

SFMC meeting November 9, 2017

Attendance: Paul Chapman, Ron Black, Will Trowell, Chris Smith, Richard Gibbons, Thomas Beaudry, Ron Spence, Brian Roque, Robert Hanson, Shaun Kopechuk, John Como, Bob Huck, Troy Werstroh

Welcome and introductions: two new attendees, Thomas Beaudry (Manitoba Sustainable Development) and Shaun Kopechuk (Snow Lake fur council) were welcomed.

Agenda was reviewed and approved

Minutes were reviewed and approved as presented, arising from the minutes was a short discussion on the Keewatin corridor working group and invitation to an upcoming general meeting being held at OCN. Purpose of the working group is to achieve an all season, full weight, dust free connection between Nipiwini and the Pas through upgrades to existing highways. Ron Black indicated he has two speakers lined up for next year representing HudBay mining and Keewatin Rail.

New business: a discussion on bioenergy took place. Pellet stoves are becoming more common and Europe is increasing adopting pellet and biofuels being sourced from USA. Spruce Products has been selling pellets to the local market. Federal government has funding available for bioenergy projects that have First Nation involvement. The previous mill owner did look into producing pellets but the economics did not work out. Working with First Nations to procure bioenergy would help reconciliation. CKP currently using hog fuel in our primary boiler and working on funding for a large project (vibrating grates) that would increase use of biofuels and reduce fossil fuel use. Also tendered a major supply contract for trucking hog fuel from Hudson Bay that was opened to First Nations operators.

Discussed sequestration of carbon sourced from sustainable forests, that there is a time lag of decades before sequestration levels become rapid. Discussed short term sequestration options like hybrid poplar or willow coppice. Chris Smith has some PowerPoints from a recent meeting he can distribute. Importance of retaining carbon stored in the soil was discussed.

Discussed pile burning operations on Hobbit road, member suggested it was going well. When burning debris piles it is important to give the local trapper several weeks notice because they may have sets placed in the piles for martin.

Question about spruce budworm infestation in Cranberry Portage and area. Provincial forester discussed that it is being monitored but no spray treatment is planned. There was a request from cottager association for a control program. Budworm occur on a cycle which usually starts from the Saskatchewan side.

Meeting assessment report: all reviews of the last meeting were satisfactory or better.

Committee member reports: Manitoba SD rep reviews meetings at local office, Town of The Pas rep circulates to council and senior managers. Ron Black has proposed to Bakers Narrows cottage association that they consider encouraging some harvest on the island as much of the timber is overmature and becoming a fire hazard. Thomas identified that it is important to have the proper contact in each community and sometimes the company should just go to a community with no agenda, just to talk to people. NCN representative suggested ensuring invites go to specific people in the communities as there is turnover in positions.

Industry report: Just passed the first anniversary of operating as Canadian Kraft Paper. As a result we have hired a number of administrative positions that used to be done by corporate office. CKP has made considerable investment in the mill including the superheater replacement and has a capital investment plan for next 5 years to increase production and reduce energy and other costs. Recruiting for some positions is a challenge, recently management attended a meeting at UCN to meet with students from several disciplines that might be interested in work at CKP. The mill has a good inventory of chips and wood and paper sales are strong with good orders into the new year. A load of fire wood was delivered to the community of Grand Rapids for the elders program

Just completed our annual external chain of custody audit successfully

Public concerns: none recorded since last meeting. Question asked about some news and social media concerns about herbicide use in Flin Flon area. Forestry Superintendent had been in contact with local MLA over approvals, policy and procedures used by CKP.

Guest Speaker: Chris Smith from Ducks Unlimited Canada gave a presentation on Boreal Wetlands and Sustainable Forest Management. Reviewed the process DUC has used in review of several national SFM standards including involvement in latest CSA SFM. Presentation was tailored to help with the mandatory discussion item in the latest standard upgrade. Copy of the presentation was provided by Chris to CKP. Boreal wetlands are a globally significant source of carbon storage and subject to release of carbon if integrity is not maintained. DU has classified boreal wetlands using globally recognized categories. Wetlands include some possibly merchantable forest stands in Manitoba, treed swamp. Operations on treed swamps, which have seasonally high water tables can result in permanent increase in water table if vegetation is not maintained. DUC and FPInnovations have partnered on development of best practices guides for forest road development to ensure critical horizontal water flow is maintained. Discussed several local highway development projects that have impacted wetlands and how they could have been installed differently. Discussed who wetlands buffer both water quality and quantity. Discussed new Manitoba Green Plan document, there is a short window for public

input. Chris will be retiring this winter, Trent Hreno will take on some of the duties. The committee thanked Chris for his participation over the years and hoped he would consider attending in the future.

Changes to the SFM plan wording. Approval to update some wording related to the Provincial Duty to Consult, will use wording provided by Troy. At this time no consensus to replace the word Aboriginal with Indigenous when speaking broadly about multiple communities, however the company will review the text and where appropriate replace Aboriginal with Cree Nation/Metis.

Indicator review: proposed target for CWD was reviewed as well as the accompanying revisions to the leave tree selection document and a draft of a checklist that would be used to document CWD planning with contractors. Some committee members were wanting to see a target for volume of CWD left behind or a measurement of a metric related to size and species distribution on the original stand. Company responded that there was no standard for volume to apply in Manitoba. Company had been collecting data for years but no indication if there was a shortage on the ground post harvest. Several members considered this a good initiative since it is clearly raising the bar from the status quo and shows leadership in absence of provincial targets. Company feels the intent of the indicator is to raise awareness of the importance of CWD and provide guidance to operators to improve post harvest conditions. Indicator accepted, previous indicator of measuring several blocks annually will be replaced.

Upcoming external audit. Richard Gibbons identified he had interest in observing the audit and was invited to take part the week of November 20.

Election of chair: Ron K. Black was once again acclaimed as chair.

Upcoming meetings: following dates were proposed for 2018. First two meetings early in year to ensure we cover upgrade to CSA standard.

January 24 *(This is a Wednesday and was changed following the meeting)*

February 22

September 13

November 15