
Thames – Sydenham and Region Source Protection Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 11, 2008

Meeting Time: 9:00-2:30 am

Meeting Location: SCRCA Boardroom, Strathroy

Agenda

Item	Time
Welcome and Introductions	9:00
1. Appointment of acting chair – if required	
2. Adoption of the Agenda	
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	
4. Delegations	none
5. Minutes From the Previous Meeting	9:10
6. Business arising from the minutes	9:15
a. Update on SPC policies	
b. meeting schedule	
7. Business	
a. Terms of Reference Schedule and Consultation	9:45
8. Information	
a. Committee Formation Review	11:00
b. Water Supply and Use	11:20
Lunch	12:15
c. Physical Characteristics of the Region	1:00
9. In Camera Session	
10. Adjournment	2:30

Meeting Materials

	Agenda Item	Description
Discussion Papers	2008.01.7a	✓ Terms of Reference Consultation and Schedule
Other Materials	6a	✓ SPC Policies as submitted to striking committee ✓ Report to striking committee
	6b	✓ Preliminary Meeting Schedule – to be distributed at meeting
	6b	✓ MOE orientation agenda

SPC MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2008
Meeting #2

Bob Bedggood, Chair of the Source Protection Committee called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Friday, January 11, 2008 in the Boardroom of the St. Clair Region Conservation Board Room. The following members and staff were in attendance:

Members:

Bob Bedggood	Marg Misek-Evans
Murray Blackie	Earl Morwood
Brent Clutterbuck	Sheldon Parsons
Pat Donnelly	Richard Philp
Dean Edwardson	Darrell Randell
Patrick Feryn	Jim Reffle
Paul Hymus	Joe Salter
Carl Kennes	Charles Sharina
Joe Kerr	Pat Sobeski
Valerie M'Garry	John Van Dorp
Jim Maudsley	Joe Van Overberghe
Don McCabe	Jennifer Arthur for MOE
Doug McGee	

Staff:

Chris Tasker	Regrets: Jerry Campbell.
Rick Battson	Ralph Coe
Ian Wilcox	
Teresa Hollingsworth	
Deb Kirk	

Bob reminded the members of the upcoming training event on January 15, 2008. In the upcoming meetings, Bob would like to have brief updates from committee members to keep everyone up to date. This will start at the March 7, 2008 meeting.

1) Appointment of Acting Chair

Bob Bedggood was present.

2) Adoption of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was requested.

moved by Charles Sharina - seconded by Jim Maudsley

“Resolved that the agenda be approved as circulated.”

CARRIED

3) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflict was identified.

4) Delegations

None

5) Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Clarification was requested on a few items in the minutes.

Item # 5 which indicates that packages will be sent to the committee two weeks before the meeting, whereas the Rules of Order indicates one week prior to the meeting. It was explained that the Committee members should have their packages one week prior to the next meeting if the packages are sent out approximately 2 weeks prior to the meetings.

Item #8 refers to section 2.11 of the committee policies identify that committee members need to inform their employer if they are collecting the per diem. The committee would like clarification on whether municipalities can be compensated (by receipt of the per diem) if they pay their employee to participate on the committee. The Ministry of Environment will need to give direction on this.

Section 3.13. of the committee policies describes quorum. Clarification was requested on how the First Nations seats affect quorum. Quorum is based on the number of members which the SPA can appoint. Currently there are 21, therefore 14 members need to be present to have quorum.

An update was requested on First Nations participation. There is no new progress in terms of First Nations filling their seats on the committee. The communications team is continuing to encourage their involvement.

A question was raised regarding the procedure for notification if you cannot attend a meeting. It is important that members contact Deb or Bob. We need to know in advance if we will have a Quorum at the meeting. If it is after hours, you can contact Bob at home.

moved by Marg Misek-Evans -seconded by Dean Edwardson

“Resolved that the minutes be approved minutes as circulated.”

CARRIED

6) Business arising from the minutes

a) Update on SPC policies

The Striking Committee approved the SPC policies on January 9, 2008. They will now go to the SPA at their next meetings. Valerie M'Garry will meet with the Chair and Chris Tasker after this meeting to review some edits and some minor inconsistencies with the text.

b) Meeting schedule

A Draft Meeting Schedule was distributed within the packages today. This is a tentative schedule outlining some of the items to be covered in the next six months. This will allow the committee to complete the Terms of Reference within one year of the Chair being appointed, August 20, 2008.

7) Information

a) Committee Formation Review

Presentation by Chris Tasker on "Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Committee." Chris outlined the various processes that lead to the committee formation.

A concern was raised with going forward in the process, without the First Nations representatives in their seats, on the committee. Due to the time constraints, we need to continue to meet our regulated requirements. The Committee members however would like to see the involvement of the First Nations as soon as possible. The most significant challenge is that there are eight First Nations in the Thames, Sydenham Region and three seats to fill.

In the near future, the Chair and/or committee members who have had contact with the specific groups (Valerie M'Garry -Chippewa of the Thames and Sheldon Parsons - Walpole) may approach the Chiefs. A First Nations forum is an option and a working group may assist by allowing all of the First Nations to participate in the process.

b) Technical Work Overview

Presentation was made by Orrie Wigle on "Technical Work Overview."

The Watershed Characterization Report will be circulated to the Municipalities and the First Nations, January 2008. They will have one month to submit comments. The Committee members were given the report today, and a CD will follow.

A concern was raised that some of the soil data is outdated (Lambton Soil Survey). It is important that we use the best available data, identify data gaps that affect the work, however filling a gap like this is beyond the scope and capabilities of the committee.

