

PEO LAND DRAINAGE COMMITTEE
FINAL MINUTES OF MEETING
Friday, June 4, 2004
Boardroom 405
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Guelph, Ontario

1.0 Attendance And Call To Order

Members Present: Ray Dobbin, Chairman; Tim Oliver, Secretary; Ken Graham, Vice Chair; David Johnson; David Grahman

Liaison Members Present: Sid Vander Veen, OMAF; Norm Smith, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Carl Seider, MNR; Melanie Prosser, Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph; Art Groenveld, MTO

Members Absent: Jeff Dickson (regrets), Joe Farwell, Conservation Ontario

Chairman Dobbin called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion by K. Graham, seconded by D. Grahman, that the agenda as prepared by the chairman be accepted. Carried.

3.0 Minutes of Last Meeting

Revisions include denoting Ryan Bailey as guest member instead of liaison member and indicating that donations pledged from drainage practitioners to LDC are a one time contribution.

Motion by K. Graham, seconded by D. Grahman, that the minutes of the January 22, 2004 meeting, as per revisions noted above, be adopted. Carried.

4.0 Business Out Of The Minutes

Ray Dobbin to send out e-mail to drainage practitioners (18 approx.) whom pledged to support LDC at the Oct 23/03 meeting hereby requesting \$100 from each practitioner. Once the funds are collected, expense claims from LDC members for meetings from October 2003 to June 2004 may be reimbursed.

5.0 Correspondence

Ray Dobbin had only discussions with Ryan Bailey.

The white paper on Source Water Protection Plans (proposal) is on the MOE website. Sid V. to e-mail the link. It is important for members of LDC and drainage practitioners to understand this document.

6.0 Liaison Report – Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph

Melanie Prosser

6.1 There is a new logistics coordinator.

6.2 Ramada Inn conference room booked for Annual Drainage Engineer's Conference scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2004. Ramada Inn will provide room for approx. 200 guests. The fee is being considered to

increase to \$155 due to the extra costs to rent the Ramada \$150 per day for Thursday, Oct 21/04 and \$450 per day for the Conference room for Friday, Oct 22/04. Sid V. offered the OMAF meeting rooms on the ground floor as an alternative at no charge to save \$150. It was agreed this would be considered and the conference fee shall remain at \$150.

- 6.3 Consideration of exhibitors' displays within the conference room. \$250 display fee. Ideally we would like 10 exhibitors. Presently have 5. An exhibitors package will be sent out to committee members requesting suggestions be sent to K. Graham. Registration booklet to be sent by e-mail to save on printing costs.
- 6.4 Lynda Pennington has confirmed as a returnee to the conference. Suggested topic for her this year, How to conduct public meetings? Melanie to discuss with Lynda and get back to Ray D. regarding details of topic.
- 6.5 There are older extra copies of the Drainage Conference proceedings that will be brought to this year's Conference and could be sold for say \$5.00 each to help generate funds.

7.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Natural Resources

Carl Seider

- 7.1 Provided handout. Leo C. looking for feedback from LDC committee on the 2004 Temperate Wetland Restoration Training Course in Sept 8-12/04. A link will be setup from the Drainage.org website.
- 7.2 Discussion on beaver removal fee (\$150 per beaver) passed by a local municipality. Sid V. would like Leo C. to investigate.

8.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Transportation

Art Groenveld

- 8.1 MTO reviewing storm event sizes with MOE. Work is underway to consolidate the Drainage Design Standards under a MTO program to develop new standards to replace existing standards (2 year program).
- 8.2 New gravity pipe design guideline manual being prepared with input from reps of concrete and plastic pipe companies.
- 8.3 MTO working on report on Climatic change and its effects on Drainage Design. A review of drainage assessments from reports under the Drainage Act has revealed factored rates for assessment for MTO lands ranging from 7 to 10 times agricultural land assessments. MTO feels the factor is closer to around 5 times. MTO considering a design guideline from preliminary findings on assessment and this could be a potential topic for a future Drainage Conference.

- 8.4 Drainage Design Course including computer modelling being held June 23-24 put on by Canadian Water Resources Agency (CWRA) at the Black Creek Pioneer Village.

9.0 Conservation Ontario

Joe Farwell

There was no report. Joe Farwell still looking for a replacement as liaison rep.

