

FINAL DRAFT
O.S.P.E. LAND DRAINAGE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
Thursday, January 22, 2009
Best Western Lamplighter Inn –Summit Room
London, Ontario

1.0 Attendance and Call to Order

Members Present: Tim Oliver, Chairman; Bill Dietrich, Secretary; Chris Allen, Mike DeVos, Tom Pridham, John Kuntze

Liaison Members Present: Sid Vander Veen, OMAFRA; Davin Heinbuck, Conservation Authorities (ABCA); Joe de Laronde, Fisheries and Oceans Canada;

Absent Members: Leo Christl, MNR; Art Groenveld, MTO; Gina VandenBurg, O.S.P.E.; Dana Boyter, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Pat Shaver, Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph

Chairman Tim Oliver called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion by Tom Pridham, seconded by Mike DeVos, that the agenda as prepared by the chairman be accepted. Carried.

3.0 Minutes of Last Meeting

Motion by John Kuntze, seconded by Tom Pridham that the minutes of the Thursday October 23, 2008 O.S.P.E. Land Drainage Committee Meeting be accepted. Carried.

4.0 Business Arising From the Minutes

- 4.1 Drain Maintenance Guidance Document – Mike DeVos – still waiting for everyone’s comments and then the document will be discussed at DAWG.
- 4.2 Pumped Drain Systems – Joe deLaronde to talk to Dana Boyter about the status of DFO position on pumped drains.
- 4.3 Missed Tile Connections – Don Weir, Drainage Superintendent, Township of Malahide attended the June 6, 2008 LDC meeting to discuss missed tile connections on municipal drainage projects.
John Kuntze prepared a preliminary recommendation for dealing with missed tile connections which will be dealt with at the next LDC meeting.

- 4.4 LDC Expenses – Tim Oliver has been in contact with Gina Vandenburg (O.S.P.E.). Bill Dietrich is to forward LDC members expenses for 2008 to Gina.
- 4.5 MTO Liaison Report – Art Groenveld, item 6.14. (October 23, 2008 LDC minutes) Tom Pridham to assist Art in reviewing the information that may be presented at this seminar.
- 4.6 O.S.P.E. Website – LDC is off the website. Resolution – Motion, John Kuntze and seconded by Chris Allen to send the Draft Practitioners Meeting Minutes to Pat Shaver for posting on the University of Guelph, Open Learning Website. Carried.
- 4.7 Endangered Species Act (ESA) – LDC would like an update on the ESA from Leo Christl.

5.0 Correspondence

- 5.1 Leo Christl (MNR) – email – January 13, 2009 – may have something to report on in regards to the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act Technical Guidelines and Life Cycle Management of Dams at next LDC meeting.
- 5.2 John Kuntze – email – January 20, 2009 – preliminary recommendations for tile drain specifications for dealing with missed tile connections.
- 5.3 DART – John Kuntze – email – January 20, 2009 – sent copy of Draft Terms of Reference to LDC.

6.0 Liaison Report – Conservation Authorities Report Davin Heinbuck

- 6.1 ROMA Convention
DART representative will be attending ROMA and participating in the panel presentation/workshop. At this time, MNR's Conservation Authority Policy Analyst John Cottrill will likely be in attendance.
- 6.2. Drainage Superintendents Course
Davin Heinbuck will be present again this year to provide a presentation on Conservation Authorities and their role in municipal drainage projects. Course will be offered in early March.
- 6.3 MNR- Endangered Species Act
Workshops will be delivered in February to municipalities and Conservation Authorities.

6.4 Drainage BMP's

Davin Heinbuck has been sitting on the committee as a representative with a Conservation Authority perspective. This membership may seek Conservation Ontario endorsement in the future. The group is now halfway through the review of the first draft.

6.5 Drain Improvement Request/New Drain Petition Supplement

Again, there is a need to inform the Drainage Superintendents about the use of the Supplement. Project information includes; location, name and type of watercourse, proposed works and environmental features. The more detailed the information, the easier it is for the reviewing agency to expedite initial screening. These forms can be found at:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/landuse/facts/petition.htm>

6.6 Advise that there are some very good drainage articles in the July/August 2007 Journal of Soil and Water Conservation.

7.0 Liaison Report – Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph

Pat Shaver (conference call)

7.1 Discussed the October 2008 LDC Engineers conference.

7.2 Consider dropping panel discussions from proceedings.

7.3 Pat will report to LDC at June meeting with an update on the renovations at the Ramada.

7.4 Media waiver – have speakers sign in advance of the conference. The speakers presentations will be printed in the proceedings.

8.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Sid VanderVeen

8.1 MINISTRY CHANGES:

- New Director – Jim Richardson
- Andrew Jamieson – new Water Management Engineer (Jim Myslik's former position)
- Shane Tormey – Helping out in Drainage Unit – processing tile loans

8.2 DRAINAGE ACT GRANTS:

ADIP Review

- Review of ADIP policies occurred in 2008; results pulled together but not finalized yet.

