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# **MEETING RECORD, 49th MEETING COUNCIL OF GREAT LAKES RESEARCH MANAGERS**

**NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab**

**Ann Arbor, Michigan**

**March 17-18, 2009**

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## **U.S. Members Present**

Jeff Reutter (U.S. Co-chair)	Ohio Sea Grant College Program; Ohio State University, Research Center, Columbus, OH
Marie Colton	Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, NOAA, Ann Arbor, MI
Joe DePinto	Limnotech, Inc. Ann Arbor, MI, also representing the International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR)
Carl Richards	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, Duluth, MN
John Dettmers	Great Lakes Fishery Commission

## **Canadian Members Present**

John Lawrence (Canadian Co-chair)	Aquatic Ecosystem Management Branch, EC; CCIW;
Donna Kirkwood	Geological Survey of Canada, GSC-Quebec, NRC
Jan Ciborowski	University of Windsor
Saad Jasim	Walkerton Clean Water Centre
Harvey Shear	University of Toronto

## **Other Invited Attendees**

Todd Netteschein, for Paul Horvatin	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, GLNPO
John Nevin	IJC Washington D.C. Liaison

## **Secretary**

Mr. Mark Burrows	IJC Great Lakes Regional Office, Windsor, ON.
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## **Introductions & Approval of Agenda**

Jeff Reutter and John Lawrence chaired the meeting and welcomed the CGLRM members and guests. After briefly addressing some logistical items, the participants introduced themselves. The agenda was approved with a minor reordering of items to accommodate travel schedules.

## **Discussion of the Great Lakes Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative (CSMI)**

Todd Netteschein, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, GLNPO standing in for Paul Horvatin, gave a brief on the current status of CSMI. John Lawrence and Todd Netteschein followed by leading a discussion of the topic, salient points of the discussion included:

- Multi-year efforts will require other resources/institutions to step in.
- Lake-wide Management Plans(LaMPs) provide most of the onus & strategic vision for CSMI
- Networks like LMMCC, LEMMN GLRRIN provide lake by lake input however there also needs to be an overarching strategy and agency guidance on priorities.

Discussed whether or not CGLRM could serve an “integrative” function, providing basin-wide synthesis of issues that affect all 5 Great Lakes.

Discussed concept of supporting the synthesis of CSMI work; Lake Erie 2009 field year agreement was discussed as an example. In Lake Erie, 14 PI's agreed to a 5% “tax” on each project for the purposes of synthesizing the products of all 5 projects.

Synthesis of CSMI work could be considered as a 2009-2011 IJC priority project for CGLRM.

### **Roundtable Discussion of Member Activities and IJC Priorities**

Members each provided updates on activities currently underway at their respective organizations. They also discussed 2007-09 IJC Priority work, cross cutting issues and multi-board priority work and topics that should be put forward to the IJC for consideration for 2009-2011. It was noted that the connection of Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB's), toxin production, climate change and drinking water impacts with eutrophication make it a topic that has wide appeal/interest around the basin. It was agreed that Chemicals of Emerging Concern was a good issue to continue for several reasons, including the need for consistent and comparable analysis between Canada and the U.S. along with the need for more research on chemical effects and human health impacts.

It was agreed that work on the Eutrophication and Chemicals of Emerging Concern topics should be recommended to the Commission for continued work during 2009-2011.

The group discussed a number of other possible topics and concepts that could act as an overarching concept including sustainability, renewable energy, and Great Lakes economic and environmental sustainability.

It was noted that information needs to support economic valuation of environmental services justify additional research in that area.

The idea of a “water footprint” (all water used in the supply line for a particular product) was discussed as a possible theme. This encompasses the goal of “water neutral” activities and water replenishment. This topic would relate well to the Great Lakes compact and large companies such as Coke have already incorporated these concepts into corporate operations. One participant noted that Coke has already undertaken 150 water replenishment projects.

Climate change impact on the Great Lakes as a sustainable resource was also discussed as a potential overarching theme for 2009-2011 IJC priority work, a topic that would include water system infrastructure.

It was decided that the theme of the Great Lakes as an economic engine for revitalizing the Great Lakes economy in step with ecology should be an organizing framework recommended for consideration by the IJC for the next priority cycle. This theme includes many issues that would resonate with the governments including:

- Sustainability,
- Water neutral/replenishment policies,
- Development, recreation and “uses valuation,”
- The Great Lakes as a global center of fresh water research,
- Enhancing the link between the Great Lakes and resident economies – “Freshwater Economy”
- “Ecological Services” provided by the Great Lakes (i.e. beneficial uses of water),
- Resource management
- Energy
- Habitat Restoration
- Valuation of Great Lakes research with respect to the Great Lakes economy

An organizing framework such as “The Great Lakes as an Economic Engine of Sustainable Development” would involve both a government policy aspect and a science/research management aspect that might be attractive to the Commission.

