

**LAND DRAINAGE COMMITTEE
FINAL MINUTES OF MEETING**

Friday, June 3, 2005

Boardroom

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Guelph, Ontario

1.0 Attendance And Call To Order

Members Present: Ray Dobbin, Chairman; Tim Oliver, Secretary; Jeff Dickson; David Johnson; Bill Dietrich

Liaison Members Present: Sid Vander Veen, OMAF; Dana Boyter, (Norm Smith's replacement), Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Melanie Prosser, Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph, Art Groenveld, MTO.

Members Absent: John Spriet; Leo Christl, MNR; member absent, Conservation Ontario;

Chairman Dobbin called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion by Dickson, seconded by Oliver, that the agenda as prepared by the chairman be accepted. Carried.

3.0 Minutes of Last Meeting

Accept minutes of Jan 27, 2005 as amended. Motion by Dietrich, seconded by Dickson, that the minutes of the January 27, 2005 meeting be adopted as amended per comments by Dickson's e-mail. Carried.

4.0 Business Out Of The Minutes

No action on Item 6.7 of the Oct 21/04 Minutes for LDC to take care of the hospitality invoice of \$146.65. Jeff D. provided Melanie with a LDC cheque for payment.

5.0 Correspondence

Regarding Source Water Protection, Jeff D. as a member of the Water Action Team for Maitland Valley/Ausable Bayfield) had a followup meeting to discuss the Source Water Protection plan.

Make preparations for the formal recognition of Del O'Brien's retirement as Drainage Referee. Sid V. offered to look into preparing a certificate and Jeff D. offered to assist. Ray D. will look after contacting Del O'Brien to invite him to the Drainage Conference in October.

Other correspondence - letter received noting new Drainage Referee is Robert Waters.

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

Melanie Prosser

Consideration to add information on conference registration form to address Dave Johnson's comments to provide a breakdown of the type of participants attending the conference for the interest of the exhibitors. The information cannot be given out under the Privacy Laws unless LDC seeks permission from the Province. LDC not interested to pursue.

Paul Rhodes (training instructor & president of Rhodes Consulting) has accepted to speak this year in place of Lynda Pennington. His topic: Media Crisis. Paul was the media consultant for the previous government. Paul preferred a 1:00 pm timeslot.

This year's conference booked for Fri. Oct 28, 2005 at the Ramada Inn. Ramada staff looking into improved parking availability by deterring university students from using the parking for the weekend.

Financial outcome of 2004 conference was a \$660 loss with 84% of the projected attendance. We have 5 exhibitors interested again this year. Melanie to go through the larger list to see if there are any others interested. Sid V. suggested Saltech (Ed Parker) as an exhibitor.

Evaluation summary had a less than 50% return of completed responses (39 out of 90). Consider streamlining evaluation questionnaire down to one page. Definitely keep question that asks for future topics and the one that asks how do improve the conference. Eliminate speaker rating for each speaker and replace with general question on quality of speakers. Add general question on how good the technical aspects of the conference were. Keep other questions for house keeping measures.

Increase conference fee to \$160.00 and student fee to \$70.00. Moved by Dietrich, Seconded by Oliver. Carried.

7.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Natural Resources

Leo Christl

No report.

8.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Transportation

Art Groenveld

8.1 Gravity pipe design manual going through to final approvals. The manual is a guideline the recommends only pipe materials that meet the design life (CSP does meet the requirements with aluminized or polymer coated pipes) for MTO projects only. Local roads (life span 25 years); Arterial roads (life span 75 years) The final publication will be on the MTO website.

8.2 Climatic Change report also soon to be released that reports on the impacts of climatic change on design storms.

8.3 Outlet assessments for road drainage contribution relating to drainage reports from the presentation made by Megan Garner at last October's Drainage Conference to soon be finalized and become a guideline used to evaluate future assessments. MTO may not support an assessment higher than this guideline. Any additional comments on the assessment guideline should be provided to MTO as soon as possible.

9.0 Liaison Report - Conservation Ontario

No member present.

There was no report.

