

Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee Approved Minutes

5:30 September 30, 2015 (Supper provided) Location: Greenstone Fire Management Headquarters
Recording Secretary: Melanie Shepherdson

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Regrets</u>
Evan Armstrong, Chair/Facilitator, General Public	*	
Amie Nephin, MNR LCC Liaison	*	
Raymond Weldon, MNR Area Forester (Ogoki)	*	
Charlotte Bourdignon, MNR Area Forester, Kenogami	*	
Dave Barker, Geraldton Resource Management Supv.	*	
Philip Wilson, Resource Management Biologist	*	
Melanie Shepherdson, Logistics	*	
<u>Members:</u>		
Bernie Baillargeon, Bear Management & Baitfish		*
Edgar Lavoie, Environmental Interest		*
Steve Thuerig, AV Terrace Bay	*	
Gary Selinger, Fishing/Hunting Interest		*
Deanna Hoffman, Forest Management	*	
Ken Stevens, Local Business	*	
Louis Garon, Trapping		*
Remi Moretton, Remote Tourism	*	
James McPherson, Municipality of Greenstone	*	
Bill Hoff, Crown Land Recreation		*
Linda Beaulieu, Road Accessed Tourism		*
Eileen Johnson, Chamber of Commerce		*
<u>Alternates:</u>		
Gerald Bolduc, Cottaging	*	
George Horobec, Environmental Interest	*	
Ed Hoffman, Forest Industry	*	
Len McEathron, Fishing/Hunting Interest		*
Denny Michano, Forest Management		*
Travis Vernier, Trapping		*
Brent Henley, Remote Tourism	*	
Hector Vincent, Crown Land Recreation	*	
John Espinola, Road Accessed Tourism	*	
Tom Gross, General Public		*

1. Call to Order: 6:00. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Housekeeping – Read and sign GFMH Security Protocol/Attendance Log Sheet. Location awareness for Fire exits and bathrooms
- b. Introductions – Philip Wilson, Geraldton Office Management Biologist introduced himself to group. Comes from working with Department National Defence in Petawawa, educated at Western and has previous experience with Species at Risk and Caribou surveying.

2. Review of Agenda

- a. Agenda accepted

3. Approval of Previous Minutes (June 10th, 2015 meeting)

- a. Pre-approved via email

4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes (June 10th, 2015)

2.a – Future topic on Far north Act and CBLUP progress. Two Community Based Land Use Plans are close to draft plan, expected draft plan completion date late winter to spring. **Amie to check with Ben with update in spring.**

4.d – Mcleod Lake reserve field visit (**Steve Thuerig to check with Scott and present back next meeting and Evan will send email out to Bernie**)

4.1.e -update access restriction map. **Nedaak's GIS department is extremely busy and hasn't had a lot of time to put towards this project. It may be quite some time before they have any time to complete a map. Denny to look for options and possibly update.**

4.2.e - Due to the size of the FMP AWS maps they cannot be put on the website

4.f. – The GEDC Business Directory has been updated and can be accessed online by public and is working on community calendar. **Brent will keep us updated.**

5. Financial - \$2000 cheque from MRNF deposited, Amie mailed out all outstanding cheques

7.a. Pre-crossing forms were sent to members via email

7.b Future Agenda Topics: Compliance monitoring, Caribou Guidelines

- LCC mandate and terms of reference were circulated via e-mail after the last meeting

7.1. - MNRF Conservation Officer Staff Update – Geraldton Office now has one officer on staff (Charles Brooks) and another officer (name unknown) has been hired and is currently completing training in Aylmer and should be reporting for duty in January.

7. h - Kenogami Forest Audit complete – no issues/concerns identified by LCC to present at the audit

7. m. – Adopt an Access Point – no issues

5. Financial Update

September 15, 2015 budget balance is \$7960.00. Budget spreadsheet illustrates that the \$2000.00 cheque from MNRF was deposited and there has been no monetary movement in account since June 11, 2015. Evan makes motion to have budget accepted, Remi and Hector second; budget accepted.

Evan has put in an invoice on behalf of GANRAC, dated for today for services rendered in the amount of \$2250.00. Evan makes a motion to be accepted, seconded by Ed Hoffman; invoice accepted.

6. Correspondence

Steve Crawford emailed his resignation from LCC to become effective immediately. **Steve's replacement as Head of Cottaging will be addressed at the December LCC meeting during the scheduled Membership review.**

7. New Business

a. Ogoki AWS Presentation



Ogoki AWS LCC
2015-09-30.pptx

Ogoki AWS Presentation

No planned operations yet, need scheduled operations for legislation. Renewal & Maintenance tree plant will be forwarded to next year's plan.

