

## Board of Directors Meeting

April 25, 2025 Hybrid Meeting Minutes - Approved

**Meeting Summary:** The AWC Board of Directors met in person in Athabasca and online on the morning of April 25, 2025. In addition to approving previous meeting minutes (Feb. 18, 2025) and 2024-25 Q4 Financial and Activities Report, the board heard updates about committee and staff projects and activities. Board members also shared sector updates. Those who attended in person watched a video presentation on the Tawatinaw fish offset area habitat assessment before taking a walk out to the site for a better look. The next board meeting and AGM will be June 14, 2025.

| SEAT                     | DIRECTOR          | ALTERNATE | Quorum |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------|
| AEP Representative       | Abdi Siad Omar    | Long Fu   | √      |
| Provincial/Federal Govt  | Dean Litzenberger |           | √      |
| Municipal (Upper Basin)  | Alan Deane        |           | √      |
| Municipal (Middle Basin) |                   |           |        |
| Municipal (Lower Basin)  | Colette Borgun    |           | √      |
| Forestry                 | Dan Moore         |           | √      |
| Oil & Gas                | Janice Linehan    |           | √      |
| Ag or Industry           | vacant            |           |        |
| Agriculture              | vacant            |           |        |
| Mining/Utilities         | Amanda Buchanan   |           | √      |
| Indigenous               |                   |           |        |
| Indigenous               |                   |           |        |
| Indigenous               | vacant            |           |        |
| Environment              | Brian Deheer      |           | √      |
| Environment              | Julie Hink        |           | √      |
| Stewardship              |                   |           |        |
| Stewardship              |                   |           |        |
| Research and Academia    |                   |           |        |
| Member-at-Large          | Laura Pekkola     |           | √      |
| Member-at-Large          | Ida Edwards       |           | √      |

|   |        |                |    |
|---|--------|----------------|----|
| Past President                                      | vacant |                |    |
| Quorum = >50% filled seats (16) = >8                |        |                | 11 |
| <b>Staff:</b>                                       |        | <b>Guests:</b> |    |
| Petra Rowell, Executive Director                    |        | Ty Nagetaal    |    |
| Sarah Shortt  |        |                |    |
| Ashley Johnson, Education & Outreach Coordinator    |        |                |    |
| Caity Zimmermann, Project Coordinator               |        |                |    |
| Mitchel Wincentaylo, Headwaters Project Coordinator |        |                |    |
| Ethan Zapach, Watershed Technician                  |        |                |    |
| Shayla Watson, Watershed Technician                 |        |                |    |

### 1. Welcome

**Call to order; Health and Safety; Quorum:** Dan Moore called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Health and safety logistics were provided. Petra indicated quorum was met.

**Treaty Land Acknowledgement:** Dan provided.

**Round Table Introductions:** Done.

### 2. Administration

**Review Meeting Objectives & approve Meeting Agenda:** Dan briefly reviewed meeting objectives. He then asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none. The agenda was approved by consensus as presented. After a query about process, Dan outlined how he will ask if there are any objections to consensus, rather than for a vote.

Petra noted that while staff received general guidance on activities, there were no specific actions from the Feb. 18 2025 board meeting minutes. Dan then asked for any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes; there were none. The Feb. 18, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes were approved by consensus as presented.

### 3. Provide Oversight: Reports and Updates

- a. **2024-25 Q4 Report & Budget circulated with agenda:** Petra provided an overview of the Q4 budget. She confirmed that the AWC fully expended its 2024-25 EPA core operational grant (\$320k). Accounting files have now been sent to KRP for the annual financial review. Petra also thanked Woodlands County for their recent donation and noted that the AWC's 4<sup>th</sup> WRRP grant (\$230k) has been approved with funds received and in the bank.

- b. **Committee reports:** Petra noted that the Executive Committee meets monthly and is a good sounding board for her, between quarterly board meetings. Caity explained that the Technical Committee met recently and has approved a Terms of Reference for the state of the watershed project. The board had no issues with their proposed course of action.
- c. **Staff Updates:** Staff shared updates on their various program areas.

#### 4. Provide Input: 2025-26 Strategic Planning & Budgeting

- a. **Scholarship:** Petra asked the board for advice on a scholarship. Some ideas were discussed and will continue to be fleshed out over the summer.
- b. **Watercourse Crossing:** Petra asked the board for input on how to address outstanding watercourse crossing mitigation works. It was agreed that meeting with and collaborating with the disposition holder/regulator was the way to advocate for mitigation in areas important for riparian/stream health.

#### 5. Improve Knowledge

A quick roundtable of sector updates was shared with most sectors noting that they were keeping an eye on spring moisture levels and fire conditions. It was also noted that several regulatory applications and industry reports, pertinent to the Athabasca are moving forward and/or near release to the public.

#### 6. Provide Advice

Staff noted that there are several federal and provincial engagements (e.g., Upper Smoky Sub-regional plan, Hinton Flood Map) currently seeking input. Links to these events are included in AWC monthly newsletters, or if time sensitive, emailed directly to the board to be shared with their sectors for review and input.

#### 7. Next Steps/Meetings

- a. Upcoming dates:
- b. April 30 – Green Acreages Workshop in Edson
- c. June 13 – ALUS On-Farm event, Cherhill
- d. June 14, AGM and Board meeting (Whitecourt and online)
- e. Sept board meeting – date to be determined; request to have presentations on Carbon, Capture and Storage, Kearl Lake, McClellan Fen so the meeting will likely be in the northeast.

#### 8. Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 pm

After the meeting adjourned, those attending in person watched the Northern Pike Spawning Habitat Assessment video, before walking out to the Tawatinaw River to view the site and discuss next steps for the AWC on this small tributary of the Athabasca River.