

ALBERTA WATER COUNCIL

MEETING #20

June 17, 2008

Calgary, Alberta

Executive Summary

The AWC board formally installed Jim Ellis as its new president and thanked Peter Watson for his leadership of the Council over the last two years. The core operating budget for 2008 was also approved and copies of the 2007 annual report were distributed.

The Intra-Basin Water Movement Project Team presented its final report, which was approved. The team developed some foundational principles and has identified areas where it recommends that Alberta Environment do additional work. The report will now be transmitted to Minister Renner and this completes the Council's response to his request in January 2007.

The Wetland Policy Project Team (WPPT) reached consensus that the draft wetland policy and implementation plan are the best documents that can be developed by the WPPT and hence the report should be transmitted to Council. Recognizing that some sectors require additional time to ratify the documents, the board agreed to defer a final decision on the draft policy and implementation plan to the September meeting. Stakeholders will have additional opportunities to provide input and ideas during the implementation phase.

One new committee and two new teams were formally established. The *Water for Life* (WFL) Implementation Review Committee will take on the core function of overseeing the review of WFL implementation progress, with the next report expected in spring 2009. The Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems (HAE) Project Team was formed to provide a foundation and direction for future work under the HAE element of the WFL strategy. These two Council groups will share a consultant who will be gathering information required by both groups. The board also approved the formation of a new team to develop recommendations to better utilize and enhance Alberta's water allocation transfer system to contribute to *Water for Life* goals. The Water Allocation Transfer System Upgrade Project (WATSUP) Team will, among other things, be hosting a symposium to explore new ideas and approaches and examine best management practices.

The Shared Governance and Watershed Planning Framework Team presented an update on their work, which is expected to be completed over the summer, with a final report to the board in September. Board members noted the importance of linking this work with the Land Use Framework.

Summary of Discussion

MEMBERS MEETING

1 Administration

1.1 Welcome, Introductions and Approve Agenda

Mike Kelly convened the meeting of Members at 8:40 am. Those present introduced themselves.

1.2 Approve New Members

Members agreed by consensus to accept the Canadian Chemical Producers' Association and the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute as the Member for the chemical and petrochemical sector on the Alberta Water Council Association.

The meeting of Members was adjourned at 8:45 am.

GENERAL BUSINESS OF COUNCIL

1 Administration

1.1 Welcome, Approve Agenda

Mike Kelly convened the general business meeting at 8:45 am. He reviewed the agenda, which was approved by consensus.

1.2 Appointment of Executive Officer

Decision 20.1: Jim Ellis was appointed as an officer of the Alberta Water Council Association.

1.3 Appointment of President

The executive committee recommended that Jim Ellis become president of the Council and complete the two-year term begun in 2007 by Peter Watson. The board formally acknowledged the leadership of Peter during his term as president and looks forward to his continued participation as the director for Alberta Energy.

Decision 20.2: Jim Ellis was approved as president of the Alberta Water Council to November 2009.

Action 20.1: The Council will send a letter to Peter Watson, thanking him for his leadership of the Council.

1.4 Approve Summary Report from March 11, 2008 meeting

Decision 20.3: The summary report for Meeting 19 was adopted by consensus and will be posted on the Council website.

1.5 Action Items from March 11, 2008 Meeting

All action items are complete or in progress.

1.6 Executive Director's Report

Gord Edwards directed the board to his report in the briefing book. He presented highlights of the report and formally introduced new staff to the board.

1.7 Budget

Gord Edwards presented the core operating budget for 2008, noting that revenues for the year will be \$1.345 million, with \$173,775 expected to be carried over to 2009. Staff compensation represents about 30% of our 2008 expenditures but is expected to be closer to 50% of future annual budgets with a full complement of staff. Some items in the 2008 budget will be one-time only expenses. Gord explained that it is prudent to have in place a fund in the event that the Council does need to wind down. This wind down fund would be used to pay severance, leasing costs, etc. \$100,000 will be put in the fund for 2008, with the goal of building it up to \$200,000.

