



**CCEC Teleconference
4:00 PM, March 12, 2015**

Attending: Donna, Connie, Doug, Janice, Bob Y., Wayne, Paula

Absent: Bill, Brian, Dean

1. Janice called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. Wayne agreed to take minutes.
2. Draft minutes for Sept: It was agreed we table this to the next meeting.
3. Janice noted she may not be able to attend the Board meeting on March 19-20. Bob agreed to present our CCEC report if necessary.
4. Donna has asked Rick Moyse to MC the AGM but has had no reply yet. Paula agreed to co-host.
5. It was agreed Janice should invite Jana, the AESRD limnologist volunteer and Technical Committee member, to present to the AGM on the government monitoring that has taken place in the Athabasca River this last year.
6. It was agreed Bob should invite Ron Zurawell to present on AEMERA.
7. It was agreed that each of these invited talks should be about 20 minutes plus 10 minutes of question and answer.
8. It was agreed that we should invite the Mayor of Athabasca to welcome AWC members to the town and invite the President of Athabasca University, or a delegate, to welcome them to AU.
9. It was agreed we should have a presentation on our Interactive Atlas, presently hosted on AU's ARBRI site and to provide an opportunity for attendees to test using it under supervision. Wayne agreed to arrange this and do the presentation if he couldn't arrange for a more qualified presenter. He noted that Science Outreach

annually borrows about 8-10 laptops from Computing Services for their summer robot camp for kids, so they might be able to do that for the hands-on practice. The limit might be the capacity in GCC, number of simultaneous logins or bandwidth for download; but perhaps we can host a copy locally at AU Central or even on a server in GCC. And in that case the audience might be able to access with their laptop or mobile device.

10. We discussed the Board, plus committees and family, touring the Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory and Bird Conservation Centre on the Friday. This could be an interesting tour as the Audubon Society has released a report that suggests we may lose up to half of our bird species in the next 30 years in North America. This would be a learning activity, but also for fun and appreciation for all the hard work done by the board and volunteers this year. Questions: Would they be able to do a tour? Is there a bus available from Athabasca? What costs would be involved? Who would like to look into the logistics and costs of taking this excursion? If this is too costly or unavailable are there any other suggestions? In the past we have toured Suncor, the Hardesty coal mine and beaver Boardwalk in Hinton, and did Voyageur canoeing in Whitecourt, and golfed at Cougar Creek was golf?

Paula suggested carpooling as an option in case a bus couldn't be arranged. Wayne reported he had sent a preliminary enquiry to the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation: (<http://www.albertaparks.ca/lesser-slave-lake-pp/information-facilities/park-contacts/boreal-centre-for-bird-conservation.aspx>) and the Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory (<http://www.lslbo.org/>) and copied just Janice and Donna so as not to add more unnecessary email to others' mailboxes, but will add the request at the bottom of these minutes. He also suggested that, since it's in the LSWC WPAC area perhaps they might like to help host us there?

Wayne also reported that Patti Campsall, Executive Director of LSLBO and BCBC had replied. It looks like a couple of viable options!

11. Each year at the AGM we present an AWC volunteer of the year award, this year it has been suggested to present this to a long time board advisor for his unflagging belief in our board and hours of assistance to the board and executive. Questions: Who would like to arrange this? Who would purchase the award, notify recipient, and arrange for someone to present the award at the AGM. What would be an appropriate award? It was agreed that an appropriate award might be a framed photograph of some special location in the ARB, and Wayne agreed to follow up. It was also noted we had some AWC beer glasses & umbrellas that might be suitable as prizes or swag.

- 12.** The executive needs assistance with writing the Annual report. Wayne volunteered to help proofread if necessary. Paula will provide a template from a previous AGM (2013?). It was suggested Dan Wilton (Castlegar) be asked for a quote for layout, design, and printing. The Executive Committee will investigate that and get CCEC and Board approval as necessary. Paula will inquire with AU to see if they might be able to do the printing.
- 13.** Janice volunteered to write newspaper articles leading up to the AGM. Wayne volunteered to help proofread if necessary.
- 14.** There was discussion of having some radio interviews, informing stewardship groups and supplying them with posters, but no decisions were made.
- 15.** There was some discussion of meeting logistics, lunch, etc. It was agreed lunch would be just soup and sandwiches and similar to limit costs. Paula suggested Meg's 2-Scoop as a possible caterer, and we discussed use of the AU cafeteria and having the present contractor (The Bistro) cater.
- 16.** We agreed we must have a newsletter out one month before the AGM, including proposed bylaw changes. Wayne volunteered to do about the same duties as previously, edit, format, etc., and e-mail out?
- 17.** Venue: There was some discussion of whether the Governing Council Chambers was a suitable venue for our meeting, but it was agreed that it was probably suitable since we wouldn't be having a major sit-down meal, especially if we could use the cafeteria and the staff sofa seating in the hallway.
- 18.** It was noted we needed a preliminary schedule for both Friday and Saturday (May 23) and agreed we should use previous AGMs for the latter.
- 19.** It was suggested that we should ask the usual organizations, stewardship groups, and local Athabasca and AU groups to set up poster presentations, probably in the hallway.
- 20.** The meeting adjourned at 5:12 PM.