

LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Wednesday, May 17, 2006 - 5:30 p.m.
St. Marys Paper Boardroom

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Kerry Sinibaldi, Chairman, called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:35 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Kerry introduced Rod Seabrook, Lead Auditor from KBM. Rod introduced the members present from the KBM audit team. All LCC members present introduced themselves.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Paul Foisy, seconded by Bill Vanderburg. Motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2006 MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lester Hopkins, seconded by Art Osborne. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2006 MEETING

1. Don Hall sent Ron the names of the winners of the LCC Awards from Sault College. A copy of Don's note was sent to all members.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Ron received the Feb 2006 Forest File from Northwatch and sent a copy to all members. Northwatch also sent a notice on the Symposium on Herbicide Use scheduled for June 16th in Timmins.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. *Guest Speaker - KBM Forestry Consultants - 2006 IFA*

Rod Seabrook provided the LCC members with a power point presentation on the Independent Forest Audit (IFA) for the Algoma Forest covering the years 2001 - 2006. Rod outlined some of the background of the purpose of IFAs, who does the audits, the responsibilities of the Forest Futures Committee, the members of KBM's audit team, how the audit is conducted, and the schedule for meetings and field visits.

Rod also outlined the communications, areas of focus, the paper trail, public and First Nation participation, the high Priority Aspects (HPAs), the LCC's involvement in the IFA and the reporting schedule.

KBM will be mailing out a comment sheet to the LCC members shortly. The LCC is not involved in the draft report (no change from the last time).

One member asked who pays for the audit. The audit is paid by the Forestry Futures Committee. Another question was on the effect of the new 10 year planning cycle on the audit. Rod stated that there will still be an audit every 5 years. The entire audit process is confidential until it is released by MNR. The final report will be submitted in early 2007.

The report is normally 50 to 60 pages of text, photos, suggestions, recommendations and best practices.

There are a number of mechanisms for LCC input including tonight's meeting and the mailout survey.

There will be an opportunity for one or two LCC members to accompany the audit team on the September field visit. Jeff Hinich pointed out that the field portion of the last audit on the Algoma Forest was for 4 days. Now that the Algoma Forest includes the old Wawa Forest, four days in field appears to be inadequate. Rod stated that they will spend as much time as required to achieve their sampling intensity.

Allen Prodan commented that the planning process is very complex. The last revision to the FMPM was to make the process simpler but it appears to him that it just got more complicated and is now mind boggling to the lay person.

Jeff Hinich stated that the LCC members require more training at the basic level especially at the beginning of the planning cycle.

Kerry Sinibaldi mentioned that the open houses may promote public participation but it is difficult to get to the public to attend. One of the last open houses for Algoma was located across the street from the annual Great Outdoor Show which attracts about 10,000 people. The LCC had a booth at the show and encouraged interested people to go across the street to the open house.

Paul Foisy commented that the Algoma plan has a specific AOC for snowmobile trails which was worked out locally. He asked why there is no provincial AOC for these trails.

John McNicol (KBM) commented that some districts do not have any AOC on these trails.

Dave Thomson (KBM) encourages the LCC members to respond to the survey and attend the field portion of the audit.

Dave Thomson and Ben Newman are the LCC contacts for KBM. The KBM website and 1-800 phone number are included in the survey material.

2. FMP Update - Jim Miller

Jim reported that, on the Boniferro operations, Pierre Dumas has completed harvesting in the Glendale Block (6502). There is approximately 350 cubic metres of wood at the roadside that needs to be slashed and hauled. Once the wood is hauled, then the crossings will be removed and the gravel pits will be rehabilitated. The

entrances off the Ranger Lake Road are to be removed. This should be completed by May 19th.

Dumas will be moving to the Christina Block (6304) and begin upgrading the Christina Mine Road. Operations will begin by May 19th by harvesting the yellow birch uniform shelterwood stand.

