

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MINUTES – MEETING #94

MEETING: SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE
DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024
TIME: 1:00 P.M.
LOCATION: GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION & VIRTUALLY

CALL TO ORDER

Chair called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

In Attendance: Chair, Carl Kuhnke
Andrew Barton, Amy Harrison, Dan Orr, Dick Hibma, Harley Greenfield,
Jim Hanna, John Fruin, Les Nichols

Virtual Attendance: John Rodgers, Hugh Simpson

Proxy Appointed By: Gord Timmerman to John Fruin

Others Present: Laura Collings, Ex-officio, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and
Parks (MECP)
Carl Seider, Project Manager, Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP)

Also in Attendance: Leslie Rich, Source Water Protection Manager, Conservation Ontario
Karen Gillan, Program Supervisor & Communications Specialist, DWSP
Tim Lanthier, CAO, Grey Sauble Conservation
Jennifer Stephens, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, Saugeen Valley
Conservation (SVCA)
Kyle Davis, Risk Management Official, Wellington Source Protection

Regrets: Troy Pelletier, Gord Timmerman

The Chair introduced and welcomed those in person and online at the meeting.

1. Adoption of Agenda

**Motion No.
SPC-24-261**

**Moved by John Fruin
Seconded by Dan Orr**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as distributed.

Carried

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest

Source Protection Committee (SPC) members were reminded to disclose any pecuniary interest that may arise during the course of the meeting. No disclosures of pecuniary interest were expressed at this time.

3. Adoption of Minutes

**Motion No.
SPC-24-262**

**Moved by Harley Greenfield
Seconded by Dick Hibma**

THAT the Minutes of the November 24, 2023, Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as distributed.

Carried

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arose from the previous minutes.

5. Correspondence

Letter from SPC to MECP Director Kirsten Service dated December 21, 2023, respecting program updates was reviewed by the group, the Chair has not received a response to the letter as of meeting date. Program Manager Carl Seider to follow up with MECP to confirm receipt and seek response.

Letter from Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley to Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Minister Lisa Thompson dated February 26, 2024, respecting free private drinking water testing was reviewed by the group. Member Barton gave some history of the program in this area and implications of proposed streamlining efforts for private water testing laboratories. Chair Kuhnke gave some input from his water testing/past professional experiences. There was a discussion among members, specifically municipal representatives about bringing this issue via a delegation to upcoming Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference in August. Staff were directed to draft a letter to address this issue highlighting regional importance of free private water testing for rural residents and its relevance to the Walkerton Report and forward to Minister Jones (Health) and cc: Minister Thompson (OMAFRA), Minister Mulroney (Treasury), Federations of

Agriculture; CAOs, Clerks and Councils. Include in the letter a request to speak by delegation to Ministers Jones and Thompson at AMO on this matter.

6. Reports

Administration Report 6a

The Project Manager reviewed Report 6a and advised that our already tight budget may need to be reduced over next three years due to Ministry budget constraints and large asks from other regions for technical work. Dick Hibma expressed an interest to stay on as Public/Health Sector Representative. John Fruin would stay on as Group 3 Municipal Member Representative if needed, but those member municipalities will need to be surveyed to see if there is another interested candidate for this role.

Program Manager Seider will follow up with the Committee if we don't receive the necessary funds to do our provincially mandated activities. Tim Lanthier reminded members that the Conservation Authority could levy municipalities, but we must continue to push the Province to cover this budget. This is not an area where downloading of costs should occur due to the program's importance to all Ontarians.

Communications Report 6b

The Program Supervisor and Communications Specialist reviewed Report 6b and advised of the upcoming Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival and its need for Volunteers and Sponsors. Requests for Sponsorship Coordinator Contact information will be shared with Member Hibma and Chair Kuhnke plans to volunteer at event. There was great feedback on the social media campaign and Leslie Rich was able to share how the campaigns are created and was happy to receive the positive feedback on the chihuahua graphic in recent post.

7. New Business

Annual Progress Report 7a

The Project Manager reviewed Annual Progress Report 7a and asked for feedback on the Committee Member's response portion and received positive feedback on that section and the report in total.

The Annual Progress Report for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region covers the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 and must be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1, 2024.

More risk management plans will be required to implement the salt related policies going forward with municipal and private landowners. Kyle Davis was able to provide some insights on the steps taken during salt inspections in their portion of the region as those numbers are reflected in the Annual Report.

**Motion No.
SPC-24-263**

**Moved by Les Nichols
Seconded by John Fruin**

THAT: the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee receives a copy of the draft Source Protection Annual Progress Report 2023 and directs Staff to provide the Report, along with any comments, to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks by May 1, 2024.

Carried

Minto Pines Report 7b

The Project Manager reviewed Minto Pines Report 7b and advised that this well is in the same aquifer and to same depth as the previous well. Kyle Davis answered a member question that there are 35 permanent homes connected to that system. Due to changes in impervious surface ranges from the 2021 MECF technical rules, all impervious surface area maps in the source protection plan will need to be updated that relate to these updated ranges.

**Motion No.
SPC-24-264**

**Moved by Andrew Barton
Seconded by Harley Greenfield**

THAT: the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee receives the Minto Pines Revised WHPA Report 7b for information and approves the updated Minto Pines Wellhead Protection Area mapping to be included in future Section 34 Source Protection Plan amendments.

Carried

Delegation from Kyle Davis (Wellington Source Water Protection) – Annual Reporting and Implementation of Salt Policies. There was discussion on some of the charts and content of the slide deck. Project Manager noted that we can be proactive regarding sodium and chloride levels as they are lower in our region right now and we can look to our neighbours who are currently facing these challenges for guidance. Impact of climate change was noted and how current prices of salt is less than sand which can affect decision making at municipal levels.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Confirmation of Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next Committee meeting will be held on July 26, 2024 at the Grey Sauble Conservation Administration Centre, 237897 Inglis Falls Road, RR4, Owen Sound, Ontario.

There being no further business, Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Carl Kuhnke
Chair

Karen Gillan
Recording Secretary (Acting)