Gord and Shaun responded to questions from the board, noting the following points:

- The core budget covers only core operating costs, such as salaries, honoraria, office operations, etc. Project teams will be expected to raise their own funds if they wish to hire a consultant or incur other major expenses related to their work (e.g., host a conference). Teams are encouraged to think about potential funding sources when preparing terms of reference.
- The communications budget is based on a forecast to the end of 2008 and is considered to be a reasonable amount for communicating the AWC's products. A detailed communications strategy is being prepared.
- Future budget reports will include a third column to reflect expenditure projections.

Board members requested clarification about what is meant by core funding and the expectation that teams will be expected to raise money for their own work. Gord advised that core funding covers the basic costs of AWC operations. Project managers will work with teams to prepare grant applications and identify other sources of funding to support the team's work. It was noted that if certain sectors are particularly interested in a project, it is in their interest to support the team's work.

Decision 20.4: The 2008 core operating budget was approved as presented.

Action 20.2: The executive will discuss issues related to project team funding and bring additional information back to the board at a future meeting.

1.8 Signing Authority

Decision 20.5: In addition to Peter Watson, Keith Murray and Gord Edwards, Michele Weldon and Terry Sly were designated as financial signing authorities for the Council. In addition, designated staff members can sign cheques up to and including \$25,000, with two signatures being required on all cheques.

Action 20.3: Gord Edwards will confirm that there is no conflict with having Terry Sly as a signing authority, since he is in a seconded position from Alberta Environment.

1.9 Disband Transition Committee

The Transition Committee has completed all the tasks that were initially assigned to it. However, the process guidelines still need to be finalized and the executive has agreed to take over this responsibility.

Decision 20.6: The board agreed to disband the transition committee and authorize the executive to complete the process guidelines and bring them forward to the September meeting.

2 Intra-Basin Water Movement

Kim Sturgess presented the final report from the Intra-Basin Water Movement Team. She reviewed the original request from the minister, the process used by the team, and the direction provided by the board to the team in November 2007. The team produced three deliverables: 1) values and process principles that should guide a process for intra-basin water movement allocation decisions; 2) recommendations to strengthen the approach to intra-basin water movement decisions; and 3) issue areas where consensus can't be reached and further work is recommended for Alberta Environment (AENV).

In response to questions from the board, Kim and other team members noted that:

- Team members engaged with their sectors, met with some specific groups, and made several presentations to the board, asking for feedback. Board members were encouraged to bring any concerns to the team at any time.
- Every application currently includes an opportunity for public input. The team agreed that its recommendations would not be retroactive and would not apply to existing licences.
- One major recommendation is for AENV to develop a decision tree that could be used to assess the level of impact or trigger for the review process. AENV would also define specific key terms.
- The standard water application process also needs to be clarified; the team envisioned this clarification as including documentation of a) what is being done today, and b) the current role of the director. Part of the overall challenge is also determining what is the size of a sub-basin, as the team could not agree on this.
- Regional pipelines could be affected but the team did not make any decisions on this.

Alberta Environment noted that from the government's perspective, this is very good work. It focuses on where the concerns are and gives the department direction about what remains to be done. Alberta Environment was strongly encouraged to prepare a map as well as words to use in describing the sub-basin boundaries.

To reiterate the importance of taking social, economic and environmental considerations into account, it was agreed that the following sentence (italicized for clarity here) would be added to point 1 "Living within a watershed" in the Values Principles section of the team's final report:

"...socioeconomic reasons. As with all applications for licences, the balance between environmental protection and socioeconomic means must be considered. Nevertheless..."

Decision 20.7: The board agreed to:

1. *Approve the "Intra-Basin Water Movement Major Principles and Recommendations" Report for submission to Minister Renner in response to his January 30, 2007 question.*
2. *Separate Appendix C from the Major Principles and Recommendations report and publish Appendix C as a companion document to the main report, with both to be posted on the AWC website in September 2008.*

3. *Approve the report “Comparison of the Water Allocation Process in Alberta to Other Jurisdictions” for publication and immediate posting on the AWC website.*
4. *Disband the project team.*

The board thanked this team for its efforts at reaching consensus on a challenging topic, and for the direction it has provided for further work.

