

FINAL DRAFT
O.S.P.E. LAND DRAINAGE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
Thursday, January 21, 2010
Best Western, Lamplighter Inn, Summit Room
London, Ontario

1.0 Attendance and Call to Order

Members Present: Tim Oliver, Chairman; Bill Dietrich, Secretary; Tom Pridham, John Kuntze, Tom Marentette

Liaison Members Present: Sid Vander Veen, OMAFRA; Davin Heinbuck, Conservation Authorities (ABCA); Jeremy Downe, MNR representative

Absent Members: Chris Allen; Leo Christl, MNR (retired); Gina Vandenburg, O.S.P.E.; Dana Boyter, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Pat Shaver, Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph; Art Groenveld, MTO

Chairman Tim Oliver called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

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

3.0 Minutes of Last Meeting

Motion by John Kuntze, seconded by Tom Marentette that the minutes of the Thursday October 29, 2009 of the O.S.P.E. Land Drainage Committee Meeting as amended be accepted. Carried.

4.0 Business Arising From the Minutes

4.1 LDC Chairman to follow up with MNR and DFO to have representatives on the LDC. Leo Christl has retired.

4.2 Motion by Tom Pridham to have the LDC secretary forward the LDC recommendations for changes to Section 58(4) of the Drainage Act to "Open for Business Ontario".
Seconded by John Kuntze. Carried.

4.3 LDC secretary to ask Mike DeVos, P.Eng to keep the LDC updated on DAWG committee meetings by means of email.

- 4.4 LDC to draft a recommendation at the June 2010 LDC meeting with respect to the length of term to be served on the committee and this recommendation be taken to the members at the 2010 annual practitioners meeting.

5.0 Correspondence

- 5.1 On January 13, 2010; Tim Oliver emailed the LDC new contact person for OSPE ; Edwina McGroddy to introduce the LDC and discuss and confirm the expense allocations.
Our previous OSPE contact was Gina VandenBurg.

6.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Natural Resources Jeremy Downe

- 6.1 Jeremy attended our meeting; the LDC was given an update on the agreement process with respect to the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
To date 71 municipalities are working with MNR to develop agreements.
The screening process for the most part is finished.
These agreements only apply to open municipal drains.
The mitigation plans in the agreements will expire in 5 years and may have to be amended at that time.
New species at risk will have to be added later.
Only one (1) agreement is required for each municipality and agreements need to be finalized by June 30, 2010.

7.0 Liaison Report – Conservation Authorities Report Davin Heinbuck

- 7.1 Conservation Ontario
Davin Heinbuck has been asked to present at the Drainage Superintendents course, on behalf of Conservation Ontario. The course is being offered during the first week in March of 2010 at Guelph (OMAFRA).
- 7.2 Drains Action Working Group (DAWG)
The DAWG met in December. Currently, the Guidance Document is undergoing a review by the committee. The document will then be distributed for peer review later this winter (2010).
- 7.3 DFO Training – Risk Management Framework (RMF)
Another round of RMF Training was offered in January of 2010. Training focused on the Pathways of Effects (potential effects of an activity), the residual effects, and the scale of negative impact from those effects. The RMF matrix plots the negative effects and determines whether an activity requires a Letter of Advice, Authorization or a re-design.

This framework allows for science based decisions and a streamlining of the approvals process by focusing reviews on larger high risk projects and issuing letters of advice where impacts are mitigated and lower risk.

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

Sid VanderVeen

- 8.1 Carol Mitchell was announced as the new Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs on January 18, 2010. She is the past reeve of Central Huron and also served as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister in the past. She was also involved in the development of the Agricultural Drainage Infrastructure Program policies.
- 8.2 The Drainage Superintendents Course is being held March 1-5, 2010 in Guelph. Jeff Dickson will be presenting on the engineer's responsibilities. Garry Fischer will be speaking on Wildlife Management. Wray Ramsay, Brian Anderson and Matthew Stephenson will be presenting on the practical aspects of being a drainage superintendent. The Friday session of the course is on other legislation such as the Fisheries Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Conservation Authorities Act and the Wetland Drain Restoration project.
- 8.3 We will be offering the Rural Municipal Drainage Course and the Calculating Drainage Assessments Workshop in Peterborough on April 14/15, in New Liskeard on April 21/22 and in London on April 28/29.
- 8.4 Sharon McCartan drafted a Court of Revision infosheet. She is waiting for comments before we release the document publicly. We hope to have it completed in time to distribute at our drainage courses.
- 8.5 The ADIP review will be moving forward. We hope to implement it in the upcoming fiscal year.

ADIP Program:

- We have been given authority to exceed our \$7.0 million budget. Therefore, if we had responded to a queue notification that funding was not available, those municipalities were sent a letter on January 19, 2010 indicating that money is now available and that if the project is complete before the end of the fiscal year, the grant application should be sent to us.
- Grant deadlines are February 1, 2010 for maintenance and superintendent and February 15, 2010 for drain construction/improvement work. All grant applications will be screened and any form that is not complete or that does not have all required supporting documentation will be sent back to the municipality as "rejected". The application can be completed and resubmitted but the deadlines still apply.

- We have hired a Conestoga College co-op student to assist in the grant screening, review and processing.

8.6 Jacqui Laporte is an OMAFRA staff person who works out of Clinton. She will be helping out on some special projects such as the Grass Pickerel study that is occurring in the Town of Fort Erie.

9.0 Liaison Report – Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph
Pat Shaver

9.1 By means of a conference call, Pat provided the LDC with her report.

9.2 An income statement will be provided to the LDC at the June meeting.

9.3 The Drainage Conference for 2010 will be moving to the Holiday Inn in Guelph to be held on October 21 and 22, 2010.

9.4 The registration rates for the 2010 conference will be established at the June meeting.

9.5 Comments from 2009 conference:

One (1) student attended – maybe student rates should be reduced. (Pat suggested that the university may be able to provide some passes for students to attend the conference). A motivational speaker should be encouraged to be in the program for 2010.

10.0 Sub-Committee Report – Drains Action Working Group (D.A.W.G.)

- Tom Hoggarth, DFO is now chairing this committee. The next meeting is February 10, 2010.

11.0 Sub-Committee Report – Drainage Act and Section 28 Regulations Team (D.A.R.T)
John Kuntze

- Next meeting will be January 28, 2010.

- Darlene Dove is the MNR rep.

- OFA has set up an OFA Drainage Task Team to deal with provincial and federal regulations and impacts on farming operations

- On behalf of the LDC John attended an OFA meeting on January 6, 2010 in Guelph as a resource person.

12.0 New Business

12.1 Secretary to send LDC expenses for 2009 to Edwina McGroddy, OSPE.

12.2 LDC to investigate the possibility of adding an educational module to be part of the Thursday session before the Engineers Conference. This may include speakers to make

presentations on various duties of the engineer in preparing a drainage report - ie: determining the area requiring drainage; allowances; assessment of costs etc.

- 12.3 Another possibility would be a training seminar to provide information for engineers on the Risk Management Framework that is being used in Fisheries Act Reviews.

13.0 Drainage Industry Meeting

- There wasn't a drainage industry meeting at the 2010 LICO/DSAO convention.

14.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Friday June 4, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the OMAFRA office in Guelph.

15.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Moved by Tom Pridham and seconded by Tim Oliver.

Tim Oliver, Chairman

Bill Dietrich, Secretary