



SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

March 22, 2019

White Carnation, Holmesville

MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith Black, Mary Ellen Foran, Ian Brebner, Matt Pearson, John Graham, David Blaney, Myles Murdock, Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Jennette Walker, Allan Rothwell, Dave Frayne

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bruce Godkin, Karen Galbraith, Bert Dykstra, Philip Keightley, Gerry Rupke

LIAISONS PRESENT

Health Unit Liaison – Jean-Guy Albert
MECP Liaison Officer – Olga Yudina

LIAISONS ABSENT

Maitland Valley SPA Liaison – Phil Beard
Ausable Bayfield SPA Liaison – Brian Horner

DWSP STAFF PRESENT

Mary Lynn MacDonald, Donna Clarkson, Elizabeth Balfour

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Matt Pearson welcomed everyone including our two new municipal reps, Dave Frayne (west) and Allan Rothwell (east). Meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m.

AGENDA

The agenda for March 22, 2019 was approved by Consensus with addition of report from the chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #SPC: 2019-03-01

Moved by Ian Brebner
Seconded by Jennette Walker

“That the SPC minutes from September 26, 2018 be approved as presented.”

Carried by Consensus.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

Update from the Chair – Matt Pearson

The Chairs from the various Source Protection Regions are no longer meeting in person, but they are still partaking in conference calls. The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks hosted a Chairs' teleconference to discuss Source Water Protection. There was no indication of any changes in the near future to the SPC structure or function. The MECP has asked for submission of 2019 budgets, which can be considered as encouraging for the future of source water protection. Matt brought attention to the recent article on source water protection in the Better Farming magazine where the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley region was specifically mentioned.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Correspondence from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks from Minister Rod Phillips to Matt Pearson, Chair Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee, George Irvin, Chair Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority and Jim Campbell, Chair Maitland Valley Source Protection Authority. Correspondence is in regards to the approval, by the minister, of Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley's source protection plans and assessment reports which were amended under section 34 of the *Clean Water Act*.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Mary Lynn MacDonald, Co-Program Supervisor provided a program update for SPC members. Information from her update is as follows:

Source Protection Committee (SPC) Renewal

Following the municipal election in fall of 2018 new municipal officials needed to be appointed as representatives for the SPC. Appointments and reappointments have taken place and are listed below:

Central – David Blaney (reappointed)

South – Ian Brebner (reappointed)

North – Myles Murdock (reappointed)

West – Dave Frayne (former councilor, appointed)

East – Allan Rothwell (new councilor, appointed)

Dave Frayne and Allan Rothwell are new members to the SPC.

SPC members representing the other sectors, who were appointed prior to October 2015, will need to be reappointed/renewed by January 1, 2020. Advertisements for these positions will begin in September 2019. Advertisements will appear in local newspapers and the ABMV's source protection website. Interested sector representatives who are up for reappointment and would like to continue being members on the SPC should speak to Mary Lynn and express their intent for reappointment. The following sectors and committee members are affected:

Economic/Industry – Bruce Godkin
Economic/Commerce – Philip Keightley
Economic/Agriculture – Keith Black
Other/Environmental – John Graham
Other/ Landowners - Kerri Ann O'Rourke
Other/Public at Large – Karen Galbraith
Other/Public at Large – Gerry Rupke

Section 34 Amendment and Approval

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks approved Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley's Source Protection Plans to reflect the changes to the Benmiller, Blyth, Dungannon, Molesworth, Ripley, and Varna wells. The ministry approved the amendment on January 31, 2019 with an effective date of February 5, 2019. Municipalities have received updated documents and mapping in print and digital format.

Conservation Ontario Communication Materials

Conservation Ontario has released an animated video about drinking water source protection. It can be viewed on the ABMV source protection website. Any member of the SPC is welcome to use this video for Education and Outreach.