3 Wetland Policy Project Team

Rick Quail assumed the chair and introduced the topic. Jonathan Thompson, Judy Smith and Petra Rowell presented the team’s draft policy and implementation plan, noting that they have had input from more than 1000 stakeholders. The team has engaged the board several times during its three years of work, and is pleased to have reached consensus on the Council’s first major policy recommendations to the Government of Alberta. The draft policy states a provincial goal and several strategic directions to achieve the goal. The companion Implementation Plan starts to lay the groundwork for successful implementation of the policy. Team members kept in contact with their sectors throughout their deliberations, but there was a lot of movement in the last month and there was insufficient time for the final changes to be considered by all sectors.

In response to questions from the board, team members noted that:

- The Government of Alberta will need to do further work to develop sector guidelines for mitigation and compensation, and has indicated it will take a multi-stakeholder approach to this process.
- The intention is not to rework the documents, but stakeholders will have additional opportunities to provide input and ideas regarding implementation.

The meeting chair advised that, although the original intent had been for the board to approve the draft policy and implementation plan at this meeting, some sectors have requested additional time for their stakeholders to ratify the documents. Thus, the executive proposes that the board give conditional approval to these two documents at this meeting and outlined a process to ensure that the board will be in a position to make a final decision at the September 2008 meeting. Board members made a few comments about the overall process:

- There are some risks if concerns are raised in the next month or so. Team members made important concessions to provide flexibility in implementing the policy, but still feel they can live with the current documents. The key concern with delaying transmittal of the draft policy to the minister for three months is that it could mean further wetland loss for projects that are approved in the short term. As well, the team has agreed on a package, and if changes start to be proposed, the entire package could unravel. All sectors need to be apprised of that possibility.
- The purpose of the delay is not to raise concerns. Rather it is to ensure that all stakeholder groups support the documents. The policy may not be exactly what every sector wants, but they need to be able to live with it. Each board member needs to champion the policy and implementation plan within their sector.
- Board members can present the material to their sectors and can encourage their sectors to support the policy, but can’t guarantee the outcome.

Alberta Environment advised that the Government of Alberta wants to receive the draft policy and implementation plan as soon as possible. Wetlands are an important issue and, although it has taken three years to get to this point, the minister understands the need for a little more time to secure sector support. However, if the process is reopened over the summer and consensus does not occur, Alberta Environment will accept the work done to date, present it to the minister, and he will make the decisions on implementation. Board members were advised to make this clear in their sectoral discussions.

Decision 20.8: The board agreed to:

- 1. Defer a final decision on the recommended Wetland Policy and its companion Implementation Plan to the September 2008 meeting, and*
- 2. Disband the Wetland Policy Project Team.*

Board members supported the process proposed by the executive, as noted below:

1. Sectors that need to officially ratify the documents will do so by the end of July. All board members should encourage their sectors to support the draft documents, and should also apprise their sectors of the following:
 - The team has agreed on a package, and if changes start to be proposed, the entire package could unravel. If board members desire, members of the team could be asked to attend sector meetings to provide further insight into the rationale and background on the draft policy and implementation plan.
 - If the process is reopened over the summer and consensus does not occur, Alberta Environment will accept the work done to date, present it to the minister, and he will make the decisions on implementation.
2. Council staff and the executive will set up a teleconference for each broad category no later than the first week of August to confirm the position of each sector. If there is consensus, it will be officially noted in the background of the briefing book decision sheet and the documents will be brought again to the board in September for final approval and transmittal to the Minister.
3. Any sector that is unable to ratify the documents as they currently stand will be expected to come to the August teleconference with a clear description of the items they cannot support, the rationale for this position, and their desired alternative. These materials will be distributed as soon as possible to other sectors and included in the briefing book for the September meeting. Each sector will have an opportunity to review these points, determine their position on any proposed alternatives and compile their comments for discussion at the September meeting.
4. At the September meeting, the board will make a final decision. If the package has consensus, the draft policy and implementation plan will be forwarded to the Minister for his consideration. If there is no consensus, Council staff will assemble all the materials and positions on the non-consensus items, as well as the materials that do have consensus. The executive will review and sign off on the non-consensus package and prepare a letter of transmittal to the Minister.
5. Materials will be posted on the Council website at a time to be determined by the executive.

