



Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting: Monday, May 25, 2015
Location: All Saints By The Sea
110 Park Drive, 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
Lorrie Hunt, Fernwood Water District Commissioner
Jeff Thompson, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) Trustee

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

Staff Present: Stefan Cermak, Acting Regional Planning Manager
Sarah Shugar, Recorder

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

Media and Others Present: David Angus, Compass Resource Management
John Borst, member of Public Advisory Committee (PAC)
Michael Harstone, Compass Resource Management

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 9:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent the agenda was adopted.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Draft Minutes of the April 17, 2015 Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Regular Meeting

By general consent the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Minutes of April 17, 2015 were adopted.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Chair's Report

Chair Grams presented the following statement regarding development permit area for foreshore planting received from Rob Conway, Manager of the Development Services Division Planning and Development Department Cowichan Valley Regional District dated May 15, 2015:

Thanks for your interest in the Cowichan Region and our experience with riparian restoration. The CVRD has had development permit areas in place for freshwater riparian areas in all 9 Electoral Areas since 2006. Establishment of the DPAs was motivated by the Riparian Area Regulation and largely implements the Province's RAR process. The RAR development permit process has been somewhat successful in protecting riparian areas when development occurs and raising the public's awareness of the importance of riparian areas, but has not been very successful in achieving the restoration of damaged riparian areas. That said, since the development permit process is the only one available to us for dealing riparian restoration issues, that is what we use. The Watershed Protection Development Permit Area in the Electoral Area I OCP is a good example, and is available on our website at: <http://www.cvrld.bc.ca/DocumentCenter/Home/View/571> (page 43). Much of the progressive work we have experienced with lakeshore restoration has occurred at Cowichan Lake. In 2007, the Cowichan Basin Water Management Plan was completed for the Cowichan Lake and Cowichan River watershed. This plan largely dealt with water resource management issues, but also address water-related stewardship and the health of the watershed. A copy of the plan is available at:

<http://www.cowichanwatershedboard.ca/sites/default/files/CowichanBasinWaterManagementPlan-March2007.pdf>

Some of the most effective and encouraging riparian restoration work we are seeing in the Region is being led by the Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society. This is a group of volunteers who have taken on the monitoring, protection and rehabilitation of riparian areas in the Cowichan Lake and River watershed. As a community based organization, they are better positioned to undertake work such as landowner education and the coordination of restoration projects than is local government. The CVRD has provided funding to the organization and tries to support it in other ways as well. They have a website at: <http://www.cowichan-lake-stewards.ca/>

Chair Grams suggested that a group such as the former St. Mary Lake Stewardship Society would be an option for encouraging riparian restoration work in the watershed.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority request the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee approve funding for a site tour to the Cowichan Lake Watershed regarding their work on foreshore riparian restoration.

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

Jeff Thompson reported on the current conditions of St. Mary Lake. The most recent algal bloom has subsided and the water level is below the weir. He reported that they have not received the lab results regarding the identification of the recent algal particulate.

Lorrie Hunt noted that Fernwood Water District is still experiencing higher than normal taste and odour conditions.

David Angus and Michael Harstone arrived at 9:09 a.m.

4.3 Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Cowan reviewed the Coordinator's Report for April 18, 2015 to May 15, 2015. She noted that Fernwood Elementary has expressed interest in collaborating with the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority and there may be funding available from the Evergreen Fund Watershed Champions Award.

4.4 Technical Advisory Committee Chair's Report

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

- TAC has completed most of work regarding the Structured Decision Making (SDM) process and has been preparing for SDM Workshop III;
- The final round of septic sampling will be undertaken in the next few days;
- TAC has provided the consultants with the data regarding the estimated Phosphorus (P) loads from runoff from the lake and it appears that this is a significant source of P contribution to the lake.

Coordinator Cowan noted that John Sprague will provide the results of his work regarding the contribution of P from bird droppings. It is currently estimated that approximately 13 kg of P results from bird droppings and there is question regarding how much is recycled within the watershed and how much is entering from other watersheds.