DWSP Municipal Update Meetings

Donna and Mary Lynn meet with eight of the nine member municipalities over the winter to update municipal staff. Donna and Mary Lynn are working to make sure that all municipal staff understand the new 205/18 regulation and that source protection plans must be amended before water from municipal wells is provided to the public. Some municipal wells are facing challenges in regards to naturally occurring elements in the water which are exceeding or approaching provincial drinking water standards. John Graham provided an update on the Dungannon well and arsenic pilot project. The municipality is working with B.M. Ross and the Walkerton Clean Water Centre to test a treatment option.

Update on Proposed Bill 66

Section 10 of Bill 66, which could have allowed municipalities to pass a bylaw that could have overridden parts of the Clean Water Act, has been dropped.

SPP IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING SUMMARY REPORT/RMO REPORT

Mary Lynn MacDonald provided a summary on RMO activities and the implementation of the SPP. For each significant threat policy in the Source Protection Plans, there is a corresponding monitoring policy. Municipalities, provincial ministries, conservation authorities and source protection authorities must submit progress reports relating to policy implementation every year.

Implementation of Part IV Policies, Risk Management Services

The Town of Minto continues to retain their Part IV authorities and delivers its risk management services through their Risk Management Official. Minto reported 60 development review notices under Section 59, no completed RMPs but 15 in progress, and no orders were issued. For

Ausable Bayfield CA, which offers Part IV services on behalf of 8 municipalities in the ABMV region, 42 development review notices under Section 59 were issued, 14 RMPs were established, and no orders were issued.

Education and Outreach Policies

Education and Outreach policies were successfully completed in the first year of SPP implementation. Moving forward, staff continue to promote source water protection through education with landowners, member municipalities, news releases, and an animated video developed by Conservation Ontario.

Municipal Reporting

Source Protection Authority staff provided a template to all member municipalities to report on policies where they are named the implementing body. Municipal staff submitted their reports by February 2019, and their reports are summarized below:

Planning policies

Several municipalities have updated their official plans to include source protection policies, and the remaining municipalities will do so in 2019.

Mandatory Sewage Inspection Program

Across the ABMV region, 206 on-site septic systems require inspection, with 204 being completed to date. The remaining 2 properties are vacant or “in estate” homes. One system did not pass the Phase 1 inspection and required replacement, three systems required minor repairs, and four were connected to municipal sewer as per Policy R.1.5.

Other Policies

None of the member municipalities have indicated their intent to implement the policy, “Best Management Practices for Road Salt Handling, Storage and Application”. Several municipalities have updated their emergency preparedness plans to include information on source protection and spill information. The remaining municipalities have indicated a similar intent. Eight of the nine member municipalities have completed the installation of the drinking water protection signs for a total of 88 signs in our region. ACW has chosen not to install signs.

Provincial Implementation: Prescribed Instrument Policies

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks has completed its review of wastewater/sewage works and waste disposal site instruments issued before source protection plans took effect. Zero new (2018) environment compliance approvals were screened for drinking water threats within the Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley SPAs for waste disposal sites and landfilling/storage. For hauled sewage sites, three incoming applications in 2018 went through detailed screening for source protection purposes, zero were determined to be significant drinking water threats (SDWT). Two incoming applications in 2018 went through detailed screening for source protection for wastewater/sewage works. Neither required further management or prescribed instrument conditions. A review of the 16 previously existing ECAs is complete; 11 are deemed not a SDWT and five were SDWT which are managed through existing

ECAs. Zero incoming applications went through detailed screening for source protection for pesticide permits.

OMAFRA is not named as the implementing body for any ABMV prescribed instrument policies, and are not required to report to the SPA. However, OMAFRA has indicated that they are screening for prescribed instruments (Nutrient Management Strategies and NASM Plans) in vulnerable areas.

There were no policies where the Ministry of Municipal Affairs; Ministry of Transportation or Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry were named as the implementing bodies.

