

**MINUTES OF
THE DRYDEN LOCAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
CONFERENCE CALL
Wednesday, June 10, 2020 4:30pm**

- PRESENT:** Gord Bastable, John Dove, Earla Haukeness, Paul Heayn, Ron Kujansuu, Pierre Paquin, Daniel Morriseau, Penny Ratushniak, Steve Semeniuk (Vice-Chair) Del Schmucker, Darlene Salter
- REGRETS:** Mac Potter, Darrel Sidney (Chair)
- INDUSTRY REPS:** Dave Legg, (DFMC), Daniel Yeboah and Julie Edwards (Domtar)
- MNRF REPS:** Michelle Glena (Facilitator), DJ Armit, Ying Hong, Jill Van Wallegghem, Derek Johnson, Karen Savage (Minute Taker)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Michelle welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.

2. REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed.

MOTION #1 Moved by Gord, Seconded by John to accept the agenda.

All in favor, agenda is accepted. Quorum met.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF THE May 13, 2020 meeting

Minutes were previously emailed to members to review

MOTION #2 Moved by Ron, Seconded by Del to accept the minutes.

All in favor, minutes are accepted.

4. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS:

1. Business card to be developed for review at next LCAC meeting. Michelle sought clarification from Gord who requested the business card concept. He suggested list SFL and LCAC websites on the card. Or the business card could promote the LCAC website where all the SFL links/maps will be. Website needs to be updated. Karen created some business cards, will be sent out after COVID-19 Karen sent out proposed business cards, will edit/update with committee suggestions. **Ongoing.**
2. Karen to obtain date(s) available and price quote from Dave Keefer to train members (Earla, Del) to update the LCAC website (if training is less than \$200 obtain dates, more than \$200 bring quote). **In Progress ON HOLD due to COVID-19**
3. Michelle to forward summary of comments to LCAC once names have been redacted and it meets FIPPA requirements. – **Completed**

4. LCAC requesting the public consultation summary before they endorse the DF FMP.
(Completed)
5. Add the Effectiveness Survey Discussion to June’s agenda for all to discuss/hear.
(Completed) (Michelle to confirm with Darrel – does this need to be discussed again)

5. RE-OCCURRING BUSINESS

a) Wabigoon Forest – (Daniel Y.)

<http://domtardrydenforestry.ca/>

- Domtar Operations:
 - 1 Chipper, Skidder, Processor, Wood loader are working in Pikwans road block BB126
 - 2 Backhoes are working on Cooks/Bumblebee roads and 2 Skidders working in block LB209 on Upper Manitou road
 - 2 Chippers, 2 Backhoes and 2 Bunchers are working in Hudson Cutoff/Centrefire- block GW139
 - A Buncher, Dozer and Backhoe are working on Larson Lake road
 - Gravel Crew/Backhoe are operating on Bear Narrows road, hauling from km 19 pit
 - Mechanical site preparation by Dorsey contracting occurring in block RA 250 on Little Raleigh – moving to Basket Lake later this week to block BL67 and BL 66
 - Mechanical site preparation occurring in block 1859 on Laval Road – moving to Lens road block 1885 later this week
 - Annual Work Schedule revision#2 approved by MNRF – deals with addition of harvest blocks and water crossing updates
 - 3 FMP Amendment requests submitted for amendment classification- includes ORB changes, Road Use Management changes, addition of Aggregate Extraction Areas, Hardwood management strategies, AOC prescriptions updates
- Resolute operations:
 - A Buncher/Backhoe working for Resolute in blocks RA247, RA248, RA249 on Greenheart road
 - 2 Bunchers/Dozer working for Resolute in block RA268 on Gord’s road and a buncher working in block RA273 off Hwy 622
- Amendments:
 - Amendment requests and information previously emailed to LCAC members to review prior to meeting.
 - Amendments 2 and 4 require recommendation of classification (administrative, minor or major) from LCAC to District Manager
 - Amendment 2 – Operational Road Boundary (ORB), road use Management Strategy (RUS), mapping corrections for renewal and tending and addition of Aggregate extraction Area to allow establishment of gravel pit area for road construction.
 - Amendment 4 – amend the text of the 2019-2029 Wabigoon FMP to include a hardwood utilization strategy (allows portions of hardwood component to remain standing) into the current FMP due to issues being experienced with being unable to sell their product to existing suppliers due to age and size of wood.

