

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MINUTES – MEETING # 95

MEETING: SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DATE: July 26, 2024

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

LOCATION: GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION & VIRTUALLY

CALL TO ORDER

Chair called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

In Attendance: Chair, Carl Kuhnke
John Fruin, Harley Greenfield, Amy Harrison, Dick Hibma, Dan Orr, John Rodgers, Gord Timmerman, Les Nichols, Paul McQueen

Virtual Attendance: Andrew Barton

Proxy Appointed By: Jim Hanna to Dick Hibma

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

Also in Attendance: Karen Gillan, Program Supervisor & Communications Specialist, DWSP
Tim Lanthier, CAO, Grey Sauble Conservation
Erik Downing, Acting General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, Saugeen Conservation
Cathy Moore Coburn, Councillor, Municipality of Georgian Bluffs
Tobin Day, Councillor, Municipality of Georgian Bluffs
Danielle Fischer, Centre Wellington
Margaret Vincent, Member Service Representative – Bruce/Grey
Members of the Public

Regrets: Jim Hanna
Troy Pelletier

The Chair introduced and welcomed Members, attendees, and the public.

1. Adoption of Agenda

**Motion No.
SPC-24-265**

**Moved by John Fruin
Seconded by Amy Harrison**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as distributed/amended.

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-24-266**

**Moved by John Rogers
Seconded by Amy Harrison**

THAT the Minutes of the March 22, 2024, Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as distributed/amended.

Carried

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arose from the previous minutes.

5. Correspondence

Letter from Honourable Minister of Health Sylvia Jones dated May 30, 2024 respecting Private Drinking Water Well Testing was **noted and filed**.

Letter from Concerned Citizens respecting Large Silage Storage Facility Concerns was **noted and filed**.

6. Delegation

The committee received a delegation from Thorsten Arnold regarding contamination of private drinking water wells due to nearby agricultural activity.

Mr. Arnold provided a presentation with regard to the factors at play in the area of the contaminated wells and noted that agricultural intensification, mixed residential and agricultural landscapes, and the predominance of karst that lacks overburden protection as the main contributing factors.

Mr. Arnold sited a similar situation in Kewaunee County, Wisconsin where agricultural restrictions have been implemented in vulnerable karst areas.

Mr. Arnold outlined his recommendations and request of the Source Protection Committee.

There was discussion regarding the situation. Understanding was expressed, however; it was noted that the SPC has a specific mandate from the MECP that is limited to municipal wells and water systems under the approved Source Protection Plan. Members agreed to speak to the issue as a committee at a future meeting.

7. Reports

Administration Report 7a

The Program Manager reviewed Report 7a. Staff submitted a final signed copy of the 2024/2027 DWSP program transfer payment agreement to the Ministry for approval. It was noted that as part of the Sec. 34 amendments, staff anticipate several plan updates, including a karst study in Kimberley and Shallow Lake wellhead protection areas.

Staff provided updates on municipal wells in Chesley, Blue Mountains, and Kincardine.

Staff received a copy of the Bruce Power radiological waterborne effluent results for 2023 and noted that levels remained relatively stable.

Communications Report 7b

The Program Supervisor and Communications Specialist reviewed Report 7b. Staff will be representing the region on a Walkerton Water Tragedy 25-year Commemoration advisory committee. The committee will be seeking input for a video storyboard highlighting the past, present and future of drinking water protection.

Staff noted that two articles highlighting portions of the 2023 Annual Report were published in the Ontario Farmer in May.

Staff discussed their participation in a meeting with OFA representatives regarding possible outreach and education around karst features and best management practices.

8. New Business

Report 8a

The Project Manager reviewed Report 8a and outlined the Section 34 amendment process and proposed schedule.

**Motion No.
SPC-24-267**

**Moved by Paul McQueen
Seconded by Amy Harrison**

RECOMMENDATION: THAT the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee receives the Sec. 34 Consultation Update Report 8a for information and directs Staff to continue with consultation efforts and proposed in the Report.

Carried

Report 8b

The Project Manager reviewed Report 8b and spoke to staff's preliminary observations made at Talisman Spring 1 and Spring 2. It was noted that staff have been working with municipal staff to determine what data may be available from the water treatment plant that would highlight potential connections between ground and surface water sources in the area. Additionally, staff are preparing a strategy for the installation of stream gauges both upstream and downstream of Wodehouse Creek and Kimberley Springs 1 & 2.

Next steps include the development of a Request for Proposals for a consulting contract to assist in reviewing the data and preparation of possible groundwater modelling work as part of the Wellhead Protection Area review.

**Motion No.
SPC-24-268**

**Moved by Harley Greenfield
Seconded by John Fruin**

RECOMMENDATION: THAT the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee receives the Kimberley Karst Report 8b for information and directs Staff to prepare a Request for Proposals for consulting services for possible groundwater modelling work.

Carried

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Confirmation of Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next Committee meeting will be held on November 15, 2024, at the Grey Sauble Conservation Administration Headquarters.

There being no further business, Chair Carl Kuhnke declared the meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.



Carl Kuhnke
Chair



Valerie Coleman
Recording Secretary