

Geraldton Area Natural Resource Advisory Committee
 Date of Meeting: January 13, 2010
 Location: Greenstone Fire Centre
 Approved Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Hector Vincent, Facilitator
 Evan Armstrong, MNR LCC Liaison
 Doug Haldane, MNR Area Supervisor
 Charlotte Bourdignon, MNR Area Forester (Kenogami)
 Heather Farrer, MNR Area Forester (Ogoki)
 Jim Marino – Guest of Edgar Lavoie
 Nels Ojard, Canada Chrome
 Moe Lavigne, Canada Chrome
 Paul MacInnis, MNR Far North Planner

Present:

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Absent:

Members:

Bernie Baillargeon
 Bill Hoff
 Deanna Hoffman
 Edgar Lavoie
 Ed Hoffman (Chair)
 Fran Koning
 Gary Selinger
 George Horobec
 Harold Donohue
 Jamie Armstrong
 Jay Lucas
 Louis Garon
 Pero Despotovic
 Steve Crawford
 Toni Moroz
 Yvette Metansinine

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Alternates:

Bill Arnott
 Bill Davidson
 Cory Nephin
 Greg Riou
 Harry Kelly
 Kyle Polesky
 Scott Koski
 Tom Hunt

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1. Call to order – Hector called the meeting to order at 6:32pm – introductions were made.
2. Canada Chrome Railway Feasibility Study – Nels Ojard & Moe Lavigne – Nels & Moe gave us a very interesting presentation on the “Ring of Fire” and the proposed railway from McFaulds Lake Area to the CN Main Line in Nakina – 350 kms of rail. Their presentation is embedded herein.



3. Review of agenda – Edgar added a discussion on Jackpine Budworm as (h) and (b) – the Ogoki Annual Report for 2007/2008 was removed from the agenda.
4. Approval of previous meeting minutes – Toni noted Edgar and Ed's names missing from those present and Edgar requested Toni use full names for guests in the body of the minutes to make it clearer. Louis moved to accept the minutes, with the noted changes, the motion was seconded by Scott Koski – minutes approved.
5. Business arising from previous minutes – The scheduling of joint LCC , the financial report and the cougar pictures are on the agenda; the thank you note and mug went out to Steve, and will be receiving a survey shortly concerning the Aquasabon Project.
6. Financial report – Evan passed out the financial report to everyone. There were no questions, so Ed Hoffman moved to accept the financial report, the motion was seconded by Bill Hoff – financial report approved.
7. Correspondence – Evan described a memo received concerning his potential stocking of four area lakes (Boobas, McLeod, Tricorn and Hilder) with brown trout. He has requested some brood stock for these lakes. If anyone has questions, problems, concerns, etc. about stocking these lakes with brown trout, please send Evan an email or phone him. The review will last 30 days from todays date (Jan. 13). **Action: Evan would appreciate written comments either positive or negative.**
8. New Business –

- A. 2007/2008 Annual Report – Deanna Hoffman reviewed the following areas for the 2007/08 year: harvest, renewal & tending, tree plan, site preparation, tending, roads (4.2 km primary roads and 18.4 km branch roads in 07/08 and the Castlebar and Anaconda in 08/09), revenue & expenditure, compliance issues (1 in 07/08 and 4 in 08/09) and regeneration success 99.8% in 07/08 and 100% in 08/09). Gary Selinger asked how much old wood is still in the bush. That figure is still unknown at this time, but there is definitely less than 30,000 meters of conifer, according to Charlotte. Both reports are embedded herein:



2008-09 Kenogami
Forest Annual Report



2007-08 Kenogami
Forest Annual Report

- B. Minor Items –
 - Retiring Members – we reviewed the various levels of service and the associated gifts with each level. We are to think about what we want to do as far as gifts for Debbie B., Gerard D., Jason F., Hector V., Gary E., Tom R., and Derek F. and get back to Evan. Suggestions for gifts or gift certificates would be appreciated. Evan also noted that Fran Koning has resigned from our committee as she is unable to attend meetings. Evan suggested that Kyle Polesky move to main member for Remote Tourism, but Kyle expressed concern about his ability to attend all meetings. We are now in need of a Remote Tourism Representative. If anyone knows someone that might be interested, please invite them to join us.
 - Evan also reminded the group of a meeting tomorrow evening from 6-9pm at the Legion with the GEDC presenting the GAP analysis that was done and Premier Gold will be giving a presentation on the Hard Rock mine. There will also be a Ring of Fire presentation as well.
 - Evan presented the Volunteer Agreement which MNR has regarding the LCC meetings and participation in various projects. They are proposing to use this form to show

proof of insurance for the French High School in Longlac if we were to use that location for our meetings. Also, Louis Garon (who has been working closely with the school to make arrangements to hold our meetings in Longlac there) read a letter he received concerning the fact that the school had to charge \$50/night to cover the cost of electricity, etc. After a discussion, a vote was held and it was determined we would continue to use the Longlac Sportsplex (for \$0) for our meetings until it becomes not feasible.

- Kenogami Dam – Evan has had some communication with Karl Pirik at OPG concerning use of the road for snowmobilers this season. OPG will NOT permit use of the road by snowmobiles this year due to dangerous waters and ice covered waters. OPG's understanding was that an alternate road, off OPG property, was to be developed, constructed and maintained by someone other than OPG and that they would only support the project financially. Bill Arnott mentioned the same thing was happening in Nipigon, but that with enough local pressure, they finally posted signs permitting snowmobilers on the road. Ed Hoffman certainly is not happy about this and feels we should form a committee to locate the alternate road.

- C. Ogoki Update – Scott Koski reported there is really nothing being cut right now. They have been working on the Painter Lake Road Bridge. The AWS has been submitted for approval.



LCC Ogoki Update
Jan_10.doc

- D. Kenogami Update – Scott also reported no operations on the Kenogami. They have been brushing, grading and sanding. He passed around a map of the proposed roads off the East Road (Kassagaminee Lake area), providing access to the Big Pic Forest.



LCC Kenogami
Update Jan_10.doc

- E. Cougar Cam – Evan gave us all a presentation of the type and operation of the camera and how it is mounted, as well as highlighting some of the pictures and videos recorded. Fox, wolves, lynx with kits, people and weather were seen on the camera, but no cougars to date. They are positioned at the Lahti Road area and an area along the Nakina Hwy. Bernie Baillargeon mentioned a spot to Evan where he has repeatedly seen cougars. Evan will start the cameras back up in the spring.

- F. Joint Meeting Update – Edgar Lavoie noted that the Lake Nipigon LCC hasn't met yet, so there is nothing to report. **Action: This item will be carried over for next months meeting.**

- G. Jackpine Budworm – Edgar Lavoie noted an article in the Chronicle Journal concerning areas west of us toward Manitoba being infected and was wondering if we are seeing any of it out our way. Charlotte B. says they do not expect it to move this far east and that it is actually receding.

9. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3rd in Longlac at the Sportsplex.

10. Adjournment – George Horobec moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ed Hoffman, meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.