

MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE MEETING
Washington, DC
April 28 - May 1, 2014

The International Joint Commission met in Executive session on April 28, 29, and May 1, 2014, with its Boards on April 30 and May 1, 2014, and with the Governments on May 2, 2014, in Washington, DC, with Lana Pollack in the chair.

COMMISSIONERS

Lana Pollack	Chair, U.S. Section
Gordon Walker	Acting Chair, Canadian Section
Benoit Bouchard	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Dereth Glance	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Richard Moy	Commissioner, U.S. Section

SECTION STAFF

Chuck Lawson	Secretary, U.S. Section
Camille Mageau	Secretary, Canadian Section
Paul Allen	Manager, Policy, Programs and Communications, Canadian Section
Joe Babb	Senior Advisor, U.S. Section
Bernard Beckhoff	Public Affairs Advisor, Canadian Section*
Glenn Benoy	Senior Water Quality and Ecosystem Advisor, Canadian Section
Frank Bevacqua	Public Affairs Advisor, U.S. Section
Tara Buchanan	Environmental Advisor, Canadian Section*
Antionette Cade	Special Assistant, U.S. Section
Jean-Francois Cantin	Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Mark Colosimo	Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section
Susan Daniel	Legal Advisor, U.S. Section
Dave Dempsey	Policy Advisor, U.S. Section
David Fay	Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Nick Heisler	Senior Adviser, Canadian Section
Talante Henderson	Network Specialist, U.S. Section
Andrew Keen	Contract Specialist, U.S. Section
Mike Laitta	GIS Coordinator, U.S. Section
Sarah Lobrichon	Policy and Communications Analyst, Canadian Section*
Brian Maloney	Special Assistant, U.S. Section
Gavin Murphy	Legal Advisor, Canadian Section
Victor Serveiss	Environmental Advisor, U.S. Section
Cindy Warwick	Policy Advisor, Canadian Section
John Yee	Chief, IM and IT Services, Canadian Section
Ted Yuzyk	Director, Sciences and Engineering, Canadian Section

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF

Stephen Locke	Director
Antonette Arvai	Physical Scientist*
Raj Bejankiwar	Physical Scientist
Mark Burrows	Physical Scientist
Matthew Child	Physical Scientist
Hugh McDermid	Public Affairs Officer
Lizhu Wang	Physical Scientist
John Wilson	Physical Scientist

*** Participated in the meeting via teleconference**

Note: Items #2-8 and 10 below were discussed during the Commissioners' conference call of April 25, 2014. Other items were discussed during the April 28, 29, and May 1, 2014, Executive session.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. The agenda for the meeting was approved with the addition of several items under Other Business.

MINUTES

2. Commissioners approved the draft Minutes of the March 17, 2014, Commissioners' conference call, as amended.

APPOINTMENTS

3. **A. International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board**
Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Ms. Jenny Moorman as a U.S. member of the International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board for a three year term, effective April 1, 2014, to March 31, 2017.

BRING FORWARD

4. Commissioners reviewed the list of communications to the governments for which the Commission is awaiting responses and noted that they would like a reminder to be sent to the governments concerning the Commission's September 17, 2013, letter on the transboundary water quality issues and related health risks in the Fraser-Sumas river basins and associated aquifers shared by the Province of British Columbia and State of Washington.

ACTION ITEM LIST

5. Commissioners reviewed the latest Action Item list and Communications Activities list.

IJC HUMAN RESOURCES AND FINANCES

6. Commissioners received an update on the three offices' human resources and finances activities. Commissioners requested that names be included when personnel actions are being described and also that when new staff come on board that the Secretaries or the GLRO Director send an email announcing the fact.

JUNE 2014 EXECUTIVE MEETING

7. Commissioners reviewed and approved the dates and itinerary for the summer Executive meeting and site visits, which will take place July 13-18, 2014. Commissioners directed staff to make the necessary detailed arrangements for the meeting and site visits.

