

Association of Pigeon Lake Municipalities Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2011
Room 530, Leduc County Centre

Attendance:

Larry McKeever, County of Wetaskiwin	Don Davidson, Grandview
Brian Keeler, Norris Beach	Pete Langelles, Ma-Me-O Beach
Ralph Johnston, Itaska Beach	Pat Sloan, Poplar Bay
Brian Waterhouse, Sundance Beach	Kathy Rooyakkers, County of Wetaskiwin
Larry Hill, Silver Beach	Ruth Harrison, Leduc County
Rex Nielsen, Itaska Beach	Doris Bell, Crystal Springs
Harold Wynne, CAO, Silver/ Sundance Beach	Sylvia Roy, CAO & Recorder

Regrets:

Argentia Beach, Golden Days

Guests:

Susan Ellis and Emile Beaudry, Pigeon Lake Watershed Association
Andrew Patterson, Leduc County Enforcement Services
Marty McKinney, Senior Officer, PLPS

1. Call to Order

Chairman Brian Waterhouse called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and introductions took place.

2. Additions to Agenda and Adoption of Agenda

PLWA Executive
Mr. Marty McKinney, PLPS
Pigeon Lake Area Concept Plan
Summer Village Administrative Structure
Southside Wastewater Project

Moved by Larry McKeever to adopt the agenda as amended.

Carried

3. PLWA Executive

It was deemed appropriate to fill the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary given the number of new members to the committee.

Brian Keeler nominated Brian Waterhouse as Chair of the PLWA.

Carried

Don Davidson nominated Doris Bell as Vice Chair of the PLWA.

Carried

Sylvia Roy to take on the position of Secretary to the PLWA.

4. Terms of Reference

The TOR for the committee were distributed at the meeting; members were asked to review and provide suggestions for revisions.

5. Adoption of October 27, 2009 Minutes

Moved by Pat Sloan to adopt the APLM Minutes of June 29, 2010 as presented.

Carried

6. Delegation – PLWA

The Committee welcomed Susan Ellis and Emile Beaudry of Pigeon Lake Watershed Association. Susan distributed a copy of their presentation and a review of the PLWA's goals and programs was conducted. Shoreline assessments are being managed by Hugh Sanders of Crystal Springs and PLWA sponsored workshops are well-attended. The "Working Well" (water well) workshops are popular and these can be arranged upon request. The PLWA Annual General Meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2011.

Mr. Beaudry acknowledged Don Davidson's efforts in eliminating Himalayan balsam, a prohibited noxious weed that is prevalent around Pigeon Lake. It was noted and appreciated that Leduc County provided training and support for this initiative.

A brief discussion took place regarding the MEC Operating Company's application under the Water Act, to use fresh water for the purposes of oilfield injection. Ma-Me-O Beach Council and Administration underwent the mediation process with Alberta Environment, Alberta Environmental Appeals Board and MEC to review alternatives to the use of the aquifer water. Wastewater was examined as a potential alternative but was not deemed economical by MEC, due to trucking costs. Pete Langelle noted that constant monitoring of the water level of the MEC well has revealed that the water level has not fluctuated more than 6" throughout the year.

Ms. Ellis provided a brief overview of the Environmental Law Centre's review of lake bylaws and this project, as well as others, is in need of funding by the Pigeon Lake municipalities. Administration and volunteers are also required to assist the PLWA with their programs and projects. Ms. Harrison indicated that Wizard Lake has received a number of grants through the ASN and Alberta Environment, and suggested that PLWA should explore these avenues as well.

7. Delegation - Cst. Marty McKinney, Pigeon Lake Protective Services

Cst. McKinney spoke of the patrols around Pigeon Lake and the wide variety of calls that they respond to, including dogs, wild animals, parties, speeding, etc and also of the fluctuation in the volume of calls. Cst. McKinney requested that if Councils have any concerns, that they should communicate with PLPS.

8. Delegation – Andy Patterson, Leduc County Protective Services

Mr. Patterson indicated that Leduc County Protective Services personnel are authorized to operate a patrol boat and enforce provincial and federal legislation. Their focus will be on Wizard Lake due to a number of issues that have taken place, but they may provide a presence on Pigeon Lake as well.

9. Lake Monitoring Program

Pete Langelle discussed his involvement in a lake monitoring initiative, due to the inconsistent monitoring that is taking place amongst a number of government and non-profit environmental groups. Ms. Harrison indicated that the ALMS (Alberta Lake Management Society) has a good lake monitoring program that is conducted in conjunction with Alberta Environment and lake volunteers. PLWA is also performing lake monitoring, so a coordinated approach should be examined. The PLWA representatives indicated that lake monitoring could be performed every year for Pigeon Lake at a cost of about \$200/municipality, as a profile has already been established for Pigeon Lake. PLWA assisted the ALMS with lake monitoring in 2008 and 2010. Mr. Langelle requested assurance that the monitoring program would be conducted every year, and requested PLWA to forward a request for the \$200 to all Pigeon Lake municipalities.

10. APLM Mission Statement

The committee reviewed the Mission statement and recommended that the word "encourage" be added to bullet #2 ("encourage" managed development). The committee was again encouraged to review the TOR and submit any proposed revisions to Sylvia Roy over the summer, so that a draft document could be reviewed at the fall meeting.

11. Pigeon Lake Area Concept Plan

Ruth Harrison advised that there may be a potentially contentious development taking place around Pigeon Lake.

12. Summer Village Administrative Structure

Larry McKeever inquired as to why all of the ten Pigeon Lake Summer Villages are not under the same shared administration. Brian Waterhouse indicated that with Sundance Beach's close relationship to the Village of Thorsby, it seemed a natural progression for them to move their administration to Thorsby.

13. Southside Wastewater Project

The Regional Wastewater project is moving slowly while awaiting a number of approvals; meanwhile the Summer Villages are meeting informally to examine economies of scale for local collection systems.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Pat Sloan to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 pm.