General Roads Overview:

- On Ogoki Road 1 bridge requires cribs to be replaced
- MNRF has signage on all unsafe bridges
- Currently Ogoki Forest run by the Crown, and it is yet to be determined who will be responsible for repairing the bridges
- Allocations may be inaccessible behind the unsafe bridges. **Raymond to do analysis of what allocation areas are still accessible in Phase II of FMP.**
- MNRF, currently not repairing washout on the Ogoki; all plans have a clause where unless there is environmental issues MNRF is not required to repair washout

Ogoki Tenure Reform

The end goal is to have self-sustaining tenure. Matawa looking into options to become a SFL; the Crown requires Matawa to establish a sustainable market before they are able to become an SFL.

b. Kenogami Phase II Plan

- Draft Phase II FMP was submitted to MNRF for review July 2 to schedule.
 - i. Review completed and preliminary list of alterations received in August
 - ii. 30 day public review period completed September 11
 - iii. One response from Wildlands League. Planning team to discuss tomorrow.
 - iv. Final list of required alterations to be received this week
 - v. Final FMP to be submitted Nov. 2

c. Kenogami Update

Bridge Repair:

5 Rock Support type Bridges in the Kenogami:

1 on Blueberry Road at the ~ 24km marker.

- The bridge will be out of commission for approximately 1 week to replace the bridge, date of construction TBA at the end of October. (1 week timeline MNRF, AVTB time significantly longer).
- Supplies to replace the bridge will be provided by the MNRF and AVTB will be responsible for the installation.
- Affected stakeholders will be contacted via phone, and there will be Public Service Announcements informing the public the bridge will be out.
- Remi suggests signage posted at the beginning of the Blueberry and Crib Roads to prevent unnecessary travel on roads to bridge during construction.
- Hector asked for the company/MNR consider providing access to the existing boat launch on Tilia Creek when the bridge at Mile 24 Blueberry Road is replaced. This access was removed when the current bridge was installed only a few years ago.
- Shamokan Creek – was already scheduled to be removed – therefore no issue

- North of Nakina - Balkam Rd – 2 bridges
- South of Longlac – McKelvie
- The forest industry will be responsible for the all of the bridges other than Blueberry Road

Needak has a 2 year eFRL expiring in the Spring. Currently, MNRF determining how to move forward; goal is to have an eSFL with long sustaining tenure.

d. Needak Update

- i. Tree plant completed with 8 million trees planted by Haveman Brothers and additional 200K in cooperation with GDC
- ii. Site preparation completed – 800 hectares done, area lower due to areas harvested
- iii. Aerial tending completed. 1700 hectares done
- iv. Free-to-grow surveys ongoing. Over 5000 hectares done to date
- v. Natural surveys, establishment plots remeasurements done/ongoing
- vi. Road monitoring on roads that have not been monitored within last 3 years are being done currently
- vii. IFA audit is the 2014-15 AR and the 2016-17 AWS (after the FMP submission)

e. Forest Industry Update

AV has approx.8 day inventory and is currently on a 1 week shut-down, inventory is building

Bunchers active in the following areas:

- Catlonite km 20-30, km 106-109
- Goldfied km 90
- Longjon
- Crib Ext. near the Fleming turn-off
- Up the Willy's Lk Rd off the Castlebar

Processing Hauling:

- Calong West, Arm Lake off of Nakina Hwy, Boston Rd, Huanstein Rd, Farrel Rd, East Rd km~30 and the Sexsmith Rd.
- 5-6 trucks with heavy loads daily
- Wood chips 110 loads/day to Terrace Bay

Longlac Lumber saw mill – parked today due to inventory issues, difficult with amount of capacity due to several factors such as Longlac saw mill does not have its own agreement so it is dependent on business to business agreements. They do have access to fibre from a licence with Ginoogaming's harvesting company in the Rideout Block, harvesting is contracted out to Buchanan and to be processed in November.

AVTB Pulp mill is now allowing under their SPF spec. up to an 8% blend of hardwood in the wood pulp, hoping the 8% does not affect quality.

Wood Markets:

- Stud- prices very low
- Random Length-low
- Pulp-slow decline in price

Columbia Forest Products - Operations are returning on the Kenogami Forest now. The new lathe is now operational and mill is happy with the quality produced. **Ed to bring samples.**

f. Balancing Lake Access Point

The access point will be upgraded in conjunction with the Balancing Lake Road Project, currently a site visit is required and from there will determine how to proceed. **Gerald and Phil will have to determine mitigation methods as Balancing Lake is a trout lake.**

Hector suggested that it would be beneficial to have someone knowledgeable in aggregate attend the site visit (e.g. Barino or Cloutier). Issue with the access point is the last time there were improvements made the ground material used was too clean and large therefore did not bind so now it is difficult to get back up from the bottom on the boat launch area.

g. Minor items

- Kenogami Audit completed last week, will present preliminary findings at the next meeting, December 2nd
- Membership review occurs every September; **next meeting will look at member attendance to ensure proper representation** LCC membership. A number of positions require a new representatives will address at the next meeting. Gerald Bolduc suggested an name for the Cottaging and or Chamber vacant positions.
- **Compliance Review – MNR to coordinate a presentation on Compliance (feedback/noncompliance) for an upcoming LCC meeting**
- **Future Agenda Topics: Far North Planning, Baitfish Program, moose Project, Road Decommissioning (Oct.-Nov), Caribou Guidelines, and Wildfire Strategy Review**

8. Next Meeting: December 2nd, supper meeting. **Melanie to coordinate location.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:50