



**ATHABASCA WATERSHED COUNCIL**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**May 26, 2012**

**Barrhead Senior Citizens Drop-In Centre**  
**5437-49 Street, Barrhead, Alberta**  
**10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**(DRAFT – To be adopted at the 2013 AGM)**

**Meeting Objectives:**

- For Decision; proposed amendments to the AWC-WPAC Membership Terms of Reference:
  - **Proposed Amendment to Clause 5.1:** The membership term for the Athabasca Watershed Council is from April 1 to March 31 of each year; memberships will be automatically renewed on an annual basis unless the Athabasca Watershed Council is advised otherwise. Any future changes to membership terms and renewals must be approved by the general membership at an Annual General Meeting.
  - **Proposed Amendment to Clause 6.1:** The Athabasca Watershed Council currently does not charge membership fees; however, voluntary contributions are appreciated.
- For Decision; proposed amendments to the AWC-WPAC Bylaws:
  - **Proposed Amendment to Clause 4.2.1:** A General Meeting **may** be held once each year as necessary on a date other than the date of the Annual General Meeting.
  - **Proposed Amendment:** To amend all references to “**AWC**” to more accurately read “**AWC-WPAC**”.
- Election of eleven (11) vacant positions on the Board of Directors:
  - Aboriginal Sector (2 positions);
  - “Other” Sector (3 positions);
  - Industry (3 positions);
  - Government Sector (3 positions).
- To provide information to the membership regarding the progress of the Athabasca Watershed Council and outline projects planned for the upcoming 2012-2013 fiscal year.
- Invite new members to join the AWC-WPAC.

**Recorder of Minutes:** Marilou Montemayor, Watershed Science Coordinator, Athabasca Watershed Council

1. **CALL TO ORDER OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** Board of Director’s President Paula Evans welcomed everyone to the third Annual General Meeting of the Athabasca Watershed Council (AWC-WPAC). The President then introduced Janice Linehan, Industry Sector Director of the Board, as the Master of Ceremonies for the day. All attendees, including the current Board of Directors of the AWC-WPAC, were asked to introduce themselves. The list of attendees is provided at the end of this document.

**2. WELCOME ADDRESS: REEVE BILL LEE, County of Barrhead; SPECIAL GUEST: HONOURABLE MAUREEN KUBINEC, MLA Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock**

Reeve Bill Lee spoke about his history in farming and the connection between watersheds and farmers.

Maureen Kubinec was then introduced and she spoke about Alberta in terms of a great province supported by great resources. She spoke of the Progressive Conservative plan as including socially progressive values, being conservative financially and being environmentally responsible as the production of oil and gas continues. There is going to be a push towards a one-stop regulatory body.

**3. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

**MOTION: Darrell Troock made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented;  
Seconded by Doug Badger;  
All in favour; motion carried.**

**4. REVIEW OF ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 29, 2010, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**

**MOTION: Motion by Wayne Brehaut to approve the Minutes of the May 28, 2011, AGM;  
Seconded by Tom Weber;  
All in favour; motion carried.**

**5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Master of Ceremonies re- introduced Paula Evans the President of the Athabasca Watershed Council Board of Directors. Paula Evans' report included the following:

- An overview of Alberta's *Water for Life Strategy* and the role of watershed planning and advisory councils (WPACs) as a multi-sector entity in ensuring the following outcomes and thinking about the balance among these outcomes:
  - Safe, secure drinking water supply;
  - Healthy aquatic ecosystems;
  - Reliable, quality water supplies for a sustainable economy.
- The Council's, Vision, Mission and Values , and mandate were presented
- In producing the State of the Watershed Report, the President requested the assistance of the membership for the following:
  - Continuing to learn about the watershed;
  - Providing feedback;
  - Making recommendations to the many different bodies responsible for making decisions.
- Description of the Watershed Map; the Athabasca River is a tributary to the McKenzie River basin, including parts of the Athabasca watershed that are in Saskatchewan.
- Our watershed is huge and for us to be efficient, effective and sustainable, we need more funding above what we currently receive from the government.

