



MINUTES OF THE FIFTIETH REGULAR LAKEHEAD SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the Fiftieth Regular Meeting of the Lakehead Source Protection Committee held on Wednesday, December 7, 2011, at the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Boardroom. The Chairman called the Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Hartley, Chairman
Ken McWhirter, Vice Chairman
Bernie Kamphof
Paul McAlister
Robert Stewart
Guy Jarvis
Hartley Multamaki
Ross Chuchman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jim Vukmanich
Veikko Long

LIAISON MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mervi Henttonen, LRCA General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

LIAISON MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chris Beveridge, Thunder Bay District Health Unit Liaison

ALSO PRESENT:

Julie Beach, Source Water Protection Manager
Neal Zago, Source Protection Communications Officer
Tammy Cook, LRCA Watershed Manager
Roman Augustyn, Source Protection GIS Specialist
Syl Menic, Menic Planning

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA BY CONSENSUS

Agenda adopted by consensus.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Forty-Ninth Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, November 2, 2011, were adopted by consensus.

The Minutes of the Second Special Meeting held on Wednesday, November 23, 2011, were adopted by consensus.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS AGENDA

The Source Protection Manager presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Draft Source Protection Plan to the Committee. During the presentation Committee Members provided further comments on specific chapters.

For Chapter 2 the Committee suggested a better title page and to better identify the threats on page 29.

For Chapter 3 the Committee suggested to associate threat numbering system with the definition provided.

For Chapter 4 the Committee suggested to describe the 5 to 25 year time of travel in WHPA-A to D.

For Chapter 5 the Committee suggested adding information on the North Harbour Project.

For Chapter 6 the Committee suggested adding a paragraph on the ODWSP work that has been done.

For Chapter 8 the Committee suggested making additions to the Conclusion.

The Committee also suggested adding a paragraph on preventing new wells from being drilled in Rosslyn Village and on the topic of abandoned wells.

It was noted that the Committee is curious on what their role will be once the Proposed Source Protection Plan is completed.

New maps were provided for better clarity. The Committee voted to use the white font on the IPZ vulnerability map.

It was noted that a Strategic Action Policy is not legally binding and therefore cannot be legally enforced.

5. SOURCE PROTECTION PLANNING

Draft Source Protection Plan Presentation to Source Protection Authority

A presentation of the Draft Source Protection Plan was made to the SPA on November 30, 2011. Positive comments were received from Boards Members, with minor editing changes being noted.

New MOE Liaison Officer

For information purposes, the Committee was informed that Mary Wooding will be the new MOE Liaison Officer. Mary is hoping to be in attendance at the January 4, 2011, SPC Meeting.

New Source Protection Programs Branch Director

For information purposes, the Committee was informed that Mary Anne Covelli will be the new Director of the Source Protection Programs Branch.

It was suggested that the SPC Chair ask how other Municipal Drinking Water Systems in Northwestern Ontario will be dealt with. There is a Chairs Meeting on January 9, 2012.

Source Protection Plan Advisory Committee (SPPAC)

It was noted that on November 24, 2011, the SPC Chair, Planning Consultant, LRCA General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, Project Manager and Communications Officer participated in a SPPAC teleconference. The PowerPoint slide decks, notes and Planners FAQs from the Meeting were provided to the Committee.

It was noted that Staff will have to make minor changes to a few policies and re-upload them to the database.

Certificates of Approval Name Change

For information purposes, the term Certificate of Approval has been changed to Environmental Compliance Approvals as of October 31, 2011. A letter from Heather Malcomson was provided explaining the change.

It was noted that this will not affect our Source Protection Plan significantly. Staff will have to change the name in the text.

Northern Ontario Source Protection Committees

For information purposes, the links to Minutes from other Northern Source Protection Committees were provided.

It was noted that Mattagami is still sending out policies for pre-consultation and Sudbury is still working on policy development.

6. SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Provincial Sign Inventory

For information purposes, the Committee was informed that a working group has been established to create a formal proposal to deliver to the Minister of Transportation on a Provincial Signage Program.

It was noted that it is optional to include a Strategic Action Policy regarding signage in our Source Protection Plan. It was advised that if MTO would like a Signage policy, then this can be provided as a comment after the Plan is posted for Public Consultation.

It was noted that there will be a Chairs Meeting on January 9, 2012, where the Chairs will be voting on the sign that will be used across the province.

It was noted that MTO has implied that they will pay for the signs. If not, costs will fall on the Municipality.

The Committee decided to look at the signs that had been previously designed at the January 4, 2012, SPC Meeting.

7. SOURCE PROTECTION PROJECT UPDATES

Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with a questionnaire that has been received back from Rosslyn Village septic replacement participant.

It was noted that all residents who submitted applications were contacted and advised about the option to include topsoil in their application package. It was noted that some participants did not contact Staff to make the appropriate changes.

For information purposes, the Committee was informed that the second instalment of the ODWSP grant has been approved for release by the MOE.

Conservation Ontario Policy Assessment Chart

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with an assessment completed by Conservation Ontario on the types of policies being used across the province for the various threats.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Industry Association Consultation

For information purposes, the Committee was informed that OPG is interested in being added to the stakeholder contact list for threat policies that includes handling and storage of DNAPLs, organic solvents and fuel

It was noted that none of the Lakehead Source Protection Area Draft Policies have any effect on OPG.

b) Unquenchable Thirst and First Nations Water Quality Articles

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with an article from The Economist magazine on the growing water issues taking place in Asia called "Unquenchable Thirst". Also provided was an article from CBC news titled "Bill coming to improve First Nations water quality".

c) EcoJustice Report 2011

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with the EcoJustice Report 2011: Waterproof 3. The Committee was also provided with the Report Card that was developed for each Province. The province of Ontario has received an A for their efforts in Source Water Protection.

d) Lake Superior Radio Project

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with an email from Kelly Schoenfelder, Production Assistant for WTIP North Shore Community Radio. They are looking for input on a radio project that will focus on Lake Superior and important ecological and environmental issue surrounding it.

The Committee noted that justifying water release from Lake Superior and information on the Source Protection Plan could be inputted to the program. This information will be provided to LRCA Staff.

e) A Fine Balance

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with an article written by Nicole Barbato titled "A Fine Balance". It was noted that the article was very well written and a great read regarding Source Protection Committees and the planning process

f) International Upper Great Lakes Study

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with an update on the Great Lakes Study.

It was noted that Joe Comuzzi is invited to the Great Lakes Meeting in January.

10. NEW BUSINESS

None.

11. OPEN DISCUSSION

It was noted that the LRCA was asked by the Mayor's Office to submit a short story on the "greening" of Mission Island March Conservation Area. The LRCA finds it very positive that it was published.

It was noted that a Level Two Low Water Condition is in place and will likely continue throughout the winter.

12. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. in the LRCA Boardroom

13. ADJOURNMENT BY CONSENSUS

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 5:20 p.m.