

**LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Sault Ste. Marie District**  
**Monday, April 14, 2008 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**SSM REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

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**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Allen Prodan, Interim Chairman, called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:32 p.m.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions were not required.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Brad Jourdin, seconded by Lester Hopkins. Motion carried.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2008 MEETING**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Bill Vanderburg, seconded by Deane Greenwood. Motion carried.

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2008 MEETING**

1. Gary was to seek clarification from MNR Lands staff concerning trails. This will be put over to the next meeting.
2. Tom Crowell stated that Clergue will revamp the Compliance Report to show only the MRS (Montreal River South) portion of the forest and to also put the report in layman's terms. This report will be shown at the next meeting.
3. There was further discussion concerning the process for filling the Tourism Sector vacancy. Jeff and Brian will provide Ron with a proposed process.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Ron received the Winter 07/08 Forest File from Northwatch. A copy is attached to these minutes.
2. Ron received a thank-you letter from Anna Rodgers who was the recipient of the above award in the Forestry Technician program.

## 7. REGULAR BUSINESS

### *1. Current FMP Update - Tom Croswell*

Tom Croswell stated that all of the Boniferro harvest operations have been completed in Block 7401 (Vixen Lake) and suspended in Blocks 6303 and 6304 (Christina) due to breakup. Wood at roadside will be slashed and hauled once road restrictions are lifted. Operations in Block 6306 (Leonard) have been suspended until next winter. Block 7301 (Private Lake) on the Whitman Dam road is scheduled for white birch clearcut harvest in May. Tom also advised that the sawmill will be taking two weeks down time from April 12<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> due to the shortage of log inventory. Tom also stated that Midway Lumber has shut down it's harvest operations for the season.

Tom stated that St. Marys has completed harvest operations in block 7407 off the Ranger Lake Road with approximately 5-7 loads remaining to haul. Harvest and hauling operations have also been completed in Block 6104A (Huff Lake South) until road conditions improve. Harvest operations have been completed in block 6303A (Christina North) and hauling suspended until half loads are lifted. Harvesting operations in Block 7400A are nearing completion due to weather. Some wet areas were not harvested due to wet ground conditions. Hauling is suspended due to half loads and road conditions.

### *2. FMP Planning Update - Nathan Mudge*

Nathan handed out copies of FMP-3 "Description of Forest Units" and FMP-4 "Summary of Managed Crown Productive Forest by Forest Unit".

Table FMP-6, "Objectives and Strategies" has no targets as yet.

The issue concerning the Mixed Conifer Forest Unit has been made by the Steering Committee.

The Desired Forest Benefits meeting is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm at the Water Tower.

### *3. LCC FMP Update - Jeff Hinich*

Jeff had electronically sent his summary to all LCC members prior to tonight's meeting.

### *4. All Sector Reports - All*

Lester Hopkins reported on a successful Iron Bridge trappers' event held last weekend that included the councils from Elliot Lake, Sault Ste. Marie and Blind River.

### 5. LCC Budget - Ron Reffle

Ron stated that there was a surplus in the LCC fund of approximately \$1,000.

### 8. New Business

- a. Ron and Donna provided members with an update on the LCC Regional Workshop. The focus is on Climate Change and bio economy. The dates are May 2-4.
- b. Members discussed a field trip for the July meeting. The plan is to hold the trip in the late afternoon in the Searchmont area to look at yellow birch and cedar shelterwood cuts. The trip will be discussed at the June meeting.
- c. Tom Crowell announced the establishment of the James S. Miller Memorial Scholarship in partnership with the Ontario Forestry Association (OFA) to be awarded annually. The fund is looking for donations and the intent to provide the first award next year. The schools are being provided with the details.
- d. Tom provided members with a summary of the Gap Analysis meeting held on April 9<sup>th</sup> in Sault Ste. Marie. The requirement for this meeting was outlined at the last LCC meeting. Bill Crinns (MNR) presented the MNR's most current gap analysis which shows that there are not a lot of gaps on the Algoma Forest. The next step is to update the data that is used in this model to reflect the most recent information available for the forest. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) uses a different approach for determining gaps in protected areas and determines representation based on areas known as "enduring features". Their data base is also outdated.  
 The data will be updated in both models by June 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be another meeting in mid June to review the new model results and determine if there are any potential gaps in the forest. There is a need to engage other groups in order to move forward.  
 It was a good meeting but this is expected to be a long and slow process. The Nature Conservancy was also in attendance. They have a different vision regarding protected areas which involves protecting or deferring large tracts of land from operations.  
 It is interesting to note that the Algoma Forest and the Northshore Forest are both at a higher level of protection than other forests.
- e. Ron announced that the new District Manager for Sault Ste. Marie is Bob Johnston. Bob was the former District Manager in Chapleau and Regional Native Liaison Specialist in Timmins. He also has an extensive background in the Fire program and was the Fire Management Supervisor in the Sault District in the mid 90's.
- f. Members discussed the date of the next LCC meeting and, in consideration of all the other LCC events in May it was agreed to hold the next meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andy Pedersen, seconded by all members. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, June 9, 2008 at 5:30 pm at the SSM Region Conservation Authority Office at 1100 Fifth Line East.**

Ron Reffle  
Recording Secretary  
Local Citizens' Committee  
Attachments