Board members were encouraged to contact Council staff if they needed assistance with materials or information for their sector meetings.

The board formally thanked the Wetland Policy Project Team for its diligence and persistence with a very challenging task.

4 WFL Implementation Review Committee

Al Kennedy presented the proposal for Council to establish a *Water for Life* Implementation Review Committee, and reviewed the draft terms of reference for the new committee. This committee will take on the core function of overseeing the review of WFL implementation progress. Production of the annual report will become a staff responsibility and the Reporting Project Team will be disbanded. Al also reviewed the work plan and budget, noting that the intent is for this committee and the Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems team to share a consultant since they will both have an interest in the information to be gathered. Because this work is a core function for the Council, the team proposes that its work be funded from the core operations budget. The committee is seeking new members and interested sectors should advise Terry Sly.

Decision 20.9: The board agreed to:

- 1. Approve the terms of reference for the Water for Life Implementation Review Committee, and*
- 2. Approve the committee's work plan and budget to prepare the Council's third review of implementation progress of the Water for Life strategy.*

Action 20.4: Council staff will circulate to board members a list of teams that have vacancies.

The board formally thanked the Reporting Project Team for its good work in overseeing the production of five Council reports: two reports on implementation progress of the WFL strategy, and three annual reports.

5 Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems Working Group

Danielle Cobbaert and Scott Millar reviewed the rationale for this team and presented the draft terms of reference. This team will undertake a broader scoping exercise to lay the foundation for policy-related projects that the Council might consider undertaking to advance this goal of the *Water for Life* strategy. The team plans to recommend a short list of provincial-scale priority projects for the board. The team does not require additional funds because its work will be combined with the Implementation Review Committee.

The following points were noted in discussion with the board:

- The team may want to expand the potential frame for projects and look at the priorities for action, whether they are within the AWC's mandate or not. This would ensure that important areas are not overlooked and would be an opportunity for other partners to get involved. This discussion resulted in a modification to the draft terms of reference as noted below.

- Is the size of the team appropriate? Some members thought a smaller team would be more efficient and effective, while others felt that having more diverse sectors on the team would ensure better and more timely communications with stakeholders.
- Rural municipalities should be added to the membership.
- The team should sort out its membership and sectors can decide if they feel they need to participate.

The board modified the objectives in the draft terms of reference to read:

1. Develop a working definition of the term healthy aquatic ecosystems
2. Recommend potential healthy aquatic ecosystems projects of provincial importance and identify which groups are most suited to lead them.
3. Identify potential HAE projects that may be undertaken within the AWC's mandate.

Decision 20.10: The board:

1. *Approved the revised terms of reference for a Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems Project Team.*
2. *Approved the project team's preliminary membership.*
3. *Approved the creation of the Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems project team.*
4. *Disbanded the Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems working group.*

6 Water Licence Market Working Group

Bill Berzins and Ron McMullin reviewed the context, goals and key tasks for the proposed Water Allocation Transfer System Upgrade Project (WATSUP) team. The overall goal is to develop recommendations to better utilize and enhance Alberta's water allocation transfer system to contribute to *Water for Life* goals. Among other things, the team plans to host a major symposium to explore ideas and look at best management practices. Core funds will be used for project management, honoraria, and meeting expenses, but the team is expected to raise the rest of the funds it will need. The team was asked to identify what portion of its \$200,000 budget will be allocated to core funds to help with the budgeting process.

