

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-FIRST REGULAR LAKEHEAD SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the Seventy-First Regular Meeting of the Lakehead Source Protection Committee held on March 18, 2022, at the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority and via Microsoft Teams (virtual). The Chair called the Meeting to order at 11:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lucy Kloosterhuis, Chair
Chris Bowles
Ashleigh Marchl
Shanley Thompson
Bernie Kamphof
Walter Turek

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Erin Knight

LIAISON MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tammy Cook, CAO, LRCA
Christine Eby, Liaison Officer, MECP

LIAISON MEMBER ABSENT:

Lee Sieswerda, TBDHU

ALSO PRESENT:

Gail Willis, Watershed Manager
Roman Augustyn, Information Systems Coordinator, recorder of Minutes

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA BY CONSENSUS

Agenda adopted by consensus.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Seventieth Regular Meeting held on March 16, 2021 were adopted as amended by consensus.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

5. MECP LIAISON'S UPDATE

Catherine Eby, Liaison Officer provided an update from the MECP including: work has begun on best practices for areas not in Source Water Protection Areas; the MECP was drafting multiyear Transfer Payment Agreements for SWP funding; and the ministry was reviewing Section 34 and 36 updates.

A presentation was provided summarizing the key reporting items from the 2020 Source Protection Authority Annual Progress Reports. Key points included: 98% of legally binding Significant Drinking Water Threat (SDWT) policies had been or were being implemented (northern region 100%); 97% of non-binding SDWT policies were implemented or were being implemented (northern region 100%); 99.8% of moderate-low drinking water threat policies were implemented or were being implemented (northern region 100%); 83% of existing SDWTs are addressed across provincial Source Protection Regions (northern region 89%); 94% of municipalities had incorporated or were in the process of incorporating source protection into their Official Plans; and 91% of Source Protection Committees were progressing well or were on target towards achieving objectives of the plan.

6. SOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAM

Source Protection Funding

It was noted that the current funding Agreement was due to expire on March 31, 2022. Staff had submitted a draft two-year budget to the MECP which included a staff compliment of 0.50 Full Time Equivalent (FTE), which included 0.20 FTE Watershed Manager, 0.10 FTE Administrative Assistant and 0.20 FTE Information Systems Coordinator.

Source Protection Website

It was noted that the sourceprotection.net website content had been moved to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority website in order for staff to only have to maintain one website in the future.

7. SOURCE PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION

Implementing Bodies Annual Reports

It was noted that the two Implementing Bodies of the Lakehead Source Protection Plan (SPP), the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, submitted their Annual Reports on January 27, 2022 and January 4, 2022, respectively. Staff had reviewed the reports and had concluded that the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit had met the requirements of the Plan to date.

It was also noted that the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge had no Official Plan or Zoning By-Law amendment applications with respect to WHPA-A in 2021. The Thunder Bay District Health Unit re-inspected twelve sewage treatment systems in 2021, which completed the 5-year inspection cycle. The next cycle will begin in 2024.

Seventh Annual Lakehead Source Protection Plan Report

It was noted that the seventh annual progress report has been prepared for submission by the Lakehead SPA for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, utilizing the prepared templates from MECP. The LRCA also completed a more detailed report using a format developed by LRCA staff. The LRCA format will also be available on the LRCA website as it provides a more comprehensive summary of the program to date.

It was requested that if the SPC Members had any written comments regarding the reporting that they be received at the LRCA by April 15, 2022 for submission in the Annual Report. Staff will be presenting the final Annual Report to the SPA for adoption at the April 27, 2022 Board Meeting.

8. SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Committee Procedural Manual

It was noted that staff will be updating the Drinking Water Source Protection SPC Procedural Manual in 2022. Updates will include the allowance of members to participate electronically in SPC meetings and administrative changes related to the source protection website, notice of meetings, and member term of appointment.

Non-municipal SPC Member Replacements

Due to the expiration of the four non-municipal members terms, staff undertook the replacement process, with the SPA appointing the members on October 27, 2021 for a term of five years commencing on December 1, 2021.

The SPC appointed members included:

- Industrial Sector: Ashleigh Marchl
- Agricultural Sector: Bernie Kamphof
- Environmental Sector: Shanley Thompson
- General Public Sector: Erin Knight

It was noted that Erin Knight had subsequently resigned from the SPC and that staff would be undertaking the replacement process for that position.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Director Technical Rules

It was noted that on December 3, 2021 the amendments to the Director Technical Rules took

effect. The Rules detail the steps that must be undertaken for all technical work completed under the Clean Water Act and are updated from time to time using the current best available science and based on input from experts. It was noted that the changes were not anticipated to impact the current Lakehead Source Protection Plan.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Walter Turek noted that the City of Thunder Bay continued to have concerns related to the proposed subdivision located adjacent to the Bare Point Water Treatment Plant in the Municipality of Shuniah, including the potential impact from septic systems in the intake protection zones. It was noted that the current Source Protection Plan policies provided no applicable policies to address the potential impacts.

11. NEXT MEETING

The date for the next meeting was tentatively scheduled for March 2023.

12. ADJOURNMENT BY CONSENSUS

Meeting adjourned by consensus.