IJC STRATEGIC PLANNING

8. Commissioners noted the April 23, 2014, video/teleconference meeting held to brief all Commission staff on the March 19-20, 2014, strategic planning workshop. After the May 9, 2014, deadline for staff to provide input on the draft documents, the strategic planning steering committee is to first draft of the Strategic plan reflecting Commissioners views and staff comments. Commissioners requested that the Steering Committee also consider how best to involve the Commission's boards.

IJC GEOSPATIAL STRATEGIC PLAN

9. Commissioners received an update on development of a Commission geospatial strategic plan and noted that staff plans to provide Commissioners with a draft plan at the June 2014 Executive meeting.

GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY AGREEMENT ANNEX WORK

10. Commissioners received an update on staff activities regarding the ten annexes of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. They noted that: 1) staff has developed work plans for the Commission's observer role on each annex; 2) staff has established an oversight committee to ensure a consistent approach for the Commission's work on annexes; and 3) the Commission's annex observers have engaged with their respective annex subcommittees and/or task teams.

JUNE 2014 GREAT LAKES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

11. Commissioners discussed Commission participation in the June 4, 2014, Great Lakes Executive Meeting, which will be held at the EPA offices in Chicago, IL. Commissioners asked that the three offices ensure sufficient staff participation in the meeting. Commissioners noted that the three Commissions (IJC, Great Lakes Commission, and Great Lakes Fishery Commission) would have one of their meetings with the Parties during the lunch break.

BINATIONAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FOR NUTRIENTS IN THE LAKE ERIE BASIN (GLRI 2013-2014 PROJECT)

12. Commissioners received an update on U.S. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funds project entitled Binational Stakeholder Engagement for Nutrients in the Lake Erie Basin. They noted that the contract for this project, for which the Commission received \$150,000 from U.S. EPA under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, was signed in October 2013. The contractor has conducted a literature review for evaluating and analyzing the barriers and incentives/disincentives to stakeholder participation in nutrient reduction initiatives and is developing a survey designed to identify barriers to implementing best management practices in the Lake Erie basin.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GREAT LAKES ADVISORY BOARD SECRETARIES AND LIAISONS

13. Commissioners reviewed draft guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the Great Lakes Board secretaries and Section office liaisons. Commissioners requested that staff incorporate Commissioners' comments into the document and provide the revised version to Commissioners for approval by polling.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE BUDGET

14. Commissioners reviewed and approved the draft budget and work plans for the Great Lakes Regional Office Canadian FY 2014-2015 and discussed the process for reviewing and approving budgets in the future. Commissioners agreed that staff should provide a summary of budget expenses on a quarterly basis for Commissioners' review and that Commissioners should be informed if there are changes to budget items in excess of \$5,000.

GREAT LAKES 2014 PUBLIC MEETINGS AND 2015 IJC EVENT

15. Commissioners discussed possible plans for Great Lakes public meetings in 2014 and agreed to hold two meetings in late October or early November 2014, one in Maumee Bay State Park in Ohio and one in Leamington, Ontario. Commissioners also discussed ideas for a 2015 IJC event and asked staff to develop three options for Commissioners' consideration: 1) a single, major event; 2) several smaller, more focused meetings; and 3) any other staff ideas.

2012-2015 GREAT LAKES PRIORITIES CYCLE

16. Commissioners received updates on the activities in the 2012-2015 priorities areas: Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority (LEEP); Assessment of Progress; and Strengthening the Capacity to Deliver Great Lakes Science. On the LEEP, Commissioners discussed what elements concerning Lake Erie nutrient issues to investigate now that the LEPP report, *A Balanced Diet for Lake Erie: Reducing Phosphorus Loadings and Harmful Algal Blooms*, has been released. Two were identified for consideration - human health effects of algal blooms;

and economic impacts of algal blooms. Commissioners instructed staff to develop detailed proposals on these topics for Commissioners' review in June 2014 and to assess what additional actions could be undertaken to advance the LEEP report's recommendations. On the Assessment of Progress, Commissioners approved the release of the draft indicators report to the Parties as submitted to them with only minor edits, and they noted that it should be made clear that this is an interim report, with further work still to be done. Commissioners also approved having staff discuss the report with Co-Chairs of the Water Quality and Science Advisory Boards.

