Essex Region Conservation

the place for life





Essex Region Source Protection Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Time: 4:00 pm

Location and Details: Essex Civic Centre, Room C

Attendance

Members Present: Tom Fuerth (Chair) Matthew Merrett

John Barnett Tim Mousseau

Ron Barrette

Aaron Coristine Dennis Rogers
Bill Dukes (carrying proxy for J. Drummond) Chris Snip

Kevin Webb

Frank Garardo Antonietta Giofu Thom Hunt

Victoria Peczulis (WECHU)

Larry Verbeke (SPA) Elizabeth Forrest (MECP)

Regrets: Jim Drummond, Albert Dionne, Cynthia Ouellett

Staff Present: Katie Stammler, Water Quality Scientist/Project Manager Source Water

Protection

Amy Weinz, Water Quality Technician

Lisa Pavan, Administrative Associate, Corporate Services

Kathleen Schnekenburger, RMO Official

Others: Sumaiya Habiba (County of Essex)

1. Call to Order

Good evening and welcome to the March 8th, 2023 meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee.

We have quorum with 10 members present, 2 members present by Zoom and 1 member present by proxy. I will call the meeting to order at this time, 4:06 pm.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples.

We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of our past as we continue to move forward in the spirit of reconciliation.

As we do at our meetings, I'll begin with a statement of hope and a statement of gratitude. I'm grateful that we have the opportunity to meet together in this in-person format, and I hope that we are able to get a great deal accomplished in our meeting today.

3. Chair's Welcome

Welcome all. We have not yet had confirmation of our SPA liaison, and will have to wait until June to welcome Larry.

Beth Forrest is here to give us an update from the province. We look forward to hearing from her later.

Katie and I went to the Board of Director's orientation meeting last month to give an overview of their duties at the Source Protection Authority

At the end of the month, I'll be attending a meeting with Kirsten Service, Director of Conservation and Source Protection for the Ministry. The suggested agenda includes:

- 1. The future of Source Protection Authorities
- 2. Our empowerment as the main authority on Source Water Protection in the region
- 3. Where the program is going in the next 5 years.

Please submit any opinions or comments along these lines soonest and I will bring them to the meeting.

You will also be asked in the meeting today to provide input to the SPC Chair comments to be include in the progress report. Please don't hesitate to speak up.

Bill Dukes is carrying proxy for Jim Drummond.

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Approval of Agenda

Resolution SPC 07/23 Moved by Bill Dukes

Seconded by Tim Mousseau

That the agenda for the March 8, 2023 meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee be approved. **Carried**

6. Adoption of Minutes

A. Essex Region Source Protection Committee

Resolution SPC 08/23 Moved by Thom Hunt Seconded by Chris Snip

That the minutes for the February 8, 2023 meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee (ERSPC) be approved and the recommendations therein be adopted as distributed. **Carried**

7. Correspondence

None.

8. MECP Liaison's Update

We continue to work with the Public Appointments Secretariat (PAS) and Minister's office to fill any Chair vacancies. Three Chairs have recently been appointed at Mattagami, CTC and Saugeen.

Multiple s.34 and s.36 updates continue to go through the various consultation phases and final submission for Minister approval. CSPB staff have been busy reviewing these packages.

CSPB has been supporting TSSA on a recommendation from a 2018 Auditor General Report. Recommendation 11 states: To reduce the risk of contamination of source water, we recommend that the TSSA:

- a. Work together with pertinent implementing bodies for source water protection plans and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on developing a plan to identify the location of private fuel storage sites that pose a significant threat to source water; and
- b. Where further action is needed, establish a risk-based periodic inspection program for private fuel storage site that pose a significant threat to source water

TSSA does not licence PFOs, so they do not have their location data; however, they do licence fuel suppliers, and those fuel suppliers know the locations of PFOs. Consequently, TSSA is holding a series of engagement sessions with fuel suppliers to explain source protection and the AG recommendation. This will ensure that they understand what we're asking for and why we are asking for it. These sessions will be held virtually, and the invitations will be sent to all fuel suppliers and Project Managers so they can choose which session will work best for them. Project Managers are encouraged to forward these meeting invitations to the Risk Management Officials in their regions so that they may better understand this project and potentially make beneficial connections with fuel suppliers in their areas. TSSA intends to send a demand order to fuel suppliers in the fall to formally request this location data.

The Conservation Source Protection Board Director, Kirsten Service, is committed to meeting with SPC Chairs annually to continue fostering their partnership in shared goals dedicated to the protection of drinking water sources. She has begun sending out meeting invitations to Chairs offering a few dates to meet. She is also scheduling some one-on-one time with Project Managers to hear their thoughts on the program and to better understand the important work they do.

9. Presentations

None.

10. Reports for Approval

A. Report SPC 03/23 – Update on Risk Management Services in the Essex Region Source Protection Area

THAT SPC Report 03/23 be received for information.

Resolution SPC 09/23 Moved by Ron Barrette
Seconded by Matthew Merrett

Carried

B. Report SPC 04/23 – Draft Responses for the 2022 Annual Reporting Template

THAT the Essex Region Source Protection Authority Annual Progress Report be submitted to the MECP on or before May 1, 2023 pending suggested changes and additions made by the SPC, and endorsement by the SPA

Resolution SPC 10/23 Moved by Tim Mousseau Seconded by John Barnett

Carried

C. Report SPC 05/23 – S.36 Update – Combined Sewer Overflow/Sanitary Sewer Overflow Policy Amendments

THAT the SPC approve the attached amended policies to be submitted to the MECP for early engagement and, further;

THAT the SPC approve the suggested removal of specific policies noted in SPC Report 05.23

Resolution SPC 11/23 Moved by Thom Hunt Seconded by Matthew Merrett

Carried

11. New Business

None.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Adjournment

Resolution SPC 12/23 Moved by Tim Mousseau Seconded by Ron Barrette

That the March 8, 2023 meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 5:08 pm. **Carried**

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee will be held on September 13, 2023 starting at 4:00 pm at the Essex Civic Centre, Room TBD.

Tom Fuerth Chair

Katie Stammler
Water Quality Scientist/
Project Manager Source Water Protection