

# ST. CLAIR RIVER BI-NATIONAL PUBLIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Final Minutes

Meeting 2005-5

**Lambton - Kent District School Board  
Auditorium  
200 Wellington St.  
Sarnia, Ont.**

**Thursday, October 20, 2005  
6:30 p.m.**

### ATTENDEES:

Kris Lee	Donald Craig	Jim Clatworthy
Bela Trebics	Archie Kerr	Patty Troy
Darrell Randell	Phil Vallance	Tip Haagsma
Margaret Buist	Pamella Wall	John Thompson
Jennifer Vincent	Janice Littlefield	Stewart Thornley
Modris Zandbergs	Frank Schoonover	Paulette Duhaime
Mike Gariepy	Fred Fuller	Naomi Williams

### GUESTS:

M.K. (Whitey) Simon    Renita Dykstra

### REGRETS:

Mark Richardson	Chris Christenson	Kristen O'Reilly
Ted Briggs	Shanna Draheim	

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. followed by introductions.

#### 2. Approve Agenda: the meeting agenda was approved.

3. Approval of August 17, 2005 Draft Minutes

The Draft Minutes were approved.

4. Great Lakes Regional Collaboration – BPAC Letter

It was reported by Patty Troy that the BPAC letter has been mailed (*August 31, 2005*).

5. BPAC Membership on the RIC

Ted Briggs was unable to attend the meeting, however, BPAC representation on the RIC was discussed, in part, in Agenda Item 6. Focus Teleconference - Presentation.

6. Focus Teleconference - Presentation

Archie Kerr presented a summary of the Focus teleconference starting with a **revised BPAC Mission Statement** that, "*The Bi-national Public Advisory Committee shall advise the four-agency RAP Implementation Committee (RIC) on key implementation aspects of the Remedial Action Plan (RAP). This includes the goals of the plan, recommendations, problems to be addressed, implementation strategies, public involvement and methods of enforcement. The goal of all concerned, which includes BPAC, RIC and the broader general public, is to implement the recommendation addressing the remaining beneficial use impairments that will allow the St. Clair River system to be de-listed as an area of concern. BPAC will periodically report to the broader general public on progress of each remaining, beneficial use impairments and the effectiveness of the processes involved.*"

Archie stressed; the need for BPAC to **focus on de-listing**, and the BPAC role as an **advisory** committee.

Teleconference participants indicated the need to form a communications Sub-committee to:

- i) develop a report card
- ii) issue press releases and determine distribution
- iii) install communications on the Friend's website.
- iv) develop a Power Point presentation and speaker's notes on BUI progress
- v) develop a speakers list
- vi) determine where to advertise presentations

**BPAC membership** is an issue. In particular the need to track sector representation was discussed along with procedures to deal with absenteeism of sector representatives. It was indicated that a sector representative would be contacted after missing two meetings, to confirm the interest of the representative or replacement on BPAC if interest is not confirmed.

The Membership Subcommittee presently consists of Fred Fuller, Patty Troy, Sharon Bender and Bela Trebics.

**Action Item:** A motion was passed for the Membership Subcommittee to review the BPAC membership with the intent to fill sector positions for the next BPAC meeting.

The need for an **Orientation Package** was presented and is to include:

- i) BPAC Mission Statement
- ii) St. Clair River Fact Sheets
- iii) current Roster with e-mail addresses
- iv) BUIs and status
- v) list of RAP reports on the website
- vi) BPAC minutes for last twelve months

Next, Archie discussed the need for a **BPAC Work plan**. The work plan should consist of a Business Plan including budget estimates to be presented to the Four Agencies as a funding request. There should be a Work plan report presented at each BPAC meeting.

A need for tracking of BUIs was identified. Tracking of each BUI is to be done by individuals with an interest or related specialty in a particular BUI. Tracking of BUIs should also be a BPAC agenda item.

Following the focus presentation, Kris Lee emphasized the need for an "implementation person".

**Action Item:** Stew Thornley to request Four Agencies for an update, to be included with the minutes, regarding efforts to obtain a St. Clair River RAP implementation specialist.

**Action Item:** Stew Thornley to send BPAC members the MDEQ address to request a copy of the De-Listing Criteria Document.

## 7. BPAC Work plan

The components for the BPAC work plan were discussed at the meeting and recorded using a flipchart.

**Action Item:** Janice Littlefield and Archie Kerr are to develop a Draft Business Plan for presentation at the next BPAC meeting.

8. Membership Report – Size and Representation

A membership report was not available

9. BPAC Letter – Senate Appropriations Committee

Sharon Bender will send a letter thanking the Senate Appropriations Committee for their role in securing two MDEQ positions for the St. Clair River AOC.

10. Lake St. Clair Biennial Conference

Greg Mayne could not be present to make a presentation

11. Committee Reports

i) SPAC

There was no SPAC report

ii) Friends of the St. Clair

Darrell Randell reported that Friends had received some additional funding through COA for the dissemination of public information through avenues such as the website, Fact Sheets and speaker presentations. Darrell announced that the next Friend's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for November 24, 2005 at the Chipican in Point Edward.

12. Other Business

Upper Great Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team

Jim Clatworthy reported on the Sept. 14, 2005, hearing in Port Huron on the proposed "Upper Great Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team". Jim was the only person from SCR-BPAC, but there were a couple from the Macomb County Water Quality Board, including Doug Martz. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) proposed a 43 million dollar study of water levels and flows in the Upper Great Lakes including the St. Clair and Detroit rivers. If USACE procures the needed funds they would attempt to sub-contract out

the work to build a 3-D virtual web site to monitor the St. Clair and Detroit rivers. Jim and others in attendance requested that they also include water quality data in their study in addition to flows and water levels, and develop a baseline datum on the chemicals that are in the river and the difference between various points along the river from the Blue Water Bridge to the Rouge River. Jim later put his request in writing and was told it would be included in recommendations for the final draft of the Plan which may not be available until mid to late November.

**Action Item:** Stew Thornley was requested to follow up on the BPAC request to obtain copies of Four Agency Work Group minutes and Four Agency Managers minutes for distribution to BPAC members.

13. Adjourn/Next Meeting

The next meeting of the BPAC was set for January 12, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in Port Huron. The exact location is yet to be confirmed. The meeting was adjourned.