



SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2017

White Carnation, Holmesville

MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith Black, David Blaney, Ian Brebner, John Graham, Don Jones, Philip Keightley, Mark McKenzie, Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Gerry Rupke, Matt Pearson, Rowena Wallace

LIAISONS PRESENT

Ausable Bayfield SPA Liaison - Brian Horner
Maitland Valley SPA Liaison - Phil Beard
MOECC Liaison Officer – Elizabeth Forrest
Health Unit Liaison – Jean-Guy Albert

MEMBERS ABSENT

Karen Galbraith, Bruce Godkin, Myles Murdock

OTHERS PRESENT

Jenna Allain

DWSP STAFF PRESENT

Geoff Cade, Donna Clarkson, Tim Cumming, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Judith Parker

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Matt Pearson welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the loss of the Late John Vander Burgt who passed away on November 19, 2016. John represented the agriculture sector and his contributions were valuable to the development of the Source Protection Plans over the years.

Geoff Cade was introduced and welcomed as DWSP Program Supervisor replacing Jenna Allain, who accepted a position at Upper Thames River CA as Source Protection Coordinator for the Thames-Sydenham Region. Jenna was in attendance and Matt presented her with a parting gift and thanked her for the leadership she gave the committee over the past eight and a half years.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

AGENDA

MOTION #SPC: 2017-04-01

Moved by Ian Brebner
Seconded by Gerry Rupke

“That the agenda be approved as presented.”

Carried by Consensus.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #SPC: 2017-04-02

Moved by Rowena Wallace
Seconded by Don Jones

“That the SPC minutes from September 14, 2016 be approved as presented.”

Carried by Consensus.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

David Blaney declared a conflict of pecuniary interest with Report #7 – *SPC Size and Composition*.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Geoff Cade, Program Supervisor provided some updates on projects in the region.

- i) The wellhead delineation work for the Varna well was completed in 2016 by Matrix and a final report for the Wellhead Protection Area and the vulnerability scoring was submitted. Staff initiated threat verification work and there were 13 septic system significant drinking water threats found along with a few assumed threats. Risk management services will be delivered and the numbers will be refined.
- ii) The ongoing challenges in completing the Tier 3 Water Budget for Century Heights in Goderich should be finalized by Matrix in September 2017.
- iii) DWSP staff met with municipal staff in the fall to review implementation progress successes and challenges. There will be a series of meetings again during the summer.
- iv) The Source Protection Municipal Implementation Funding timeline has been extended for one year to March 31, 2018. Eligible activities must be completed by December 4, 2017.
- v) The 2017/18 Work Plan and Budget submission has been approved by MOECC.

CHAIR'S MEETING

Chair Matt Pearson reported on the meeting he attended in Toronto for the Chairs. He noted the new mapping tool that links policies to the wellhead protection areas. There are seven new chairs and three have been there one year. There is a turnover of Program Supervisors as well.

Honourable Minister Glen Murray attended the Chairs' Meeting. His focus is on climate change and is interested in integrating climate change into the Source Protection Program.

The Source Protection Program is referred to as "in steady state" now that each region is in the implementation phase. This means streamlining with less funding. There has been a reduction of FTEs for the next fiscal year and our MOECC Liaison Officer represents nine regions. The SPC will be meeting twice a year to review amendments to the Plans.

For the future, it was questioned whether regions may be combined or program supervisors be responsible for two regions. There needs to be open lines of communication between representatives for industry, environment, municipalities and agriculture since there are less committee meetings. Gerry Rupke asked if there could be a communication package available to SPC members with consistent key messages. Communication materials are available at <http://www.sourcewaterinfo.on.ca/>

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Geoff Cade explained that David Blaney has been appointed to the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors and can no longer be a municipal representative for the Township of North Huron, Huron East and Morris-Turnberry on the SPC. An exemption can be granted by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The SPA is proceeding with a request for exemption from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to permit Mr. Blaney to remain on the SPC until at least late 2018 when the next round of SPC retirements take place.

Staff are asking for a resolution of support from the SPC but since Mr. Blaney declared a conflict of interest and the Chair can't vote, there is no quorum. Chair Pearson asked that an e-vote be conducted with the membership at a later date.

The other challenge in regards to the size of the SPC is that the Chair can no longer represent the environment sector leaving a vacancy. With the unfortunate passing of John Vanden Burgt as agriculture representative and the pending resignation by another agriculture representative there are two more vacancies. There was concern expressed over the loss of experience and expertise even though the mandate for the committee will be one of reporting and monitoring instead of creating policy. There are only two municipalities in the south and west groupings of municipalities that are affected by policies. The others are on pipeline from Lake Huron. Letters were sent to the municipalities asking for feedback on reducing the size of the SPC. Adelaide-Metcalf did not support amalgamating municipal groupings as of now. The Huron County Federation of Agriculture did not support reducing the number of agriculture representatives.

MOECC Liaison, Beth Forrest commented that there doesn't have to be a reduction in committee size at this time. It could be looked at during the Section 36 review of the entire Plan. Ultimately it is a decision of the Source Protection Authority, but it would be advantageous to have a plan in place for the turnover.