- Human Resources – We completed an Employees Handbook. Marilou Montemayor was hired as the Watershed Science Coordinator, bringing the number of AWC-WPAC staff to three.
- Board Development – We requested facilitation from Alberta Culture and Community Services that gave us full marks for board structure and functions.
- Partnerships – the possibilities are endless because there are so many individuals and groups interested in this river. Municipalities, industries, and universities are only some examples of possible partnerships. This promotes watershed knowledge and understanding within the AWC-WPAC.
- We completed the State of the Watershed (SoW) Report Phase 2 with an online interactive atlas, through the consultant, Fiera Biological Consulting. It is anticipated that this tool will be of interest to individuals throughout the watershed.
- An appreciation to all those who attended; We champion increased awareness by providing information and education to all; if we are not able to communicate what we do then we are not doing our job.
- Print Media - AWC-WPAC continues in its efforts to attract attention to what we do; the staff has done a very good job in producing information materials.
- Integrated Watershed Management Planning (IWMP)
  - AWC-WPAC will continue to gather information and thinking about IWMP. Consideration of Better Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated.
- Many people are looking at this river; there was the Northern River Basin Studies in the 1990s. Our job is to compile, analyze, and interpret data and make them accessible to those who have interest in the Athabasca River and watershed.
  - We will talk to other groups about Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs);
  - We will foster partnership with other WPACs - a WPAC Collaborative whereby WPACs can share tools, such as employee handbooks, BMPs
  - We will provide input into the AB environmental monitoring plan through the board.
- Next areas to focus on:
  - Strengthening administrative capacity - open and transparent
  - Funding – money and knowledge
  - Communication and marketing strategies - facilitation and training; build on watershed report
  - Cumulative effects assessment –the province is working on it and we will provide input
  - Municipal – land use planning; try to be part of
  - Public awareness – water use and water conservation

The President concluded her report by encouraging the membership to maintain and improve the beauty of this Athabasca watershed.

## 6. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Master of Ceremonies introduced Lorraine Johnston-MacKay, the Treasurer of the Athabasca Watershed Council Board of Directors. Key points of the report were:

- \$250,000 of core operational grant funding was received from Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (AESRD)
- Donations were received from Yellowhead County, Town of Athabasca and Suncor
- Project grant from AESRD for SoW phase 2
- Administration prepared a Financial Statement for this fiscal year which was reviewed and audited by Juan Grande and Donna Mendelson.

**MOTION:** Motion by Tom Weber to accept the April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012, Athabasca Watershed Council Financial Statement as presented;

Seconded by Doug Badger;

All in favour; motion carried.

## 7. APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL AUDITORS

The Treasurer called for two volunteers from the membership to review the Financial Statements for the fiscal year 2012-2013. Volunteer financial auditors for are:

- Carolyn Campbell and
- Janice Callihoo.

As a responsibility to the grant reporting requirements of Alberta Environment, the AWC-WPAC requested that the membership support Administration's decision to hire the services of the Virginia Stafford Professional Corporation, C.G.A., for the completion of a Review and Engagement Report.

**MOTION:** Motion by Janice Linehan to appoint Carolyn Campbell and Janice Callihoo as volunteer financial auditors for the 2012-2013 Annual General Meeting;

Seconded by Darrell Troock;

All in favour; Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Motion by Marsha Hayward to approve the hiring of the Virginia Stafford Professional Corporation, C.G.A, of Hinton, Alberta, to complete a Review and Engagement Report for the Athabasca Watershed Council;

Seconded by Doug Badger;

All in favour; Motion carried.

## 8. MOTIONS FOR RESOLUTION BY THE ATHABASCA WATERSHED COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Paula Evans, President of the Athabasca Watershed Council, introduced the motions for resolution by the membership at the AGM.

### Background on the first and second Motions for Resolution:

- Board of Directors Meeting – September 15, 2011. Motion was passed that AWC-WPAC members will be contacted either by E-mail or postal mail prior to March 31 of each year, advising that their

membership will be automatically renewed unless the AWC-WPAC is advised otherwise; the Board also recommended that there be no membership fees at this time.

The President called for any discussion regarding the motions on the floor. Darrell Troock, current Board member of the Athabasca Watershed Council questioned if the motions pertained to those appointed by the municipal government and it was clarified that, no, the motions pertain to general memberships.

**Proposed Motion:** Clause 5.1 of the Membership Terms of Reference will be revised as follows: *“The membership term for the Athabasca Watershed Council is from April 1 to March 31 of each year; memberships will be automatically renewed on an annual basis unless the Athabasca Watershed Council is advised otherwise. Any future changes to membership terms and renewals must be approved by the general membership at an Annual General Meeting.”*

**MOTION:** Motion by Lorraine Johnston-MacKay to accept the proposed motion as presented;  
Seconded by Darrell Troock;  
All in favour; Motion carried.

**Proposed Motion:** Clause 6.1 of the Membership Terms of Reference will be revised as follows: *“The Athabasca Watershed Council currently does not charge membership fees; however, voluntary contributions are appreciated.”*

**MOTION:** Motion by Marsha Hayward to accept the proposed motion as presented;  
Seconded by Wayne Brehaut;  
All in favour; Motion carried.

#### **Background on the third and fourth Motions for Resolution:**

- Board of Directors meeting, April 20, 2012: It was the consensus of the Board of Directors to recommend, at the May 26, 2012 Annual General Meeting, to amend Clause 4.2.1 of the Bylaws of the Athabasca Watershed Council by replacing the word “will” with the word “may”. In addition, the Board of Directors recommended amending all references to “AWC” within the Bylaws of the Alberta Watershed Council more accurately read “AWC-WPAC”.