PROTECTION OF THE WATERS OF THE GREAT LAKES

17. Commissioners noted that in the Commission's 2000 report entitled *Protection of the Water of the Great Lakes*, the Commission recommended conducting a review of the report's recommendations after three years and then again after ten years and that the Commission produced a review in 2004. Commissioners agreed that the Commission should conduct another review and approved a work plan and timeline to do so. Commissioners requested that staff draft a letter to governments informing them of the plan to do the review.

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ADVISORY BOARD

18. Commissioners reviewed the activities of the Health Professionals Advisory Board in the Great Lakes water quality priorities, including the Board's desire to develop health risk indicators. Commissioners discussed the merits of the Board engaging in further work related to harmful algal blooms outside of the Great Lakes region. Commissioners deferred making a decision on Board proposals to a later date.

INTERNATIONAL WATERSHEDS INITIATIVE (IWI)

19. Commissioners received copies of the newly released IWI brochure and discussed current IWI projects and other activities. Commissioners directed staff to work with IWI project leads to draft short summaries of each IWI project that could be used to put each project into the overall context of IWI and its objectives. Commissioners approved including summaries of all IWI projects in the Commission's yearly activities report.

LAKE ONTARIO – ST. LAWRENCE RIVER

20. Commissioners discussed the latest draft of the Lake Ontario - St. Lawrence River report to governments and the timeline for and activities related to its release. Commissioners provided minor comments on the reports, approved the report as modified, and requested that staff provide them with the revised, final text by May 9th.

SOURIS RIVER PLAN OF STUDY

21. Commissioners reviewed a proposal for moving forward with activities in the Souris River Plan of Study and agreed that they would need to have further discussions with the governments before deciding on a way forward.

AIR QUALITY ISSUES

22. Commissioners reviewed the revised staff report on *Atmospheric Deposition of Toxic Substances to the Great Lakes* and approved modifying the report slightly to make it a Commission report and providing the report along with recommendations to governments. Commissioners also agreed that the other staff report underway regarding human health effects of air pollution in the St Clair and Detroit River air shed continue with an emphasis on acquiring US data and information.

OTHER BUSINESS

23. A. Passing of Former IJC Canadian Chair Herb Gray

Commissioners noted the passing of former Commission Canadian Chair the Right Honourable Herb Gray (2002-2014) on April 21, 2014, at the age of 82. Commissioners noted that Great Lakes Regional Office staff had placed a wreath in memory of Chair Gray in front of his statue located in the park adjacent to the IJC offices in Windsor.

B. Agenda for the May 2nd Meeting with Governments

Commissioners reviewed the agenda for the May 2, 2014, meeting with governments.

C. Lake Champlain - Richelieu River Plan of Study

Commissioners generally concurred with a proposal for moving forward with activities in the Lake Champlain-Richelieu River Plan of Study but noted that the Commission would need to have further discussions with the governments.

D. Lake Friendly Alliance and Lake Friendly Accord

Commissioners received a presentation from Gordon Macintosh, Manitoba Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship, on an initiative that Manitoba has initiated called the Lake Friendly Alliance. The initiative is designed to bring stakeholders together to address nutrient problems in Lake Winnipeg and other lakes and rivers. Manitoba is encouraging stakeholders to commit to doing their part to address the problems by signing a document entitled the Lake Friendly Accord. Commissioners commended Manitoba for developing this innovative initiative. Commissioners agreed that it would not be appropriate for the Commission to sign on to the Accord and asked staff to draft a response to the Alliance. Commissioners also agreed that it was appropriate to flag this initiative to governments and to express their support for the concept.

DECISIONS TAKEN VIA POLLING

Deer Lake Area of Concern

On April 10, 2014, Commissioners approved providing IJC staff comments on the draft Deer Lake Area of Concern Delisting Report to Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency staff.

