 13 meeting.
Mike Zmurchyk moved to approve the board meeting minutes from April 8, 2021; seconded by Jean Beriault.
CARRIED

Business Arising

4. Seven Persons Creek Water Quality Report - final (**Doc3**) for Board approval – Karen Saffran
<https://seawa.ca/assets/media/documents/water-quality-of-seven-persons-creek-finalmar25-2021-1616771316.pdf>
Moved by Karen Saffran to approve the Seven Persons Creek Water Quality Report, seconded by Stuart Murray.
CARRIED
The report will be advertised on social media.

New Business

5. AGM Preparation – Board of Directors open seats for election (**Doc4**) – Marilou Montemayor
 - 5.1. Keziah Gosselin-Lesko has resigned her board /technical committee positions (as of May 11, 2021).
Discussion and **Actions** on recruitment for open board seats:
Open seat for 1 Urban and 1 Rural/municipal government board member - **Greg Paxman** will talk to his Redcliff utility contact to see who might be interested in joining the board.

Outdoor recreation/Ecotourism seat – Martha Munz Gue asked if 360 bike club has been contacted, **Jean Beriault** said she knows Ben Roscoe from Gravity Sports and will ask him.

Jean Beriault asked where environmental testing falls under – Industry seat. Jean will ask her Enviro-Geotesting contact Su Gaekwad.

Jean Beriault will invite Alto Living/New Rock Developments Darcy Stone to join the board in the open and available seat.

Chad Willms has taken over for Audrey Goodwin for now (she has done 3 terms already). Chad will try to find another staff member (who best supports our work). Suggestions made: Natalie Kromrey and Sandi Robertson.

Can the federal seat be removed? [Note: CFB Suffield's effect on the watershed and the SSR].

Ryan Davison will ask Diane Harty if she still wants to be on the board.

Alf Belyea and **Stuart Murray** will think about who they can ask for the Licensee, Non-irrigator seat.

Moved by Alf Belyea for Ryan Davison to be moved to the currently open Member-at-large category from his current 'declared open and available seat' at AGM 2018; seconded by Stuart Murray. CARRIED

As per decision of the board at its meeting on May 13, 2021, the AGM is on July 8, 2021, 1-3 pm, 3:30-5 pm board meeting, online.

Information

6. Communications Committee (**Doc5**) – Martha Munz Gue

Adopt-a-pond report: 19 separate ponds/riparian areas have been adopted. Martha asked if anyone wants to do the Seven Persons Creek riparian restoration site to Scholton hill, Saamis Archaeological Site area, and Strathcona Park confluence of creeks to river.

7. Update: finances, staff, project grant applications, feedback to AWC draft documents, reports submitted or to write – Marilou Montemayor.

- Working on annual report for the AGM, writing WRRP report first
- AWC's project on Wetland Policy Review – still getting feedback
- WPAC representative to the AWC board - Steve Meadow from Red Deer River Watershed Alliance volunteered and was approved by the WPAC Managers
- Staff: 2 summer students (Alexi Nelson and Ian Mahon) and Ben White, Stewardship & Communications Assistant.
- Restoration summary: as of summer 2020 we have restored 11 km, with 910 surviving plants (705 plants at Yeast and Sauder sites (both SMRID lands), 205 plants at two city sites)

7.1. Letter of Intent & Letters of Support [Climate Action and Awareness Fund - Canada.ca](https://climateaction.ca/)

Letter of intent due June 10. If approved, a full project proposal with more details will be prepared. Project title: Quantification of carbon storage in shrubs and trees of AB prairie region and pilot sites establishment (our 1000 trees planted at 4 sites that need ongoing maintenance). Mike Zmurchyk informed that SMIRD Lethbridge office will write letter of support; ED will provide SMRID the Letter of Intent so they have the details. City's letter of support was requested though Keziah Gosselin-Lesko.

- 7.2. Riparian restoration Yeast site update (**Doc6**) – Clarification of SMIRD canal right-of-way and landowners boundary at the Yeast site. ED talked to both landowners (Brad Fisher and Dave Yeast); our trees/shrubs are on SMIRD land so they're safe.
- 7.3. Trout Unlimited Canada Letter (**Doc7**) – Cutting red tape for small environmental rehabilitation/restoration projects like ours. Letter from Trout Unlimited Canada – ED responded we are in support (on behalf of board).
- 7.4. Email received – from the writers of the Green Communities Guide, Land Stewardship Centre. SEAWA's riparian restoration projects within the City of Medicine Hat are tune with nature-based solutions. They would like to include SEAWA's work as part one of their case studies. Martha Munz Gue would like to know if natural areas mapping project by Brent Smith could be included. ED will ask.
- 7.5. Updated Board calendar (**Doc8 rev**) – There were a few changes to the May and June items.
Education & Outreach events:
Environment Week celebration at Connaught pond, June 5 - talk about invasive species, ID European Buckthorn by Gerry Ehlert, two experiments at Connaught pond (3 yrs data), Gerry will demonstrate extracting tool and we will remove some Russian olive seedlings.
Martha Munz Gue: GN will have a few workshops in June/July on how to ID invasive species and report them on EDDs mapping app, register with Police Point Nature Centre (403)529-6225. At Connaught pond and College pond for adopt-a-pond volunteers, also different workshops for homeowners in different areas of the city.
Riparian Field Tour – rescheduled to July 24, 8 am – noon, Yeast site.
8. Next meeting: June 10, 2021 – cancelled; instead ED will email draft Annual Report to the Board by this date for comments and edits.
9. Adjournment – Stuart Murray moved for adjournment; Mike Zmurchyk seconded, adjourned at 3:30 pm.