

SEINE-RAT RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

29 SIMARD Street

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MINUTES

09-2008: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

June 2, 2008

PRESENT: Cornie Goertzen – SD 3 & 4 Chairman
Claude Gagné – SD 3 & 4 Vice-Chairman
Paul Perreault – SD 6 Chairman
Maurice Leclair – SD 9 Vice Chairman
Jodi Goertzen – Interim Manager
Laurie Evans – SD 8 Chairman
Gerry Maynard – SD 5 Chairman
Sonny Peters – SD 7 Chairman
Larry Bugera – Provincial Appointee
Rita Bazin – Financial Administrator

Patrick Watson, Manitoba CD Secretariat, Steinbach Office

Laurie Evans calls the meeting to order in the R.M. of Hanover Council Chambers at 7:10 p.m. The meeting was called to discuss another letter received from Wayne Hildebrand, Manager, Watershed Planning and Programs Section, Manitoba Water Stewardship dated May 23, 2008. A copy of the letter is circulated and after reading the said letter, the following comments are reiterated by the Board Members:

- THAT the Board Members are dissatisfied at how this misunderstanding was handled by the Province – several Board Members, including the R.M. of Ritchot were in contact with several employees from the CD Secretariat before the appointment was made. The R.M. of Ritchot councillors believed that they had a right to appoint a ratepayer in the Seine-Rat River C.D. to represent their municipality.
- THAT the Province, from the beginning, has urged municipalities to take off their municipal hats when they were making Conservation District decisions and this is exactly what the Board members feel they have done from the beginning.
- THAT SRRCDC municipal partners' concerns have not come directly to the Board, but went to Manitoba Water Stewardship.
- THAT CD staff should not be made accountable for the qualifications of the appointments made by the partner municipalities. The Board consensus is that the onus belongs to the CD Secretariat.
- THAT there should be better clarification in the CD Act and in this case, for appointments. Updates and clarifications of the CD Act need to be done with MCDA and AMM involvement.
- THAT there was no ill intent by anybody on the CD Board and that this will be considered as part of a learning experience.
- THAT the Board Members are concerned that they did not get all the correspondence that the CD Secretariat received as was referred to in some of the discussions held.
- THAT Cornie Goertzen be commended for his willingness to continue until this misunderstanding was resolved.

Patrick Watson, CD Secretariat is invited to comment on the CD Secretariat's behalf on this matter. He concurs on most of the comments made by the Board Members and adds that the SRRCD Board deserves an apology from the Province in this matter. He then shows copies of correspondence that the CD Manager & Financial Administrator should have received in the office and indicates that it is up to staff to bring such matters to the Board's attention.

A discussion ensues on how to proceed in this matter that is in accordance with CD Secretariat directives. After due deliberation and with Mr. Watson's assistance and approbation, the following is determined:

- Cornie Goertzen does not need to submit his resignation.
- Maurice Leclaire has indicated that tomorrow's council meeting will approve a notice to rescind the R.M. of Ritchot's resolution to appoint Mr. Goertzen since he was not a ratepayer of the R.M. of Ritchot at the time. At their next Council meeting, the R.M. of Ritchot council can now appoint Mr. Goertzen as their ratepayer, as he now owns property in the R.M. of Ritchot.
- A sub-district 3 & 4 meeting will then be called after the R.M. of Ritchot's reappointment has been received by the SRRCD Staff. A Chair will be selected by the Sub-District members.
- For the next SRRCD Board Meeting, the following will be added to the agenda:
 - a) Appointment of a Chairman of the Board
 - b) Validation of all decisions made by the SRRCD BOARD from the November 8, 2007 Organizational Meeting to present.

107-2008: Claude Gagné – Sonny Peters

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

CARRIED

Laurie Evans, Vice-Chairman

Rita Bazin, Financial Administrator