



## 15<sup>th</sup> NORTHERN RESEARCH BASINS SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP

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### **Chief Delegates Meeting Årrenjarka, Sweden, Tuesday 29 August**

#### **Present**

Lars Bengtsson – Sweden, Chairman  
Annette Semadeni-Davies – Sweden, Secretary  
Phillip Marsh, Kathy Young – Canada  
David Collins - UK  
Johanna Korhonen - Finland  
Bent Hasholt - Denmark  
Nikolay Filatov - Russia  
Jóna Finndis Jónsdóttir – Iceland  
Douglas Kane - USA  
Knut Sand - Norway

#### **Absent**

Jonas Eliasson – Iceland  
Esko Kuusisto - Finland

Minutes of the 2003 Meeting

Minutes were read by Kathy Young and seconded by Phillip Marsh

#### **Agenda**

Task Forces  
Nordic Hydrology  
Next Meeting

#### TASK FORCES

1. Water balances – reported by Douglas Kane.

The idea for this taskforce was proposed at the Norway meeting in 1994 and after several proposals had found funding from the US by the Greenland meeting in 2003. A one week long task force workshop was held in Victoria, Canada in March 2004. This workshop had 35 participants. Funding for the workshop was received from Environment Canada and the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC). Following the workshop a “Red Book” (24 papers, 270 pages) was produced after much discussion with IASH. Six synthesis papers have been prepared for presentation at this NRB: sediment transport (Bent), evapotranspiration (Vladimir Shutov), runoff (Jim McNamara), precipitation (Kathy) and storage (Larry). There was some discussion as to where these papers should be published. Doug suggested the following journals: Hydrological Sciences, J Hydrometeorology or Nordic Hydrology). David stated that Hydrological Sciences is wanting “grouped” papers, however Lars stated that Nordic Hydrology has a sound track record with NRB and should be offered first refusal. It was decided to discuss the issue further and come to a conclusion before the end of this symposium. There was consensus that this had been a highly successful task force.

2. Prediction in ungauged basins (PUB) – reported by Phillip Marsh.

This task force was initiated in Greenland after a suggestion from John Pomeroy that NRB should be responsible for a PUB programme in the polar regions. Sean Carey from Canada took a lead and contacted NRB delegates about their interest. However, the task force did not eventuate despite Sean's best efforts. It was noted that there are several parallel PUB activities underway in Canada; Chris Spence was involved in one of these. Phil asked Sean (not at NRB) about the current status of the taskforce, Sean says that he has some misgivings, but PUB is still of interest and should be pursued. Bent noted that PUB activities were of great interest at the recent meeting in Brazil and NRB should try to continue the taskforce. Jóna Finndis said that there is a PUB working group that was set up by the CHIN group (Chiefs of the Hydrological Service in the Nordic countries; i.e, the Icelandic National Energy Authority, SMHI, NVE and SYKE). This working group is headed by Stein Beldring (NVE). Jóna Finndis and Phil said that they would work towards starting this task force – status to be reported in 2007. There was agreement that a PUB taskforce would give NRB scientific credibility.

3. Lakes – Ice and temperature – reported by Nikolay Filatov

Nikolay and Osama Maher proposed this task force at the Finnish meeting in 2001 and interest has picked up over the last year. Russia has a working group at the Northern Water Problems Institute in Petrozavodsk. To date the working group has two local Russian publications. Nikolay described data that has been collected in Russia and said that northern lakes data base had been established. Nikolay and Lars called for data from the US and Canada. Lars says there is data on ice covered lakes in Sweden and Karelia. Johanna has Finnish data. Nikolay will present work on this taskforce to date at this symposium. Canada will look for a participant if the taskforce continues.

4. Remote Sensing

There was not much discussion on this taskforce owing to the absence of Claude Duquay. It was noted that a book was published as AGU monograph but the title was not known. Neither is it known whether NRB was acknowledged. Annette states that a paper on SAR was submitted to NRB but was retracted by Claude when he cancelled.

NEXT MEETING - 2007

It is proposed that Nikolay be responsible for the 16<sup>th</sup> NRB and it be hosted at Petrozavodsk. Lars asked if there are any problems that can arise given the experience from the Finnish meeting (visas etc). Late August 2007 was suggested, but Bent says that dates are flexible and a winter meeting could be interest, however, Nikolay pointed out that winter is very harsh. Access was discussed (there are trains from major Russian cities and Finnair flies regularly Helsingfors). Phil asks about cost – Nikolay says Russia is cheap in comparison to Sweden. Potential numbers of delegates were discussed – see section below. An excursion could be Lake Onega. Nikolay will give a Karelia overview in the final session of this symposium. Doug makes motion to agree. Phil seconds the motion.

Canada proposed for 2009.

### Attracting Delegates.

Lars led a discussion on how to attract new delegates, particularly from Scandinavia. The high cost was noted, but most people agreed that workshops are one of the unique aspects of NRB. Better marketing is needed. Annette described problems with fund raising, late cancellations etc. Knut says is also very hard to get sponsorship in Norway.

Having a permanent website for posting notices and raising the awareness of NRB was seen as a priority. Annette offered to carry on as webmaster using the NRB-2005 website as a basis. Phil has a Canadian website [www.canandiannrb.com](http://www.canandiannrb.com)

Lars is to ask Dan for link from Nordic Hydrology. Annette asks for links from all and sundry.

### NORDIC HYDROLOGY – NOW WITH IWA.

A special issue of Nordic Hydrology will again be published. Lars discussed the last special issue which took a long time to publish, partly due to change to the change in publisher to IWA. Lars says he wants people to indicate now about submissions so he can find suitable reviewers – some to be from NRB delegates. Phil says chiefs should ask their delegates for intentions and suggest possible reviewers. Lars seconds this.

NRB needs 1500 USD for Dan for future special issues. Phil asks why a publication fee is needed. Lars says that this goes back to tradition of affiliation with Nordic Hydrological Society (old publishers) and to keep up costs not made up by subscriptions. Phil says Canada can find some of this money. Lars says fund raising is difficult in Sweden, he has approached SMHI. Knut says may be possible to find funding from Norway. Bent says we should add this to the conference fee. Doug suggested a page fee for submissions. Officially NH does not like charges but NRB could do this “unofficially”. General agreement.

### Possible Blue Book

Lars suggested that NRB considers producing a Blue Book as a general text for polar hydrology. After a long discussion, there was no real consensus and the idea was deferred.

### MATTERS ARISING

NRB activities between symposia – Phil

Chief Delegates must drum up interest in their own country. Questions were raised about new chief delegates for some countries with low interest (e.g Germany, Switzerland, UK).

Jóna Finndis suggested that we should affiliate with Nordic Hydrological Society. There was some agreement and she will look into this possibility.

Phil says NRB should get involved with the International Polar Year 2007-2009. Bent says probably to late.

Meeting closed 21:55