

LOCAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Monday, October 20, 2008 - 5:30 p.m.
SSM REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mike Thompson, Chairman, called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:34 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were not required.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- FMP Training for new LCC members
- LCC business cards and brochures
- FMZ-10 Report
- Christmas Meeting

A motion to approve the revised agenda was made by Bill Vanderburg, seconded by Deanne Greenwood. Motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Al Prodan, seconded by Donna Ryckman-Rooney. Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 MEETING

Action Item 3-1: The first three bulletin points for the climate change proposal will be included in the Executive Summary of the Algoma 2010 FMP. The fourth bullet point has already been included as an objective in the FMP-13 Table.

Action Item 3-2: Mike contacted Dan Bowes from SMPC for presentation on their Forest Biomass Trials at the next LCC meeting and Dan will be giving a presentation on their Biomass Trials.

Action Item 8-b: Jason will be giving a Socio-Economic presentation at the next LCC meeting.

Action Item 8-c: Gary advised that he spoke to the District Manager in regards to recruitment of a Tourism Representative and the MNR will be posting an ad in the Sault Star within the next couple of weeks. Mike and some other LCC members mentioned that this position has not been filled for quite awhile and wanted to see this position filled as soon as possible. Jeff and Hal suggested some other potential contacts such as NOTO, Algoma Kinniwabi Travel Association and Tourism SSM. Donna also mentioned that once the ad was posted in the newspaper that the MNR advised the LCC members via e-mail.

Action Item: Gary to provide status update at next LCC meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Gary sent a copy of Jeff's Draft LCC Summary Report to the LCC members for their information and review prior to the meeting.
2. Mike received a copy of an e-mail from Delio Tortosa from the Sault and District Prospectors Association (SDPA) to the District Manager indicating that Denise Berg has been nominated by the Association as the new LCC Representative for the SDPA starting in January 2009 and in the interim she will act an alternate to Andy.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Socio-Economic Presentation - Jason Mc Lellan

Jason McLellan did a presentation on the Socio-Economic Description of the Algoma Forest which he prepared for the 2010 Algoma FMP. In his socio-economic description, he described the socio-economic characteristics of the forest reliant communities, mills and primary uses of the Algoma Forest. Besides timber harvesting, the other primary uses of the forest were mining, Parks & Protected areas, resource-based tourism, hunting & fishing and trapping. In his socio-economic assessment, Jason identified the expected socio and economic impacts of implementing the proposed management strategy which is part of the Long Term Management Direction (LTMD) developed during Stage 2 of the FMP process. He described both the timber and non - timber impacts on the Algoma Forest.

After the presentation several members had some questions for Jason. Donna asked why Michipicoten Trap Rock was not mentioned and the answer was the project is still undergoing an Environmental Assessment and is not developed yet. Hal asked how many Resource Stewardship Agreements (RSAs) were negotiated on the Algoma Forest. Tim mentioned that there were only three since some Tourist operators have a good relationship with Clergue and feel that they do not need an RSA. Hal also mentioned that according to Tourism SSM the value of fishing & hunting is important to Sault Ste. Marie. Les advised Jason that Lisa at the Ontario Fur Managers Federation could provide some information on number of trappers and value of trapping in the Algoma area. Al made a comment that the socio-economics is important but the FMP process is too complex and never simple and it is very difficult for LCC members to understand. Also, Dan mentioned that socio-economics is important and the forest is managed for social, economic and environmental purposes but the MNR socio-economic assessment process is poorly resourced. Jeff concluded by saying that a healthy forest is a healthy community and Jason should add some words in the text to cover that point.

2. SMPC Forest Biomass Trials - Dan Bowes

Dan Bowes showed some pictures and talked about the Biomass Trials which St. Marys Paper conducted in the Devils Lake, Christina Mines and Frater areas this summer and fall. They experimented with a tub grinder which could process tops, butt ends, short length logs and/or small branches. The ground up material (chips, strands, sawdust, etc.) fell onto a conveyor belt and was deposited in a pile behind the machine. The material was then loaded into a chip van with an excavator and delivered to the boilers at the paper mill. With this method they encountered the problem of picking

up rocks and dirt with the ground up material. Also, they were experimenting with an inline grinder which could process longer log lengths and full trees and blow the ground up material directly into a waiting chip van and avoid the rocks and dirt with the ground up material. A large chip van could hold 20-30 tonnes of material.

Currently they have a salvage licence to harvest 500 ha of the burnt trees from Sault Fire #13 on Highway 129. They still have to leave 25 snag trees/ha. There is a feller buncher and a grapple skidder working in the burn area.

The boiler requires about 500 tonnes (15-17 van loads) of material per day and double the volume in the winter. The chips are mixed with bark from the paper mill debarker and sawdust before being dumped into the boilers. The plan is to construct a cogen plant (32-24 megawatts) by the end of 2010 which will utilize about 1200 tonnes (40 van loads) per day. The cogen plant will produce steam and power for the mill and excess power will be provided to the power grid. With a cogen plant, more timber volume will be required which will mean heavier utilization and potential for more impacts on the forest. Dan said he was not sure if emissions would be a problem.

