

MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
Executive Meeting
Great Lakes Regional Office, ON
Windsor,
March 3-4, 2020

The International Joint Commission met in Executive Session at the Great Lakes Regional Office in Windsor, Ontario, on March 3, 2020, from 11:00 AM to 5:30 PM EST and March 4, 2020, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST, chaired by Pierre Béland.

COMMISSIONERS

Jane Corwin	Chair, U.S. Section
Pierre Beland	Chair, Canadian Section
Henry Lickers	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Merrell-Ann Phare	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Rob Sisson	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Lance Yohe	Commissioner, U.S. Section

SECTION STAFF

Chuck Lawson	Secretary, U.S. Section
Camille Mageau	Secretary, Canadian Section
Paul Allen	Manager, Policy and Communications, Canadian Section
Frank Bevacqua	Public Information Officer, U.S. Section
Christine Blanchet	Legal Advisor, Canadian Section
Kevin Bunch	Writer-Communications Specialist, 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
Caron de Mars	Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Section
Antionette Dunston	Special Assistant, U.S. Section
David Fay	Senior Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Mark Gabriel	Engineering Advisor, U.S. Section
Adam Greeley	AAAS Fellow, U.S. Section
Wayne Jenkinson	Senior Engineer Advisor, Canadian Section
Erika Klyszejko	Engineering Advisor, Canadian Section
Jeff Laberge	Information Management Analyst, Canadian Section
Catherine Lee-Johnston	Environmental Officer, Canadian Section
Mark Leiva	Network Specialist, U.S. Section
Sarah Lobrichon	Public Affairs Advisor, Canadian Section
Robert Phillips	Senior Water Quality and Ecosystem Advisor
Isabelle Reid	Executive Assistant, Canadian Section
Victor Serveiss	Environmental Advisor, U.S. Section
John Yee	Chief, IM and IT Services, Canadian Section

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF

David Burden	Director
Mark Burrows	Physical Scientist
Antonette Arvai	Physical Scientist
Jennifer Boehme	Physical Scientist
Matthew Child	Physical Scientist
Sally Cole-Misch	Public Affairs Officer
Ryan Graydon	Sea Grant Fellow
Diane Varosky	Administrative Coordinator

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. Commissioners approved the agenda as amended with the addition of several items under Other Business.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 28-30, 2020 EXECUTIVE MEETING

2. Commissioners approved the minutes of the January 28-30, 2020, executive meeting.

OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE

3. Commissioners reviewed the list of outstanding correspondence and requested that follow-up correspondence to an October 2019 letter from the State Department be prepared for review at the next Executive meeting .

ACTION ITEM LIST, COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES LIST, AND COORDINATED CALENDAR

4. Commissioners reviewed the IJC Action Item List, Communications activities list, and the coordinated calendar and received updates on a number of files.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY

5. Commissioners received an oral update on status of preparations for migrating to the new IM/IT architecture.

RECOMMENDATIONS IN COMMISSION REPORTS

6. Commissioners reviewed a draft guidance document on formulating recommendations for Commission and Board reports. They noted that the document should indicate the application of the criteria for recommendations is a mandatory requirement. Should one of the criteria not be applicable to a particular proposed recommendation, a rationale for setting aside that criteria must be provided when the draft report is submitted for Commissioner consideration. Commissioners indicated that the guidance document

should be considered to be a working document and that following a review by IJC board liaisons and GLWQA board secretaries, and based on the results of the application of the draft recommendation criteria to three upcoming GLWQA reports, the guidance would be finalized.

BOARD DECISION-MAKING

7. Commissioners reviewed and updated the Commission's guidance document on consensus decision making for itself and for its boards.

LAKE ONTARIO-ST LAWRENCE RIVER

8. Commissioners received an update on hydrologic conditions in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin and discussed challenges posed by the current structure of the ILOSLRB and possible options to foster more effective and consensus-based decision making. Commissioners reviewed the status of the board's efforts to assess potential maximum outflow strategies for spring 2020 and discussed ongoing cooperation with the St. Lawrence Seaway corporations. Commissioners also received an update on recent meetings with elected officials in the U.S. and in Canada and on key correspondence received since the December 2019 executive meeting relating to Plan 2014.

GREAT LAKES ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

9. Commissioners received a briefing on the GLAM Committee's activities related to the expedited review of the performance of Plan 2014. Commissioners approved the GLAM Committee's Short-term and Long term (12 year) Strategy for release on the IJC website. To strengthen GLAM's inclusion of indigenous knowledge and experience in its advice, Commissioners agreed to the addition of two indigenous members to the GLAM Committee as well as to its Public Advisory Group. Commissioners provided feedback on a draft Terms of Reference for the Public Advisory Group to the GLAM Committee and on potential candidates to serve on the Public Advisory Group.

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

10. Commissioners received a briefing on the regulation of Lake Superior outflows and its impact on the other Great Lakes.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN-LAKE MEMPHREMAGOG WATER QUALITY STUDY

11. Commissioners received an update on the development of the IJC's report on the study and noted progress is on track. The Commission's draft Guidance for Effective Recommendations will be applied prior to Commissioner approval and transmittal of the final report to governments in mid-April.

INDIGENOUS STRATEGY

12. Commissioners received an update on preparations for the March 5, 2020, indigenous workshop and a briefing on the meeting with Grand Council Treaty #3 that took place on February 19, 2020, and possible follow-up actions to strengthen engagement and involvement of FN in transboundary watersheds.

