



Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting: Friday, August 22, 2014
Location: CRD PARC Portable
145 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island

Members Present: George Grams, Chair, Islands Trust Local Trustee
Don Hodgins, Chair, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Lorrie Hunt, Fernwood Water District Commissioner
Jeff Thompson, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) Trustee
Peter Lake, Alternate CRD Director

Members Regrets: Shannon Cowan, Coordinator
Erwin Dyck, Vancouver Island Health Authority Supervisor of Health Protection
Deb Epps, Ministry of Environment, Section Head, Environmental Quality
Dale Green, Capital Regional District, Integrated Watershed Management Program
Wayne McIntyre, Vice-Chair, Capital Regional District (CRD) Director
Meghan McKee, North Salt Spring Waterworks District Water Quality Specialist

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

Media and Others Present: Peter Grove, Islands Trust Local Trustee
Maxine Leichter, member of the Public Advisory Committee (PAC)
Maggie Squires, member of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

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 10:30 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following change was made to the agenda:

4.9 the budget update was deferred to the next meeting.

By general consent, the agenda was approved, as amended.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Draft Minutes of the July 18, 2014 SSI Watershed Protection Authority Meeting

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority minutes of July 18, 2014 were adopted.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Chair's Report

Chair Grams reported SSIWPA has received a \$10,000 grant from the Philip and Muriel Berman Foundation.

4.2 Current Condition of St. Mary Lake

Jeff Thompson reported on the latest test results of St. Mary Lake. The water level is low due to low precipitation, water conservation measures are recommended and water restrictions may be recommended soon. Currently, there are no cyanobacteria issues and there have been no significant changes in secchi depth. The water temperature is high which contributes to stressful conditions for fish.

4.3 Coordinator's Report

Chair Grams reviewed the Coordinator's Report for July 18 – August 22, 2014.

4.4 Technical Advisory Committee Chair's Report

Don Hodgins, Chair, provided the following report on TAC progress:

1. Monitoring Program:
 - The drilling of the septic wells is complete. There were fifteen wells drilled on three properties. The fourth property that was identified did not have vehicle access to the well site, there may be opportunity to drill by hand at a later date. The auger provided uncontaminated soil samples at each flight;
 - the next step is to purchase or fabricate the instruments for well sampling;
 - one in-lake sampler has been installed;
 - the on-lake sampling including plankton sampling is ongoing. The funding for the plankton analysis is not in place and the samples have limited viability;
 - the P-runoff modelling work is slightly behind schedule.
2. Cusheon Lake Data Analysis:
 - John Sprague has provided an update on knowledge of Cusheon Lake and has agreed to be a contact person for Cusheon Lake;
 - stream revegetation was noted as a principle recommendation for a management plan although there are questions regarding feasibility and there is no indication of a timeline.
3. Stowell/Ford/Bullock Lakes Data Collection:
 - the proposed data collection is under review and would be based on earlier work including the McKean report;
 - Maggie Squires is working on a proposal regarding the concerns that can be addressed within the SSIWPA mandate.

4. TAC Capabilities:

- There is limited man power to undertake further work and members want to ensure that the addition of other watersheds does not compromise the St. Mary Lake work.

Planner Cermak noted the SS Conservancy is undertaking restoration work around Blackburn Lake and will contact them regarding the Wetland Restoration grant opportunity.

4.5 Public Advisory Committee Draft Terms of Service

4.5.1 TAC (from Terms of Reference):

Chair Grams reviewed the proposed options for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Terms of Service. Don Hodgins will discuss the document with TAC members and will report back.

4.5.2 PAC: Proposed options

Chair Grams reviewed the proposed options for the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) Terms of Service.

4.6 Public Advisory Committee Terms of Reference Document

The Public Advisory Committee Draft Terms of Reference was provided for review.

4.7 Fall Fair Updates – September 13 - 14, 2014

Chair Grams reviewed the Fall Fair 2014 schedule.
Signups for Staffing the Water Booth:
Maggie Squires 12-3pm Saturday and 3-6pm Sunday;
George Grams – 12-3pm Sunday

4.8 Structured Decision-Making Timeline & Steering Committee Meeting Schedule

Planner Cermak reviewed the Structured Decision Making Timeline. He reported the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Structured Decision Making (SDM) facilitator position closes on August 28, 2014.

The Steering Committee Meeting schedule was provided for review. There was question regarding combining the SDM workshop with the October meeting.

4.9 St. Mary Lake Field Data Program 2015

Don Hodgins, Chair, provided the following report on St. Mary Lake Data Program:

- The groundwater table is very low and it is anticipated that it will lag slightly behind the rain water levels. The aim is to capture the hydrological cycle by early 2015 to inform the understanding of P-loading.

- The septic monitoring program will continue to May 2015. The budget implications will be for labour and materials, lab work and the decommissioning of the wells.
- Optimization of the in-lake monitoring strategy includes budget implications for stations, parameters and plankton.
- P-runoff modeling of the North West Creek and the storm water sites will include instrumentation and labour and materials.
- It may be beneficial to maintain the wells for future monitoring.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Questions and Comments From Public

The following comments were noted:

- A comment: Thank you for sharing a Fall Fair booth with the Water Preservation Society and the Water Council.
- Comments regarding the Public Advisory Committee: Please consider the following: new and innovative practices for public participation when drafting the PAC Terms of Reference; a vote process as a back up to consensus decision making; to invite members to apply; and expanding the criteria to include residents from other watersheds.

6. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

George Grams, Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Sarah Shugar, Recorder