International Lake Superior Board of Control Request for Deviation

On April 5, 2014, Commissioners approved the International Lake Superior Board of Control's request to undertake deviations from plan flows during April 2014 in order to facilitate annual maintenance at the Brookfield Renewable Energy Group plant.

Appearances of the Commission's Boards reporting on Wednesday, April 30 and Thursday, May 1.

*NOTE: Commissioners agreed that, subject to any final edits by staff and Boards, all submitted Board Reports could be released to the public and posted on the IJC website. Those Boards submitting reports included: the International Lake Superior Board of Control; the International Niagara Board of Control; the International St. Lawrence River Board of Control; the International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board; and the International St. Croix River Watershed Board. *See attached Board Appearance Agenda*

INTERNATIONAL ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD OF CONTROL,

24. Commissioners expressed concern about the difficulties that arose during the installation of the ice boom in the international section of the River in January 2014. The Board reported that officials from the Seaway and power companies will meet to discuss a timeline and procedures for installation and removal of the ice boom and bring recommendations to the Board. The Board asked what the Commission's authority regarding the installation of the ice boom that may have an impact on power production and navigation. Commissioners agreed to provide the Board with a response once they have considered the issue.

INTERNATIONAL NIAGARA BOARD OF CONTROL,

25. Commissioners noted that the Board is starting its 5-year review of the ice boom, which is due to the Commission in fall 2014. Commissioners requested that the Board seek the views of the public on the ice boom and include those views in the review.

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

26. Commissioners granted the Board, as requested in its letter of April 25, 2014, the authority to deviate from Plan 1977-A to reduce the potential for adverse consequences of high flows in the St. Marys rapids expected in the summer and fall of 2014. Commissioners indicated that a letter confirming the Commission's approval would be forthcoming.

**INTERNATIONAL ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD OF CONTROL,
INTERNATIONAL NIAGARA BOARD OF CONTROL, AND INTERNATIONAL LAKE
SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL**

- 24-26. During the three Great Lakes Control Boards' appearances, Commissioners thanked each Board for its April 25, 2014, letter concerning the establishment of a Great Lakes Adaptive Management Committee. Commissioners informed the Boards that the Commission would take the Boards' recommendations into consideration when

developing the structure for the Committee.

INTERNATIONAL ST. CROIX RIVER WATERSHED BOARD

27. Commissioners noted that there was a reduction in alewife numbers in the last migration count, which the Board pointed out possibly was due to high water flows making passage upstream difficult. Commissioners asked if there was an IJC role in the current FERC relicensing process for the Vanceboro Dam, but the Board indicated that the FERC process does not involve the IJC at this time.

INTERNATIONAL RED RIVER BOARD

28. Commissioners informed the Board that it was still waiting for a response from the governments on the request to designate the Board as a Watershed Board and that they would discuss the issue with the governments at the Commission's May 2nd meeting with governments. Commissioners also informed the Board that the Commission would study further and discuss with governments the Board's request to have responsibility for monitoring the Poplar River transferred to the Accredited Officers of the St. Mary-Milk Rivers.

INTERNATIONAL SOURIS RIVER BOARD

29. Commissioners informed the Board that it was still waiting for a response from the governments on the recommendation to implement the Plan of Study for the Review of the Operating Plan Contained in Annex A of the 1989 International Agreement between Canada and the United States of America for Water Supply and Flood Control in the Souris River Basin. Commissioners noted that they would discuss the issue with the governments at the Commission's May 2nd meeting with governments.

INTERNATIONAL RAINY-LAKE OF THE WOODS WATERSHED BOARD

30. Commissioners noted that the Board had completed its first year of operations, and thanked the Board for its efforts. The Board provided a brief update on the studies being undertaken to conduct the review of the rules curves in 2016. The Board also indicated they would be delivering by the end of May 2014 their recommendations on how the Commission might conduct the review.

LAKE OF THE WOODS WATER QUALITY PLAN OF STUDY TASK TEAM

31. Commissioners received an update on the Team's activities to develop the water quality plan of study. The Team indicated it had recently received comments from the International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board, as well as the Board's Community Advisory Group and Industry Advisory Group. The Team is considering the comments as it develops the next draft of the plan of study.

GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY BOARD

32. Commissioners expressed enthusiasm for the way in which the renewed Great Lakes Water Quality Board had very quickly begun its work. The Board Co-Chairs indicated that members have identified three areas in which they want to focus their work and that they planned to develop a draft work plan over the next few months.

GREAT LAKES SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

33. Commissioner recognized the first appearance of the new overall Great Lakes Science Advisory Board and its two committees making a unified presentation. Commissioners requested that the Board prepare a detailed note outlining the SAB's proposed work plan and associated budget for Commissioners' consideration. The SAB requested that Lead Commissioners be identified as point of contact for them.

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ADVISORY BOARD

34. Commissioners reviewed follow-up work on integrating environmental and health databases. Commissioners discussed the Board's plans for follow-up work on the human health indicators and on harmful algal blooms outside of the Great Lakes region. Commissioners requested more information on both these topics and agreed to discuss them on their May 16 conference call.

TRANSBOUNDARY HYDROGRAPHIC DATA HARMONIZATION TASK FORCE:

35. Commissioners recognized the first formal appearance of the Transboundary Hydrographic Data Harmonization Task Force. They acknowledged the very valuable contribution made by the Task Force and the partnering government agencies. Commissioners requested that the Task Force have regular appearances before the Commission, on an annual or semi-annual basis. Commissioners agreed: 1) to continue to support, in principle, hydrographic data harmonization along the Yukon, Alaska, and British Columbia Border; 2) to assist with coordination between the Task Force and the Province of Québec for harmonization along the Québec - US Border; 3) to support the development of a pilot stewardship system to maintain the harmonized data framework; and 4) to send a letter to key Canadian officials encouraging active participation in the Canadian-U.S. Hydrographic Data Harmonization effort. Commissioners asked the Task Force to provide the Commission with a yearly activities report.



Charles A. Lawson
Secretary
U.S. Section



Camille Mageau
Secretary
Canadian Section

BOARD APPEARANCES AGENDA

International Joint Commission Spring Semi-Annual Meeting

**Palomar Hotel
2121 P Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: (202) 448-1800**

April 30 - May 1, 2014

WEDNESDAY, April 30

8:30-10:30 am ***International St. Lawrence River Board of Control,
International Niagara Board of Control, and International
Lake Superior Board of Control***

INTERNATIONAL ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD OF CONTROL

United States Section

BG Margaret Burcham, Chair
Col. Robert Peterson (Alternate)
Tom Brown
James Bernier
Theodore Hullar
Frank Sciremammano
Kyle McCune, Secretary

Canadian Section

Philippe Morel, Chair
Vacancy
André Carpentier
Peter Yeomans
Joan Frain
Gail Faveri, Secretary

INTERNATIONAL NIAGARA BOARD OF CONTROL

United States Section

BG Margaret Burcham, Chair
Col. Robert Peterson (Alternate)
William Allerton
Kyle McCune, Secretary

Canadian Section

Aaron Thompson, Chair
Jennifer Keyes
Chuck Southam, Secretary

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

United States Section

BG Margaret Burcham, Member
Col. Robert Peterson (Alternate Member)
Kyle McCune, Secretary

Canadian Section

Jaymie Gadai, Member
Rob Caldwell, Secretary

10:30-10:45 am ***Health Break***

10:45-11:45 am *International St. Croix River Watershed Board*

United States Section

Col. Charles Samaris, Chair
Ralph Abele
Suzanne Miller
Oliver Cox
Robert Lent
Barbara Blumeris, Secretary
Kathryn Parlee, Secretary

Canadian Section

Bill Appleby, Chair
Jessie Davies
Robert Stephenson
Jean-Francois Bibeault
Darryl Pupek
Geoff Mercer