RED RIVER BOARD NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

13. Commissioners received an oral summary of the public hearing on the board's nutrient management strategy that took place in Winnipeg, MB, on February 12, 2020. Staff will prepare an update and recommended next steps following completion of the public comment period at the end of March 2020 for Commissioner consideration at the April Executive meeting;

OTHER BUSINESS

14. A. Science Advisory Board

Commissioners agreed to hold a webinar on the SAB's report *Great Lakes Surface and Groundwater Integration Review*.

B. Great Lakes Water Quality Board

On March 4, 2020, Commissioners approved the following appointments to the board: Mr. George Elmaraghy to be a U.S. member for a three-year term, effective from February 27, 2020 to February 26, 2023; Ms. Sarah Hudson to be a U.S. member for a two-year term, effective from February 27, 2020 to February 26, 2022; Dr. Carolyn Johns to be a Canadian member for a three-year term, effective from February 27, 2020 to February 26, 2023; and Dr. Chris Paci to be a Canadian member for a three year term, effective from February 27, 2020 to February 26, 2023. Commissioners also approved the following reappointments to the board: Dr. Kelsey Leonard as a U.S. member for a three-year term, effective from February 27, 2020 to February 26, 2023; Mr. Mike Goffin as a Canadian member for a three-year term, effective from February 27, 2020 February 26, 2023; and Mr. John Jackson as a Canadian member for a three-year term, effective from February 27, 2020 to February 26, 2023.

C. Great Lakes Science Advisory Board

On March 4, 2020, Commissioners approved the following appointments to the committee:

Mr. Marty Blake to be a Canadian member for a three-year term, effective from March 1, 2020, to February 28, 2023; and Dr. Ram Yerubandi to be a Canadian member for a three-year term, effective from April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2023. Commissioners also approved the reappointments of: Dr. Michael Twiss as a U.S. member for a three-year

term, effective from February 27, 2020, to February 26, 2023; and Dr. Ian Campbell as a Canadian member for a three-year term, effective from February 27, 2020, to February 26, 2023.

D. Red River Board

Commissioners instructed staff to take the necessary preparatory steps towards expanding board to include indigenous members in the near future.

E. International Watersheds Initiative

Commissioners received an update on the development of the 5th IWI report to governments and discussed how best to proceed with the updated IWI strategic plan.

F. Transboundary Mining

Commissioners received an update of work undertaken by the GIS team to map known locations of mines in transboundary watersheds. Additional scoping of the intent of a potential project is required in order to better target the mapping work.

G. Elk River

Commissioners discussed the impact of mining in the Elk River and agreed to write to governments to alert them to the situation in the basin.

H. IJC Conflict of Interest Policy

Commissioners requested that staff assess the need for an IJC Conflict of Interest Policy.

DECISIONS TAKEN VIA POLLING

International St. Croix River Watershed Board

On March 3 2020, Commissioners approved a letter to New Brunswick Power concerning New Brunswick Power's plans to decommission its Milltown Dam and the need for the Commission to receive details on those plans.

International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board

On March 3, 2020, Commissioners approved the reappointment of Mr. Al Pemberton as a US member and Mr. Pemberton's alternate, Mr. Joshua Jones, each for a three-year term, effective from December 5, 2019, to December 5, 2022; and the appointment of Ms. Nicole Blasing to be a U.S. member and Ms. Blasing's alternate Ms. Amy Adrihan, each for a three year term, effective from February 14, 2020, to February 14, 2023.

International Souris River Board

On February 25, 2020, Commissioners approved the reappointment of Mr. Dave Glatt as a U.S. member of the board and, as his alternate, Ms. Heather Husband, for a three-year term, effective from December 7, 2019, to December 6, 2022; and the reappointment of Mr. Frank Durbian as a U.S. member for a three-year term, effective from February 20, 2020, to February 19, 2023.

International Red River Board

On February 24, 2020, Commissioners approved extending the public comment period on the board's nutrient management strategy from February 28, 2020, to March 28, 2020.

International Red River Board

On February 25, 2020, Commissioners approved: the appointment of Ms. Ayn Schmit to be a U.S. member of the board for a one-year term, effective from February 10, 2020, to February 9, 2021; and the reappointment of Mr. Nathan Kestner as a US member of the board for a three-year term, effective from December 12, 2019, to December 11, 2022.

International Niagara River Board of Control

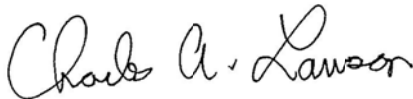
On February 24, 2020, Commissioners approved the reappointment of Mr. Aaron Thompson as the Canadian co-chair of the board for a three-year term, effective from February 4, 2020, to February 3, 2023.

International Lake Champlain-Richelieu River Study Board

On February 20, 2020, Commissioners approved the appointment of Dr. Ann Ruzow Holland to be a U.S. member of the study board, effective February 15, 2020, for the duration of the study.

International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Forum

On February 15, 2020, Commissioners approved a request from the Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation for the Commission to support the March 11-12, 2020, International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Forum with a \$4,000 sponsorship. Commissioners also approved a request from the International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board for the Commission to provide funds to cover registration fees for members of the board's Citizen Advisory Group who will attend the forum.



Charles A. Lawson
Secretary
U.S. Section



Camille Mageau
Secretary
Canadian Section