**PEI Watershed Alliance Board Meeting MInutes**
**March 2, 2022**
**4- 6pm via Zoom**

Google Drive Link:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vr-STVj6IIw8C-b6I3pjTFNehV4baGgN?usp=sharing

**In Attendance:**

**Board:** Mike Durant, Dale McIsaac, Nic Bergeron, Scott Roloson, Andrew Lush

Regrets – John Lane, Juliana Granzoti, Dale Cameron, Jason Campbell

**Staff**: Jolene Jackson, Mary Finch, Charlotte Large, Rebecca Ramos, Simon Wilmot

**Observers**: Kris Hunter, Shelley Pelkey

1. **Call to Order – 4:03pm**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Approval of Minutes from February 2, 2022**
   Motion to approve: Dale M/ Nic Bergeron. Motion carried.
4. **Discussion items:**

   **PEI Salmon Council development by ASF - Kris Hunter**
   Presentation about the need to re-establish a dedicated Salmon Council in PEI.

   **Bylaw clarification regarding WMF and PEIWA (from Forward Agenda)**
   Mike Durant and Dale McIsaac will begin drafting this amendment/clarification to the bylaws to reflect government policy that watershed groups must be members of the PEIWA to be eligible to receive funding through the Wildlife Management Fund.
   This update will be raised as a housekeeping item at the next AGM.

   **Timeline of pending future projects and staff capacity**
   Hiring season is upon us and Charlotte submitted a timeline of staff needed, project time frames etc. A more thorough second meeting will be set up by Charlotte for interested board members.

1. **Financial Update**
   **Audit** - The board recommends that a Financial Review (as opposed to a full audit) be conducted on the Alliances books for this year as we have multiple projects that are underway.
   Motion to approve Financial Review at an estimated cost of $4000 plus tax.
   Dale M/Andrew Lush. Motion carried

   **Request to establish a Petty Cash for office**
   Motion to approve $100 Petty Cash Float. Dale M/ Scott Roloson. Motion carried.

Motion to approve financial documents as read. Scott Roloson/Nic Bergeron. Motion carried

**1. Project Manager Update**

A number of projects are coming to close at the end of March; Charlotte has begun reaching out to groups to begin retrieving data needed for final reports.

Canadian Nature Fund – still waiting for official approval – we may need to provide funds to groups up front and get reimbursed when it comes in.

Forested Landscape Priority Place – two applications are in.

**2. Equipment Manager Update**

Potentially adding a bat monitoring grid to cover an area between Stratford and Cornwall as there is currently a fairly large gap.

There will be an equipment order needed- as these are capital assets the order will be submitted to the board for approval before purchases are made. Approval will be sought through email to ensure it is completed before the end of the fiscal.

**3. Watershed Ecologist Update**

Presented and participated in workshops and continuing to assist groups, making connections like Katherine Munro with PEI Federation of Municipalities.

**4. Other**

**WMF**

Confirmed the 250k increase for the WMF for next fiscal is in the budget

1. This will be the 3rd installment that we were expecting (of 4) to meet the Premiers commitment to add $1M to the WMF fund.
2. Surplus – There will be some surplus from this fund. We have previously decided that any surplus would be dispersed to groups. There are some groups who haven't submitted reports so some surplus is going to be allocated to the Alliance itself.

**2M funding status**

Awaiting approval from Treasury board, but will be done by end of fiscal year. (March 31st)

**Additional Updates**

Jason Campbell has stepped down as a board member, there is now an opening in the western region. Dale C. has also indicated that sometime this year he will be stepping down so Western Groups will have two vacancies that need to be addressed.

Richmond Bay- some conversations have happened between Richmond and MLA and the MLA's office in turn, reached out to Mike. Richmond Bay is welcome to speak with the Alliance, the board, or Mike and the MLA's office may be able to facilitate a conversation.

**Litter Survey**
Survey happens approx. every 10 years and we were recently approached about it.

Question to board: Are we interested in doing this or facilitating it to groups?

Decision: Opportunity should be sent out to groups, but if no one takes it up, no one takes it up. Mary will follow up with Brad about that process.

**Sharing of WMF Reports**
Discussion: The sharing of WMF reports was discussed again, and given the potential sensitivity the board felt it should be discussed at the next AGM and only proceed if this was supported by the groups

**AGM**

Question: Should we move back to a Spring schedule for the AGM?

Decision: Yes. This will be the goal and will discussed at next board meeting. Timing would be about mid-may,ideally PEI will have no further Covid restrictions in place by that time..

Motion to adjourn: Scott Roloson/ Nic Bergeron. Meeting adjourned 5:39pm