Board members made the following comments:

1. Alberta Economic Development Authority, Alberta Chamber of Resources and Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties requested to be on the team, and the ENGO sector will be identifying one additional member. Alberta Forest Products Association and Ducks Unlimited asked to be corresponding members. It is important that all members have a stake in this matter, not just an interest, and new members must get involved very soon as the team is moving quickly.
2. The team needs to consider how it will engage private irrigators and other small licensed users. To some extent, these sectors can be contacted as opportunities for input and engagement arise.

Decision 20.11: The board:

1. *Approved the terms of reference for the Water Allocation Transfer System Upgrade project team,*
2. *Confirmed the project team's membership, and*
3. *Disbanded the Water Licence Market Working Group.*

7 Shared Governance and Watershed Planning Framework Project Team

Danielle Droitsch assumed the chair and introduced the topic. Phyllis Kobasiuk and Bob Cameron presented an update on the work of the Shared Governance and Watershed Planning Framework Project Team. They reviewed various aspects of shared governance and how the team has worked to develop and apply this concept in the context of the *Water for Life* strategy. They also described the overall process being used to develop a framework for watershed management planning and presented the next steps for the project. The documents presented in the briefing package are very close to finished. Board members who have concerns should advise the team as soon as possible, and no later than the end of July.

Board members noted the following points:

- The team needs to consider how watershed reporting will fit with regional advisory committees being formed under the Land Use Framework (LUF), and how watershed management planning will integrate with the LUF overall.
- There are opportunities to integrate land and watershed planning but quick action is needed to get processes in place.
- The authority of watershed management plans needs to be clarified. There is slightly different emphasis in different parts of the report (“should be” vs “must be”).
- Legislative or regulatory changes may be required to effectively implement watershed management planning.
- The team should ensure it has support from key stakeholders, including government departments. It was noted that more work may be needed to secure support from rural landowners, First Nations and Métis.
- Watershed Stewardship Groups may have their own mandate and priorities and not be interested in collaborative approaches, and the document should acknowledge this.

8 Alberta Water Research Institute Presentation

David Hill provided a short update and overview on the Alberta Water Research Institute (AWRI). The AWRI is looking at a number of different research program elements that will be tied to practical outcomes. They have allocated funds to work on emerging issues that need scientific and other information. David noted a few potential opportunities for collaboration on projects of interest to the AWC. The AWRI is developing some communications tools to help interested stakeholders stay abreast of their work. They will also be working with other groups to share research results and are contemplating holding regular workshops in different parts of Alberta to share information.

9 Status Reports

Members were directed to the status reports provided in the briefing book for information on other Council projects.

10 New or Other Business

The board formally recognized the following directors and alternates who have left or for whom this is their last board meeting:

- Bob Barss
- Richard Bennett
- Bill Berzins
- Joyce Ingram
- Joe Miller
- Brad Pickering
- Sharla Rauschnig
- Kim Sturgess

Most of these individuals had been with the Council since its inception and were thanked for their many contributions.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Attachment 1: Meeting #20 Attendees

Council Directors and Alternates:

Ken Ambrock, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Sustainable Resource Development)
Bill Berzins, NGO (WPACs)
Bob Cameron, NGO (Environmental)
Carolyn Campbell, NGO (Environmental)
Danielle Cobbaert, NGO (Lake Environment Conservation)
Jerry Cunningham, Government (Métis Settlements General Council)
Danielle Droitsch, NGO (Environmental)
Jim Ellis, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Environment)
Shawn Gervais, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Research Council)
Jim Hackett, Industry (Power Generation)
David Hill, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Water Research Institute)
Don Johnson, Government (Rural)
David Kay, NGO (Wetland Habitat Conservation)
Mike Kelly, Industry (Power Generation)
Al Kennedy, Industry (Chemical and Petrochemical)
Dug Major, NGO (WPACs)
Ron McMullin, Industry (Irrigation)

