

INTERNATIONAL LAKE ONTARIO ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD

Board Meeting/Teleconference

02 May 2017

1:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Capitol Skyline Hotel

10 I Street SW, Washington, DC 20024-4266

The meeting began at 1:00 pm (ET) with the following participants:

| United States | | Canada |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| | Board Members | |
| Mr. S. Durrett, Alt. Chair Mr. T. Brown Mr. R. Company Mr. A. David Dr. F. Sciremammano | | Dr. G. Béchard, Chair Mr. J. Aubry-Morin Ms. P. Clavet Ms. J. Frain Mr. M. Hudon |
| | Secretaries | |
| Mr. A. Heer | | Ms. G. Faveri |
| | Regulation Representatives | |
| LTC Czekanski Mr. K. Koralewski (Alt.) | | Mr. R. Caldwell Mr. J. Bruxer (Alt.) (ph) |
| | IJC Staff | |
| Mr. F. Bevacqua Ms. S. Runyon | | Mr. D. Fay |
| | Associates | |
| Mr. T. Ahlfeld Ms. C. Fisher (ph) Mr. T. Lavigne Mr. K. McCune Mr. J. Scharf | | Ms. J. Dickhout (ph) Ms. W. Leger Mr. M. McNiven (ph) Mr. P-M. Rondeau (ph) Mr. M. Shantz (ph) |

1 Welcome and introductions

U.S. Senior member, Mr. Sciremammano, opened the meeting with a roll-call and introductory remarks.

2 Approval of agenda and March 2017 Minutes

The agenda was adopted (attached) with the addition of 4a) Impact Assessments. The March minutes required more edits to the version circulated prior to today's meeting.

Action item: Members will coordinate with the U.S. Secretary to finalize March minutes for Board approval.

Action item: The U.S. Secretary will send the approved March minutes to the IJC for translation before posting on the website.

3 Status of Previous Action Items

All action items from the March 2017 meeting were marked complete, aside from actions addressed later on the agenda.

4 Current Conditions and Regulation Overview

The U.S. Regulation Representative presented slides showing the high level of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River for this time of year and the anticipated high flow from the Ottawa River predicted for the following weekend. The Board decided it would operate under Criterion H14 when the end-of-week level of Lake Ontario was higher than the quarter month Criterion H14 level. Given this interpretation, the Lake Ontario level passed above the upper threshold of Criterion H14 during the week ending 28 April 2017. The Board agreed that it would stay operating under that criterion for at least two weeks before returning to Plan 2014 prescribed flows. Should the lake be above the Criterion H14 level for a long period of time, the Board would continue operating according to this criterion for two weeks after the end-of-week water level was below the Criterion H14 limit for that quarter month. Given the level of flooding upstream and downstream, the Board decided to release outflows that would target levels at Lake St. Louis in accordance with the F-limit of Plan 2014 which sets increasing levels of Lake St. Louis as the levels of Lake Ontario rise.

a. Impact Assessments

The Board discussed the need to understand impacts to riparian owners both upstream and downstream in the system. The province of Quebec has provided information of the extent of flooding damages on the St. Lawrence River around Montreal. The Board will explore collecting other information such as pictures provided by residents, tracking sandbag distribution, and leveraging existing information from agencies and municipalities to better understand impacts on Lake Ontario and downstream on the St. Lawrence River.

5 GLAM Committee Updates

a. 1st Triennial Report to IJC

The Board approved the report.

b. Comments/Questions/FY18 Workplan Input

The Board agreed that the GLAM Committee should finalize its work plan in June. Wetland and coastal imagery studies will be included on the workplan, particularly as they pertain to impact analyses. The GLAM Committee will assist the Board in documenting the high water of 2017.

Action item: Secretaries to poll Board members to determine which members have links for outreach purposes by 30 May 2017.

Action item: Board members to provide GLAM Committee with suggestions for its work plan by 30 May 2017.

6 Communications Committee Update

a. Recent Videos

The Regulation Offices of both sections have prepared more short educational videos. An interactive map of potential flooding is a possible future production.

Action item: Regulation Representatives to provide links to the videos to Board members

b. Media Release

The Board will produce media releases to inform the public as new information becomes available.

c. Comparison of Actual Conditions under Plan 2014 to Simulations of 1958-D

The Alternate Canadian Regulation Representative presented a comparison of actual, observed water levels and flows under Plan 2014 since January 2017 to simulated results under Plan 1958-D, including deviations simulated based on actual operational conditions and how the Board has typically operated in the past under similar scenarios. Results showed that water levels and flows would be nearly identical under the two regulation plans since highly variable ice conditions would have required the same frequent flow adjustments throughout much of January through March 2017, and high flows from the Ottawa River have largely limited outflows from Lake Ontario in April. This simulation will continue indefinitely, but it was noted that further simulation of outflow decisions under Plan 1958-D will be increasingly uncertain due to the inability to accurately know the decisions that would have been made by the Board under the previous plan due to the subjectivity involved. The GLAM Committee will still report annual

comparisons of Plan 2014 with simulations of Plan 1958-DD.

a. Public Outreach Events

On 2-3 March, the Alternate Canadian Regulation Representative attended the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway Navigation meeting via webinar and provided information on current and forecasted water levels and outflows, as well as Plan 2014. Over 23-26 March, members of the GLAM Committee and IJC met with some stakeholders on the south shore of Lake Ontario to educate on Plan 2014. On 18 April, the U.S. Regulation Representative and Secretary made a presentation to the Environmental Commission for the Town of Lewiston.