10.0 Liaison Report - Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Dana Boyter

- 10.1 Posters now out in publication for the maintenance of municipal drains and for the construction or improvement of drains. DFO to arrange the mail out to engineers, drainage superintendents, Municipalities, CA's etc. Dana brought a few samples with him just published a few days ago.
- 10.2 Electrofishing Demonstration day on municipal drains planned for June 25 in the Tavistock area.
- 10.3 DFO's authorization goes through five levels that delays the approval process. DFO has been receiving concerns from engineers on some comments they received from DFO's review regarding conditions of authorization that requires what is written in the report must also be stated or shown visually on the drawings associated with the engineer's report.
- 10.4 Engineers have also expressed concern with the follow up monitoring of the drains for 3 years following construction and the taking photos that has been stipulated in the form of authorization despite the fact it was never discussed or noted in the drainage report. DFO is requiring monitoring on all authorizations.

11.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Sid Vander Veen

- 11.1 Drainage Assessment Courses held in Sudbury, Ottawa & London attended by DFO staff, CA staff and a few engineers in addition to Municipality staff.
- 11.2 Drainage Superintendent's Course this year had 18 people take the course.
- 11.3 Municipal Drain Outlet Program 2004 total grant assistance applied for was \$7.1 million approx. comprising \$1.5 million for maintenance, \$1.8 million for superintendents, \$3.8 million for new reports.
- 11.4 Official announcement for ADIP draft policy expected in early July. Expected to be posted on the EBR website possibly by next week for a 30 day period. Some highlights of the new program include:

- Drains through or from a wetland are not eligible for grant. Drains that outlet to a wetland are still eligible for grant.
- Relocation of drains will be grantable.
- Took out wording relating to Special Benefits and ineligibility for grant.
- No grant towards drain enclosures unless shown that the open drain can no longer be maintained for less cost than the cost to enclose the drain. This also impacts the upstream lands that may be partially assessed for the enclosure costs.
- Maintenance grants - did not support the allocation of grant in a que format due to regional timing of work issues across the province that would create some unfairness.
- If a drainage project does not follow federal and provincial environmental laws, where applicable, the grant will not be paid where there is non-compliance.
- Stormwater management ponds will be grantable provided they are not used for irrigation or other farming practices.
- New tile drain construction is grantable.

12.0 Sub Committee Reports

12.1 DSAO/LICO - Sid Vander Veen

12.2 Website update - Ray Dobbin

- a) Website fees have been paid.
- b) Ray to e-mail details to the Website Coordinator Elizabeth Armstrong (OSPE) for Ryan Bailey.
- c) Looking for confirmation there is no cost to merge LDC website with OSPE website.

13.0 Old Business

13.1 Affiliation with O.S.P.E.

- a) OSPE LDC Terms of Reference approved.
- b) Prior to affiliation with OSPE, confirm the \$1,200 in annual funds is secured and earmarked for the Land Drainage Committee.

14.0 New Business

14.1 Tentative Agenda for Drainage Engineers Conference

9:10-9:25 OMAF ADIP Policies - Carol Mitchell (political aspects)

9:25-9:55 Climatic Change - Heather Auld

9:55-10:20 Drainage Referee's Role - Delbert O'Brien (retirement recognition presentation)

10:20-10:35 Break

10:35-10:50 Tribunal Update

10:50-11:45 DFO Case Study - Demonstration Project (Steenstra Drain)
11:45-1:00 Lunch
1:00-1:45 Handling Media Crisis (Paul Rhodes)
1:45-2:15 Gravity Pipe Design Guidelines (MTO)
2:15-2:45 Water Taking Permits (MOE)
2:45-3:00 Break
3:00-4:00 Panel Discussion

* Backup Topic - Dispersion Sandwich (University of Waterloo) Sid to followup.

The presenters to be contacted by July 15th. The conference registration form and completion of Bios to be submitted to Melanie by August 15th.

15.0 Next Meeting

October 27, 2005 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Location to be determined (Melanie to confirm if Ramada room available all day where Practitioner's meeting to be held same evening, otherwise Sid V. can pre-book OMAF meeting room) Possible Afternoon Tour of Saltech Bridge Plant in Fergus or surrounding bridge sites. Bill Dietrich to check with Saltech to see what numbers could attend a plant tour.

16.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Ray Dobbin, Chairman

Tim Oliver, Secretary