4.5 Structured Decision Making Tasks

4.5.1 Review SDM #2 Workshop Report and Four Major Management Action Areas

Coordinator Cowan reviewed the SDM II Workshop Report and asked if there are any additions to the Four Major Management Action Areas.

There was discussion and the following points were noted:

- There was question regarding the status of the Water Council and the group's impact on Public Outreach and Education. Lorrie Hunt provided an update regarding the Water Council and noted that it is not clear how it will impact at this time;
- A/RPM Cermak provided an update regarding the adoption of Bylaw No. 480 Riparian Areas Regulation for Salt Spring Island and spoke to merging the Riparian Management Action with the Development Permit Area (DPA) Action.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to add Riparian Areas Regulation regarding water quantity to the next meeting agenda.

4.5.2 Review Final Planning Objectives

Coordinator Cowan reviewed the Final Planning Objectives.

There was discussion and the following points were noted:

- Transport Canada permits the use of gas motors on St. Mary Lake for Search and Rescue and North Salt Spring Waterworks District;
- it was agreed to request Compass Resource to add a definition for “optimize capital costs”;
- there was discussion regarding “raw” and it was agreed to leave it in to distinguish it from the treated lake water;
- it was agreed to replace “maximize community input into Management Plan” with “facilitate community input into Management Plan”;
- it was agreed to replace “improve interagency communication” with “improve interagency communication and cooperation”.

John Borst arrived at 9:40 a.m.

4.5.3 Additional Management Actions for consideration by Steering Committee at final SDM

Further to discussion, there were no additions to the Four Major Management Action Areas.

4.5.4 Settling Ponds, Stormwater Management Action

Dale Green reported that the need and potential location for Stormwater Management has not been determined and will be part of the SDM process.

4.6 Water Conservation and Demand Management Plan Update

4.6.1 Amended Terms of Reference

A/RPM Cermak provided an update regarding the Terms of Reference Water Conservation and Demand Management Plan. The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee approved issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Water Conservation and Demand Management Plan.

Director McIntyre noted Kevin Lorette, General Manager of Planning and Protection as a contact person for the CRD residential conservation program.

4.7 Correspondence Protocol

Coordinator Cowan presented the draft SSIWPA Correspondence Protocol for consideration.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to add a filter for defamatory language to the correspondence protocol.

4.8 Public Advisory to SSIWPA Update

4.8.1 Public Advisory Committee Agenda May 11, 2015

The Public Advisory Committee Agenda of May 11, 2015 was received for information.

4.8.2 Notification of replacement Alternate to the PAC

The Water Preservation Society informed the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority that Usha Rautenbach will replace Rodney Polden as the Alternate.

4.8.3 Draft minutes of May 11 PAC meeting

The Public Advisory Committee Minutes of March 20, 2015 were received for information.

4.9 Correspondence

4.9.1 Evergreen.ca Watershed Champions School funding

The correspondence was received for information.

4.9.2 Pet Waste Receptacles at SML public beach – letter from Dan Ovington, CRD PARC

The correspondence was received for information.

4.10 Meeting Schedule

Coordinator Cowan presented the following meeting schedule:

SDM Workshop III: Monday, May 25, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – All Saints By the Sea, 110 Park Drive

PAC meeting (with Steering Committee): Monday, June 8, 2015, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Library Program Room, 123 McPhillips Avenue

Next Steering Committee meeting: Friday, June 19, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. - SD64 Boardroom, 112 Rainbow Road

Coordinator Cowan noted that the Agricultural Alliance has requested a SSIWPA member to attend their meeting scheduled on June 4, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at the Farmer's Institute. She also noted that North Salt Spring Waterworks District is hosting a public information event regarding the wier scheduled on June 2, 2015.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Questions and Comments from Public - none

6. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

George Grams, Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Sarah Shugar, Recorder