7 Gauging Committee Activities

a. 2015 Gauging Committee Report

The Report is awaiting signatures by the responsible agencies.

b. 2016 GC Action Item Review

The Review is available on the Share Point site for Board Members to review. The Gauging Committee had no issues to bring up to the Board at this time.

c. 2017 Gauge Inspections

The Inspections this year are scheduled for 12-20 June 2017 with personnel from the Buffalo and Cornwall offices.

8 Review of the Presentation to the IJC

a. Questions from IJC – Stakeholder/Public Engagement

The Board reviewed its presentation to the IJC and made revisions as necessary.

b. Video Board at Appearances – Winter Operations Short Video

The Board discussed the [short video](#) prepared by the Canadian Regulation Representatives. The video is intended to educate people on the flow management during ice formation and the history of ice conditions in the St. Lawrence River.

9 IWI Multi-Board Workshop – Climate Change Framework

A brief overview of the upcoming IWI workshop was given.

10 Other Business

a. Semi-Annual Report Signatures

The Board signed the signature pages of the spring 2017 semi-annual report.

b. Board Meeting Participants

The Board noted that its meetings are intended for Board members and associates only and are *in camera* per Board policy.

c. Potential Future Webinars – GLAM, Communication

Any webinars for Board members would be scheduled on an as-needed basis.

d. Communication Committee Membership

The Board welcomed Mr. David to the Communication Committee.

e. Future Board Activities:

- IJC Appearance: Wednesday, 3 May Capitol Skyline Hotel (8:30 am)
- IJC Reception: Wednesday, 3 May Department of State (6:30 pm)
- IWI Multi-Board Workshop: Thursday, 4 May Capitol Skyline Hotel (8:30 am)
- GLAM Committee Meeting: 27-28 June 2017, Chicago
- Fall Board Meeting: Full day, Wednesday, 20 September Queenston ON

11 Action Item Review

- i. Members will coordinate with the U.S. Secretary to coordinate a final version of March minutes for circulation and Board approval by email.
- ii. The U.S. Secretary will send the approved March minutes to the IJC for translation before posting on the website.
- iii. Secretaries to poll Board members to determine to whom each member has links for outreach purposes by 30 May 2017.
- iv. Board members to provide GLAM Committee with suggestions for work plan by 30 May 2017.
- v. Regulation Representatives to provide links to the videos to Board members.

12 Closing Remarks and Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

INTERNATIONAL LAKE ONTARIO - ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BOARD
Board Meeting held on 2 May 2017
1:00 pm to 5:30 pm
US Army Corps of Engineers – Great Lakes and Ohio River Division
Executive Room – Capitol Skyline Hotel
10 I Street SW, Washington, DC 20024-4266

AGENDA

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| 1. | Introductions, Opening Remarks [Dr. Sciremammano] | 1:00 pm |
| 2. | Approval of Agenda and Mar 2017 Minutes [Dr. Sciremammano] | 1:05 pm |
| 3. | Previous Action Items [Heer] | 1:10 pm |
| 4. | Current Conditions & Regulation Overview [Koralewski] a) Impact assessments | 1:20 pm |
| 5. | GLAM Committee Update [Heer] a) 1 st Triennial Report to IJC b) Comments/Questions/FY18 Work Plan Input | 2:15 pm |
| | BREAK (15 min) | 3:00pm |
| 6. | Communication Committee Update [Campany] a) Recent Videos b) Media Release [Heer/Faveri] c) Comparison of 1958 D to Plan 2014 [Bruxer] d) Public Outreach Events [Heer] | 3:15 pm |
| 7. | Gauging Committee Activities [Koralewski/McNiven/LTC Czekanski] a) 2015 Gauging Committee Report b) 2017 GC Action Item Review c) 2017 Inspections | 3:50 pm |
| 8. | Review of the Presentation to IJC [Heer] a) Questions from IJC – Stakeholder/Public Engagement b) Video Board at Appearances – Ice History, Short Video | 4:00 pm |
| 9. | IWI Multi-Board Workshop – Climate Change Framework [Hudon] | 4:45 pm |
| 10. | Other Business [Heer] a) Semi-Annual Report Signatures b) Board Meeting Participants c) Potential Future Webinars – GLAM, Communication d) Communication Committee membership e) IJC Appearance: Wednesday, May 3, Capitol Skyline Hotel (8:30 am) IJC Reception: Wednesday, May 3, Department of State, (6:30 pm) IWI Multi-Board Workshop: Thursday morning May 4, Capitol Skyline Hotel f) GLAM Committee Meeting: June 27-28 2017, Chicago g) Fall Board Meeting: Full day, Wednesday, 20 September Queenston, ON | 4:50 pm |
| 11. | Action Item Review [Heer] | 4:55 pm |
| 12. | Closing Remarks and Adjourn [Dr. Sciremammano] | 5:00 pm |