11:45-12:45 pm *Lunch*

12:45-1:45 pm *International Red River Board*

United States Section

Col. Daniel Koprowski, Chair
Bert Garcia
Dennis Fewless
James Ziegler
Megan Estep
Gregg Wiche
Robert Bezek
Randy Gjestvang
Daniel Wilkens
Keith Mykleseth
Scott Jutila, Secretary

Canadian Section

Michael Renouf, Chair
Stella Fedeniuk
Nicole Armstrong
Brian Parker
Steven Topping
Herm Martens
Vacancy
Patricia Ramlal
Gordon Goldsborough
Girma Sahlu, Secretary

1:45-2:45 pm *International Souris River Board*

United States Section

Todd Sando, Chair
Col. Daniel Koprowski
Gregg Wiche
Scott Gangl
Megan Estep
Dennis Fewless
Bob White, Secretary

Canadian Section

Russell Boals, Chair
Vacancy
Mark Lee
John Fahlman
Nicole Armstrong
John-Mark Davies
Girma Sahlu, Secretary

2:45-3:00 pm *Health Break*

3:00-4:00 pm

International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board

United States Section

Col. Daniel Koprowski, Chair
James Stark
Lori Dowling-Hanson
Suzanne Hanson
Leland Grim
Mike Hirst
Charlene Mason
Jenny Moorman
Al Pemberton
Vacancy
Kari Hauck, Secretary

Canadian Section

Mike Goffin, Chair
Gail Faveri
Chief Earl Klyne
Denis Brown
Karen Cederwell
Greg Chapman
Kiley Hanson
Todd Sellers
Mark Lee
Trina Rawn
Diane de Beaumont, Secretary

4:00-4:45 pm

Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study Task Team

United States Section

Mark Brigham, Chair
Kelli Saunders, Secretary

Canadian Section

Glenn Benoy, Chair

4:45 pm

Adjourn

THURSDAY, May 1

8:30-9:30 am Great Lakes Water Quality Board

United States Section

Dave Ullrich (Co-Chair)
Sandy Bihn
Martha Brand
Douglas Busdeker
Bill Creal
Marvourneen Dolor
Jane Elder
Susan Hedman
Sue McCormick
David Mengebier
Marc Miller
Michael Ripley
Matthew Thompson
Robyn Wilson

Canadian Section

Rob de Loë (Co-Chair)
Maurice Bitran
Michael Goffin
Caroline Gravel
Christopher Hilken
John Jackson
Dean Jacobs
Betty Matthews-Malone
Mark Mattson
Jean Painchaud
Russ Powers
James Wagar
Mark Wales
Gayle Wood

John Wilson, Secretary

9:30-10:30 am Great Lakes Science Advisory Board

United States Section

Science Priority Committee

Carol Miller
David Allan
Lucinda Johnson
David Lodge
Michael Murray
Dale Phenicie
Scott Sowa

Canadian Section

Jeffrey Ridal
Robert Hecky
Henry Lickers
Chris Metcalfe
Stephen Renzetti
Clare Robinson
Christina Semeniuk

Research Coordination Committee

Norm Grannemann
John Bratton
Kyle McCune
Val Klump
Christopher Winslow
Carl Richards

John Lawrence
Gavin Christy
Yves Michaud
Ian Campbell
Brian Grantham
Anne Neary

Binational Members

Michael Twiss Andrew Muir
Raj Bejankiwar, Co-Secretary
Mark Burrows, Co-Secretary

10:30-10:45 am Health Break

10:45-11:45 am Health Professionals Advisory Board

United States Section

Margaret Sanborn, Chair

Kate Bassil

Tim Takaro

Howard Shapiro

Laurie Hing Man Chan

Jennifer Boehme, Secretary

Canadian Section

John Dellinger, Chair

Carl Brodtkin

Russell Lopez

Peter Orris

Matthew Keifer

11:45-1:00 pm Lunch

1:00-2:00 pm Transboundary Hydrographic Data Harmonization Task Force

United States Section

Karen Hanson

Pete Steeves

Kimberly Jones

Canadian Section

Dave Harvey

Judy Kwan

Danielle Sabourin

2:00 pm Adjourn

