

**DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES**

**January 28, 2009**

PRESENT: Ms. Audrey Manzer, Chair  
Mr. Peter Connor  
Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand  
Ms. Christina Hoehne  
Mr. Mark McLean  
Mr. Pierre Clement  
Dr. Mark Trevorrow

ABSENT: Councillor Gloria McCluskey (regrets)  
Dr. Ron Beazley

STAFF: Ms. Cathy Spencer, Development Officer  
Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Audrey Manzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. in the Findlay Centre Boardroom, 26 Elliot Street, Dartmouth.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 29, 2008**

**Correction:** "Glen Whitford" should be "Glenn Woodford"

**MOVED BY Ms. Christine Hoehne, seconded by Mr. Mark Trevorrow that the minutes of October 29, 2008, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

**Additions:** 8.1 Data Storage/Retention - Mr. Pierre Clement

**MOVED BY Mr. Peter Connor, seconded by Mr. Mark McLean that the order of business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

**5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**6.1 Correspondence - NONE**

**6.2 Petitions - NONE**

**6.3 Delegations**

**6.3.1 Scotia Weather Services**

Mr. Mac MacLeod, President and General Manager, Scotia Weather Services Inc., presented an overview of services provided by his company which specializes in the field of real time environmental information. SWS processes over 4000 weather observations per hour by tracking weather through computer models from a variety of sources such as: Environment Canada (globally and regionally), US National Weather Service GFS and NAM models, manned and automatic weather observation stations, ocean buoys,

aerological weather stations, geostationary/polar satellites and weather radar/measurement packages on commercial airlines.

Scotia Weather Services Inc. (SWS) would like to expand into the hydrology and water quality business due to climate change causing an increase in precipitation which has made water quality more important. Understanding the hydrologic cycle is essential for sustainable agriculture, environmental protection/management, water resource development/ management, prevention/control of natural disasters and the mitigation of the negative impacts of climatic change.

As one of the partners involved with the Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF) 2007 project, SWS will help to develop and market products/services to support management of water resources nationally and internationally. The project is being led by the Advanced Geomatics Research Group (AGRG) of the Nova Scotia Community College, Middleton Campus. 50% of the funding for the project has been provided through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA). The project consists of four case studies within the Maritimes to develop and test new technology. SWS's project is to match real time output with real time hydrology, for example, to develop a product that would assist a small town in determining the quantity of snowfall to expect as well as the start/stop time.

Scotia Weather Services Inc. is requesting that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board (DLAB) consider being a client by presenting a question or problem (present/future) for investigation. There would be no cost involved. The client would:

- C Formulate a clear question on lake water quality/quantity for the Lake William/Fletcher area (the Dartmouth Lake system as it is a chain of lakes); the area could extend to Grand Lake/Lake Charles.
- C Appoint a liaison person to interact with the project team.
- C Provide feedback on the ability of the study to answer the proposed question/problem upon receipt of periodic reports.
- C Provide an end review (testimonial) of the project outcome to determine a marketing tool for the participants.

Mr. MacLeod noted that fluorescent LIDAR technology has already been used during a recent three day fly over of an area consisting of the south side of Prince Edward Island, eastern shore of Cape Breton, the Dartmouth Lakes chain system and the Annapolis Valley. The information will serve as baseline data and should be available by March 2009.

In response to comments/concerns of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board, Mr. MacLeod provided the following information:

- C The real issue will be with ground measurement levels in regard to salt/oxygen rather than LIDAR data which would be taken once or twice annually.

- C The Community College will commence a program with equipment installed and data maintained by students.
- C The baseline data will be used to determine “*What if*” situations.
- C Information will eventually be married with air quality data so that the effect on air quality and lake pollution could be determined in regard to future development.

The Board advised that Lake Charles is the high point of the Dartmouth Lakes chain system and flows in both directions; Lake William flows to the Bay of Fundy. The growth areas outlined in the Regional Plan would be the best areas to monitor, however; Lake Fletcher was not one of those growth areas. The major quarry in that area is quite a distance away with the receiving waters on the Bedford side of the rise not the Dartmouth Lakes system.

Ms. Manzer thanked Mr. MacLeod for a very interesting presentation. She noted that the Board would discuss the issue of being a “client” for the project at their February meeting.

## **7. REPORTS**

### **7.1 Chairman’s Report**

Ms. Manzer advised that:

- C Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Planner, will be the new Staff Resource person for the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board replacing Ms. Cathy Spencer, Development Officer.
- C The Board enjoyed an excellent tour of the Dartmouth Wastewater Treatment Plant in November and was pleased that the facility was working extremely well.
- C She had been contacted by the company Jacques Whitford in regard to water quality analysis and advised them that the entire Board should be consulted rather than input being provided solely by the Chair.
- C Clean Nova Scotia (CNS) has approached her in regard to sharing information. She will deal with this matter.
- C An application to rezone land at the top of Dartmouth Crossing to permit a residential housing development is tentatively moving forward.

Ms. Spencer, Development Officer, explained that there was a Public Information Meeting being held this evening in regard to the rezoning application for Dartmouth Crossing. The residential area is proposed for the quarry area north of Wright Avenue. There would be a commercial component at the bottom of the hill with mixed, medium residential at the top near the Burnside Business Park.

The Board noted that there were no water courses draining into Lake Mic Mac or Lake Charles from that area, however; there would be runoff. Both Grassy Brook and

Frenchmen's Lake would be affected by the development due to the changes at the top of the hill.

Ms. Spencer noted that if the rezoning were approved to permit residential development, the proponent would have to return with a full fledged development agreement prior to any development taking place. The zoning is currently Industrial and the application is to change it to BCDD (Burnside Comprehensive Development District).

## **7.2            Staff Update**

Ms. Spencer advised that she had no further updates at this time.

## **8.             ADDED ITEMS**

### **8.1            Data Storage/Retention**

Mr. Pierre Clement suggested that a repository be maintained for environmental information since HRM has created the position of Environmental Performance Officer and will be handling environmental information relating to fresh water. He noted that he had provided his copy of a 1971 Canadian Wildlife Report to Mr. Cameron Deacoff, HRM's Environmental Performance Officer. The report contains a symmetry profile on lakes in the area. He expressed concern with the loss in value of such material if it were dispersed in various filing cabinets.

Mr. Mark Trevorrow and Mr. Clement suggested that the old reports/information/maps on paper charts could be scanned (digitized) to facilitate future reference and be entered in the GIS system.

Mr. Pierre Clement further advised that while meeting with BIO Library staff, they mentioned that they had a box of index cards containing water quality data information collected in the early 1960's. He expressed concern that the information may not have been compiled into a report form and may be lost. He offered to notify Mr. Deacoff of the existence of the material. Ms. Manzer explained that the information on Lake Mic Mac had been recorded by Mr. Charlie Castell and was used in a report. She noted that it was very pertinent information and provided a snapshot of Lake Mic Mac at that time.

The Board expressed concern with old data being discarded due to it not being in a usable format. Mr. Trevorrow suggested that translating/transferring "old" data to a suitable format would be a good summer student project and would ensure that important information was not lost.

Ms. Manzer offered to speak with Mr. Deacoff on the matter of historic data retention.

Mr. Mark McLean offered to speak with Mr. Jim Ross, Instructor at the Nova Scotia Community College, in regard to the methods used by the College to record data obtained from field research/analysis.

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2009.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Chris Newson  
Legislative Assistant