



## Essex Region Source Protection Committee

## Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, February 14, 2024

**Time:** 4:00 pm

**Location and Details:** Essex Civic Centre, Room D

### Attendance

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**Members Present:**

Tom Fuerth (Chair)	Matthew Merrett
John Barnett (proxy for A Cristine)	Tim Mousseau (proxy for Barrette)
Bill Dukes (Zoom)	Cynthia Ouellet
Jim Drummond	Dennis Rogers (Zoom)
Frank Garardo	Chris Snip
Antonietta Giofu (Zoom)	Kevin Webb (Zoom)

**Liaisons Present:** Victoria Peczulis (WECHU) (Zoom)  
Larry Verbeke (SPA) (Zoom)

**Regrets:** Ron Barrette, Aaron Cristine

**Absent:** Chad Quinlan

**Staff Present:** Katie Stammler, Water Quality Scientist/Project Manager Source Water Protection  
Amy Weinz, Water Quality Technician  
Lisa Limarzi, Administrative Associate, Corporate Services

**Others:** Jenna Maidment (CFN), Michelle McCormack (CFN), Warren Higgins, Krystal Kalbol



**6. Adoption of Minutes**

**A. Essex Region Source Protection Committee**

**Resolution SPC 02/24** Moved by Chris Snip  
Seconded by Jim Drummond

That the minutes for the December 13, 2023 meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee (ERSPC) be approved and the recommendations therein be adopted as distributed.

**Carried**

**B. Essex Region Source Protection Authority**

None.

**7. Correspondence**

None.

**8. MECP Liaison's Update**

None.

**9. Presentations**

None.

**10. Reports for Approval**

**A. Report SPC 01/24 – S.36 Update – Draft Road Salt Policies**

THAT the SPC approve the attached amended policies, with the exception of the monitoring policy and further;

THAT a new draft of the monitoring policy be brought to the committee at the next meeting

**Resolution SPC 03/24** Moved by Cynthia Ouellet  
Seconded by Jim Drummond

**Carried**

**B. Report SPC 02/24 – S.36 Update – Draft Snow Storage Policies**

THAT the SPC approve the attached amended policies to be submitted to the MECP for early engagement

**Resolution SPC 04/24** Moved by Matthew Merrett  
Seconded by Chris Snip

**Carried**

**11. New Business**

None.

**12. Other Business**

Katie discussed an application that is she working on. The federal government, in conjunction with the US federal government, made a \$420,000,000 commitment for the Great Lakes over 10 years. It took some time to determine how that money was to be distributed. Now settled, the funds are to be allocated through multiple different streams. There is funding to address toxic algae and nutrients. We put in a letter of intent for \$2,000,000/year for 4 years for the implementation of Best Management Practices and improved monitoring including bringing back some monitoring stations and staff. Kevin Money, our Director of Conservation Areas, will be putting in an application for \$6,000,000 to do some major restoration projects out at Hillman Marsh. There are also 2 applications going in for the Detroit River area of concern, one for their governance and one for some habitat restoration projects. Finally, I will be putting in an application for funding under the "release of harmful chemicals" stream. We don't know much about per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) although our American counterparts discuss PFAS frequently. These are the forever chemicals. These pertain to anything non-stick, fire retardants and many, many others. The US Environmental Protection Agency says there are more than 4700 of these compounds, but some scientists speculate that there may be more than 15,000 of them. Currently, the US EPA can only identify 40 of those thousands of chemical compounds through analysis. The US is light years ahead of us on this issue. They have a department in the Michigan government specifically for this issue, and they have labs at universities dedicated to the study of PFAs. There are more than 2000 sampling locations in Michigan alone, and they've identified 300 contaminated sites through that monitoring. We are way behind. There has been very little PFAS monitoring at all in Ontario. ERCA, in partnership with 4 or 5 other Conservation Authorities with letters of support from some municipalities, has proposed to take samples for PFAS analysis in our existing monitoring areas. It will be a matter of filling an extra bottle to send off for analysis. Water treatment operators will do the same when they conduct their own sampling. We would like to coordinate

sampling across southwestern Ontario from Essex County to Maitland Valley. Our hope is to obtain this dataset to tell us where PFAS are or are not in the environment.

### 13. **Adjournment**

**Resolution SPC 05/23** Moved by Tim Mousseau  
Seconded by John Barnett

That the February 14, 2024 meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 5:14 pm.

**Carried**

### 1. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee will tentatively be held on March 13, 2024 starting at 4:00 pm at the Essex Civic Centre, Room TBD.



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**Tom Fuerth**  
Chair



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**Katie Stammer**  
Water Quality Scientist/  
Project Manager Source Water Protection