

**MINUTES**  
**INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION**  
**Executive Meeting**  
**Ontario, Ontario**  
**February 9-11, 2016**

The International Joint Commission met in Executive Session at the Canadian Section Office in Ottawa, Ontario, on February 9, 2016, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST, on February 10, 2016, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM EST, and on February 11, 2016, from 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon EST, chaired by Gordon Walker.

**COMMISSIONERS**

Lana Pollack	Chair, U.S. Section
Gordon Walker	Chair, Canadian Section
Rich Moy	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Dereth 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
Glenn Benoy	Senior Advisor, Canadian Section
Frank Bevacqua	Public Information Officer, 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
David Fay	Senior Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Mark Gabriel	Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section*
Nick Heisler	Senior Advisor, Canadian Section
Wayne Jenkinson	Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Sarah Lobrichon	Policy and Communications Analyst, Canadian Section
Brian Maloney	Special Assistant, U.S. Section*
Isabelle Reid	Executive Assistant to Commissioners, Canadian Section
Shannon Runyon	Senior Advisor, U.S. Section
Vic Serveiss	Ecologist, U.S. Section*
Cindy Warwick	Senior Advisor, Canadian Section
John Yee	Chief, IM and IT Services, Canadian Section
Shane Zurbrigg	Legal Advisor, Canadian Section

**GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF**

Patricia Morris	Director
Shahbaz Ahmed	Visiting Scientist*

Antonette Arvai	Physical Scientist *
Raj Bejankiwar	Physical Scientist
Jennifer Boehme	Physical Scientist*
Mark Burrows	Physical Scientist*
Matthew Child	Physical Scientist*
Sally Cole-Misch	Public Affairs Officer *
Christina Indrigo	Student, Research assistant*
Jill Mailloux	Administrative Assistant*
Ankita Mandelia	Sea Grant Fellow*
Diana Varosky	Administrative Coordinator*
Lizhu Wang	Physical Scientist*
John Wilson	Physical Scientist*

**\* Participated in the meeting via teleconference**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

1. Commissioners approved the agenda with the addition of several items.

**MINUTES**

2. Commissioners approved, as amended, the draft minutes of the January 15, 2016, commissioners' conference call.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**3. A. Great Lakes Water Quality Board**

Commissioners approved the appointments of Ms. Anne Cook and Ms. Simone Lightfoot to be U.S. members of the board for a three-year term effective February 27, 2016, to February 26, 2019. Commissioners also approved Ms. Betty Matthew Malone's request that her reappointment term be reduced from two years to one and Mr. Matthew Thompson's request that his reappointment be cancelled.

**B. International Souris River Board**

Commissioners approved the appointment of Ms. Lorinda Haman to be a U.S. member of the board for a three-year term effective from February 23, 2016, to February 22, 2019, and the reappointment of Dr. John-Mark Davies as a Canadian member of the board for a three-year term effective April 13, 2016, to April 12, 2019.

**C. International St. Croix River Watershed Board**

Commissioners approved the reappointment of Mr. Robert Lent as a U.S. member board for a three-year term effective January 17, 2016, to January 16, 2019.

**D. Health Professionals Advisory Board**

Commissioners approved the reappointment of Dr. Laurie Chan as a Canadian member of the board for a two-year term effective February 12, 2016, to February 11, 2018.

## **BRING FORWARD**

4. Commissioners reviewed and discussed correspondence to and from the governments.

## **ACTION ITEM LIST, COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITES CALENDAR, AND COORDINATED CALENDAR**

5. Commissioners reviewed the latest action item list, communications activities calendar, and coordinated calendar.

## **SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD SCIENCE PRIORITY COMMITTEE - 15<sup>TH</sup> AND 16<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL REPORT RECOMMENDATION PRIORITIZATION**

6. Commissioners reviewed the SPC's report in which it prioritized recommendations from the IJC's 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Great Lakes Biennial reports, expressed thanks for this work, approved posting of the report on the board's website, and agreed that the information in the report would help inform development of the IJC's Triennial Assessment of Progress report.

## **LAKE ERIE ECOSYSTEM PRIORITY (LEEP)**

### **7 A. LEEP news release**

Commissioners considered possible approaches proposed by staff concerning the second anniversary of the release of the LEEP report and requested that staff re-evaluate those approaches and report back to commissioners with recommendations on how to proceed.

### **B. Water Quality Modelling**

Commissioners approved, in principle, continuation of IJC LEEP efforts with a focus on water quality modelling, requested staff consult with Great Lakes Advisory Boards (SPC, RCC, WQB, HPAB) on how they could contribute to such an initiative, and provide a detailed project proposal including budgets and timelines for commissioners' consideration.

## **TRIENNIAL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE**

8. Commissioners received an update on progress achieved to date and provided staff with direction on how best to address review of the PROP by IJC Advisory board members.

