



Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting: Friday, January 16, 2015
Location: All Saint's By The Sea Upper Church Hall
110 Park Drive, Salt Spring Island

Members Present: George Grams, Chair, Islands Trust Local Trustee
Shannon Cowan, Coordinator
Dale Green, Capital Regional District, Integrated Watershed Management Program (via web conferencing)
Lorrie Hunt, Fernwood Water District Commissioner
Jeff Thompson, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) Trustee
Meghan McKee, North Salt Spring Waterworks District Water Quality Specialist

Members Regrets: Erwin Dyck, Vancouver Island Health Authority Supervisor of Health Protection
Deb Epps, Ministry of Environment, Section Head, Environmental Quality
Wayne McIntyre, Vice-Chair, Capital Regional District (CRD) Director

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

Media and Others Present: Peter Grove, Islands Trust Local Trustee
Peter Lake, Alternate Capital Regional District (CRD) Director
Robert Hubert, member of the Public Advisory Committee (PAC)
Maxine Leichter, member of the Public Advisory Committee (PAC)
1 member 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 10:33 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent the agenda was approved.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Draft Minutes of the November 28, 2014 SSI Watershed Protection Authority Regular Meeting

By general consent the minutes of the November 28, 2014 Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Regular Meeting were adopted.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Chair's Report

Chair Grams reported that the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Open House was a success and he thanked Maggie Squires for the excellent presentation and Shannon Cowan for organizing a successful event. He has been working with staff and the coordinator to develop the Water Quantity Committee. A draft invitation to the committee has been prepared and is awaiting approval. The Capital Regional District has initiated a building code review for Salt Spring Island and the Southern Gulf Islands. At the January 8, 2015 Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee meeting, Chair Grams was appointed the representative to the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority for the term 2014-2018.

4.2 St. Mary Lake Water Quality Update - NSSWD, Meghan McKee

Meghan McKee reported on the latest test results for St. Mary Lake. The water quality is in relatively good condition. The lake completed mixing on approximately December 7, 2014. The phosphorus level is 20 ml per litre. There is a visible, non toxic algal bloom that has spread to most of the deep parts of the lake. The lake is full and overflowing.

4.3 Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Cowan reviewed the Coordinator's Report for November 29, 2014 to January 16, 2015.

4.4 Technical Advisory Committee Chair's Report

Megan McKee presented Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) progress. The following highlights were presented:

- Septic monitoring and lake monitoring have continued through November and December 2014 and will continue to the end of March. One well site remains dry. This is important information regarding the understanding of the groundwater;
- New lake data combined with historical dataset is being analyzed for causal relationships between times of high and low phosphorus and phosphorus balance. There has been great progress leading to a more complete understanding of the lake;
- TAC is making progress regarding the P-runoff modelling. The early results have been reviewed by TAC and compared with independent estimates. TAC is in general agreement with the results.
- TAC is creating and reviewing the Structured Decision Making (SDM) Influence Diagram showing the impact pathways for St. Mary Lake Objectives. The target date for completion is February 2, 2014.

4.5 Chair and Vice Chair Election – Coordinator

Coordinator Cowan explained the election procedures and called for nominations for Chair.

George Grams was nominated.

Coordinator Cowan called three times for further nominations. Hearing none, she declared the nominations closed.

George Grams was elected Chair by acclamation.

Coordinator Cowan explained the election procedures and called for nominations for Vice Chair.

Wayne McIntyre was nominated.

Coordinator Cowan called three times for further nominations. Hearing none, she declared the nominations closed.

Wayne McIntyre was elected Vice-Chair by acclamation.

4.6 SSI LTC Watershed Program Proposed Charter update (ver. 6)

Planner Cermak presented the Project Charter dated November 22, 2014.

Further to discussion, the following resolution was introduced.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed that North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) would forward their comments regarding the Project Charter amendments to Coordinator Cowan following the next NSSWD board meeting.

4.7 Water Quantity Committee Feasibility Staff Report

Planner Cermak presented the Islands Trust staff comments regarding proposed Quantity Committee dated January 9, 2015.

Further to discussion, the following resolution was introduced.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to receive the Islands Trust Staff Comments Regarding Proposed Quantity Committee document dated January 9, 2015 for information.

4.8 2014-2015 Deferred Expenditures of \$30,000

Chair Grams presented the deferred expenditure (surplus) in the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority budget 2014-2015 - \$30,000 document for consideration.

Further to discussion, the following resolution was introduced.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority request that "deferred expenditures" be used for the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee to undertake a new program.

Chair Grams called a recess at 11:28 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:32 a.m.

4.10 Structured Decision Making Workplan to end March 2015

Coordinator Cowan presented the Structured Decision Making (SDM) Workplan dated January 8, 2015.

4.10.1 List of issues/concerns that should be considered in the St Mary Lake Integrated Watershed Management Plan

Coordinator Cowan presented the St. Mary Lake Planning Process: Issues and Concerns draft document for consideration.