Dan mentioned that natural gas costs about \$100 per ton and biomass runs in the range of \$40-80 per ton. A barrel of oil can produce about 4200 BTUs and a ton of biomass can produce about 4200 BTUs. Since the Algoma Forest is a certified forest then biomass from the Algoma Forest can be used to produce certified power.

Mike mentioned that the current OMNR commitment and tenure process needs to be revamped.

The Planning Team will be developing a section on biomass for inclusion in the FMP.

3. FMP Update -Mike Thompson, Dan Bowes and Tim Reece

Mike advised that Henson & Tregonning is currently operating in Block 6117 (Drew). Also operations have recently commenced in MOU 6102 (Bow). The Tilley Lake Road extension has been completed up to the crossing to access MOU 6116 (Griffin).

Pierre Dumas is currently operating in Block 6305 (Christina South). Meakin Forest Enterprises is currently operating in Block 7301 (Ojidaki). Operations have recently commenced in Block 7310 (Private Lake) with two processors harvesting white birch.

Dan advised that St. Marys Paper is currently harvesting in Block 7204 (Headwater South) off the Ranger Lake /North West Road and finishing up harvest operations in Block 7201 (Powerline Road).

Tim advised that Midway Lumber is currently harvesting and conducting road construction operations in Block 7513 (Bass Lake).

4. Compliance Update - Tim Reece

Tim circulated and discussed the Summary of Non-Compliant inspections in SSM District. There were 5 instances of non-compliance (NIC) with 4 for SMPC and one subcontractor with 3 NICs and 1 instance for Midway Lumber Mills (MLM). Boundary lines for block lay-out and AOCs seemed to be a problem. Tim mentioned that some NICs are still open and OMNR needs to close off sooner.

5. FMP Planning Update - Clergue

Nathan advised that the RD presentation was held on October 9, 2008 and the presentation went well and no additional comments were received. The notice for the 30 day period for the public review of the LTMD was in the SAULT Star on October 12, 2008. Comments from the public and OMNR will be received up until November 12, 2008. Then a list of the Required Alterations will be prepared and sent to Clergue by November 27, 2008. The First Public Information Centre is tentatively scheduled for mid January 2009.

6. LCC FMP Update - Jeff Hinich

Jeff talked about the LCC Summary Report that he had prepared and the new requirements for the LCC Summary Report in the 2004 Forest Management Planning Manual (FMPM). Jason prepared a list of the LCC Members and LCC Meeting dates for inclusion in the LCC Summary Report. Mike made some suggestions for corrections to the report. In the section on 'joint meetings' delete the part on issues since it is repeated below in 'Problems and Issues'. In the section on 'summary of training' add OMNR has provided a CD and brochures on Forest Management Planning to LCC members and FMP 101 Training will be provided in the near future for new LCC members. In the section on 'participation' add OMNR produced a Values CD for LCC members to show to their groups/sectors. In the section on 'problems & issues' mention some of the problems and that the LCC should be more involved in the Desired Forest & Benefits meeting. In the section on 'participation' add OMNR and SFL attend the LCC meetings regular basis.

There was a lot of discussion as to whether just the picture of the site damage should be included with the report or whether other pictures from the field trip should be included as well. Les said that he liked what he saw about yellow birch management. Mike suggested that for future field trips minutes be recorded and more pictures of the 'good' and 'bad' be taken. Dan indicated that by only capturing one bad thing puts the Forest Industry in a bad context and a sample is needed to get the right picture. Finally consensus was reached to include a sample of pictures to show recent harvest areas in all of the three silvicultural systems and the instance of site damage.

7. All Sector Reports - All

1. FMZ-10 Report

Since we were running late AI agreed to post-phone his report until the next LCC meeting.

Action: AI to present a status report for FMZ-10 at the next LCC meeting.

8. LCC Expenditures Report - Gary Raines

Gary advised the members that this year's LCC budget is \$5,000.00. The total expenditures to date are slightly over \$1,000.00 which includes the \$500.00 to Sault College for the bursary.

8. NEW BUSINESS

1. FMP Training for new LCC Members

Mike mentioned that it has been awhile since there has been some FMP training for new LCC members. Tom Crowell is prepared to offer some FMP 101 Training sessions for new LCC members.

Action: New LCC members who are interested in some FMP 101 training to contact Mike.

2. LCC Business Cards and Brochures

Mike mentioned it has been awhile since the LCC Business cards and brochures have been checked and with the new 2010 FMP it would be a good time to take inventory so that the LCC members could hand them out to their sectors and members of the public as requested.

Action: Gary to conduct an inventory of the LCC business cards and brochures and report back at the next LCC meeting.

3. Annual Christmas LCC Meeting

Gary advised that he made an executive decision and booked a room at the Gran Festa Ristorante in the Quality Inn at 180 Bay Street for Monday December 8, 2008 for the Annual LCC Christmas Meeting.

Action: LCC members who are interested in attending are to RSVP to Gary by December 1st.

Action: Gary is to confirm with Mike if any special plaques for LCC members are required and place the order.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andy Pedersen, seconded by Deane Greenwood. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held on **Monday November 10 at 5:30 pm at the SSM Region Conservation Authority Office at 1100 Fifth Line East.**

Gary Raines
A/Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee
Attachments