The Conceptual Water Budget Report will be printed soon and distributed to the municipalities in mid February. Tier 1 Water Budget work is underway. There will be more information on this at the next meeting.

c) Physical Characteristics of the Region

Presentation was made by Linda Nicks, Hydrogeologist on “Physical Characterization”

Linda’s presentation covered the physical characterizations of the region including topography, physiography and geology. She also reviewed surface and ground water, the type of wells, pumping and the affect they have on groundwater in our region.

Discussions/Questions;

- The committee should understand how to properly de-commission a well. Abandoned wells need to be dealt with.
- As the price of water increases and there are restrictions, more people are drilling their own wells, even in areas serviced with municipal water.
- Are the costs associated with de-commissioning a well the reason people do not do this? The cost range to de-commission a well is approximately \$500-\$1500. People may not de-commission wells because they see extra wells adding value to their property, and they offer another source of water supply.

The committee had a brief break at 10:40 and reconvened at 11:05.

d) Water Supply and Use

Presentation was made by Billy Haklander on “Water Use and Supply.”

The presentation gave an overview of the permit to take water (PTTW) program, Municipal water supplies, non-municipal water use and consumptive water use as per the annual water budget.

Discussions/Questions;

- A questioned was raised as to why there were no permits shown in the Great Lakes. It was concluded that the permits are shown where the water pump is located (on shore) rather than the end of the pipe.
- There is an application fee for a PTTW and a review period.
- A concern was raised of whether people are taking water without a permit? This is difficult to determine, but speculation is, there are many that are.
- A concern was raised that we were basing our analysis on the 2003 data.
- A question was raised as to how much water leaks from the municipal systems. Committee members shared their knowledge of the systems they are familiar with.

- The population count in the presentation for Lambton County needs to be reviewed.
- A question was raised as to whether the committee would recommend bringing piped water to a ground water supplied areas such as Ridgetown and Highgate rather than implementing source protection? The committee was informed that their job is to develop a plan to protect the municipal wells and it would be the municipality who would consider if an alternate supply is more appropriate.
- At what point does it become private to municipal? This is based on the number of services. Churches, schools are not relevant and are covered under MOE.
- Sweaburg is now serviced by the Woodstock municipal system.
- Time line for Tier 1 Water Budget is summer 2008. As the MOE is not able to provide reports on actual water use, staff are contacting permit holders to attempt to get the data directly for the user. There has been some resistance in giving this out, although it is in the best interest of the user to provide this information rather than have conservative assumptions be used. This would result in stresses being indicated in areas where this overuse will then be documented. The end product will be better if information is available and accurate.

Paul Hymus arrived.

The committee broke for lunch at 12:10.

8) Business

a) Terms of Reference Schedule and Consultation

Presentation was made by Chris Tasker on “ Source Protection Committee Terms of Reference.”

- A notification letter will go out to Clerks/CAO’s, and First Nations Chiefs.
- Consultation with Municipalities is important. This will be a partnership oriented process, to meet regulations. The Municipalities may choose to undertake some of the tasks.
- SPA does not have the ability to change the T of R. Once completed, it will be submitted to the Minister with comments.
- Our region will have (3) Terms of References, one for each Conservation Authority, with many common components including one common workplan.
- Municipal Forums will need to occur in mid-February 2008. A discussion about the details of these forums occurred. The committee discussed how many meetings are required, where they will be held, the timing to meet objectives and how we can ensure councils are informed.

- To involve councilors, it was suggested to have SPC members present at the council meetings although this poses a challenge, due to the time constraints within a council meeting. Other suggestions were to distribute notices at council meetings, emails and phone calls. Some members thought if we want municipal involvement we need to have more than three forums or some will be excluded.
- A debate as to whether the meetings should be scheduled during the day or in the evening. Some members believed evening meetings will bring out more councilors and the daytime ones would bring more staff. Consensus is to have two forums during the day and one in the evening.
- A question was raised as to how much interest the public would have in the terms of reference. It was suggested that we utilize the media to get the info out via newspaper ads, and articles.
- The duration of the meetings will be approximately two hours in length.

A motion to hold forums in all three regions,

moved Marg Misk-Evans by -seconded by Darrell Randell

“Resolved that there will be three municipal forums, one held in each CA such as Ridgetown, Strathroy and east or north of London.”

CARRIED

A motion to hold the meetings during the day and in the evening,

moved Jim Maudsley -seconded by Charles Sharina

“Resolved that there be one evening and two daytime meetings to ensure the municipal councilors and the staff can attend.”

CARRIED

Working Groups

The committee discussed working groups.

- The working groups would be formed for work on the Terms of Reference, however there is likely merit in continuing them beyond the development of the terms of reference to work on Assessment Reports and Source Protection Plans.
- The size of the working group was debated. How do we limit the number of interested people to a workable group size? Do we need to? It was decided to establish the numbers as required and offer flexibility to these groups.

- After discussion on the number of working groups, the consensus of the committee was that municipal working groups be formed for Surface Water and Groundwater.
- We should also be working towards a First Nations working group.
- The Executive Committee appoints the Chairs of the working groups.
- There were some discussion as to whether SPC members should be on the working groups. In this case working groups are being established to increase the involvement of municipalities in the development of the Terms of Reference. Each working group will be chaired by a member of the SPC. Committee members will have an opportunity to participate in the development of the terms of reference at the Committee meetings.
- Tentative dates for the working groups are in March and April.
- Bob asked that the Committee think about the Chairs of the Working Groups for the next meeting.

9) In Camera Session

None

10) Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.