

**INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE CALL
March 20, 2015, 12:00 Noon - 2:40 PM EDT**

The International Joint Commission met by conference call on March 20, 2015, chaired by Lana Pollack.

COMMISSIONERS

Lana Pollack	Chair, U.S. Section
Gordon Walker	Chair, Canadian Section
Rich Moy	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Dereeth Glance	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Benoit Bouchard	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Richard Morgan	Commissioner, Canadian Section

SECTION STAFF

Chuck Lawson	Secretary, U.S. Section
Camille Mageau	Secretary, Canadian Section
Paul Allen	Manager, Policy and Communications, Canadian Section
Joe Babb	Senior Advisor, U.S. Section
Frank Bevacqua	Public Information Officer, U.S. Section
Antionette Cade	Special Assistant, U.S. Section
Pierre-Yves Caux	Director, Science and Engineering, Canadian Section
Mark Colosimo	Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section
Susan Daniel	Legal Advisor, U.S. Section
Dave Dempsey	Policy Advisor, U.S. Section
Mark Gabriel	Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section
Dominique Guerin-Garnett	Public Affairs Officer, Canadian Section
Nick Heisler	Senior Advisor, Canadian Section
Talante Henderson	IT Specialist, U.S. Section
Wayne Jenkinson	Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Sarah Lobrichon	Policy and Communications Analyst, Canadian Section
Brian Maloney	Special Assistant, U.S. Section
Vic Serveiss	Ecologist, U.S. Section
Cindy Warwick	Senior Advisor, Canadian Section
Shane Zurbrigg	Legal Advisor, Canadian Section

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF

Trish Morris	Director
Shahbaz Ahmed	Visiting Scientist
Jennifer Boehme	Physical Scientist
Mark Burrows	Physical Scientist
Matthew Child	Physical Scientist
Hugh McDiarmid	Public Affairs Officer
Li Wang	Physical Scientist

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. The agenda was accepted with the addition of six items under Other Business.

MINUTES

2. Commissioners approved the minutes of the February 6 & 9, 2015, Executive meeting, as modified.

APPOINTMENTS

3. A. Health Professionals Advisory Board

Commissioners approved: 1) the appointment of current Board member Dr. Seth Foldy to be U.S. Chair of the Board for a two year term effective May 4, 2015, to May 3, 2017; the reappointment of current U.S. Chair Dr. John Dellinger to be a U.S. member of the Board for the remainder of his current term through April 30, 2016; and 3) the appointment of Dr. Michael Beach to be a U.S. member of the Board for a two-year term effective March 20, 2015, to March 19, 2017.

B. International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board

Commissioners approved the reappointment of Ms. Kiley Hanson as a Canadian member of the Board for a three-year term effective April 1, 2015, to March 31, 2018; and the reappointment of Ms. Charlene Mason as a U.S. member of the Board for a two-year term effective April 1, 2015, to March 31, 2017.

IJC ACTION ITEM LIST AND COMMUNICATIONS CALENDAR

4. Commissioners reviewed the updated action item list and communications calendar and requested some modifications. Commissioners received oral updates on several items, including: governments' review of the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Plan 2014 report; governments' review of the Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study; preparation of the Commission's review of the report on Protection of the Uses of the Water of the Great Lakes; and preparations for the Commission's November 2015 Great Lakes water quality event in Windsor, Ontario.

IJC HUMAN RESOURCES

5. Commissioners received an update on human resources activities and noted that the GLRO is exploring the possibility of getting a NOAA Sea Grant Fellow and securing the services of Colin Branton as a casual hire and that Isabelle Reid will return to the Ottawa Section office at the end of March.

IJC AUTHORITIES

6. Commissioners reviewed and approved an approach proposed by legal advisors for developing standard operating procedures and legal opinions.

COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS UPDATES

7. Commissioners reviewed draft updated text for two Commission communications products: the 2009 IJC Activities Map, and the 2011 general brochure *Watching Over Our Transboundary Environment from Coast to Coast*. Commissioners provided initial comments and agreed to provide advisors with any additional comments by March 24, 2015.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN-RICHELIEU RIVER STUDY

8. Commissioners received an update on planning for a site visit to the Lake Champlain-Richelieu River basin and approved a September 2015 timeframe for the visit. Commissioners also discussed the possibility of doing a site visit to the St. Croix basin in conjunction with the June 10-11 St. Croix Board meeting and directed advisors to provide possible options for such a visit.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

9. Commissioners received an update on implementation of the Commission's IM/IT plan and thanked staff for moving forward with implementation expeditiously.