- Discussion on Amendments

- Q) Penny asked re amendment 4 – amendment in last plan also (hardwood markets not presently poor)
- A) Daniel Y. – Kenora mill shut down, wood young or too small, hard time to sell
- A) Julie – bit of both, mills are full. Hard time selling smaller poplar to Weyerhaeuser. Hardwood market poor as mills are full.
- Q) Stephen – any possibility of going back to get the hardwood if market improves
- A) Daniel Y. – will be first prioritized to be harvested
- Q) Pierre – with a shrinking market is Weyerhaeuser being pickier?
- A) Julie – inventory not huge last year, they are just being pickier
- Q) Darlene – re small diameter hardwood – Barren Brook Road – young red pine cut and left km 27, km 31 hardwood – too small. Is this amendment the result of hardwood present fmp regulations – Resolute hardwood strategy.
- A) Julie – on the ground and bundled – utilized to specs of each mill (Barren Brook).
- Q) Stephen – long term effect on forest – will it affect future planting of softwood?
- A) Daniel Y. – if market picks up, wait and see
- A) Julie – overall intent is that it isn't – defer whole stand, con/mix hardwood small, allow more regeneration to happen
- A) Derek – 3-5 years assess silviculture – move towards desired condition, can be adjusted
- Q) Darlene – birch and poplar very important for wildlife
- A) Daniel Y. – maintain higher level of hardwood for wildlife
- Q) Del – do you see a lot of these small blocks, could you not wait 8 more years and then harvest
- A) Julie – we are already doing that. Difficulty SW and NE ends of licence. More difficult terrain, shallower soils. Too much to defer.
- A) Derek – requires amendment and consultation to go with it
- Q) John – does Domtar use hardwood
- A) Julie – no, in process to try to incorporate some
- Q) Pierre – NE corner, to go back for a few blocks would be costly
- A) Julie – yes
- Q) Darlene – aggregate on Bear Narrows Road – old or new pit / any red/white pine
- A) Julie – new pit – jackpine, spruce and birch
- Q) Darlene - chart for road, 2019 road class, appendix 2
- A) Daniel Y. – old roads strategy, decommission or go back to land base
- Michelle stated this is a lot of information to review, Stephen could you work with LCAC committee tomorrow and then provide MNRF with recommendation
 - Stephen responded we can deal with this tonight
 - Paul, agreed, no objections
- Q) Darlene – table 4 in amendment Beaver Road DF – requesting to AOC crossing – cliffs, high rock bluffs – don't harvest on cliff etc.
- A) Penny – same area as last year, just did not get harvested
- A) Julie – either blast thru rock or go closer to lake, opted to not blast close to lake, bypass rock to obtain wood on other side. On the whole Wabigoon Forest, no roads on west side of licence, limiting access to west end.
- Q) Gord – not familiar with road – where is it located
- A) Julie - Century Road – travel to very end of road, keeping right all the way

- Gord does have an issue with that, preserving remoteness of some areas (Eagle Lake)
- Amendment is not about harvest blocks (already approved in FMP, road corridor already approved) – only amendment is the water crossings
- Penny suggested you can put forth a public comment if you disagree
- Earla stated need to be aware – “not going to harvest this year”, then “but it’s already approved”
- Penny – it is approved. AWS is where it gets approved.
- Pierre – Domtar trying to do what makes sense, MNR will not let them just do what they want, science is backing it up.
- Michelle – be aware of what is going into a ten-year forest mgt plan. LCAC needs to provide classification – minor vs major.
- Stephen asked Michelle to explain major/minor amendment
- Michelle stated the flow chart that was emailed out – Diagram of Amendment Category Factors explains admin/minor/major
- Dave elaborated, minor amendment – 15 days to review and provide comments. Major 30-day notice for Info center then 30 days after to provide comments. Depends on complexity, severity of change to harvesting operations.
- Paul - Administrative does not require a lot of consultation.
- Michelle stated you can have Administrative enhanced with public consultation
- Q) Stephen – Amendment #2 – closing 219 km of road.
- A) Derek – errors were made in text, roads were never intended to be permanent.
- Q) Paul asked DJ if all of these are Administrative
- A) DJ – a hardwood strategy of not harvesting the poplar would have an impact on achieving the LTMD, therefore this amendment should not be considered as an administrative amendment.
- Q) Del asked how public notification is handled on Minor – with no local newspaper
- A) Michelle, if a minor – still advertise in Sioux Lookout, Thunder Bay, papers that are available, social media – same as we have been doing. Mail out to stakeholders.
- Regarding classification of Amendment 2 – ORB’s, 2 water crossings, aggregate extraction:
 - Penny – suggests administrative, if any resource users that are in area, get contacted
 - Stephen – asked does everyone agree?
 - Darlene – believes it should be a minor
 - Daniel M. – agrees with Darlene, minor
 - Earla - minor
 - Gord – minor
 - John – minor
 - Paul – minor
 - Del – minor
 - Pierre – minor
 - Ron – minor
 - Stephen – minor
 - Penny is good with amendment being a minor

