

**FINAL DRAFT**  
**O.S.P.E. LAND DRAINAGE COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**Thursday, October 25, 2007**  
**Ramada Conference Centre – Pinetree Room B**  
**Guelph, Ontario**

**1.0 Attendance and Call to Order**

Members Present: John Spriet, Chairman; Bill Dietrich, Secretary; Tim Oliver, Vice-Chairman; Jeff Dickson, Past Chairman; Chris Allen, Mike DeVos

Liason Members Present: Melanie Prosser, Office of Open Learning, University of Guelph; Sid Vander Veen, OMAFRA; Dana Boyter, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Davin Heinbuck, Conservation Authorities (ABCA)

Absent Members: Leo Christl, MNR; Art Groenveld, MTO; Gina VandenBurg, O.S.P.E.

Chairman John Spriet called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

**2.0 Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Tim Oliver, seconded by Jeff Dickson, that the agenda as prepared by the chairman be accepted. Carried.

**3.0 Minutes of Last Meeting**

Motion by Chris Allen, seconded by Jeff Dickson that the minutes of the Friday, June 1, 2007 O.S.P.E. Land Drainage Committee Meeting be accepted. Carried.

**4.0 Business Arising From the Minutes**

**4.1 ADIP Policies Review**

The committee has received various responses from practitioners. The secretary will summarize these responses and circulate this to the committee members for review. OMAFRA plans on starting their review of the policies at the end of 2007 with the anticipation of the new policies to be effective in the new OMAFRA fiscal year.

**4.2** Expense reports for 2007 were received from the members. The secretary was instructed to forward these to O.S.P.E.

## **5.0 Correspondence**

- 5.1 Email from Gina VandenBurg (O.S.P.E.) cannot attend LDC meeting on October 25, 2007 due to prior commitments.
- 5.2 Two (2) responses were received from drainage practitioners for changes to ADIP policies.
  - a) Ray Dobbin, P.Eng., Township of Enniskillen
  - b) Gerard Rood, P.Eng., N.J. Peralta Engineering Ltd., Kingsville

## **6.0 Liaison Report – Conservation Authorities Report**

Davin Heinbuck

- 6.1 Update on the interpretation of the Conservation Authority's responsibilities under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act was provided. Both the old Fill, Construction and Alteration to Waterways and the new Generic Regulations apply to Municipal Drains.
- 6.2 Conservation Ontario hosted a Drains Planning Sub-committee workshop on October 4<sup>th</sup> in Toronto. The intent of the workshop was mere a fact finding exercise. Each CA in attendance presented on their policies for reviews done under the Drainage Act. It was very clear that there are many local policies and interpretations of the Generic Regulations, varying broadly between Conservation Authorities.
- 6.3 Conservation Ontario will provide guidance to CA's to develop more consistent policies for Drainage Act Reviews. A meeting with DSAO will be held early in 2008 to discuss the concerns with regards to regulations and policies.
- 6.4 At the workshop, a number of drainage issues were tabled by the various CA's, including the draining of wetlands, drain enclosures and non-compliance. As part of the non-compliance, better communication needs to be established for definitions of work done under routine maintenance of drains. This effort will need input from C.A.'s, Drainage Superintendents and Contractors. The DAWG will look to formalize better definitions and illustrations of the various maintenance activities.

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

Melanie Prosser

- 7.1 Conference
  - a. Ursula has retired, and attempts to secure another stenographer were unsuccessful. For the interim, the panel discussion will be video recorded and a decision on how to proceed needs to be determined.

- i. Transfer the video to the CD proceedings
  - ii. Pay someone to transcribe the video to written format.
  - iii. Those who are ordering the printed version will also receive a CD
- b. Practitioners meeting tonight.**

**7.2 Registrations**

**a.** On Wednesday there were 96 names in the system which included exhibitors but not speakers. Speakers will be included in the final listing.

**b. Breakdown of registration**

- 30% Engineer/Surveyor
- 0% Contractor
- 8% Technician/Technologist
- 36% Municipal/Government
- 9% Prov/Fed Government
- 0% Student
- 16% Other (Lawyer, Conservation Authority)

**7.3 Exhibitors**

**a.** Number is down this year, but Armtec contacted us on Tuesday.

**b. List of exhibitors includes: ABS Pumps**

Armtec  
Atlantic Industries Ltd.  
Fisheries & Oceans Canada  
Maccaferri Canada Ltd.  
Terrafix Geosynthetics Inc.

**7.4 Agenda**

Many thanks to everyone for working so hard to make our job easier. Getting in touch with all the speakers and collecting their materials was relatively pain free this year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**7.5 Enewsletter**

2 enewsletters were prepared and sent out to email lists provided by Sid VanderVeen and OOL. An additional list was provided by Jeff Dickson.

**8.0 Liaison Report - Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

Dana Boyter

**8.1** DAWG are meeting every 2 months±

**8.2** Revising drain maintenance guidelines

**8.3** Preparing guidelines with respect to drain enclosures

8.4 There is Federal funding available for including environmental features into reconstruction of municipal drains.

**9.0 Liaison Report – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs**  
Sid VanderVeen

9.1 OMAFRA has developed and produced a new Drainage Guide to replace the 1986 version. These guidelines are available through OMAFRA for \$20/copy.

9.2 ADIP policies are to be reviewed. All work undertaken under the Drainage Act must comply with all other provincial and federal legislation to qualify for OMAFRA grants.

9.3 The Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) are requiring municipalities to list their municipal assets. Municipal drains are a municipal asset. Municipalities own the drains and have a right-of-way to construct and maintain the drains.

9.4 Canada Ontario Water Supply Enhancement Project (COWSEP)  
- OBM mapping being undertaken to determine areas of Ontario where controlled drainage will be effective.

9.5 2006/2007 municipal drainage stats will be in the 2007 Conference proceedings

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

See minutes - June 5, 2007  
- September 5, 2007

**11.0 New Business**

11.1 A motion by Jeff Dickson and seconded by Chris Allen authorizing the LDC to prepare a letter to be sent to Conservation Ontario through our LDC representative Davin Heinbuck to express concerns with regulations being passed by CA's under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and notify the LDC committee of future meetings. This letter is to be copied to DSAO, OMAFRA, MNR, ROMA, OFA, DFO.

11.2 The LDC committee supports DSAO's letter to the Minister of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs dated September 24, 2007 which outlines potential conflicts arising between the Drainage Act and Regulations being passed under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

**12.0 Next Meeting**

- 12.1 The next meeting of the LDC will be held on Thursday, January 24, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn, London Ontario.
- 12.2 The 2008 Drainage Engineers Conference (the 40<sup>th</sup>) will be held again at the Ramada Conference Centre in Guelph on Friday October 24, 2008.

**13.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Moved by Mike DeVos and seconded by Tim Oliver.

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John Spriet, Chairman

Bill Dietrich, Secretary