OTHER BUSINESS

10. **A. Great Lakes Days in Washington, D.C.**
Commissioners received an oral read out of the Great Lakes Days events that took place in Washington, D.C. February 24-26, 2015.

B. Commission's February 2015 Retreat
Commissioners provided staff with an oral read out of the Commissioners' discussion at the retreat that took place on the margins of the February 2015 Executive meeting in Ottawa. Commissioners agreed with the staff request that Board appearances at the Semi-Annual meetings continue to be recorded, with notice of such provided to participants.

C. Great Lakes Regional Office Budget
Commissioners reviewed a spreadsheet of the GLRO's budget expenditures for the first eleven months of the Canadian Fiscal Year.

D. IJC Strategic Plan

Commissioners noted that they had just received comments from the U.S. State Department and the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development on the Commission's strategic priorities that had been provided to the governments in October 2014. Commissioners deferred discussion of the governments' comments until they had time to review them in detail.

E. Shared Vision Model Briefing

Commissioners discussed having a briefing on the use shared vision models and asked staff to arrange such a briefing.

F. Webinar on the Section of Pipeline Under Straits of Mackinac

Commissioners received an update on plans for Army Corps of Engineers experts to provide a briefing by webinar on the section of Pipeline #5 that underlies the Straits of Mackinac, noting that the briefing will take place on March 31, 2015, 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon EDT.

DECISIONS TAKEN VIA POLLING**International Niagara Board of Control**

On March 12, 2015, Commissioners approved the reappointments of Ms. Jennifer Keyes as a Canadian member of the Board for a three year term effective September 9, 2014, to September 8, 2017, and Mr. William Allerton as a U.S. member of the Board for a three year term effective May 1, 2015, to April 30, 2018.

International Lake Superior, Niagara, and St. Lawrence Boards of Control

On March 12, 2015, Commissioners approved the appointment of Mr. Stephen Durrett as Alternate U.S. Chair of the International Lake Superior, Niagara, and St. Lawrence Boards of Control for a three year term effective from March 15, 2015, to March 14, 2018.

Letter to the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Water Resources Council

On March 12, 2015, Commissioners approved a letter response to a letter from Mr. David Naftzger, Executive Director of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Water Resources Council.

Fall 2015 IJC Great Lakes Meeting

On March 9, 2015, Commissioners approved a staff proposal for holding a public meeting in Windsor, Ontario, on Great Lakes issues November 18-19, 2015.

Harmful Algal Bloom Research Proposal

On March 5, 2015, Commissioners approved a letter to researchers concerning a draft grant proposal on the topic of harmful algal blooms and cyanobacteria to be submitted to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada.

Letter of Support for IAGLR Award Nomination

On March 5, 2015, Commissioners approved sending a letter in support of the nomination of Dr. Frank Quinn for the International Association of Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) lifetime achievement award.

Great Lakes Science Advisory Board-Research Coordination Committee

On February 27, 2015, Commissioners approved the appointment of Mr. Gavin Christie as the Canadian Co-Chair of the Science Advisory Board and also as the Canadian Co-Chair of the Board's Research Coordination Committee for a three year term from March 1, 2015, to February 28, 2018.

Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Adaptive Management Committee

On February 25, 2015, Commissioners approved the appointments of Ms. Patricia Clavet to be a Canadian member and Mr. David Hamilton to be a U.S. member of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Adaptive Management (GLAM) Committee, each for a term effective March 2, 2015, to December 31, 2016.

Great Lakes Water Quality Board

On February 19, 2015, Commissioners approved the appointment of Mr. Karl Gephardt to be a U.S. member of the Great Lakes Water Quality Advisory Board for a two-year term, effective February 19, 2015, to February 18, 2017.

Camille Mageau
Secretary
Canadian Section

Charles A. Lawson
Secretary
U.S. Section