



# Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

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**Date of Meeting:** Friday, August 19, 2016  
**Location:** 103 Bonnet Ave., Lion's Hall, Salt Spring Island

**Members Present:** George Grams, Chair, Islands Trust Local Trustee  
Dale Green, Capital Regional District, Integrated Watershed (via telephone conferencing)  
Doreen Hewitt, Beddis Water Service Area Commissioner  
Lorrie Hunt, Fernwood Water Service Area Commissioner  
Pat Lapcevic, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO)  
Ron Stepaniuk, District Manager, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD)  
Wayne McIntyre, Deputy Chair, Capital Regional District (CRD) Director

**Staff Present:** Shannon Cowan, Coordinator, Recorder

**Regrets:** Stefan Cermak, Regional Planning Manager (RPM)

**Technical Working Group Liaison:** Don Hodgins, Chair, SSIWPA Technical Working Group

**Media and Others Present:** 6 members of the public

These minutes follow the order of the agenda although the sequence may have varied.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Grams called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Coordinator Cowan proposed to amend the agenda with 3 additional items, and one agenda wording change correction.

Item 3.2 Draft Minutes of the July 29 Special SSIWPA Steering Committee Meeting (hard copies provided in the meeting),

Item 6.6.1 - Proposed IWM Purpose statement revision by Ron Stepaniuk and revision to addendum by Chair Grams (see attached Item 6.6.1, hard copies provided in the meeting).

Add an agenda item 6. Rise and Report. Shift numbering of subsequent items.

Proposed correction to the Closed Meeting Resolution wording, as follows: Remove Section 90(j) and add Section 90(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality.

**By general consent**, the agenda was adopted, as amended.

**3. MINUTES**

**3.1 Draft Minutes of the June 17, 2016 Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Regular Meeting**

**Amendment suggestion by Member Stepaniuk was made:** Section 8.1 1<sup>st</sup> para line 3 “pat” should be “part”.

**By general consent**, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Draft Minutes of July 15, 2016 were adopted, as amended.

**3.2 By general consent**, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Draft Minutes of July 29, 2016 were adopted.

**4. CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTION**

At 9:35 a.m., it was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority closes this meeting to the public subject to Community Charter Section 90(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality.

**CARRIED**

**5. OPEN MEETING RESOLUTION**

At 10:06 a.m., it was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority re-opens this meeting to the public subject to Section 89 of the Community Charter.

**CARRIED**

**6. RISE AND REPORT**

**6.1 By general consent**, SSIWPA determined that both applicants met the Terms of Reference qualifications for the Conservation and Efficiency working group. Coordinator Cowan will inform the two applicants of this fact.

**6.2 By general consent**, SSIWPA agreed to defer making any formal appointments to the Conservation and Efficiency working group at the current time, while it awaits more applicants.

**6.3 By general consent**, SSIWPA agreed that the Coordinator will draft a revision to amend the Terms of Reference for the CEWG in terms of the specific call for desirable areas of experience for applicants.

## **7. BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **7.1 Chair's Report**

The Chair reported a focus of time and effort to revise the draft Integrated Water Management Program purpose and objectives, website management (including observing the need to expand the document library storage limit), building the St. Mary Lake sign casing and sourcing mounting materials, then mounting the sign.

### **7.2 St. Mary Lake Water Quality Update – North Salt Spring Waterworks District**

Committee Member Stepaniuk reported St. Mary Lake water quality is still poor and about at the same level (just under 40.3m) as it was this same time last year. Monitoring for cyanotoxins, and conservation messaging is continuing by NSSWD.

### **7.3 Cusheon Lake water quality update**

Committee Member Hewitt presented an update regarding the Cusheon Lake Watershed and the following highlights were presented:

On Aug 18 Secchi Disk measurement was 4.65 metres and last month it was 5.18 metres. The lake is not clear as floating algae can be seen in the water column.

The corrected Lake gauge measurements are as follows:

July 20 was 1.008 metres; July 28 was 0.966 m; Aug 5 was 0.926 m; Aug 10 was 0.916 m; Aug 18 was 0.871 m.

The lake has lost 16.5 cm despite the small amount of precipitation. By comparison, in 2015 on Aug 14th the same lake was at 0.866 m (so very comparable to last year).