- Amendment 4 – hardwood strategy
 - Penny – minor, concern if public will know what is meant unless explained further
 - Del – minor, possibly major, if trees were allowed to sit beside a road and rot bad to the public, spray later also bad, re-harvest forest, early in this ten-year plan
 - Gord – visuals not so good, would like to get more info on this – minor
 - Darlene – good to defer harvest of hardwood – minor – herbicide use
 - Earla – minor
 - John – minor, concern over effect of long term of forest
 - Pierre – minor – best strategy for hardwood situation (rather than decay etc.)
 - Daniel M. – minor
 - Ron – minor
 - Paul – minor
 - Stephen – minor, happy to see hardwood left standing instead of rotting, public should be notified if any herbicide used. Review amendment and change in strategy down the road (report) success of hardwood. Any issues?
 - Penny – very good point – could do a field visit to view the outcome
 - Michelle thanked all for their input
 - Darlene – had previously sent an email for Julie/Daniel
- Q) Darlene km 27 Barren Brook Road (owl survey route), young red pine cut and left
 A) Julie - Punched out right of way – anything cut out was utilized, if un-merchantable would have been left
- Julie and Daniel Y. logged off

b) Dryden Forest (Dave)

www.operations.drydenforest.ca

- Harvest Areas:
 - Fen West Road
 - Wickens Lake Road
 - Turkey Trail Road
- Silviculture:
 - Tree Plant expected to be completed by end of June
 - Mechanical Site Preparation started
- Roads:
 - Wabigoon River Road – fixed
 - Pope Lake Road – fixed
 - Lorne Lake Road – washout km 2 and bridge after June 20th
 - Twenty Mile Creek – washout km 7 after June 20th
 - Gordon Lake Road – severe washout km 12 after June 20th
 - Pear lake Road – washout km 2, not very active, will review washout
- Outstanding FMP Amendments:
 - Amendment 35 – swapping planned and contingency blocks
 - All contingency blocks allocated (2020-2021 fmp)

- 250 ha out of plan, 174 ha going back into plan (contingency blocks)
- Falls under Appendix 6 (exclusion list), notification to LCAC, MNRF will be reviewing
- 2021-2031 FMP Development:
 - Stage 4 – Draft Plan
 - Submitted to MNRF May 22, 2020
 - MNRF will provide SFL comments by middle of July
 - Public Review July 29, 2020
 - Comments to be received until September 28, 2020
 - Q) Darlene asked about the maps provided with changes of stage 3, can that be shared with interested groups?
 - A) NO - Procedure is MNRF reviews draft plan first (still subject to change), LCAC given an earlier viewing than public, public can review starting July 29
 - **Darlene – stage 3 – requesting more detailed map hwy 502 rookery and where harvest is in relation to nests. Dave stated Herons back on hwy 599**
 - **Dave – will send Darlene basemap with that area**
 - **Michelle – map not to be shared, LCAC info only**
 - Dave logged off

Questions: Forward to Dave (dave@drydenforest.ca, 807-223-7216 x 1)

c) MNRF General Updates (Michelle)

- Staffing
 - Catherine Dashnay will be returning from maternity leave on June 17th. She will be acting for a short term (1 month) as District Planner before returning to her Lands & Waters Technical Specialist role.
 - Ryan Helbing will be returning to his Resource Management Technician role as of June 17th.
 - District vacancies: District Planner, Resource Management Technician (Dryden), Resource Management Technician (Ignace), and Resource Liaison Specialist.
 - Province wide - Summer students & Stewardship Youth Ranger program was cancelled this year due to on-going COVID-19 situation and staff having to work remotely from home.
- District Initiatives
 - During current COVID-19 situation District staff continue to work remotely from home, and focus is on critical business such as forest management planning
 - Bearwise program has been deemed critical business and District continues to respond to calls logged in through the Bearwise hotline.
District was busy in the month of May with daily calls to the Bearwise hotline.
 - District sent an orphaned cub to a rehabilitation center in Nipigon.
 - Two bears were dispatched by home owners. One bear was a former orphaned cub that was sent to a rehabilitation center in Southern Ontario and was released back in the area in late October. Ear tags on the animal were collected for identification by the District.
 - One bear was trapped and released from the Harris Crescent area.