The President called for any discussion regarding the motions on the floor.

**Proposed Motion:** Clause 4.2.1 of the Bylaws of the Athabasca Watershed Council will be revised as follows: *“A General Meeting may be held once each year as necessary on a date other than the date of the Annual General Meeting.”*

**MOTION:** Motion by Carolyn Campbell to accept the proposed Motion as presented;  
Motion seconded by Lavone Olson;  
All in favour; motion carried.

**Proposed Motion:** All references to “AWC” within the Bylaws of the Athabasca Watershed Council will be revised to read “AWC-WPAC”.

**MOTION:** Motion by Doug Badger to accept the proposed Motion as presented;  
Motion seconded by Lavone Olson;  
All in favour; motion carried.

## 9. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS PROCESS

The Master of Ceremonies introduced Paula Evans and Doug Badger, respectively the Treasurer and Vice President of the Athabasca Watershed Council, as the Nominations Committee.

During today’s meeting there would be an election to fill seven (10) vacant positions on the Board of Directors:

- **Government Sector (3 positions );**
- **Aboriginal Sector (2 positions);**
- **Industry Sector (3 positions );**
- **“Other” Sector (2 positions);**

The Nominations for the available positions on the Board of Directors of the Athabasca Watershed Council were read. Brief biographies of each candidate were also provided.

### **Government Sector:**

- **Nomination received for Richard Chabaylo.**
- **Nomination received for Darrell Troock.**

There was a call for any nominations from the floor. There were two nominations from the floor: Janice Callihoo and Olaf Nieslony.

- **Nomination received for Janice Callihoo – Town of Hinton.**
- **Nomination received for Olaf Nieslony – Woodlands County.**

**MOTION:** Motion by Bill Lane to close nominations for the Government sector;  
Seconded by Janice Pitman;  
All in favour; motion carried.

### **Aboriginal Sector:**

- **Nomination received for Doug Badger**

**MOTION:** Motion by Darrell Troock to close nominations for the Aboriginal sector;  
Seconded by Tom Weber;  
All in favour; motion carried.

Harvey Scott inquired how the vacant position (Julie Burke resigned) in the Aboriginal sector would be filled. It was mentioned that this position will be appointed until the next election.

**Industry Sector:**

- **Nomination received for Dan Moore** – Alberta Forest Products Association
- **Nomination received for Janice Linehan** – Suncor Energy
- **Nomination received for Janice Pitman** – Agriculture

There was a call for any nominations from the floor: none.

**MOTION:**        **Motion by Bill Lane to close nominations for the Industry sector;**  
                         **Seconded by Rick Zroback;**  
                         **All in favour; motion carried.**

**“Other” Sector:**

- **Nomination received for Marsha Hayward.**
- **Nomination received for Rick Zroback.**
- **There was one nomination from the floor: Amanda Annand.**

**MOTION:**        **Motion by Tom Weber to close nominations for the “Other” sector;**  
                         **Seconded by Rick Zroback;**  
                         **All in favour; motion carried.**

**MOTION:**        **Motion by Bill Lane to accept:**

- **Doug Badger by acclamation to fill one of the two Aboriginal sector positions;**
- **Janice Linehan, Dan Moore and Janice Pitman by acclamation to fill the three vacant Industry sector positions on the Board of Directors of the Athabasca Watershed Council.**

**Seconded by Janice Callihoo;**  
**All in favour; motion carried.**

A request was made for two individuals to act as election scrutinizers. Larry Armfelt and Bill Layne volunteered.

At 12:00 noon, everyone present broke for lunch, and members were asked to cast their ballots over the lunch hour. Polls were closed at 12:45 p.m. The Annual General meeting reconvened at 1:00 pm.

Lavone Olson collected the ballots. The election results would be announced after the guest speaker’s presentation.

**10. KEYNOTE ADDRESS: DR. MASAKI HAYASHI, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY “Watershed-based Perspective of Sustainable Ground Water Management”.**

The Master of Ceremonies introduced the guest speaker.

Dr. Masaki Hayashi addressed issues, such as the abundance of wells tapping into the same aquifer and the high density of the wells in the Edmonton-Calgary corridor. He discussed the importance of understanding that surface water and groundwater are inherently linked. Groundwater must be used wisely so that aquatic ecosystems are not decimated. Discharge, recharge and pumping are all crucial factors to consider for responsible water management. Assumptions that the deep aquifer is limitless and the related significant pumping effects require attention. Dr. Hayashi expressed his opinion that community-based monitoring and education (for example, through Grade 8 curriculum) can be valuable for watershed management.

At the end of his presentation, Dr. Hayashi emphasized the fact that surface water and groundwater are connected; they are a single resource. Long-term monitoring of groundwater is essential.