## **ENERGY IN THE GREAT LAKES**

9. Commissioners instructed staff to request that the SPC be prepared, at the Semi Annual meeting, to advise the Commission on any potential value added work that the IJC might consider with respect to Great Lakes water quality impacts associated with the energy sector.

## **INFORMATION MANAGEMENT-INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

10. Commissioners reviewed the progress being made to implement the commission's IM-IT plan, thanked staff for the progress achieved to date, and urged staff to install the new IT equipment as soon as possible so that the overall reliability IM-IT system is improved. Commissioners noted that IT staff planned to work together to switch the US Section office internet service provider to a faster provider, and they urged staff to make the switch as soon as possible.

## **AIR QUALITY AGREEMENT**

11. Commissioners requested that staff review again the 2011 report prepared for the International Air Quality Advisory Board on petroleum refineries and advise commissioners on whether any follow up is recommended. Commissioners expressed interest in raising with governments the lack of public interest in the parties' progress reports under the current United States-Canada Air Quality Agreement and inquire whether governments intend to update the agreement. Commissioners also expressed interest in receiving an update on various other air quality issues in the vicinity of the Detroit River.

## **RAINY AND NAMAKAN LAKES RULE CURVES REVIEW STUDY BOARD**

12. Commissioners discussed Commission participation in the International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Forum and requested that staff inform forum organisers of the Commission's plans.

## **INTERNATIONAL OSOYOOS LAKE BOARD OF CONTROL**

13. Commissioners approved, as amended, the proposed response to the Board's January 13, 2016, correspondence requesting clarification on the scope of its mandate. They also requested that staff work with the responsible federal, provincial and state government authorities to inventory existing water quality monitoring efforts in Osoyoos Lake and report back to the Commission.

## **IJC OPERATIONS**

14. Commissioners reviewed the progress achieved to date in advancing its priority work for 2015-2020 and noted that there had been good progress to date.

## **INTERNATIONAL WATERSHEDS INITIATIVE (IWI) APRIL 2016 WORKSHOP**

15. Commissioners reviewed the agenda for the IWI workshop that will be held during the April 2016 Semi-Annual meeting and confirmed their participation in it. Commissioners approved, in principle, sponsorship of future experts-based and multi-board workshops, once the current workshops (microplastics workshop and IWI workshops) have been evaluated. Staff should continue to track potential topics for consideration as part of a broader schedule of events.

## **BOARD MEMBERSHIP COMPOSITION**

16. Commissioners requested that legal advisers review the proposed response to United and South Eastern Tribes regarding tribal representation on Commission boards and task forces and that the revised document be submitted to commissioners for consideration by polling.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **17. A. March 10 Canada-United States Summit**

Commissioners identified two key messages on IJC water issues that would be useful for the governments to announce during the March 10, 2016 Canada-United States summit - one message on Plan 2014 and one on the need to assess the quality of transboundary waters. Section Chairs agreed to communicate these key messages to their respective governments.

### **B. Flint**

Though the commission has no role addressing the Flint water issue, commissioners discussed the issue from a lessons learned perspective. Commissioners requested a briefing at the Semi Annual meeting from the WQB on one of its projects as it pertains to public understanding of the nature and source of their potable water to help inform Commission public education and outreach efforts.

### **C. Pipelines**

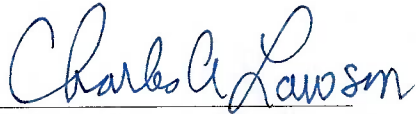
Commissioners discussed the issue of pipelines as they might affect Great Lakes water quality and agreed to review previous commission reports and correspondence to governments and then have a further discussion once they have reviewed these and any other pertinent documents staff may identify.

### **D. Lead Commissioner Assignments**

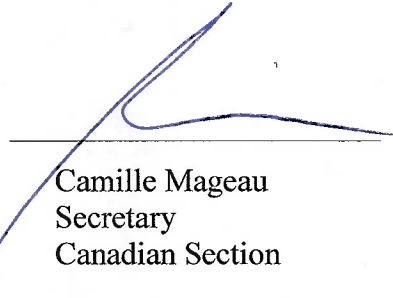
Commissioners reviewed the current distribution of assignments, made some modifications and additions to the key activities and lead assignments, and agreed to an annual review of the listings.

**E. Schedule of Commission Meetings**

Commissioners reviewed and agreed in principle to a revised schedule of commission meetings. They noted that a modification of the Rules of Procedure would be needed as the schedule of Semi-Annual meetings is specified in the Rules and is modified in the revised schedule. They requested that Secretaries provide the updated schedule and draft text for the modification to the Rules for final approval by polling.



Charles A. Lawson  
Secretary  
U.S. Section



Camille Mageau  
Secretary  
Canadian Section