Based on the comments, recruitment will be initiated for replacing three members (two for agriculture sector and one for environment). Beth Forrest offered to present a refresher/orientation "101" course at the next meeting.

SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN AMENDMENT

Donna Clarkson, Source Protection Specialist, presented a number of changes regarding sources of drinking water that require consideration for Section 34 amendment approval.

Varna

MOTION #SPC: 2017-04-03

Moved by Gerry Rupke
Seconded by Ian Brebner

“That the Source Protection Committee approves the new delineation boundaries of the WHPA for the primary well in Varna and,

FURTHER, THAT the appropriate consultation be carried out with affected municipalities and property owners and,

FURTHER, THAT this revision be included in the Source Protection Plan amendment.”

Carried by Consensus.

Blyth

MOTION #SPC: 2017-04-04

Moved by Rowena Wallace
Seconded by Don Jones

“That the Source Protection Committee approves that due to the addition of Well 5 and the revised boundaries, and

FURTHER, THAT the appropriate consultation be carried out with affected municipalities and property owners and, and

FURTHER, THAT this revision be included in the Source Protection Plan amendment.”

Carried by Consensus.

Dungannon

MOTION #SPC: 2017-04-05

Moved by Don Jones
Seconded by Keith Black

“That the Source Protection Committee approves the revised boundaries of the WHPA for the Dungannon well.”

Carried by Consensus.

Ripley

MOTION #SPC: 2017-04-06

Moved by Gerry Rupke
Seconded by Philip Keightley

“That the Source Protection Committee accepts the WHPA delineation for the Ripley well for inclusion in the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan and

FURTHER, THAT the appropriate consultation be carried out with the affected municipalities and property owners.”

Carried by Consensus.

Once the amendments to the Source Protection Plans are approved at the committee level, the next steps will be to get municipal endorsement and have public consultation before submitting to the Minister for approval.

Implementation Monitoring Summary Report

Donna Clarkson reminded the committee that the Source Protection Plans’ monitoring policies require all implementation bodies to submit a progress report to the SPA annually. Reports received from the municipalities, risk management officials and ministries summarize the activities to gauge the effectiveness of the policies and to inform the standardized annual reports that are to be submitted to the Province in 2018.

A summary of the information gathered for 2016 from monitoring reports was provided. The Risk Management Official for Minto reported that 12 risk management plans are in progress in the Harriston - Palmerston area. In the Town of Minto, 49 development review notices were issued as per Section 59. The ABCA RMOs issued 35 development review notices under Section 59 of the *Clean Water Act* and established 19 risk management plans. Inspections continue to be conducted to verify if threats or activities remain.

Tim Cumming, Communications Specialist reviewed the education, outreach and communication products available as tools to inform the community of activities that can be a threat to municipal drinking water. Risk management officials and septic inspectors use the

materials when meeting with landowners directly. Of note, several municipalities requested the DWSP presentation be delivered to their volunteer firefighters as an extension to their training. The third video on best management practices in industry has been produced and is available on the website.

Staff provided a template for municipalities to report on all policies where they are named as implementing bodies and all reports were received by February 2017. Several municipalities have formally initiated an update to their official plans to include source protection policies. Remaining municipalities indicated that their updates will be completed by 2018.

In the ABMV region, mandatory on-site sewage system inspections are carried out by the Huron County Health Unit; municipal chief building official, or B.M. Ross & Associates Ltd. All systems passed the Phase 1 inspection with three requiring minor repairs.

Lunch was served at 12:10 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

RMO Status Report

Mary Lynn MacDonald, RMO summarized that in general people are willing to work with the RMO to do a risk management plan or prohibition agreement that will meet the regulations. Due to ongoing turnover of county and municipal staff, it is important to keep them up-to-date on their responsibilities. A number of information sessions were given to volunteer firefighters to make them aware of directing water away from wellhead protection areas when fighting fires. Source Protection Area signs are being put up by the municipalities to bring awareness. RMO needs to always be checking if properties change hands or are leased, so that the RMP can be changed or revised.

Changes to Drinking Water Quality Standards

John Graham, SPC member who works for Veolia Water Technologies provided an overview of the regulatory amendments to Ontario drinking water systems for testing and reporting. Changes will be phased-in over the next four years. Mention was made of the updated standard for arsenic to meet the new federal level (.01 mg/l). This change will impact a community within the SP region where sampling results reported 3.5 times the standard. The well was abandoned and another well used to provide drinking water to the community. Treatment upgrades could be \$250,000 plus \$120,000 for sludge removal.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence from Honourable Glen Murray officially appointing Matt Pearson as Source Protection Committee Chair for Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Region.
2. Thank you note from the family of the late John Vander Burgt for the memorial tree to be planted at the Klopp Commemorative Woods.

LIAISON UPDATES

1. Phil Beard reported that the MVCA representatives to the Joint Management Committee will now be Jim Campbell and David Turton.
2. Beth Forrest reported that the new mapping tool has been launched. There are three SPAs participating in a pilot project on preparing the Annual Review for the Province in 2018. She is working with First Nations through the Source Protection Branch, in providing approaches and best methods to improve training in water quality for communities on reserves.
3. Brian Horner had no updates to report.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be in October 2017 following the Chair's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Matt Pearson
Chair

Judith Parker
Recording Secretary