10.0 Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Norm Smith

- 10.1 The classification of municipal drains across most of southern Ontario is almost complete. The digitizing of maps in a GIS format to show drain location and classification is now being undertaken. The notification form used in conjunction with the class authorization process has been simplified compared to that used in the previous year and is now in effect. Posters created for both for maintenance of drains and project/site-specific works and/or drain improvements (Section 78 & 4, Drainage Act) under an engineer's report.
- 10.2 DFO is adopting a Risk Management approach with respect to the review of project proposals as a means of streamlining review and approval processes. Operational Statements which provide advice for various activities where a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat will not occur (i.e., low risk projects) are being written as one method of achieving this more streamlined approach. Such Statements should be available later this year.
- 10.3 *Species At Risk Act* is now in force as of June 1, 2004. More details on how this legislation will be implemented will be forthcoming through various media releases, presentations, etc.

11.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Sid Vander Veen

- 11.1 Sid provided information (handout of upcoming events on the following:
- Temperate Wetland Restoration Training Course.
 - Natural Channel Systems Course (Ottawa area).
 - Drainage Tour (Niagara Falls area).
- 11.2 Total of \$6.95 million of \$7 million budget spent for all 3 programs (Maintenance, Capital works, Drainage Superintendent). No announcement from new minister on budget items for new year.
- 11.3 Drainage Referee Del O'Brien's has been reappointed for a six-month term that expires later this year. The Ministry will select a new referee in the future.

- 11.4 Nutrient Management - application of nutrients on tiled land and how to deal with surface inlets involving minimum setbacks. Advisory committee have not determined a solution or conclusion. There is imposition on farmers for now, however a design consideration will likely follow.
- 11.5 Agricultural Working Group conducting a survey on the Class Authorization system for drain maintenance with comments being received from drain superintendents and CA's.
- 11.6 Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Drains report prepared by Harold Rudy of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association which summarizes previous research over the years.
- 11.7 Ausable/Bayfield CA preparing a paper (coming out soon) on drain enclosure impacts. It found there was very little previous research as the findings

12.0 Sub Committee Reports

12.1 DSAO/LICO has developed a program called "Agriculture in the Classroom" deals with things such as soils, crop production. Don Lobb is the contact person who advocates the increased production importance in a growing population.

12.2 Web Site Review

Ken Graham - maintenance fee for updates to website \$100/hr (no cost if DSAO with OSPE website). No requests were made with Active Web (our host) for updates without funding that will not be finalized until Oct. 2004 meeting. Presently tagging on LICO's website and still need to remove PEO part from the website name. For the Oct 22/04 Drainage Conference the Office of Open Learning will link to Drainage Conference to explain details of the conference. Approx. \$500 spent for maintenance last year and about the same \$500 spent this year.

13.0 Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

14.0 New Business

15.1 Terms of Reference

MOTION – To accept the Terms of Reference in principle and to circulate to the Drainage Practitioners prior to the October Conference Meeting. Seconded by: K. Graham

Chairman Ray Dobbin noted that Ryan Bailey had recommended that the Drainage Practitioners make their donation cheques out to OSPE (Attention: Land Drainage Committee c/o Ryan Bailey) LDC would eventually no longer require a separate account.

15.2 Drainage Conference Topics discussed. Suggested agenda below:

9:00 Lynda Pennington - (Public meetings) Melanie to confirm

9:50 Dillon Consulting - (Westside Creek Natural Channel/Wetlands Restoration) Tim O. to confirm

Break

10:45 Ann Phelps, DFO Biologist, Ottawa - (Species at Risk Legislation) Norm S. to confirm

11:15 AES Environment Canada - (IDF curves) Ken G. to confirm

11:35 MTO (Preliminary Runoff Factors for paved roads). Art G. to confirm.

Lunch

Take a few minutes to introduce Del O'Brien and to present him a gift for recognition of his many years of service as Drainage Referee.

1:15 Jack Young - (Tribunal Decisions). Ray D. to confirm

1:30 Valerie McGarry - (Tribunal Case) Jeff D. to confirm

2:15 OSCIA – Harold Rudy - (Environmental Impacts on Agricultural Drains) Sid V. to confirm

Break

Panel Discussion

Schedule is tentative and subject to change. Confirmation of topics by those noted above should reply to Chairman Ray Dobbin by June 30 or sooner.

15.0 Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, October 21, 2004. Location to be confirmed but more than likely at the OMAF Building, 1 Stone Road, University of Guelph. The tentative time is 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sid V. to confirm and check into getting the larger conference room for the evening Practitioners Annual Meeting.

16.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Moved by R. Dobbin. Seconded by Tim Oliver.

Ray Dobbin, Chairman

Tim Oliver, Secretary