



International Souris River Board Conference Call
March 23, 2010
Final Minutes

1. Meeting was convened at 1:00 p.m. CST
2. March Forecast

Martin Grajczyk reviewed the mid-March flow forecast for the Saskatchewan portion of the Souris River basin. He noted that temperatures for the last few weeks had been just over 0°C during the day with a return to freezing temperatures at night. The slow melt has reduced runoff potential compared to what had been expected in late February. He estimated the runoff will be below a 1 in 10 event. There is some question whether Boundary Reservoir will fill. There is snow remaining in the upper Rafferty and Moose Mountain area.

Dale Frink noted that similar conditions exist in North Dakota. Gregg Wiche noted that the snow pack is disappearing in western North Dakota. Bob White reported that runoff in the lower part of the Souris River basin around Towner has resulted in bank full stage.

Doug Johnson reported that repairs at Rafferty Dam to address seepage are on schedule. The late release was also successful.

Bob White reported that the USFWS is reducing their release from Lake Darling. Their spring target elevation was 1597.5 feet and there is some concern that they may not reach that elevation. There is no local runoff to Lake Darling downstream of the International Boundary. They require 14,000 acre-feet to fill Lake Darling. Martin Grajczyk estimated that volume will likely come from the Upper Moose Mountain runoff.

All agreed that flood operations were not required.

3. Fact Sheets

All agreed to the content of the fact sheets.

4. Next meeting

Arrangements for the June meetings were confirmed. The public meeting was scheduled for the evening of June 14. The Board meeting will be held morning of June 15. The meeting will be held in Minot vicinity. Bob White will coordinate meeting logistics.

5. April IJC meeting

Russell Boals, Col. Jonathan Christensen and Dale Frink will attend.

6. Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

List of Attendees, International Souris River Board conference call, March 23, 2010

Board Members in Attendance

Dale Frink, USA Co-chair, ND State Water Commission, Bismarck, ND
Doug Johnson, Member for Canada, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, Moose Jaw, SK
Bob Harrison, Member for Canada, Manitoba Water Stewardship, Winnipeg, MB
Dwight Williamson, Member for Canada, Manitoba Water Stewardship, Winnipeg, MB
Gregg Wiche, Member for the United States, US Geological Survey, Bismarck, ND
Russell Boals, Canadian Co-chair, Environment Canada, Regina, SK
Col. Jonathan Christensen, Member for the USA, US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul, MN
Scott Gangl, Member for the United States, North Dakota Game and Fish,

Regrets

Dennis Fewless, Member for the USA, ND Department of Health, Bismarck, ND
David Donald, Member for Canada, Environment Canada, Regina, SK
Megan Estep, Member for the USA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, CO
Richard Zitta, Member for Canada, Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment, Regina, SK

Support Staff in Attendance

Allen Schlag, Service Hydrologist, National Weather Service, Bismarck, ND
Brian Yee, Canadian Co-secretary, Environment Canada, Regina, SK
Dave Helfrick, Hydrometric Supervisor, Environment Canada, Regina, SK
Ed Eaton, IJC Technical Specialist, US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul, MN
Paul Pilon, Engineering Advisor, IJC, Ottawa, ON
Robert White, USA Co-secretary, ND State Water Commission, Bismarck, ND