Charlotte Moran, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Energy)
Keith Murray, Industry (Forestry)
Larry Nolan, Industry (Livestock)
Ron Pearson, NGO (Fishery Habitat Conservation)
Richard Quail, Government (Small Urban)
J. David Rushford, Industry (Oil and Gas)
John Skowronski, Industry (Chemical and Petrochemical)
Judy Smith, Industry (Mining)
Kevin Stashin, Industry (Oil and Gas)
Kim Sturgess, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Economic Development Authority)
Jonathan Thompson, NGO (Wetland Habitat Conservation)
Jason Unger, NGO (Environmental)
Allan Wells, Government (Métis Settlements General Council)
Jay White, NGO (Lake Environment Conservation)
Jamie Wuite, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Agriculture and Food)
Beverly Yee, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Environment)
Gord Edwards, AWC Executive Director

Presenters:

Gord Edwards, Executive Director; *Executive Director's Report; Budget* (Items 1.5 and 1.6)
Kim Sturgess, *Intra-Basin Water Movement Project Team* (Item 2)
Jonathan Thompson, Judy Smith, Petra Rowell, *Wetland Policy Project Team* (Item 3)
Al Kennedy, *WFL Implementation Review Committee* (Item 4)
Scott Millar and Danielle Cobbaert, *Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems* (Item 5)
Bill Berzins and Ron McMullin, *Water Licence Market Working Group* (Item 6)
Phyllis Kobasiuk and Bob Cameron; *Shared Governance* (Item 7)
David Hill, *AWRI Update* (Item 8)

Guests:

Lauren Baldwin, Alberta Urban Municipalities Association
Kerra Chomlak, CASA
Lisa Maria Fox, Alberta Chapter of the Safe Drinking Water Foundation
Gerry Haekel, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
John Jagorinec, City of Calgary
Lori Jeffrey-Heaney, AUMA
Caroline Kolebaba, CASA-AWC Collaboration Committee
David Lloyd, Alberta Chamber of Resources

Scott Millar, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
Christyann Olson, Alberta Wilderness Association
Shirley Pickering, Highwood Water Management Public Advisory Council
Doug Sawyer, Intensive Livestock Working Group
Carrie Selin, Intensive Livestock Working Group
Tracy Scott, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

AWC Staff and Support Personnel:

Brian Free, Christine Macken, Karen McCallion, Shaun Peters, Petra Rowell, Kim Sanderson, Terry Sly, Lorie Wagner, Michele Weldon

Absent with Regrets:

Alex MacKenzie, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Health and Wellness)
Eric McGhan, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Sustainable Resource Development)
Dwight Oliver, Government (Rural)
Rob Pritchard, Government (Large Urban)
Peter Watson, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Energy)

Attachment 2: Meeting #20 Action Item Log

Action	Who	By when
Action 20.1: The Council will send a letter to Peter Watson, thanking him for his leadership of the Council.	Gord Edwards	July
Action 20.2: The executive will discuss issues related to project team funding and bring additional information back to the board at a future meeting.	Executive	August
Action 20.3: Gord Edwards will confirm that there is no conflict with having Terry Sly as a signing authority, since he is in a seconded position from Alberta Environment.	Gord Edwards	July
Action 20.4: Council staff will circulate to board members a list of teams that have vacancies.	Council staff	June 30

Attachment 3: Decision Log

Members Meeting:

Members agreed by consensus to accept the Canadian Chemical Producers' Association and the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute as the Member for the chemical and petrochemical sector on the Alberta Water Council Association.

Meeting #20

Decision 20.1: Jim Ellis was appointed as an officer of the Alberta Water Council Association.

Decision 20.2: Jim Ellis was approved as president of the Alberta Water Council to November 2009.

Decision 20.3: The summary report for Meeting 19 was adopted by consensus and will be posted on the Council website.

Decision 20.4: The 2008 core operating budget was approved as presented.

