1.0 Attendance and Call to Order

Members Present:

Brandon Widner, Chairman  Tony Peralta, Vice Chairman
Paul Marsh    John Kuntze
Josh Warner    Jeremy Taylor, Secretary

Liaison Member Present:

Olena Czajkowsk, Ministry of Transportation (MTO)
Davin Heinbuck (Conservation Ontario)
Tim Brook, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)
Sara Mehraban, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (O.S.P.E.)
Lisa Wren, Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) (joined after start)
Jennifer Grochocinski and Mariel Mading, Open Learning & Education Support
(University of Guelph)

Regrets:

Elizabeth Cummings, Drainage Superintendents Association of Ontario
(DSAO)
Paul Heeney, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

1.1 Chairman Brandon Widner called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Majority of
Liaison members were in attendance.
1.2 At this time the Chairman noted that the meeting would now be recorded to assist in minute taking purposes only.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

2.1 Motion by John K, seconded by Paul that the agenda as prepared by the Chairman be accepted with the following amendments:

- No DSAO representative present;
- DART updated removed;
- Sarah Mehraban new member from O.S.P.E.; and
- Tribunal feedback added to new business.

3.0 Minutes of last Meeting

3.1 Motion by John K, seconded Tony P to accept the January 18, 2022 L.D.C. draft meeting minutes as amended. Carried.

3.2 Educational / Promotional for what is Drainage Engineering – push forward to next meeting and Action Item.

4.0 Correspondence

4.1 No significant correspondence noted.

5.0 Liaison Report O.S.P.E. (Sara Mehraban)

5.1 Sara introduced herself as the Policy Analyst and has started to go through past files. Brandon summarized the function of the LDC and that there are a limited number of practitioners within the province that are providing services under the Drainage Act. LDC requested O.S.P.E. to include Drainage Engineering if there any opportunities for promotion of the industry. Sara noted a promotional presentation at University of Windsor upcoming in the fall of 2022 and will include Land Drainage in the slide and note the website for contact.

6.0 Liaison Report – MTO (Olena Czajkowsi)

6.1 MTO is continuing to work on Highway Design Standards that was started in August of 2021 with anticipation of completion by end of 2022.

6.2 Olena reminded LDC that the portal is operational and recommends the use of it wherever feasible. https://tcp.mto.gov.on.ca/
6.3 Currently updating the guides for Hydrology Reports for Water Crossings and MTO SWM Requirements for Land Development proposals (currently on Technical Publication Site available for comments).

6.4 Ongoing investigating and validation of IDF curves and assess how temperature scaling adjustment factor.

7.0 Liaison Report – Conservation Authority (Davin Heinbuck)

7.1 Healthy Lake Huron project – case studies and BMP and RGI (Rural Green Infrastructure) are now live. [https://healthylakehuron.ca/reports/](https://healthylakehuron.ca/reports/). The partner CA’s and Drainage Superintendents have been trying to monitor local distribution of BMP uptake on drain maintenance projects, RGI’s in the construction of new drains, and to a lesser extent, maintenance. Some examples are spot cleanout, maintaining natural featured, sediment traps, and 2 stage/low flow channels.

7.2 Updates on changes to the Conservation Authority Act. Phase 2 of changes in regulations working through CA-municipal funding framework which is expected by January 1, 2024. Regulation of the budget process is also a part of the 2nd phase. Classes for programs and services are being identified. Category 1 for mandated programs, Category 2 for municipally agreed to services, and Category 3 for non-mandatory, and self generated revenues.

7.3 A question was raised about ALUS (Alternative Land Use Services) and potential funding with green infrastructure programs. Answer: It was quite localized, specific to Norfolk County. There are programs available in different regions, under different names. Best to contact CA’s to see if funding opportunities are available to promote RGI implementation on drains.

8.0 Liaison Report – OMAFRA (Tim Brook)

8.1 Jennifer Richards is the lead contact at OMAFRA for funding and Rural infrastructure programs. RGI initiatives exist but are very localized by area.

8.2 Promotion of Drainage Engineering – Have been completing internal promotion at OMAFRA. In April of 2022 Director profile was completed with field tour and Huronview site with controlled drainage and the Scott Municipal Drain. It was noted that Drainage is key infrastructure for the agricultural industry.

8.3 Funding available for projects is Ad-Hoc. Maitland Valley is continuing with Scott Municipal Drain.
8.4 Construction Grants are almost caught up with funding and processing of grants. Deadlines will start to be more meaningful. Construction grants from 2021 should be caught up. Demand has now exceeded budget again though.

8.5 Inflation is becoming a factor in the grant program.

8.6 Minor improvement process and updating engineers report regulations from last year. Waiting on some stats for it from grant, but not a lot received yet.