Barry Henson is slashing and hauling wood in the Pancake Block (6108) using the Carp Road. Harvesting has started in the Jocko South Block (6107) in tolerant hardwood uniform shelterwood along the Pipe Lake Road. Operations in this block will be completed by September 1st. Harvesting in the Wiley Block (6112) will start by mid summer.

Avery has started in the clearcut stands in the Smilsky Block (6103) and should be completed by September 1st. Road construction will start in the Bow Block (6102) by May 31st for summer/fall harvest operations.

Currently the active haul roads are the Mile 67, Pipe Lake, Carp and Christina Mine.

Kerry Sinibaldi reports that Henson will not be harvesting this year south of the Montreal River. Henson is currently hauling the remaining 40-50 loads of wood from the Powerline block (7201) and should take 2-3 weeks to complete. There are approximately 2 loads of wood left to be hauled from the Scriven West Block (7200). Compliance inspections will be conducted when hauling nears completion. Blocks that are currently suspended will be inspected in June then closed and released to MNR for inspection.

St. Marys Paper has some stands in the Christina Block and are currently arranging for a contractor.

Jim Miller stated that Midway's operations include Dave Zeppa in the Carpenter Lake Block and Jim Lecuyer in the Penelope Lake Block.

Jeff Hinich asked about the Christina Mine Road upgrade. Jim stated that the crossings do not appear to be in good shape. Consideration will be given to using funds from the MNR Roads Program on the Christina Mine Road. The operations in that area should take about 3 years to complete. There will be more shelterwood operations in this area and this is a good opportunity for an LCC field trip.

The FMP Amendment and AWS Revision summary has no changes since the last meeting.

Jim mentioned that the tree plant in the old Algoma Forest should be completed this weekend. They planted about 1 million seedlings. Currently Clergue is very tight in available planting areas. Most of the clearcut areas have now be planted.

3. Communications - All

Four members of the LCC (Art Osborne, Brad Jourdin, Mike Thompson and Allen Prodan) attended the North East Regional LCC Workshop held in Cochrane from May 5th to the 7th. Art reported that the average age of the attendees was 55-60 years old. Recruitment appears to be a problem with all LCCs. There were approximately 50 to 60 participants. Art has the session binder and he gave it to Jim Miller. The package will be stored at the MNR office.

4. All Sector Reports

There were no reports.

5. LCC Budget - Ron Reffle

The MNR has not as yet received their budget for 06/07.

8. New Business

1. Don Hall advised the members that he is stepping down as the Naturalists representative on the LCC but will stay on until a replacement is found. The president of the Sault Naturalists will contact the District Manager with a nomination.
2. Lester Hopkins asked if Jim Miller could look into why there are old culverts left at the side of the Mile 38 Road along with bulldozer tracks. He also asked Jim about the 95 tree length maple and 58 other logs left in that area. Jim stated that he would follow up with Boniferro Mill Works.
3. Jim advised the committee that Envirothon was attended by 60 - 70 participants this year. The White Pines team was the local winner and went on to the Provincials. There is a news release being prepared for June.
4. Kerry advised the committee that he had contact Clean North concerning the Environment Sector vacancy on the LCC. They are busy with various items in the City at this time. Ron has one application and has one more individual to check on.
5. The Rules of Procedure were reviewed and members present had no comments and recommend keeping the current rules. Allen Prodan had a question on the description of a quorum. He suggested that it be calculated on active members rather than total membership. The members present decided to leave that section in the rules as they stand but to review the calculation on a meeting by meeting basis.
6. Members present agreed to cancel the meeting in July and August unless there is a need to meet to discuss or resolve an issue.
7. Art advised the committee about the Boreal Conference scheduled for October 2-5 at the Lake Abitibi Model Forest.

8. Members present agreed that the St. Marys Paper boardroom should be designated as the meeting place for all future meetings subject to the approval of St. Marys Paper.

ACTION: Kerry to check with the company on the boardroom's availability.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Foisy, seconded by Bill Vanderburg. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, June 12th at the St. Marys Paper boardroom at 5:30 pm.**

Ron Reffle
Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee
Attachments