

Final Minutes

International Souris River Board

Conference Call
Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. Boals welcomed participants to the conference call, which began at 10:00 a.m. CDT. Board members participating in the call were Russell Boals, Wayne Dybvig, Dale Frink, Michael Pfenning, and Gregg Wiche. Other participants were Ted Bailey, Ed Eaton, Randy House, Doug Johnson, Dean Knauer, Steve Robinson, Alf Warkentin, and Bob White.

04-T2-01 Review of Agenda

The agenda was accepted with no additions or changes.

04-T2-02 Approval of Minutes for June 22, 2004, Meeting

It was moved by Mr. Frink and seconded by Col. Pfenning to approve the minutes as submitted.

Carried

04-T2-03 Natural Flow Determination---January 1 to August 31, 2004

(Mr. House; handout provided by email on 9/20/04)

Significant changes occurred between May 31, 2004, and August 31, 2004. The total diversion for the Souris River Basin was 45 830 dam³ (37,150 acre-ft). Recorded flow at Sherwood was 31 750 dam³ (25,740 acre-ft), and natural flow at Sherwood was 71 125 dam³ (57,660 acre-ft).

The United States share on a 40/60 split was 28 450 dam³ (23,060 acre-ft). Flow received by the United States was 34 010 dam³ (27,570 acre-ft). Thus, the surplus to the United States was 5 560 dam³ (4,500 acre-ft).

Recorded flow at the Western Crossing was 12 100 dam³ (9,810 acre-ft), and recorded flow at the Eastern Crossing was 17 140 dam³ (13,900 acre-ft). Thus, the surplus from the United States was 5 040 dam³ (4,090 acre-ft).

04-T2-04 Discussion on Apportionment Requirements and Actions

Discussion centered on how the split should be calculated. For example, should the United States receive 50 percent of the first 50 000 dam³ (40,500 acre-ft) and 40 percent of anything over 50 000 dam³ (40,500 acre-ft)? For 50 000 dam³ (40,500 acre-ft), on a 50/50 split, the United States would receive 25 000 dam³ (20,270 acre-ft). On a 40/60 split, for 51 000 dam³ (41,350 acre-ft), the United States would receive 20 400 dam³ (16,540 acre-ft). Comments were made that the 40/60 split should apply only to what is greater than 50 000 dam³ (40,500 acre-ft).

According to the agreement (in the notwithstanding clause), Saskatchewan would operate the reservoirs in such a manner that 50 percent of the first 50 000 dam³ (40,500 acre-ft) is delivered to the United States by May 31 of each year. If the flow volume is greater than 50 000 dam³ (40,500 acre-ft) and the current year June 1 elevation of Lake Darling is greater than 486.095 m (1,594.8 ft), the United States would receive 40 percent of the flow volume.

Comments were that the United States should receive 50 percent of the first 50 000 dam³ (40,500 acre-ft) by May 31 each year. Between 50 000 (40,500 acre-ft) and 62 500 dam³ (50,670 acre-ft), the split should be 40/60. A 40/60 split then would be used for the remainder of the year.

The agreement states that Saskatchewan will deliver 50 percent by May 31 of each year. The reservoirs need to be operated within the terms of the agreement.

Minor projects and evaporation also need to be taken into account before the end-of-May delivery.

A suggestion was made to tabulate potential scenarios and to further discuss the issue at a later date. The Natural Flows Methods Committee will be responsible for tabulating the scenarios, and the chairman of the Committee will present the scenarios to Board members at or before the February 2005 meeting.

October to December 31, 2004

No action required.

Prior to February 1, 2005

A slug release will be made during the next 12 to 15 days to draw down the level of Alameda Reservoir.

04-T2-05 Status of ISRB Enhanced Mandate Proposal

(Mr. Bailey)

A formal response has not yet been received from the governments. Commissioners would like to discuss the mandate with the individual states and provinces. No meetings have been scheduled at this time.

Projects/Activities List

A projects/activities list will be prepared and distributed to Board members. The list will consist of potential projects that could be undertaken if funding is available.

04-T2-06 Status of 2001 Flood Report

(Mr. Eaton)

A draft will be completed by the end of 2004.

04-T2-07 IJC Fall Meeting, Ottawa

The International Souris River Board time slot was removed from the agenda because the Board did not have any items that needed action at this time.

04-T2-08 Arrangements for February 22, 2005, Meeting

(Ms. Martin)

The meeting will be held at the Comfort Inn in Bismarck, North Dakota, on February 22, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. CST.

04-T2-09 Roundtable

(Mr. White)

An outline of the procedures manual is being worked on and will be submitted for Board approval.

(Mr. Knauer)

Lake Darling is at an elevation of 1,596.35 ft (486.57 m). The target elevation before freezeup is 1,595.85 ft (486.42 m). About 5,000 acre-ft (6 168 dam³) of water needs to be released. Flows probably will be increased in October 2004.

(Mr. House)

If agreeable to Board members, flow summary reports will be stopped until after releases taper off. Board members concurred with this action.

04-T2-10 End of Call

The conference call was terminated at 11:15 a.m. CDT.

FINAL AGENDA
INTERNATIONAL SOURIS RIVER BOARD
Conference Call
10:00 a.m. CDT
Tuesday, September 21, 2004

1. Review of agenda
2. Approval of minutes for June 22, 2004, meeting
3. Natural flow determination--January 1 to August 31, 2004
4. Discussion on apportionment requirements and actions
 - *October to December 31, 2004
 - *Prior to February 1, 2005
5. Status of ISRB enhanced mandate proposal
 - *Projects/activities list
6. Status of 2001 flood report
7. IJC fall meeting, Ottawa
8. Arrangements for February 22, 2005, meeting
9. Roundtable
10. End of call

FINAL MINUTES DISTRIBUTION LIST
INTERNATIONAL SOURIS RIVER BOARD
Conference Call
10:00 a.m. CDT
September 21, 2004

MEMBERS FOR CANADA

Russell Boals, A/Chief, Water Survey Division, Environment Canada, Regina, Saskatchewan

Rick Bowering, Manager, Surface Water, Manitoba Conservation, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Wayne Dybvig, Vice President, Water Management, Saskatchewan Water Corporation, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

MEMBERS FOR UNITED STATES

Dale Frink, State Engineer, North Dakota State Water Commission, Bismarck, North Dakota

Michael Pfenning, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, St. Paul, Minnesota

Gregg Wiche, District Chief, U.S. Geological Survey, Bismarck, North Dakota

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Cathy Martin, Technical Editor, U.S. Geological Survey, Bismarck, North Dakota

OTHERS

Randy House, Hydrometric Supervisor, Water Survey Division, Environment Canada, Regina, Saskatchewan

Brian Yee, Acting Manager, Water Survey Division, Environment Canada, Regina, Saskatchewan

Doug Johnson, Director, Basin Operations, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

Steve Robinson, Chief, Hydrologic Records, U.S. Geological Survey, Bismarck, North Dakota

Robert White, Water Resource Engineer, North Dakota State Water Commission, Bismarck, North Dakota

Edward Eaton, Chief, Water Control Section, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, St. Paul, Minnesota

E. A. Bailey, Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section, International Joint Commission, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Lisa Bourget, Secretary, United States Section, International Joint Commission, Washington, D.C.

Dean Knauer, Refuge Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Berthold, North Dakota

Alf Warkentin, Hydrologic Forecaster, Manitoba Water Stewardship, Winnipeg, Manitoba