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Donna Clarkson presented the draft annual progress report for the ABMV source protection region which is due May 1, 2019 and will cover the period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. In accordance with the Clean Water Act, 2006 Source Protection Authorities are required to provide regular reports to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. The report describes the progress made in implementing the Source Protection Plans, and allows the SPC to provide written comment to the SPA about the extent to which the committee feels the objectives of the SPPs are being achieved. A summary of the progress is as follows:

Policy Implementation – 90% of Significant Drinking Water Threat policies have been implemented compared to the 77% from the first annual report.

Municipal Progress – 62% of Official Plans have been updated with the remainder in progress

Septic Inspections – 99% have been completed

Risk Management Plans – 14 RMPs were completed in 2018 with a total of 79 completed since 2015

Provincial Progress – 100% of required Prescribed Instrument reviews were completed

SWP Awareness – 88 road signs were installed and education policies are complete

By consensus, the following comments from the SPC members will be included in the annual report.

The Source Protection Committee (SPC) has worked diligently for several years to develop the Source Protection Plans for our Region. Following approval of these plans in 2015, the Source Protection Committee is now focused on tasks that deal with implementation of the plan. This includes reviewing annual progress reports that summarize the progress made by various stakeholders in implementing the policies of the plan, identifying areas for future improvement, and overseeing any technical updates as required.

A regular public meeting of the Source Protection Committee for the ABMV Source Protection Region was held on March 22, 2019 in which approval of this Annual Report was reached by consensus. As the majority of the source protection plan policies have

been implemented or are progressing, the SPC decided that the objectives of the SPP are “Progressing Well/On Target”.

MOTION #SPC: 2018-03-02

Moved by David Blaney

Seconded by Myles Murdock

“That the SPC endorses the Annual Progress Report as presented, with ranking score of ‘Progressing well/ On target’. Further, the SPC approves the Source Protection Committee comments on the annual report as drafted, and direct staff to submit those comments to the Source Protection Authorities for inclusion in the ABMV Annual Progress Report submission.”

Carried by Consensus.

2019-2020 DWSP WORKPLAN

Mary Lynn MacDonald stated that the drinking water source protection work plan was submitted on Feb 28, 2019. The format was similar to previous years; however, there has been a significant shift in funding categories from ‘Ongoing/Cyclical’ activities to “Legislated/Non-Legislated” activities. Legislated activities are to include: maintenance of local source protection framework, maintenance of source protection committee, monitor and report on SP plan implementation and progress, records retention in accordance to legislative requirements, issuance of confirmation notices to municipalities under O. Reg 287/07, amendment to source protection plans under Section 34 of the Clean Water Act, address challenges with plan policies, and consultation requirements. Non-legislative activities will include: provision of advice and program support to municipal staff, advice on review of applications/decisions in vulnerable area, support municipalities on requirements for water supply changes under O. Reg. 287/18, keep municipal councils informed of DWSP program and aware of their obligations, maintenance of local DWSP program, and support source protection committee in preparation of SPP updates as per Section 36 review. The proposed staffing requirements for the 2019-2020 budget year will be 2.0 full time equivalents. Mary Lynn and Donna are confident that any current or new work related to source protection can be handled by this staffing component. The workplan allowed for some activities outlined in the SPP Review Workplan (under Section 36, CWA) to be included in this year’s budget considerations if they address significant threats. Staff is awaiting further communication from the province.

LIAISON UPDATES

Olga Yudina provided an update on how MECP is working with OMAFRA to address the gap between nutrient management and drinking water source protection. MECP will not be undertaking any regulatory action that would require changes to legislation, but they are pursuing non-regulatory actions by working with OMAFRA to review their training modules for consultants who issue nutrient management plans. MECP is also providing templates for consultants to use.

Jean-Guy Albert from the Huron Health Unit provided an updated on the Huron - Perth Health Unit merger. In January 2020, the two health units will amalgamate. As negotiations are currently in place, no final word is available on how septic system inspections currently conducted by the Huron Health unit could be handled in the future.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for the morning of June 26th 2019 at the White Carnation, Holmesville.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Matt Pearson
Chair

Elizabeth Balfour
Alternate Recording Secretary