



Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting: Friday, April 17, 2015
Location: School District #64 Boardroom
112 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island

Members Present: George Grams, Chair, Islands Trust Local Trustee
Shannon Cowan, Coordinator
Erwin Dyck, Vancouver Island Health Authority Supervisor of Health Protection (via web conferencing)
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: Wayne McIntyre, Vice-Chair, Capital Regional District (CRD) Director
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: none

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 1:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent the agenda was adopted.

3. MINUTES

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

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

Erwin Dyck arrived at 1:34 p.m.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Chair's Report

Chair Grams reported that he attended a North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) Board meeting regarding the ongoing moratorium on new water demands and it was agreed to develop a protocol for the two agencies to collaborate in working towards a solution. He attended a Southern Gulf Islands roundtable with two CRD Directors, the Ministry of Transportation, Trustees from six Gulf Islands and staff on March 31, 2015 to discuss areas of common concern. It was agreed to schedule the roundtable meetings quarterly and it would be possible to add water quantity to the agenda for the next meeting. He attended an Affordable Housing roundtable on April 14, 2015 where the issue of water was discussed and concern was expressed regarding the NSSWD moratorium and the impact to proposed affordable housing projects. He reported that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (SSILTC) approved first reading of the Drake Road Affordable Housing project bylaw as well as a motion to acknowledge the project does not meet Official Community Plan (OCP) requirements for water at this time. SSILTC agreed to write a letter to acknowledge NSSWD authority for water supply and connections and to explain that the first reading will support the project to explore alternative options for water supply.

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

Jeff Thompson reported that St. Mary Lake is almost fully stratified and water clarity has improved slightly from February/March. The lake is currently at full capacity (40.75 metres) and lake levels are expected to drop to below 40.7 metres by the end of April. There is a normal algal bloom for this time of year consisting of many types of algae. The bloom is dominated by diatoms and cyanobacteria and is not causing any operational issues. Bi-weekly toxin monitoring continues and no toxins have been detected.

4.3 Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Cowan reviewed the Coordinator's Report for March 20, 2015 to April 17, 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: plankton results have been received and septic and storm water runoff sampling programs are ongoing. Inflows are low and drying up due to low rainfall;
- Impact Hypotheses Sheets have been drafted and are being finalized in the next few days;
- The Draft Management Action Description Table has been reviewed by

- TAC;
- The Draft Reporting Plan for the lake monitoring program is under review by TAC;
 - No progress has been made on the Terms of Reference for a Lake Monitoring Contract. Further input from staff is needed regarding the scope of work, liability insurance, Workers Compensation, measurement equipment, etc. There was a question whether Water Council would be interested in monitoring the lake?
 - Maggie Squires has decided to continue her work for TAC;
 - Meghan McKee has resigned from TAC;
 - Recruitment for one or two new members is ongoing;
 - An electronic instrument for testing was not working properly and has been returned for a partial refund.

4.5 Structured Decision Making Tasks

4.5.1 Management Actions Screening Table

Coordinator Cowan reported the Management Actions Screening Table is finalized and is available for review on the web site.

4.5.2 Management Action Description Table

Coordinator Cowan requested that SSIWPA members review the SML IWMP Action Description Table version 1.1 prior to the SDM Workshop #2 scheduled on May 1, 2015.

4.5.3 Preliminary Impact Hypothesis Sheets

Coordinator Cowan advised the Preliminary Impact Hypothesis Sheets are currently under review by TAC.

4.6 Terms of Reference for Islands Trust Water Conservation Bylaw – Review Draft

Planner Cermak presented the Terms of Reference for Islands Trust Water Conservation and Demand Management Plan.

There was discussion and the following points were highlighted:

- Water Districts will be requested to provide a letter of cooperation regarding data collection. Dale Green will report back regarding CRD contact person;
- There are data gaps in the well registry and many wells are not registered. Pat Lapsavic, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Albert Kaye, Hugh Greenwood and Keith Walstrom were noted as contacts.
- It may be necessary to divide the contract into phases: background research, draft management options and final report.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority commit to working with a consultant in drafting a Salt Spring Island Water Conservation and Demand Management Plan for Salt Spring Island.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority recommends the following amendments to the Terms of Reference for a Salt Spring Island Water Conservation and Demand Management Plan:

- a. regular progress updates from staff to Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority;
- b. regular verbal updates from contractor to Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority (briefing at Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority meeting every 3-4 months – depending on length of phase) to provide a synopsis of results and to receive feedback from Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority;
- c. to include in the purpose or objective a statement regarding analyzing sufficient data to provide confidence to undertake Community and Infrastructure Planning;
- d. to change objective statement “collaborate with agencies to conserve island water resources” to “agency collaboration to conserve island water resources”;
- e. include recommendations for outreach to existing island water managers and water consumers.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority endorse the Draft Terms of Reference for a Salt Spring Island Water Conservation and Demand Management Plan in principle, as amended.

4.7 Correspondence Protocol – Review Draft

Coordinator Cowan presented the draft SSIWPA Correspondence Protocol for consideration.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority request the coordinator to draft a brief Correspondence Protocol for the next meeting.

4.8 Committee Departures

4.8.1 Meghan McKee from Technical Advisory Committee

Planner Cermak will follow up regarding the Islands Trust honorarium policy.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to support a \$200 honorarium for departing Technical Advisory Committee member Meghan McKee.

4.9 Letters Received

4.9.1 Correspondence re: TAC membership; Letter from B. Brooks re: St. Mary Lake

The correspondence was received.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority request the coordinator to look into installation of dog waste

bag receptacles for the Tripp Road access and the public beach access.

4.9.2 Correspondence from Maggie Squires

The correspondence was received. It was noted that reports written in scientific journal formatting provide a good opportunity for peer review. Coordinator Cowan will reply to Maggie Squires.

4.9.3 Correspondence from Rick Nordin

The correspondence was received and will be forwarded to Compass Resource Management.

4.10 Water Fair 2015 Final Report

The Water Fair 2015 Final Report was received for information.

4.11 Meeting Schedule

Coordinator Cowan presented the following meeting schedule updates:

SDM Workshop #2:

Friday May 1, 2015 - 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Lion’s Hall, 103 Bonnet Avenue

Next SSIWPA meeting:

Friday May 15, 2015 - 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – School District #64 Boardroom, 112 Rainbow Road Portable

PAC and Steering Committee together:

Monday June 8, 2015 - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Library Program Room, 123 McPhillips Avenue

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Questions and Comments from Public - none

6. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

George Grams, Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Sarah Shugar, Recorder