

Approved July 10, 2009

**INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION  
COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE CALL  
June 5, 2009  
Noon EDT**

The International Joint Commission met by conference call on June 5, 2009 chaired by Herb Gray.

<b>COMMISSIONERS</b>	
Herb Gray	Chair, Canadian Section
Irene Brooks	Chair, U.S. Section
Allen Olson	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Pierre Trépanier	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Sam Speck	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Lyll Knott	Commissioner, Canadian Section
<b>SECTION STAFF</b>	
Murray Clamen	Secretary, Canadian Section
Chuck Lawson	Secretary, U.S. Section
Bernard Beckhoff	Public Affairs Adviser, Canadian Section
Frank Bevacqua	Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Section
Willem Brakel	Senior Adviser, U.S. Section
Antionette Cade	Special Assistant, U.S. Section
Mark Colosimo	Engineering Adviser, U.S. Section
Susan Daniel	Legal Adviser, U.S. Section
Nick Heisler	Senior Adviser to the Chair, Canadian Section
Jim Houston	Environmental Adviser, Canadian Section
Brian Maloney	Administrative Specialist, U.S. Section
Tom McAuley	Engineering Adviser, Canadian Section
John Nevin	Policy Adviser, U.S. Section
Paul Pilon	Engineering Adviser, Canadian Section
Russ Trowbridge	International Adviser, U.S. Section
Joel Weiner	Senior Adviser, Canadian Section
<b>GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF</b>	
Karen Vigmostad	Director
Doug Alley	Physical Science Officer
John Gannon	Limnologist

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

1. Commissioners approved the agenda with the addition of three items under Other Business.

**MINUTES**

2. Commissioners approved the draft Minutes of the Commissioners' Conference Call of May 15, 2009.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

3. Commissioners approved the appointment of Jim Vollmershausen as Canadian co-chair of the International St. Lawrence River Board of Control.

## **BRING-FORWARD SYSTEM**

4. Commissioners noted no outstanding letters requiring a response to the Commission or outstanding letters requiring a reply from the Commission.

## **BOUNDARY WATERS TREATY CENTENNIAL/NIAGARA FALLS EVENTS**

5. Commissioners received an update on all the events associated with the 2009 centennial of the Boundary Waters Treaty while in the Niagara region June 10-15 and agreed to change the time of the on-site briefing to 5 pm on June 10.

## **IJC/GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION LAKE VICTORIA TWINNING PROJECT**

6. Commissioners reviewed the agenda for the Second Policy Workshop to be held June 14-15, 2009 in Niagara Falls, Ontario and indicated which Commissioners planned to attend.

## **GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE OPERATIONS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

7. Commissioners received an oral report on the June 5 conference call that included discussions on budget and staffing, reviews of the CGLRM and IAQAB, and the effect of travel restrictions on Agreement Boards, and approved the staff recommendation concerning the IAQAB review that more time be given to study the consultant's report and develop options and recommendations for the Fall Semi-Annual meeting.

## **2005-2007 PRIORITY REPORT: GROUNDWATER**

8. Commissioners received an oral report on the draft Terms of Reference for the Lake Ontario - St. Lawrence River Working Group and noted that the Commission was still waiting for comments from governments.

## **OSOYOOS LAKE STUDY**

9. Commissioners received a status report on the editing and layout of the Report scheduled for completion in June 2009 and noted that a draft communications strategy is being developed.

## **LAKE ONTARIO - ST. LAWRENCE RIVER STUDY (LOSLR)**

10. Commissioners received an oral update from staff noting that governments are still considering the draft terms of reference for the proposed Working Group and that a reply is expected by the end of June.

## **INTERNATIONAL ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD OF CONTROL**

11. Commissioners received an oral update on implementing environmental deviations into the ongoing considerations of the Board and noted that the Board will next discuss this matter at its September meeting in preparation for their Fall semi-annual appearance.

## **INTERNATIONAL UPPER GREAT LAKES STUDY (IUGLS)**

12. Commissioners received an update on Study Board activities including release of the peer review contracts and October 2007 alerting letter as previously approved by the Commission, highlights of the two multi-city public meetings on May 19 and 20, external peer reviews for the St. Clair and Lake Superior Task Teams and the request for release of further information, and agreed that staff should provide more detailed information on the latter request for discussion at the June 11-12 executive session in Niagara Falls.

## **INTERNATIONAL RED RIVER BOARD**

13. Commissioners received an update on the binational study of fish parasites and pathogens in Devils Lake and the Red River basin and the tracking of implementation of IJC recommendations to reduce or mitigate flooding in the basin, and agreed to write a letter to the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) asking if the University of Manitoba's investigator could use the DFO laboratories to analyze samples due to a fire in the University's laboratory.

## **WORLD WATER WEEK, STOCKHOLM, AUGUST 16-22, 2009**

14. Commissioners received an update on plans for the IJC session including themes and speakers for our session and possible participation in other transboundary sessions, and agreed on notional assignments so that final details can be worked out with organizers.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

15. **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary St. Lawrence Seaway**  
Commissioners noted invitations received by Commissioners to participate in events associated with this anniversary and agreed that Secretaries should determine if there was a specific Commission role prior to deciding to attend.
16. **UNESCO Request**  
Commissioners noted the May 27, 2009 email request for the IJC to be included in the organizations section of the UNESCO database of experts involved in transboundary water issues and agreed to include the IJC in this database.
17. **Possible Additional U.S. Funds for Great Lakes Regional Office Projects**  
Commissioners noted the possibility of obtaining \$300,000 as part of the U.S. President's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for the purpose of harmonizing U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes restoration policies and initiatives, pending approval of the President's budget and Congressional appropriation.

Murray Clamen  
Secretary  
Canadian Section

Charles Lawson  
Secretary  
U.S. Section