Decision 20.5: In addition to Peter Watson, Keith Murray and Gord Edwards, Michele Weldon and Terry Sly were designated as financial signing authorities for the Council. In addition, designated staff members can sign cheques up to and including \$25,000, with two signatures being required on all cheques.

Decision 20.6: The board agreed to disband the transition committee and authorize the executive to complete the process guidelines and bring them forward to the September meeting.

Decision 20.7: The board agreed to:

- 1. Approve the "Intra-Basin Water Movement Major Principles and Recommendations" Report for submission to Minister Renner in response to his January 30, 2007 question.*
- 2. Separate Appendix C from the Major Principles and Recommendations report and publish Appendix C as a companion document to the main report, with both to be posted on the AWC website in September 2008.*
- 3. Approve the report "Comparison of the Water Allocation Process in Alberta to Other Jurisdictions" for publication and immediate posting on the AWC website.*
- 4. Disband the project team.*

Decision 20.8: The board agreed to:

- 1. Defer a final decision on the recommended Wetland Policy and its companion Implementation Plan to the September 2008 meeting, and*
- 2. Disband the Wetland Policy Project Team.*

Decision 20.9: The board agreed to:

- 1. Approve the terms of reference for the Water for Life Implementation Review Committee, and*
- 2. Approve the committee's work plan and budget to prepare the Council's third review of implementation progress of the Water for Life strategy.*

Decision 20.10: The board:

- 1. Approved the revised terms of reference for a Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems Project Team.*
- 2. Approved the project team's preliminary membership.*
- 3. Approved the creation of the Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems project team.*
- 4. Disbanded the Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems working group.*

Decision 20.11: The board:

- 1. Approved the terms of reference for the Water Allocation Transfer System Upgrade project team,*
- 2. Confirmed the project team's membership, and*
- 3. Disbanded the Water Licence Market Working Group.*

ALBERTA WATER COUNCIL
AGENDA, MEETING #20
June 17, 2008
McDougall Centre, Calgary

MEMBERS MEETING

8:30 1.0 Administration 10 min

- 1.1 Welcome, introduction and approve agenda
- 1.2 Approve new members

GENERAL BUSINESS OF COUNCIL

8:40 1.0 Administration – Chair 35 min

- 1.1 Welcome and approve agenda
- 1.2 Appointment of Executive Officer – GoA and Provincial Authorities broad category
- 1.3 Appointment of President
- 1.4 Approve Summary Report from March 11, 2008 meeting
- 1.5 Review of actions from last meeting
- 1.6 Executive Directors Report
- 1.7 Budget
- 1.8 Signing Authority
- 1.9 Disband Transition Committee

9:15 2.0 Intra-Basin Water Movement 45 min

Approve final report and recommendations and disband the project team.

10:00 Break 15 min

10:15 3.0 Wetland Policy Project Team 60 min

Approve final report and recommendations on a broad policy framework and implementation plan and disband the project team.

11:15 4.0 WFL Implementation Review Committee 30 min

Approve a committee terms of reference and Workplan that outlines a new process for preparing the next review of implementation progress of *WFL*.

11:45 5.0 Healthy Aquatic Ecosystem Working Group 30 min

Approve terms of reference for Healthy Aquatic Ecosystem Project Team and disband the working group.

12:15 Lunch (provided in the room) 45 min

1:00 6.0 Water Licence Market Working Group 30 min

Approve the terms of reference for Water Allocation Transfer System Project Team, establish the project team to undertake the work identified in the terms of reference and disband the working group.

1:30 7.0 Shared Governance and Watershed Planning Framework Project Team 60 min

Provide any substantive comments on the draft reports and findings.

2:30 8.0 Alberta Water Research Institute Presentation 10 min

Hear an update on the Institute's current initiatives, funding programs and opportunities for the Council to access funds for research initiatives that support the *WFL* goals.

2:40 9.0 Status Reports 15 min

Refer members to status reports in the board package with brief opportunity for questions or clarification.

3:00 10.0 New or Other Business 20 min

New items of business or other items of information for Council

3:10 Adjournment