

PEI Watershed Alliance Board Meeting
Thursday, December 7th, 2023
4-6 pm via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance: Sherry Pelkey, Virginia Everett, Juliana Fernandes Granzoti, Kris Hunter, Andrew Lush, Dawn McInnis, Dale McIsaac

Staff Members in Attendance: Heather Laiskonis, Nathan LaCroix, Charlotte Large

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM.

2) Approval of Agenda

- Motioned by Sherry Pelkey and seconded by Juliana Fernandes Granzoti
- Passed Unanimously

3) Approval of Minutes from November 2nd, 2023

- Motioned by Andrew Lush and Seconded by Kris Hunter
- Passed Unanimously

4) Business arising from the minutes

5) Discussion items:

a. Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP)

- There is a 1.8% maintenance fee for upkeep on RRSP. These plans can be set up individually for watershed groups, and individual groups can decide whether they want to offer matching or not.
- Motion for PEIWA staff to provide info on the RRSP plans to the watershed groups on behalf of the PEIWA.
- Moved by Juliana Fernandes Granzoti, seconded by Andrew Lush.
- Passed unanimously

b. Coastal Steering Committee?

- The topic of the coastal steering committee should be kept as an agenda item and more conversations should be held about it to see where people are and where the groups are in terms of their priorities regarding coastal erosion.

c. Data Steering Committee

- Andrew Sherry and Heather attended a GIS meeting in Charlottetown where they met Josh Wry, who's the guy who's putting together all the data for the province, and making it accessible, open source and organized.

d. Asian Renewables

- Andrew Murray and his company is looking to develop a series of micro hydro dams using existing structures.
- This could be an opportunity to get more fish passages.
- Kris Hunter will be meeting with Andrew Murray and have an update at the next meeting.
- e. ECOPEI Lawsuit**
 - Motion for Heather to draft a letter to be put out on various media platforms condemning the ECOPEI lawsuit by the developer and calling on other members of the conservation community to speak out against it.
 - Moved by Kris Hunter and Seconded by Dawn McInnis.
 - Passed unanimously
- f. ACOA funds-PEIWA increase and MP letters**
 - A watershed group was denied permission to work in the streams by the DFO, resulting in a request to the funder (ACOA) for an extension which the answer was no.
 - It was recommended that watershed groups write letters to their MPs if they have riparian work for an extension, which may result in the Federal government giving an extension.
 - The PEIWA would like to request a relocation of 30,000 dollars for administrative fees due to the workload.
- g. Larger maritime policies-should we have a voice?**
 - Andrew Lush mentioned that this should be looked at on a case-by-case basis. General issues where the PEIWA is supporting another province's initiatives is where the alliance should have a voice.
- h. Manulife Increase**
 - There will be an increase in the individual and family health benefits package.
- i. RBC/GIC**
 - Motion to approve \$838,000 going into a one-year GIC and \$500,000 into ONE YEAR CASHABLE GIC.
 - Moved by Andrew Lush and Seconded by Kris Hunter.
 - Passed Unanimously.
- j. Next board meeting-January or February**
 - The next PEIWA meeting will be held on February 1, 2023.

6) Reports

- a. Financial Update**
 - See the folder for an update
- b. Project Manager/ED Update**
 - See the folder for an update
- c. Equipment Manager Update**
 - See the folder for an update
- d. 2BT Coordinator Update**
 - See the folder for an update
- e. Review Forward Agenda**

- See the folder for an update
 - f. Other
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7) In-camera board only session