Rainfall quantities received at Salt Spring Elementary: Aug 18 2016 - 3.8 mm; Aug 30 2015 - 36.3 mm; Aug 30 2014 - 11.2 mm.

The lake temperature is very warm for the salmonoid populations. Many people are also swimming as it is very warm. The oxygen at the bottom is absent and disappears at the 7 metre mark.

### **7.4 Coordinator's Report**

The Coordinator's Report for the period July 9 – August 12, 2016 was received for information.

### **7.5 Technical Working Group Report**

TWG met twice since last monthly SSIWPA meeting. One of it's meetings was with with Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations groundwater hydrogeology representatives to discuss the scope of work for groundwater assessment on Salt Spring Island in the coming year to 3 years. After listening to Dr. Diana Allen on August 19, 2016, the TWG will coordinate with FLNRO and MOE a complementary scope of work for groundwater assessment. Co-Chair Hodgins spoke on behalf of SSIWPA and TWG at the Aug 18 "Tackling

Drought” event at Salt Spring Community Gospel Church, where he invited applicants to the new SSIWPA Conservation and Efficiency working group.

## **7.6 Integrated Water Management (IWM) Program Purpose and Objectives.**

Two revisions to the Background and Purpose statement were submitted for consideration. (Item 6.6.1 attached) Chair Grams called for comments on Member Stepaniuk’s suggested revisions.

**7.6.1 By general consent** Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to accept Member Stepaniuk’s changes to the Objectives section of the document (Item 6.6.1 attached) and the changes to the Purpose statement, except for omission of the word “primary”.

**7.6.2 By general consent,** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to make changes to the IWM Background statement, as follows:

Remove the first paragraph and replace it with “The Integrated Watershed Management Program was initiated by SSIWPA in recognition of a concern that freshwater sources on Salt Spring Island are stressed, and at or near the sustainable limits of their capacity.

Those concerns are mainly focused on the north end of the island where, for example, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD), which supplies one of the most densely populated parts of the island including all of Ganges village, has introduced a moratorium on new water connections due to source capacity issues.”

## **7.7 SSIWPA Budget 2017-2018 - Draft**

**By general consent,** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to request Coordinator Cowan to follow up with Planner Cermak on the in-kind contributions from Local Trust Committee that are expected in the 2017 fiscal budget.

**By general consent,** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to request Coordinator Cowan to follow up with Vice-Chair McIntyre and Member Green regarding the draft 2016 CRD carry-over and exact contribution amounts for 2017.

## **7.8 Watermark Newsletter Sign Up**

September – Chair Grams  
October – Member Hewitt  
November – Vice-Chair McIntyre and Member Green  
December – Chair Grams

## **7.9 Upcoming Events**

Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016: 12:00 – 2:00 pm (To Be Confirmed) @ Harbour House Hotel. “CRD Solid Waste Management Information Session”

Saturday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> SSIWPA at Fall Fair Booth Staffing Assistance Requested. Please speak to Coordinator Cowan by Sept 1<sup>st</sup> to sign up\*.

September 27<sup>th</sup> 12:30pm (To Be Confirmed). SSIWPA Coordinator presentation to

“Integrated Watershed Management Community Meeting“ (CRD Greater Victoria, Saanich and Gulf Islands Area Watershed Stewardship Groups).

September 30th, and October 1st SSIWPA Coordinator (or alternate) attends Watersheds 2016 Watershed Governance Conference in Vancouver.

Planning period for Water Fair (February, 2017) - Sept - November 2016.

## **7.10 Correspondence**

7.10.1 Advertising opportunities for SSIWPA from the Driftwood Media Group were received for information.

**It was agreed by general consent** that Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority will run an advertisement (colour ¼ page) about the new Conservation and Efficiency working group, and SSIWPA in general, in the Harvest Time magazine offered by the Driftwood Gulf Islands Media publishing group.

7.10.2 Chair Grams reported that the website has nearly filled all available storage online.

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to request Chair Grams to upgrade the website.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **8.1 Questions and Comments from Public**

A suggestion was made to ask members of the public to write Watermark newsletter articles. A question about the Integrated Water Management Program purpose statement was raised, and answered by Chair Grams.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

Please note the special date and time for this month’s meeting.  
September 19, 2016, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the School District Boardroom.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**By general consent** the meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

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George Grams, Chair

### **CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Shannon Cowan, Recorder