8.7 OMAFRA website will be moving to new website. Reviewing of all on-line fact sheets and links to be provided in the future. Some fact sheets were geared to the landowners that will be consolidated into one publication for landowners. Requested that DRAFT version be reviewed by the LDC before issuing.

8.8 Tim will be awaiting if there is a new minister and direction with the new government.

8.9 Question was asked if there are forms that require updating who do we send it to? Answer: Send to Tim.

8.10 Question was asked on stats for Municipal Drains – Yes stats will be available in the future.

9.0 Liaison Report DFO - (Lisa Wren)

9.1 Staff looking to return July 4th and in turn should allow for more site visits and presence. Continuing this summer with DFO staff completing drain sampling on drains that are currently not classified + 7 contracts for Conservation Authorities. DFO Maps have been updated in May of 2022. Any issues with drain mapping or errors, please reach out to Lisa to resolve.

9.2 New prescribed water works regulation being proposed by DFO. Concept is where frequent, reoccurring well defined work standards exist, fit into a regulation. Proposing a class of Drain Maintenance and replace the Class Authorization system. Early engagement session proposed in June and discussion paper that will be posted. Similar to existing, but if it meets the requirements, you don’t need to wait for a response. Form still submitted with a monitoring component. Intent is to reduce regulatory burden. Only apply to maintenance works under Class C, and Class E1&E2 drains. Would not be applicable to Class D and intermittent systems. Concept only in the early phases only. Information will be on website https://www.talkfishhabitat.ca/
10.0 Liaison Report University of Guelph - (Jennifer Grochocinski and Mariel Mading)

10.1 Jennifer introduced Mariel who will be taking over Pat Shaver’s role as conference coordinator. Noted that a new venue will need to be sourced if in-person conference is planned. J&M will provide a list of venues. Need to plan for 120 attendees. Also asked for updated financials from last year. Tony asked for the website to be updated with what is Drainage, updated photos and Jeremy to send minutes of previous meetings.

10.2 Suggesting in-person with the potential for a virtual option for the conference. LDC discussed having a Thursday evening event (possibly practitioner meeting or social event). Want to get a list of email contacts and their role (e.g., practitioners, superintendent, other) as part of sign up process. Open discussion with vendors and possibly allowance discussions.

10.3 Discussed option to complete evaluation at that time or electronic submission shortly after. Would like to get additional feedback on the conference from the participants.

10.4 Flat cost rate for all participants (virtual or in person).

Needs for conference - LDC meeting in afternoon space. Thursday evening for social event possibly vendors and networking option associated with the hotel. Friday conference with virtual option for room of 120. Important to have hotel associated with the social event but can be a separate site for Friday conference. Information to be sent to chair to be distributed and decision made. Aim to complete in next couple of weeks. Decision to be made by end of June. Brandon will cc DSAO for continuity.

11.0 New Business

11.1 DAWG Update – John noted that DAWG is still active with an upcoming meeting on June 15.

11.2 DSAO Railway Committee – Tony noted the committee has met twice and another upcoming in June. Goal of committee is to gather information to pass onto DSAO executive to direct to OMAFRA Minister. Follow up from initial survey considering a more in depth survey to other Municipal Staff. Agreed to include those Municipalities that are not part of DSAO (Chatham Kent and Upper Thames). Briefing material for new appointment of Minister Agricultural includes railway issues.
11.3 Tribunal Communication – Discussed options for opening a line of communication between practitioners and the Tribunal to provide feedback and communication between the two parties. Discussion on trends in reports as well as impacts on decisions made. Jeremy to contact Tribunal.

11.4 Additional discussion on PEO Practice Guideline for Providing Services under the Drainage Act. Paul to follow up with PEO on status.

11.5 Potential date for Practitioners meeting Thursday November 10, 10-12:00 a.m.

11.6 Next meeting date to be determined.

12.0 Adjournment

12.1 Motion to adjourn at 1:58 p.m. by Josh, seconded by Tony. Carried

13.0 Summary of Action Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Items</th>
<th>Owner(s)</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Follow up with options for conference location.</td>
<td>Jennifer &amp; Mariel</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Follow up with training information for Drainage Engineering</td>
<td>Tim Brook</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Contact Tribunal (coordinator or chair) for consideration of a line of communication</td>
<td>Jeremy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Updates to Website including photos and minutes from past meetings to be posted.</td>
<td>Jeremy / Jennifer Mariel</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. List of contractors to potentially attend conference</td>
<td>Brandon</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Contact PEO with respect to Practice Guideline for Drainage Act services</td>
<td>Paul</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Follow up on Conference topics</td>
<td>All</td>
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