The Master of Ceremonies thanked Dr. Hayashi for his presentation.

## 11. ELECTION OF THE BOARD

Paula Evans and Doug Badger, members of the Nominations Committee of the Athabasca Watershed Council announced that **Richard Chabaylo** and **Darrell Troock** were elected for the Government sector seat. However, a re-vote was necessary for the third seat of the Government Sector, due to a tie between Olaf Nieslony and Janice Callihoo.

**Olaf Nieslony** was elected as one of the new members for the Government Sector seat.

It was announced that **Rick Zroback** and **Amanda Annand** were elected to fill the two “Other” sector positions of the Board of Directors. Marsha Hayward was thanked for her service with the Board of Directors.

**MOTION:**           **Motion by Larry Armfelt to destroy all ballots from the election;**  
                                  **Seconded by Darrell Troock;**  
                                  **All in favour; motion carried.**

It was announced that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held June 15, 2012. Pictures of the new Board of Directors were taken.

## 12. ATHABASCA STATE OF THE WATERSHED REPORT – PHASE 2 (SoW P2): Poster Review with Marilou Montemayor, AWC-WPAC Watershed Science Coordinator

Posters showing the results of the SoW P2 were presented especially pressure ratings based on scientific thresholds (High, Medium, Low) for 6 indicators: Road Density; Seismic, pipeline, power line, & railroad density; Large patches of natural vegetation; Stream crossing density, Human population density, and Human land use – agriculture.



It was also mentioned that there were 7 other indicators that did not have scientific thresholds and were ranked as Relative Disturbance Classification (Elevated, Moderate, Minimal): Stream connectivity, Non-point source contamination, potential surface water use, Potential groundwater use, Human land use – Built-up cover, Agricultural land conversion and Built-up land conversion. There were 3 indicators that did not have pressure ratings: Alberta River Quality Index, River water flows, and Point source contamination.

The Master of Ceremonies thanked Marilou for her presentation.

### **13. CLOSING REMARKS**

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**        **Motion by Bill Layne to adjourn the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Athabasca Watershed Council at 3:30 p.m.;**  
**Seconded by Brenda Lee;**  
**All in favour, motion carried.**

## Attendees

	Name	Affiliation
1	Allan Balay	Athabasca County
2	Amanda Annand	ACFN (Athabasca Chipewan FN)
3	Amber Stewart	Parks Canada
4	Arthur Filyk	Individual, Athabasca
5	Bill Lane	County of Barrhead
6	Bill Lee	Reeve, County of Barrhead
7	Brenda Lennie	Citizen from Athabasca
8	Carolyn Campbell	Alberta Wilderness Association
9	Connie Simmons	AWC-WPAC
10	Darrell Troock	County of Barrhead
11	Dave Mussel	Alberta Environment & Water
12	Donna Mendelsohn	Central Alberta Stewardship Society
13	Doug Badger	Sucker Creek First Nation & REAC, & AWC-WPAC
14	Dwayne Willmer	LWSS SUN
15	Eleanor Kneffel	Individual, Edmonton
16	Fred Godberson	Individual, Barrhead
17	Gisel Bourgeois	Lac La Nonne - LEPA
18	Harvey Scott	Individual, Athabasca
19	Irene Olson	Individual
20	Janice Callihoo	Town of Hinton
21	Janice Linehan	Suncor
22	Janice Pitman	UFA, Athabasca, & AWC-WPAC
23	Jean Brehaut	Individual, Athabasca
24	Lavone Olson	Yellowhead County & AWC-WPAC
36	Lloyd Giebelhaus	Reeve, Lac St. Anne County
25	Lloyd R. Giebelhaus	Lac St. Anne County
26	Lorraine Johnston-Mackay	Hinton Historical Society & AWC-WPAC
27	Marilou Montemayor	AWC-WPAC
28	Marsha Hayward	AWC-WPAC
29	Masaki Hayashi, Ph. D.	University of Calgary
30	Maureen Kubinec	MLA, Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock
31	Mike Cook	Westlock County
32	Monica Dahl	Alberta Environment & Water
33	Olaf Nieslony	Woodlands County
34	Paula Evans	Crooked Creek Conservancy Society & AWC-WPAC
35	Peggy Lucy	Individual

37	Rhonda Clarke-Gauthier	Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance
38	Richard Chabaylo	Alberta Environment & Water
39	Rick Zroback	Individual, Hinton
40	Shelleen Gerbig	SARDA & MPWA
41	Shiela Foley	Town of Westlock
42	Shiela Wooten	Highway 2 Conservation
43	Teri Muhlbeler	ASGA
44	Tim Clark	Lac La Nonne - LEPA
45	Tom Weber	Clearwater River Committee & AWC-WPAC
46	Wayne Brehaut	Individual, Athabasca