



# Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

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**Date of Meeting:** Friday, March 20, 2015  
**Location:** School District #64 Boardroom  
112 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island

**Members Present:** George Grams, Chair, Islands Trust Local Trustee  
Wayne McIntyre, Vice-Chair, Capital Regional District (CRD) Director  
Shannon Cowan, Coordinator  
Dale Green, Capital Regional District, Integrated Watershed (via web conferencing)  
Lorrie Hunt, Fernwood Water District Commissioner  
Jeff Thompson, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) Trustee

**Members Regrets:** Erwin Dyck, Vancouver Island Health Authority Supervisor of Health Protection  
Deb Epps, Ministry of Environment, Section Head, Environmental Quality Management Program

**Staff Present:** Stefan Cermak, Island Planner  
Sarah Shugar, Recorder

**Technical Advisory Committee Liaison:** Don Hodgins, Technical Advisory Committee Chair

**Media and Others Present:** 2 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 10:32 a.m.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following addition to the agenda was presented for consideration.  
4.6.2 Correspondence Protocol

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

## 3. MINUTES

**3.1 Draft Minutes of the February 20, 2015 Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Regular Meeting**

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Minutes of February 20, 2015 were adopted.

**3.2 Draft Minutes of the March 2, 2015 Structured Decision Making Workshop #1**

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Structured Decision Making Workshop Minutes of March 2, 2015 were adopted.

**4. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**4.1 Chair's Report**

Chair Grams reported that he attended Islands Trust Council on Gabriola Island where the Islands Trust 2015/16 budget was approved including the SSIWPA tax requisition of \$119,500. In addition, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee has allocated \$15,000 for watershed management exclusive of SSIWPA. An administration levy of \$12,500 has been applied to the overall SSIWPA revenue of \$181,000 for work undertaken by the grant coordinator and administrative staff.

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

Don Hodgins reported that there is a non-toxic algal bloom at St. Mary's Lake that is not affecting treatment plant operations and is being monitored for toxicity. The lake conditions have been relatively consistent for the last three months.

**4.3 Coordinator's Report**

Coordinator Cowan reviewed the Coordinator's Report for February 20, 2015 to March 20, 2015.

**4.4 Technical Advisory Committee Chair's Report**

Don Hodgins presented Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) progress and the following highlights were presented:

- Monitoring Program:
  - Recommendation: SSIWPA St. Mary Lake sampling program intensity is suspended for the time being, subject to be re-activated if sufficient trigger(s) arise. Triggers could include a significant plankton bloom and / or the need to better observe changes during fall turnover. It is understood that NSSWD will continue their in-house monitoring. Further data collection is contingent upon field and logistical capabilities;
  - Plankton, septic and sediment sampling programs are ongoing.
- P-runoff estimation: model by graduate student is expected to yield preliminary results for use in the SDM process in Workshop #2. Independent estimates are being made by TAC based on storm water monitoring for P and flow from water balance calculations.

- TAC has completed the Management Actions Screening Table for the SDM Workshop #2 for review by PAC and the Steering Committee;
- TAC will complete, with support from the coordinator, the Impact Hypotheses Sheets by early April 2015. The sheets explain the influence diagram pathways and serve to document the scientific questions asked about the lake system, the findings, and rationale for inclusion or exclusion in the planning process.

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority request the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to prepare a draft terms of reference for Surface Water Data Collection.

## 4.5 Structured Decision Making (SDM) Tasks

### 4.5.1 SDM Workshop #1 Report

The following comments regarding the SDM Workshop #1 were noted:

- The consultant does not have the technical knowledge that would be helpful to the process;
- There was too much time spent on options that were not going to be supported by agencies and it would have been more productive to focus on the options that have a chance of going ahead.
- More dynamic presentation and facilitation skills for the next two workshops are needed from the consulting team. (David Angus was far less animated than Michael Harstone and this impacted the workshop effectiveness and clarity of direction in the group.)

Planner Cermak noted that process expertise was prioritized in the consultant selection process and the option to include the technical experts was not supported due to the budget constraints.

### 4.5.2 Review Feedback (from PAC and TAC) on Planning Objectives

Coordinator Cowan presented a review of the SSIWPA Public Advisory Committee (PAC) edits of March 16, 2015. The following comments were noted:

- to add restore to “enhance riparian areas”;
- “safe levels of cyanotoxins and pathogens” is covered under the Social objectives;
- to add “and other costs” to Cost category;
- to change final bullet under Means to “improve lake water clarity”;
- do not add the last bullet “create feedback mechanism for community input”;
- to add “Agriculture” and the agriculture objectives.

There was discussion regarding the inclusion of water quantity in the Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP). It was noted that the SDM process for the development of the IWMP is focusing on water quality and water quantity is being addressed as a separate project.

One member of the public left the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

#### 4.5.3 Review Management Actions Screening Table

Coordinator Cowan reviewed the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) edits to the Management Action Screening Table.

#### 4.5.4 Review Management Action Description Tables - none

#### 4.5.5 Discuss preliminary TAC field research; is there a need for peer review?

Coordinator Cowan asked if the steering committee will initiate peer review and if yes, when?

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed that peer review will most likely be undertaken by the new TAC members although it will likely not be done in time to be part of the SDM process.

Coordinator Cowan will provide the Rick Nordin verbal peer review to Compass Resource Management.

### 4.6 **Terms of Reference for Islands Trust Water Conservation Bylaw**

Planner Cermak presented an update regarding the Terms of Reference for an Islands Trust Water Conservation Bylaw.

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority request Islands Trust staff to work with the Coordinator to add all available reports and studies to the web site as part of the Water Collection Initiatives Inventory.

#### 4.6.2 **Correspondence Protocol**

Chair Grams presented an update regarding the development of a protocol for correspondence received by SSIWPA.

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority direct staff to work with the coordinator to draft a correspondence protocol to be circulated at the next meeting.

Chair Grams and one member of the public left the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

### 4.7 **PAC Update - Coordinator**

Coordinator Cowan will circulate the PAC minutes.

### 4.8 **Committee Departures**

#### 4.9.1 Honorarium proposal for departing TAC member Maggie Squires

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to support a \$200 honorarium for departing TAC member Maggie Squires.

#### **4.9 Letters Received**

##### 4.10.1 Goose Management – Randy Cunningham, March 4, 2015

The correspondence was received for information.

##### 4.10.2 Water Sustainability Act query – Ron Hawkins, March 5, 2015

The correspondence was received for information. Coordinator Cowan will send a response letter to Mr. Hawkins.

#### **4.10 Meeting Schedule**

Coordinator Cowan presented the following meeting schedule:

SDM Workshop:

SDM II – April 20, 2015 – Lion’s Hall 103 Bonnet Avenue

Next SSIWPA meeting:

April 17, 2015 1:30-3:30 pm - SD64 112 Rainbow Road Portable (note time change)

Next PAC Meeting:

May 4, 2015 – 5:30 – 7:30 pm (PAC) Program Room at SSI Library

**By general consent** the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to schedule a meeting on June 8, 2015 - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to meet with PAC regarding the SDM process.

### **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **8.1 Questions and Comments from Public - none**

### **6. ADJOURNMENT**

**By general consent** the meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

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George Grams, Chair

### **CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Sarah Shugar, Recorder