Grant Statistics – 2007/08

- \$3,583,991 in maintenance/superintendent grants
- 1602 maintenance/repair projects and 154 construction/improvement projects
- \$2,399,909 in construction/improvement grants

Grants Applications – 2008/09

- Reminder letter was sent out January 7/09
- Deadline for maintenance/superintendent is January 30/09 – Based on our problems from last year, we will no longer accept incomplete applications. If a complete application is not received by the deadline, it will not be processed. We will not contact any municipality to provide missing information. If provided information requires clarification, we will contact the municipality only once.
- Deadline for construction/improvement is February 13/09

Program Budgeting – 2009/10

- Allocation or budget requests for grants for drain maintenance and superintendent activities for the 2009 year must be submitted by the end of February, 2009

8.3 OTHER LEGISLATION

DART - Conservation Authority – Generic Regulations: (John Kuntze actually reported)

DAWG - Fisheries Act: (Mike DeVos actually reported)

Endangered Species Act:

- No issues that the Ministry was aware of affecting drainage activities this past fall.

8.4 COURSES

- Superintendents Course will be offered March 2-6/09 in Guelph;
- Tuesday - Jeff Dickson, R. J. Burnside will present on the role of the engineer;
- Thursday - Wray Ramsay and Brian Anderson will present on the practical aspects of being a drainage superintendent; Garry Fischer will present on Wildlife Management
- Friday:
 - Joe deLaronde will speak on fish biology
 - Dana Boyter will speak on the Fisheries Act and the Class Authorization;
 - Davin Heinbuck will speak on the CA Act and Regulations
 - Melodie Cairns, MNR will speak on the Endangered Species Act
 - Kate MacIntyre, MNR will speak on the Wetland Drain Restoration Project

- Rural Municipal Drainage Course/Calculating Drainage Assessments will be offered:
April 15/16 – Morrisburg, ON April 28/29 – Grand Bend May 7/8 – Vineland, ON
- Primary Drainage Course: Jan. 6-15/09 in Marden;
- Advanced Drainage Course: Feb. 3 – 13/09 in Marden

8.5 OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Drainage BMP (Best Management Practices):

The working group that has been challenged to develop this BMP is composed of individuals with a broad range of experience. These include Don Lobb and Ken McCutcheon from the Land Improvement Contractors of Ontario, Peter Darbyshire, Jim Myslik, John Fitzgibbon from the Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition, Tom Hoggarth from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Davin Heinbuck from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, Dave Richards from Ministry of Natural Resources, John Warbick from Ministry of the Environment, Harold Rudy from the Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Greg Nancekevill from Dietrich Engineering representing the Drainage Superintendents Association & OSPE Land Drainage Committee, Wade Morrison from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and some OMAFRA representatives.

DRAINAGE WEBSITE

The Ministry of Natural Resources has developed on behalf of OMAFRA, a publicly accessible website for drainage. From this website, the public will be able to access the lot and concession layout, watercourses, municipal drains (including names and classifications), tile drainage, road and railway network, areas with potential for controlled drain, soils information, woodlands, orthophotography and more. Bob Steiss (OMAFRA GIS) gave a live demonstration of the new website at the annual convention of the Land Improvement Contractors of Ontario and Drainage Superintendents Association of Ontario

www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/landuse/gis/map_dis.htm

9.0 Liaison Report - Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Joe deLaronde

- 9.1 Drain Maintenance Guidance Documents is now being reviewed by Jane Saddler Richards.
- 9.2 DAWG will also be reviewing this document.

10.0 Sub-Committee Report – Drains Action Working Group (D.A.W.G.)

Mike DeVos

- Last meeting November 28, 2008
- No representative from DSAO
- Dana will contact Dave Balint (DFO) with respect to pumped drains
- Guideline document will be reviewed at next meeting (January 30, 2009)
- Drain enclosure data should be reviewed by others
- Sid VanderVeen stated that any further information with respect to the research on drains that is to be published by Katie Stemmler and Belinda Ward-Campbell be reviewed by DAWG before being published.
- The preference of DAWG would be to create a new classification for natural channels.
- Petition supplement forms may become mandatory.

11.0 Sub-Committee Report – Drainage Act and Section 28 Regulations Team (D.A.R.T)

John Kuntze

- The focus at meetings is on drain maintenance
- CA's need to be on the same playing field
- Permits should not be required unless storm water management is required in the reports.
- John will provide a statement to DART with respect to guidelines for drainage engineers performing work under the Drainage Act.
- Resolution – Motion by Mike DeVos, seconded by Tom Pridham to accept the DART Terms of Reference. Carried.

12.0 New Business

12.1 Drainage Industry Meeting

No meeting was held this year at the LICO/DSAO Convention.

12.2 Discussion was held with respect to Certified Engineering Technologists being eligible to prepare drainage reports. A legislative change in the Drainage Act would be required.

13.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Friday June 5, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the OMAFRA office in Guelph, Ontario.

13.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. Moved by John Kuntze and seconded by Tom Pridham.

Tim Oliver, Chairman

Bill Dietrich, Secretary