- Due to COVID-19 most field work has been postponed at this point in time.
- MNRF staff currently reviewing the draft Dryden Forest FMP.
- External Projects
 - Watay line clearing still proceeding, and permits issued as necessary. Sioux Lookout District is the lead for this project.
 - Q) Penny asked – line clearing – do they review any values – (nests)
 - A) Jill – unknown
 - A) Michelle will find out the answer
 - ACTION ITEM: Michelle to advise LCAC members if values (ie nests) are reviewed by the MNRF regarding the Watay line clearing.**

 - Q) Del asked Budworm spray that was cancelled – was it due to COVID-19 health concerns or funding
 - A) Michelle – there already was funding – large operations team safety – not able to maintain social distancing, multiple districts with staff involved, 2-5 weeks would have brought people in from other areas
 - Q) Del asked if MNRF will be monitoring what will happen with the Budworm infestation
 - A) Michelle - Planning to do aerial flights to look at extent of budworm infestation, foresters (from Forest Health) already looking on the ground collecting samples, will monitor rate of spread. Possibility of next year spraying.
 - Q) Darlene asked if there will be maintenance of hiking trails at Blue Lake Park
 - A) Michelle – unknown, will have to consult with Steve Winsor, Parks Superintendent
 - ACTION ITEM: Michelle to consult with Steve Winsor to confirm and advise LCAC if Blue Lake Park Hiking trails will have maintenance work performed. – Completed (an email was sent confirming that trails were maintained and brushed by parks staff).**

6. NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE

- John received a letter from NW region re jackpine budworm. It did not have his name on it, simply LCAC but to his address. Post Office almost returned to sender but delivered. Issue with their mail out? Karen will investigate and advise Region. **Completed**
- Effectiveness Survey Discussion – committee felt this was dealt with satisfactorily in the May meeting. No further discussion required.
- Chair and Vice-Chair Election
 - Stephen will stand in place of Chair
 - No further nominations
 - Stephen is Chair by acclamation

 - Any nominations for Vice-chair – Ron nominated Del
 - Stephen asked Del if he stands for Vice-chair, Del will stand
 - No further nominations
 - Del is Vice-Chair by acclamation

Michelle thanked both for standing for Chair and Vice-Chair

Stephen expressed the committee's gratitude to **Darrel Sidney** for his long service as Chair and member of Dryden LCAC!

- Round Table
- Penny – congratulates Stephen, Del, everyone have a safe summer
- Pierre, same as Penny
- Darlene, thank you Stephen, Del, safe summer
- Paul – thanks Stephen, Del
- John – thanks Stephen, Del – remember social distancing
- Gordon – thanks Jill for the fish stocking information
- **Michelle – thanked everyone for participation and dedication over last year, their assistance/input into the development of the Dryden Forest Management Plan. Thanked all for participation over the phone during COVID-19. Have a great, healthy summer!**

7. Financial Report

Distributed (back of Agenda)

8. Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September, 2020 Conference phone?

Time: TBD

POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (and year suggested)

- 2017 SEIM (Social Economic Impact) study that SSM is doing (Jennifer Brown, MNRF SSM) Sept or November – Webinar or Conference Phone
- 2017 Spring members only field trip - Nabish Area Km 4 field trip (Penny suggested) May
- 2017 Wood Flow for Dryden Forest and Domtar (NWR representative)
- 2017 Pesticides as a Social Consideration (MNRF Specialist)
- 2019 Experimental Lakes Area – suggest June or July (weekday)
- 2020 NWMO (Nuclear Waste Management Organization) Update – May or June

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Business card to be developed for review at next LCAC meeting. Michelle sought clarification from Gord who requested the business card concept. He suggested list SFL and LCAC websites on the card. Or the business card could promote the LCAC website where all the SFL links/maps will be. Website needs to be updated. Karen created some business cards, will be sent out after COVID-19 Karen sent out proposed business cards, will edit/update with committee suggestions. **Ongoing.**
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3. Michelle to advise LCAC members if values (ie nests) are reviewed by the MNRF regarding the Watay line clearing.

- Michelle to consult with Steve Winsor to confirm and advise LCAC if Blue Lake Park Hiking trails will have maintenance work performed. **Completed**

Having no further business, Stephen, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

(Chair)

L.C.A.C. Member

(Date)