1.0 Attendance and Call to Order

Members Present: Tim Oliver, Chairman; Bill Dietrich, Secretary; Chris Allen, Mike DeVos, Tom Pridham, John Kuntze

Liason Members Present: Sid Vander Veen, OMAFRA; Dana Boyter, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Davin Heinbuck, Conservation Authorities (ABCA)

Absent Members: Melanie Prosser, Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph; Art Groenveld, MTO; Leo Christl, MNR; Gina VandenBurg, O.S.P.E.

Chairman Tim Oliver called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mike DeVos, seconded by Tom Pridham, that the agenda as prepared by the chairman be accepted. Carried.

3.0 Minutes of Last Meeting

Motion by Tom Pridham, seconded by Chris Allen that the minutes of Thursday, October 25, 2007 O.S.P.E. Land Drainage Committee Meeting be accepted. Carried.

4.0 Business Arising From the Minutes

4.1 ADIP Policies

Recommended changes were to have been forwarded to Sid Vander Veen before January 8, 2008. OMAFRA will review the policies in the spring of 2008.

Motion by John Kuntze, seconded by Mike DeVos that any changes to the ADIP policies be applied to the grant applications processed after the effective date of the new ADIP policies. Carried.
Expense reports were faxed to Gina VandenBurg, O.S.P.E. on January 5, 2008. Gina is to be contacted to discuss website status and expense accounts.

Tim Oliver sent a letter to Conservation Ontario expressing concerns with regulations being passed by Conservation Authorities under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

**Correspondence**

O.S.P.E. Land Drainage Committee response to recommended changes to ADIP policies by Bill Dietrich, P. Eng., dated January 8, 2008.

Tim Oliver, P.Eng. O.S.P.E. LDC Chairman
Letter to Conservation Ontario c/o Davin Heinbuck dated November 26, 2007 regarding Municipal Drains and Section 28 of the Conservation Authority Act

**Liaison Report – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs**

ADIP Review – The review of the Agricultural Drainage Infrastructure Program policies has been delayed. Sid is responsible for taking the next steps to move the review along and since Drainage Act grants and course delivery consumes a significant amount of time in the next few months, the review will not formally begin until after April.

Drainage Information Room – The joint convention of the Ontario Good Roads Association and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association will be held from Feb. 24 to 27 in Toronto. A number of drainage related issues have been raised by municipalities this year and therefore, Sid was asked to set up a “drainage information room” at the convention on Tuesday Feb. 26. Representatives of the DSAO, DFO (Dana Boyter), Conservation Ontario (Davin Heinbuck) and Sid will be in this room to address any questions from the convention participates.

Growing Forward – A proposal is being developed to acquire funds to incorporate buffer strips on municipal drains through engineer’s reports. This is the very early stages of development.

Courses – The Drainage Superintendent’s Course will be held at the Ontario Government Building in Guelph from March 3 to 7, 2008. The combined two-day Rural Municipal
Drainage Course/Drainage Assessments Workshop is being offered in Newmarket on April 9/10, in London on April 16/17 and in Espanola on April 23/24. However, this is subject to change.

6.5 Drainage Best Management Practices (BMP) – OMAFRA in partnership with a variety of agricultural, commodity and other interest groups have put together a series of BMP books. These books provide proven, practical and affordable approaches to conserving soil, water and the other natural resources in rural areas. A Drainage BMP is being proposed with the hope of publication in 2009.

7.0 Liaison Report – Conservation Authorities Report
Davin Heinbuck

7.1 Drains and Section 28 (Conservation Authorities Act)

Following the recommendations of the Drain Planning Sub-committee workshop on October 4th in Toronto a workshop organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources is scheduled for February 14th. Invitees will be representatives of the DSAO Directors, OSPE Land Drainage Committee, OMAFRA and Conservation Authority reps from the Drain Planning Sub-committee.

This will be the first opportunity for discussions and future directions in regards to the Conservation Authorities regulations and their impact on drain maintenance, construction and Improvement proposals. It is anticipated that a committee will be established at the meeting to move the issue forward and seek some resolution.

7.2 Davin Heinbuck will attend the OGRA/Roma Convention’s Drains Room Question and Answer Session on behalf of Conservation Ontario (February 26th).

8.0 Liaison Report – Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Dana Boyter

8.1 Drain Maintenance Guideline document is being updated. Jane Sadler Richards has been retained by DFO as a consultant. Mike DeVos from LDC to be adding sections to document with respect to sections 4 and 78 of the Drainage Act. A draft will be circulated for comment.

8.2 Drain Classification Mapping. A meeting will be held on February 12, 2008 in London. Drainage Superintendents will be invited.
8.3 DAWG – meeting every 2 months
Dana and Tom Hoggarth are now DFO’s reps on DAWG.

9.0 New Business

9.1 Specifications Meeting
LDC                    Chris Allen
Clay Tile              Doug Seiler
Concrete Tile          Bob Brown
C.S.P.                 Bob Carswell
Plastic Tile           Heather Forrest – Armtec
Contractors            Wayne Cook – LICO
OMAFRA                 Andy Kester

Single outlets should be installed on drainage systems
Soil erosion manuals are being updated.
New standards for recycled plastics with respect to the percent of regrind.
Price of plastic materials has increased.

9.2 Drainage Industry Meeting with LICO, DSAO and LDC members was not held this year at the convention.

10.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the LDC will be held on Friday, June 6, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. Moved by Tom Pridham and seconded by John Kuntze.

Tim Oliver, Chairman                      Bill Dietrich, Secretary