

## **Draft Meeting Record**

### **1. Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Agenda**

The Meeting Chair, Mike Parker, called the meeting to order at 1:05pm, and welcomed all in attendance. Roundtable introductions were held. An Attendance List for the meeting is attached in *Appendix 1*. Natalie requested that the following item be added to Other Business:

- 'Letters of Support'

Approval of Amended Agenda - Motion: Ken Schmidt; Seconded: Mario Sonogo. Carried.

### **2. Review of Action Items and Approval of October 15, 2009 Meeting Record**

(Details available in *Appendix 2 -Decisions and Actions October 15, 2009*)

The committee reviewed the Decisions and Actions. Natalie reported that action items were all completed or included on the January 21<sup>st</sup> agenda.

Approval of Meeting Record – Motion: Jon Gee; Seconded: Mario Sonogo. Carried by consensus.

### **3. Update on draft Stage 2 RAP Report**

Natalie reported that the DRCC proceeded with public open houses on October 27-29, 2009. Posters from the open houses were available at the meeting for members to view. Natalie commented that the open houses went well with approximately 22 people attending. A section was added to the draft Stage 2 RAP Report detailing the public review period. Some comments were received which were overall positive. On November 26<sup>th</sup>, the Steering Committee endorsed the Stage 2 to be forwarded to the COA Annex Implementation Committee for agency review. Thus, the RAP report was sent for agency review on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Jon Gee (Annex 1 Co-Lead) reported that the draft Stage 2 RAP Report was forwarded later than expected and comments will be received by February 12, 2010. Jon mentioned that the Province may require approval from the Assistant Deputy Minister level which might be difficult in a short time frame.

Natalie informed the committee that comments were received from the US EPA and the MDEQ which will be forwarded to the Writing Team for discussion.

**ACTION: Natalie will revise the Stage 2 RAP Report timeline with the new February 12 Agency review deadline with the aim to release the document in June 2010.**

**ACTION: Mike Parker will confirm whether or not the draft Stage 2 RAP Report must be posted on EBR for a 30-d review period.**

### **4. Presentation: Proposed revised DRCC Structure**

Jon Gee gave a presentation on the proposed revised DRCC Structure. He noted that the main elements are two-fold: 1) the GLWQA are where it all originates, it lays out a framework that is locally driven by RAPs, etc. 2) the COA lays out how the federal and provincial governments are going to work together to achieve the GLWQA. They have two main goals – to delist four AOCs and to make significant progress on the 11 others. The DRCC's focus needs to be on implementing projects in the Stage 2 RAP Report to delist the AOC.

The overall proposal was to merge the Steering and Implementation Committees with a focus on implementation. The presentation outlined roles, responsibilities, meeting purpose, voting, work groups, and membership.

Mike opened the floor to discussion. Members asked questions relating to details of the new committee (i.e., would the meetings be open to everyone, how do we engage industry?). The process for review and approval of

the proposed structure was discussed among members. Marcia suggested that the SC/OC/PAC/IC Chairs host a joint meeting to review the proposed DRCC structure. The SC Co-Chairs could provide the group with a presentation and then discuss comments. Mike noted that it would be beneficial as it would also provide an opportunity for the SC members to meet the rest of the DRCC membership. Mario suggested requesting comments on the proposed structure to be submitted before the meeting so that the Chairs can be prepared in advance.

**MOTION:** Kevin Miller moved that the SC accept the proposed structure and send it to the other DRCC committees and PAC for review and comment. Furthermore, a general meeting (full membership) will be hosted by the Committee Chairs in April 2010 in the evening (to accommodate as many member as possible) before the next Steering Committee meeting. Seconded: Mario Sonego. Carried.

Kevin Miller offered the Vollmer location for the evening meeting, if necessary. Contact him for availability.

**ACTION: Natalie and Kris will plan for a general meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup> (evening) to discuss the revised structure. Results of the general meeting will be discussed by the Steering Committee the following day with the goal of finalizing a DRCC TOR by June 2010 (with the Stage 2 RAP Report).**

**ACTION: Natalie will add the PAC TOR to the proposed structure and send the document to all other committees on behalf of the SC requesting comments prior to general meeting.**

**ACTION: The SC Co-Chairs will give the presentation and answer questions along with the other Committee Chairs.**

#### 5. Ojibway Shores Update

Ken reported that he met with David Cree of the Windsor Port Authority. According to Ken, David indicated that the Ojibway Shores waterfront property is unique and, while he would like to work with the intentions of the DRCC, he and his Board are not prepared to agree to the transfer of the property. There are no current proposals with the Port Authority regarding the Ojibway Shores property. There is nothing planned that would be detrimental to the property. Ken explained that David Cree is interested in attending an upcoming meeting if the Committee would like to discuss matter with him. He noted that if the Committee had questions for the Port Authority they should be developed and provided to David in advance.

A discussion ensued about the ownership of the property. Jon noted that it might be worth looking at the Port Authority's Letters Patent.