### **Prospective CGLRM Roles and Responsibilities**

The group discussed a number of current and prospective roles including:

- Reviewing current research trends in the Great Lakes, considering ways to link additional activities with CSMI and opportunities to get new investigators involved during the “non-intensive years” on each lake. Actions related to linking other activities with CSMI should be sensitive to the need for individual agencies to satisfy operational mandates and exercise control over products.
- Capacity building
- “Sliding timeframe”
- Long term goals for the Great Lakes Basin that could serve as an overarching purpose/guide for CSMI.
- “Core Research” vs. “Problem Focused Research” and how “core research” can enhance and build a “core understanding” of lake-wide processes.
- Reporting on long-term goals for management (10-20 year time frame)
- Tracking CSMI process and communicating what is going on with/to “other agencies” (those other than EC and EPA).

- CGLRM could provide a service by articulating the interests of each sector.
- Recognize the different missions of different agencies and opportunities to bring more resources to the table (i.e. ground truth remote airplane/satellite sensing with ship readings).
- Work with GLRRIN to establish research networks

### **Membership Review and FY 2009-10 CGLRM Budget**

Jeff Reutter briefed the group on his role as interim U.S. Co-Chair and recommended that a Vice-Chair position be looked into as a way to maintain progress in the event that the Co-Chairs were not able to attend. Marie Colton was welcomed as a new member of the CGLRM representing NOAA GLERL. Council Members were briefed on the status of membership and the Commission's response to the Council's request for representation on the GLRO Operations and Advisory Board. Copies of previous correspondence with the Commission addressing CGLRM roles and responsibilities were provided to the group, reviewed and discussed.

The IJC will be embarking on a review of CGLRM membership and terms of reference and polling members for input. The last review of this type was conducted in 1996 and members will be surveyed for input. For this reason, action on new appointments may be delayed and renewals of expiring terms may be shortened by the commission pending the results of the survey.

Representation of Great Lakes research institutions and organizations on the CGLRM was discussed. Several suggestions were made regarding prospective members and organizations including:

- Great Lakes WATER Institute – Director, Dr. Val Klump
- Michigan State University Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics and Department of Fisheries and Wildlife – Professor Frank Lupi
- Health Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Great Lakes Marine Transportation Research Institute
- United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Waste Water Treatment Research Expert- (Example – Michigan Tech Wastewater Research Facility, Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering)

The CGLRM budget was discussed as it pertained to the Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative. In response to CGLRM recommendations from the Fall 2008 meeting, \$30K (Can. \$) has been approved as dedicated CSMI funding to the CGLRM for FY 2009-10. This is in addition to the CGLRM annual budget allocation.

### **Action Items**

Follow up letter to Commissioners regarding CSMI roles and recommendations for 2009-2011 IJC priority work group projects.

Joint CGLRM/GLRRIN communications strategy to facilitate interlake communications between research networks

Revise CGLRM research strategy – recast as a Research Collaboration Framework

Schedule follow-up teleconference call

Follow-up on membership recommendations in concert with IJC review of CGLRM terms of reference and membership.

**Next Meeting:** October, 6, 2009, IJC Great Lakes Regional Office, Windsor Ontario

**Enclosures:** (1) Council Meeting Agenda, March 17-18, 2009

**Enclosure (1) to CGLRM meeting minutes**

**Agenda**  
**49th Meeting of the**  
**Council of Great Lakes Research Managers'**

**NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory**  
**4840 S. State Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48108-9719**  
**(<http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/facil/triptik.html>)**  
**March 17-18, 2009**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>
12:30 pm	1	Welcome to CGLRM Meeting Participants
	2	Introductions & Approval of Agenda
	3	Membership Review and FY 2009-10 CGLRM Budget
	4	Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative (CSMI) progress report - John Lawrence & Paul Horvatin
	5	CGLRM role in CSMI process for Lake Superior and the April 29-30, 2009 Workshop
	6	Progress report, Great Lakes Regional Research Information Network
	7	Member Updates regarding Activities/Plans for the 2009 field season. – (All participants)
Tour new NOAA facilities		
Break – Reconvene March 18, 2009		
	8	2007-2009 Priority Work Group Updates (CGLRM representatives) - Eutrophication - Beach Closures and Postings - Fish Consumption - Chemicals of Emerging Concern - Aquatic Invasive Species Rapid Response Policy Framework
	9	Reporting requirements related to work group activities
	10	2009-2011 IJC Priority Cycle – Nominated Topics and Recommendations to IJC
	11	New Business
12:00 PM	12	Adjourn