

**Final Minutes
International Souris River Board**

**Conference Call
Tuesday, September 19, 2006**

Mr. Boals welcomed participants to the conference call, which began at 10:00 a.m. CDT. Board members participating in the call were Russ Boals, Bob Harrison, Dale Frink, Richard Zitta, Gregg Wiche, Megan Estep. Other participants were, Bruce Holliday, Randy House, Dalvin Eutneneier, Ed Eaton, Bob White, Tedd Gutzke, Mike Sauer, and Shawn Salm. Board members not present were Doug Johnson, Max Dodson, Michael Pfenning, Wayne Dybvig, Dennis Fewless and Dwight Williamson.

06-T-01 Appoint Minute Taker

Co-Chair Russ Boals asked who would be taking minutes as the Board Secretary Brian Yee was not present. Co-Chair Dale Frink responded that Bob White would be taking minutes during the conference call

06-T-02 Review of Agenda

It was moved by Megan Estep and seconded by Gregg Wiche to approve the agenda as submitted by email to Board members, support staff, and observers.

The agenda was accepted as written.

06-T-03 Approval of Minutes for July 18-19, 2006, ISRB Meeting

Chairman Boals noted that the minutes from the July 18th-19th, 2006 meeting should not be put up for approval as there were still some notes and comments within the minutes that need to be removed or followed up on. The comments have not been finalized yet therefore the Board cannot approve the minutes until those comments are finalized.

The Board decided to provide comments on the minutes to Brian Yee and then finalize the minutes at the next meeting

IJC Commissioner Olson's last name was also misspelled and needed to be corrected.

06-T-04 Review of Action Items from July 18-19, 2006, ISRB Meeting

Water Quality Data – Bruce Holiday developed a table on the water quality concerns at Westhope. The data will be verified a second time and should be completed by the end of September and a copy sent to Mike Sauer in order to proceed with the water reports.

2001 Flood Report – Ed Eaton did not receive any further comments and he will proceed to finalize the report.

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority will provide several comments to Mr. Eaton.

Chairman Boals said the work plan should be discussed at the February meeting once the Board receives the new directive.

The USGS said the 2005 annual report has been distributed so everyone should have a copy.

Bob White and Mike Sauer will share the job of United States Co-Secretary for the Board and will focus primarily on the development of the annual report.

06-T-05 Natural Flow Determination – January 1 to August 31, 2006 (Mr. Salm; handout provided by email on 9/15/06)

Inflow for Boundary Reservoir at Long Creek at the Eastern Crossing was 2 400 dam³ (1,946 acre-ft). The total diversion for Boundary Reservoir was 1 480 dam³ (1,200 acre-ft). The total diversion for Long Creek Basin was 2720 dam³ (2205 acre-ft), an increase of 500 dam³ (405 acre-ft) since the May 31st report.

Inflow for Rafferty Reservoir was 670 dam³ (543 acre-ft). The total diversion for the reservoir was - 500 dam³ (-405 acre-ft), and the total diversion for the Upper Souris River Basin was 2830 dam³ (2,294 acre-ft), minus 940 dam³ since the May 31st report.

The total diversion for the Lower Souris River Basin was 3710 dam³ (3,008 acre-ft), that is an increase of 900 dam³ since the last report.

The total diversion for Moose Mountain Creek Basin was 10870 dam³ (8,812 acre-ft), that is an increase of 1,170 dams since the May 31st report.

The total diversion for the Souris River Basin was 20 130 dam³ (16,319 acre-ft).

The recorded flow at Sherwood was 9 670 dam³ (7,839 acre-ft).

The natural flow at Sherwood was 28 610 dam³ (23,1942 acre-ft). The United States share under a 50/50 apportionment was 14 310 dam³ (11,601 acre-ft). The United States received 11 320 dam³ (9,177 acre-ft) for a deficit of 2990 dam³ (2,424 acre-ft).

06-T-06 Discussion on Apportionment Requirements and Actions

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service said the elevation of Lake Darling was down and they could use additional water. Discussions between Saskatchewan and North Dakota resulted in a release being planned from Saskatchewan reservoirs to make up the 2990 dam³ (2,424 acre-ft) deficit to the United States.

It was moved by Mr. Wiche and seconded by Mr. Harrison to accept the calculation of natural flow as submitted.

Carried

Discussion ensued regarding target elevations for the Saskatchewan reservoirs. Mr. Euteneier said Alameda was about 0.1 meter below target elevation, and Rafferty was well at 549.0 so half a meter below target already.

06-T-07 Status of ISRB Enhanced Mandate Proposal

Mr. Boals received comments from several Board members and asked if there were any further comments to be expected on the directive from any other Board members. Mr. Eaton asked if he could look at it further as he had been away for the last month. Mr. Boals said he would take comments until the end of September and then send them back to IJC.

06-T-08 IJC Fall Meeting – October 18, 2007

Board members were asked who planned to attend the semi-annual meeting. Plans are that Mr. Boals, Mr. Eaton, and possibly Colonel Pfenning would attend the meeting.

Mr. Boals said the key items to be discussed would be a brief update of what has happened in the Basin during the year, the status of the apportionment, and a lengthy discussion on the directive.

Ms. Estep said there was some discussion at the last meeting about getting some funding for additional monitoring in the Basin. Mr. Boals responded that there is always an element in there about funding.

Mr. Boals indicated that he and Mr. Frink would put together a presentation and would send it to other Board members.

06-T-09 Other Business

Staffs from the North Dakota State Water Commission and the United States Geological Survey have been working with Dr. Colosimo about removing the logjam at the Sherwood gaging station. They have three cost estimates ranging from \$17,500 to \$25,000 for the removal of the logjam and have applied to the IJC for cost share. They also have verbal permission from the landowner to store the debris for a year to allow it to dry out so it can be burned.

The Board decided not to proceed with the work plan until the final directive was approved by the IJC.

Last summer the City of Weyburn proposed a discharge from their sewage lagoons into the Souris River. The lagoons needed to discharge some water but the effluent is very high in BOD and COD because an ethanol plant discharges waste water into the lagoons. The discharge proposal was denied because of concerns of a possible fish kill in the Souris River. The consultant for the city proposed a start date of September 14, 2006. They also proposed to vary the discharge from the cells. Cells 1 through 5 would discharge in the fall, the other cells next spring during runoff. Their plan would provide additional treatment for the cells before the discharging and also allow some flexibility for the discharge.

06-T-10 Arrangements for February 21, 2007, Meeting

Arrangements have been made for the February 21, 2007 meeting of the ISRB. The meeting will be held at the Comfort Inn in Bismarck. A block of rooms has been set aside. Singles are \$50.00 US. The phone number is 701-223-1911.

06-T-11 Roundtable

Tedd Gutzke, Project Leader at the J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge said there has been a reduction in flow to Manitoba. The flow is below the 20 cfs that North Dakota is required to send to Manitoba. Refuge personnel had lowered pool 357 to drawdown conditions. They had maintained the flow until the end of August, when USGS and NDSWC personnel began repairs on the weir at Dam 357 in late August. While the repairs were being done there was a large fluctuation in the volume that was being recorded; it ran anywhere from less than 20 cfs to 150. Mr. Gutzke said he thought the inflow had finally stabilized now. He estimated they were discharging probably 40 to 50 cfs out of the pool to the south of pool 357 and pool 341. The channel is somewhat silted in and the topography is very flat probably causing very weird readings from the gage down there at the present time. Depending on how the wind blows, if it is blowing hard from the north it drops well below that 20 cfs, if it blows the other direction it jumps up well above that.