Natalie reported that she recently met with Peter Berry, Port Authority Harbourmaster. He is highlighted the destruction of the land by off-road sporting (ATVs), etc. He suggested that the DRCC and the WPA work together to heighten public awareness about keeping the site clean and safe. Natalie added that the OC/PAC will be working with the Harbourmaster to plan a cleanup event at this site in the Spring. Mike Parker noted that Peter Berry has been working to restrict access to the land and that he has already done a lot of cleanup on their land. Paul added that Peter offered a tour of the site to the IC and that an invitation might be extended to other DRCC members.

**MOTION:** Ken moved that the Steering Committee invite David Cree and staff to attend an upcoming meeting. Seconded by: Kevin Miller; Carried.

**ACTION: Natalie to send an invitation to David Cree and staff, on behalf of the SC Chairs, to attend an upcoming meeting and to discuss a potential tour of the site.**

#### 6. Work Plan for 2010 / 2011

Natalie reported that the IC is in the process of developing a Work Plan. It was noted that the SC should be reviewing a work plan annually. Mike suggested making the Work Plan an item of discussion for an AGM and that draft 5 year work plan should be brought the Steering Committee for review / approval. Luca explained that in the past the Work Plan was developed at the Implementation Committee level then brought up to the SC

for approval. It was noted that the Work Plan will first be sent to the SC for discussion, revised and then approved at a later SC meeting. It was proposed that starting in the Fall 2010, the following year's work plan (2011-2012) should be sent to the SC for review and approval. Ken suggested that a summary of the 2010-2011 Work Plan should be brought forward for information and that the development of a 5yr Work Plan begin at 2011.

Further discussion on this item has been deferred to the next meeting.

Jon reported that a 2.5 day workshop with all of the Canadian AOCs will take place on January 26-28, 2010. The purpose of the workshop is to determine the priorities, the accomplishments and challenges of each AOC. This will contribute to the planning for the next GLAP (April 1). Natalie reviewed the slide presentation that she prepared for the meeting and offered to send these to any members interested in seeing them. Paul Drca suggested that the DRDIS should be mentioned under accomplishments / work in progress, etc. It would be worthy of sharing with the other AOCs.

**ACTION: Once the Draft 5 year Work Plan is completed, it will be sent to the SC for discussion in April and move forward from there.**

## **7. Roundtable Updates**

### **a. RAP Coordinator**

Natalie reviewed an Overall Annual Deliverables Report that was provided to the Committee in advance of the meeting. Ken asked if there was a more detailed record of how much time the Coordinator spends on Implementation. Marcia commented that Natalie prepares detailed (quarterly) reports for her Supervisory Group which lists percentages of time spent on various aspects of her position (e.g. , implementation, administration, etc.). Natalie noted she can provide the reports to any committee member upon request. The Coordinator and the Supervisory Group will be developing a focused 2010-2011 work plan for the Coordinator soon.

### **b. Implementation Committee**

Luca reported that the Implementation Committee has met twice since the last SC meeting – once on October 29th at McKenzie Hall in Windsor, and then again on December 17<sup>th</sup> at the MOE Office in Windsor. The focus of the most recent meeting was the Work Plan. The goal was to use the Draft Stage 2 RAP Report recommendations and create a Work Plan. However, upon reviewing the recommendations, they found a mix of higher level recommendations and lower level actions that were jumbled –as a result those have been all revised and re-organized. Their next meeting will be focused on creating a 5-yr Work Plan. Luca added that Peter Berry attended the last meeting and that the IC hopes to have him attend regularly. He noted that he is concerned about how to continue to engage Industry Representatives if the IC is merged with the SC. He suggested that a new structure is discussed the DRCC needs to ensure that these representatives remain involved. In total, the IC held had four meetings in 2009; however, there were many work group meetings relating to the draft Stage 2 RAP Report.

### **c. Outreach Committee**

Marcia reported that the OC last met on December 14<sup>th</sup> – a joint meeting was held with the PAC. She noted that the major Outreach events since the last SC meeting were the Stage2 RAP Report Open Houses. Their focus was to assist with the review of the Stage 2 and endorse the document. At the December meeting a lengthy discussion was held regarding projects for the spring of 2010. Several projects are near completion and ready to be launched including the watershed tour brochures. Peter Benz attended from the US PAC – and Marcia commented positively on the growing cross-border relationship. The Committees are overdue for electing a new Chair and Vice Chair, but have decided to hold off on elections until a decision has been made about re-structuring the DRCC.

**d. PAC**

Tom reported on the PAC portion of the joint meeting noting that Phil Roberts of Essex County Field Naturalists spoke on Ojibway Shores. He commented that the Ojibway Shores property remains a challenge but the PAC hopes to continue lobbying and working toward maintaining and improving the site. Peter Berry has been invited to attend the next meeting of the PAC to report on the site.

**e. Environment Canada**

Jon reported that the GLWQA negotiations have begun. The first plenary meeting is set to be held in Washington at the end of January. He noted that the COA comes to an end at the end of March and it seems as though it will be extended for a period of time. Negotiations of COA will start once the GLWQA winds down. Jon announced that a GLSF Call for Proposals will be sent by February. He added that Joseph Comuzzi was appointed Chair of the Canadian Section of the International Joint Commission in the place of Herb Gray.