Further to discussion, the following resolution was introduced.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to amend the St. Mary Lake Planning Process: Issues and Concerns as follows:

- remove the comment: IWMP by SDM might be a waste of time and money”;
- remove the comment: “cost of sewer system, is it necessary?”;
- add “invasive species – fish and plants”;
- add “a review of grant and financial assistance resources”.

Please forward comments to Coordinator Cowan. It was noted that there may be opportunity for the Islands Trust Grant Administrator to assist with the review of grant and financial assistance resources.

4.11 Public Advisory Committee

4.11.1 Draft Public Advisory Committee Agenda January 31, 2015

Coordinator Cowan presented the Draft Public Advisory Committee Agenda for consideration.

Further to discussion, the following resolution was introduced.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority approved the Draft Public Advisory Committee Agenda for January 31, 2015.

4.12 Letters to Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

4.12.1 Mike Larmour - December 1, 2014

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to defer the correspondence as a Water Quantity Committee item.

4.12.2 Scott Simmons - December 2, 2014

Further to discussion, the following resolutions were introduced.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to add that technical questions regarding the St. Mary Lake weir be directed to the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to seek permission from the Public Advisory Committee regarding audio recording and posting the recording on the website.

It was noted the Islands Trust Tascam recording equipment may be an option for recording the meetings.

4.12 Website Committee Member Bios:

Chair Grams will post the committee member biographies on the web site.

4.13 Watermark Newsletter Writing Schedule

Deadline:

January 10, 2015	George Grams for Islands Trust
February 10, 2015	Lorrie Hunt for Fernwood-Highland Water Service Area
March 10, 2015	Maggie Squires for TAC / Shannon Cowan
April 10, 2015	Dale Green for CRD
May 10, 2015	Meghan McKee for NSSWD
June 10, 2015	Deb Epps for MOE
July 10, 2015	Erwin Dyck for Island Health
Aug 10, 2015	Wayne McIntyre for CRD
Sept 10, 2015	Shannon Cowan, management plan release
Oct 10, 2015	George Grams for Islands Trust
Nov 10, 2015	TBD

It was noted that Coordinator Cowan will check with the Public Advisory Committee to see if they would like to contribute to the newsletter.

4.14 Meeting Schedule

SSIWPA Regular Meetings

February 20, 2015	10:30 am – 12:30 pm	SD64 112 Rainbow Rd Portable
March 20 2015	10:30 am – 12:30 pm	SD64 112 Rainbow Rd Portable
April 17, 2015	1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	SD64 112 Rainbow Rd Portable
May 15, 2015	10:30 am – 12:30 pm	SD64 112 Rainbow Rd Portable
June 19, 2015	10:30 am – 12:30 pm	SD64 112 Rainbow Rd Portable
optional: Team Building Field Trip		
July 17, 2015	10:30 am – 12:30 pm	SD64 112 Rainbow Rd Portable
August 21, 2015	10:30 am – 12:30 pm	SD64 112 Rainbow Rd Portable
September 18, 2015	10:30 am – 12:30 pm	

October 16, 2015 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
November 20, 2015 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Team building 4-6pm, Open house 7-9pm

Public Advisory Committee Meetings:

January 31, 2015 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Lion’s Hall (setup 9:30)
February 16, 2015 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Golf Course Clubhouse
March 16, 2015 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Golf Course Clubhouse
May 4, 2015 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Library Program Room
June 8, 2015 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Library Program Room

Strucuted Decision Making Workshops

1. SDM I – March 2, 2015 – Lion’s Hall 103 Bonnet Ave
2. SDM II – April 20, 2015 - Lion’s Hall 103 Bonnet Ave
3. SDM III – May 25, 2015 – All Saints-By-The-Sea 110 Park Drive

5. CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTION

At 12:04 p.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(1) k for discussions respecting a municipal service that is at its preliminary stage. **CARRIED**

6. OPEN MEETING RESOLUTION

At 12:08 p.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**

7. RISE AND REPORT

7.1 Public Advisory Committee Appointments

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed that the following persons be appointed to the Public Advisory Committee: Susan Grace and Murray Nurse.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Questions and Comments from Public

The following comments and questions were noted:

- It is important to target Water Quantity Committee efforts to specific areas of concern because water quantity problems are specific to areas of Salt Spring Island. North Salt Spring Waterworks District is capable of dealing with water quality in their jurisdiction.

- “Demand Management” is a preferable term to replace “Conservation” due to negative and restrictive associations. The Water Council published the Soft Path report that provides an extensive list of Demand Management strategies.
- It was noted the Soft Path report is provided as a link on the SSIWPA web site.
- Could SSIWPA ask the Driftwood to publish the Watermark Newsletter for community information? Answer: Coordinator Cowan will look into this.
- A number of Salt Spring Island residents are living entirely off of water catchment systems successfully.
- Does North Salt Spring Waterworks District have any concerns regarding water quality resulting from raising the weir? Answer: North Salt Spring Waterworks District will be conducting a public consultation process prior to raising the weir.

9. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

George Grams, Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Sarah Shugar, Recorder