**f. Ministry of the Environment**

Mike Parker noted that there is nothing to report. Marcia asked for an update on the General Chemical site. Mike replied that there are a lot of discussions and that they are presently working with the Trustee to answer a lot of the questions. The Ministry is assisting the Trustee to ensure the process remains transparent and fair.

**g. Ministry of Natural Resources**

Jenn Esbjerg noted that the MNR has gone through a lot of re-structuring and that they are also waiting to hear word on COA and GLWQA funding.

**h. Essex Region Conservation Authority**

Ken asked Mario about the location for dumping fill from the RTB project because he was informed that there fill was being deposited into the flood plain in Amherstburg. Mike noted that there is a big debate in the Ministry right now on where fill can and should go.

Ken introduced Richard Wyma as the new General Manager for ERCA starting February 1<sup>st</sup>. Ken provided a brief description of Richard's past work experience.

Ken commented that the ERCA is gearing up for spring tree plantings, etc and that ERCA developed a new partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada working to acquire lands on the Canard River in the AOC. He noted that ERCA is also working with the Ministry of Transportation regarding the Detroit River International Crossing project regarding species-at-risk. It is hoped that ERCA will be able to build on that partnership for some larger projects in the future. Ken explained that ERCA was trying to work collaboratively to identify locations for something comparable to the International Wildlife Refuge (U.S.). He noted that the DRCC should be receiving an announcement in April regarding the further protection and restoration of natural areas throughout Essex County.

An announcement was made about the Essex Region Conservation Foundation's Enviro-Expo occurring from April 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Ceasars Windsor. The Enviro-Expo will highlight lifestyle actions that are 'green' and former U.S. President Bill Clinton will be opening the event. For more information, visit [www.enviro-expo.org](http://www.enviro-expo.org)

**i. City of Windsor**

Paul Drca reported that the City of Windsor is co-sponsoring the Enviro-Expo and that the City will have a booth with an emphasis on their Environmental Master Plan. They have made space available at the booth for the DRCC and for other environmental committees of council – WECEC, the Bicycle Committee, etc. They have some environmentally friendly give-aways including pens and desktop recycling boxes to hand out. The plan to fill each recycling box with a seedling for a tree.

Mario Sonego reported that the Windsor Retention Treatment Basin project to reduce CSOs started in early January. He thanked the SC and PAC for their letters support for the \$60 million project.

**j. Town of LaSalle**

Kevin reported that they are moving forward their \$1.3 million Riverfront Project. Specifically, two tenders are moving forward: the Fish Monitoring Research Centre (lead is Dr. Trevor Pitcher at UWindsor) and the Habitat Restoration Project in the river. Deconstruction began in December 2009. A presentation has been made to Town Council regarding structural integrity of docks. The Town hopes to install some interpretive signage at the site. Natalie asked to be kept informed of signage for potential DRCC contribution. Kevin noted that the Town received funding through the Community Adjustment Fund to plant approximately 6,000 trees throughout the municipality.

**k. Town of Amherstburg**

Representative absent. No report.

**l. Four Agencies Managers**

Representative absent. No report.

**8. Other Business**

Natalie reported on three requests for letters of support; they are highly relevant to the DRCC's mandate:

- Michigan Dept of Community Health – Fish consumption advisories
- US PAC – Habitat Restoration of the 41 acre Blue Heron Lagoon on Belle Isle
- US PAC – Habitat Restoration at the US Steel property

MOTION: Marcia moved that the Committee approve sending the letters of support for all three projects; Ken seconded; Carried.

**9. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**

**Next Meeting: Thursday April 15, 2010**

Meeting Chair, Mike Parker, thanked all in attendance. Ken thanked Jon and Mike for the greater focus and emphasis on implementation at these meetings. He also extended thanks to Natalie for her work. Jon thanked Ken for his driving force on the success of the DRCC. Congratulations on your retirement, Ken!

*The meeting record prepared by Kris Ives, Assistant, and Natalie Green, RAP Coordinator.  
Reviewed and approved by Co-Chair Mike Parker*

## **Appendix 1**

### **Meeting Attendance**

#### **Steering Committee Members**

Jon Gee	Environment Canada, Steering Committee Co-Chair
Mike Parker	Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Steering Committee Co-Chair
Luca Cargnelli	Implementation Committee Co-Chair (by teleconference)
Jenn Esbjerg	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (by teleconference; for Rich Drouin)
Tom Henderson	PAC Chair (by teleconference)
Kevin Miller	Town of LaSalle
Ken Schmidt	Essex Region Conservation Authority
Mario Sonogo	City of Windsor
Marcia Valiante	Outreach Committee Chair

#### **Resource/Support Staff**

Natalie Green	RAP Coordinator (DRCC)
Kris Ives	Assistant (DRCC)
Gord Harding	PAC Vice-Chair (be teleconference)
Paul Drca	City of Windsor
Richard Wyma	Essex Region Conservation Authority

#### **Regrets**

Sandra Kok	Environment Canada
Chris Brown	City of Windsor
Andrew Dowie	Outreach Committee Vice-Chair
Pamela Malott	Town of Amherstburg
Ted Briggs	Ministry of the Environment