

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE NORTH BAY-MATTAWA  
SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE  
April 15/ 2008  
in the NBMCA Natural Classroom**

**1. ATTENDANCE**

a) Meeting called to order @ 9:15 by Chair, Barbara Groves.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Barbara Groves, Chair  
Dennis MacDonald  
George Onley

George Stivrins  
John MacLachlan  
Kathy Parker

Lucy Emmott  
Maurice Schlosser  
Roy Warriner

ABSENT/REGRETS:

Ian Kilgour

LIASONS PRESENT:

Kate Turner (MOE)

Peter Jekel (NBPSDHU)

Quorum was established.

**2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** None declared.

**3. MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL** Agenda approved.

**4. MARCH MINUTES APPROVED** on a motion by Onley, seconded by Parker.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Email from Raisin Region copied to all Source Protection Committees (SPCs) regarding Raisin's request to MOE to revise the Source Protection Committee regulation in order to allow individual SPCs to opt out of allowing proxy voting in their rules of procedure should the SPC so choose. Because the item was not specifically addressed to this SPC, it was decided that it be accepted for information but no response was required.
- (b) Follow up discussion from the March meeting, regarding correspondence dated March 18, 2008 from a North Bay property owner who had questions regarding land use activities on an adjacent property. At the March meeting, it was evident that the properties in question fall outside the Source Protection Area so the matter was forwarded to the City of North Bay. The City advised that the matter has been referred to appropriate staff.
- (c) Peter Richards, our consultant conducting the Powassan technical study, received an email from a Powassan resident who wondered if a horseback riding establishment north of Genessee Creek might pose a risk. This was in response to the consultant's request in August 2007 for information from the public on potential threats to the Powassan water supply. Staff prepared a location map which indicated that the subject property was well outside the vulnerable area for the wellhead. A response will be prepared by staff.

**Action: Staff to draft response for Chair's signature.**

6. As the agriculture rep, Maurice Schlosser raised some concerns regarding compensation for landowners affected by any future Source Protection planning.
7. April 22<sup>nd</sup> Watershed tour was mentioned with full discussion slated for later in the agenda.

**8. FUTURE MEETING DATES** adopted as

- i) MAY 22                      1:00 pm
- ii) June 17                    9:30 am
- iii) JULY 10                  7 pm (if required)
- iv) AUGUST 20                9:30 am (tentative, if required)
- v) SEPTEMBER                undecided (note: members need to finalize fall schedules)

**9. PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT/DISCUSSION**

(a) Aggregate Extraction

In response to a concern raised at the March SPC meeting with respect to potential source protection risks posed on the North Bay escarpment due to aggregate extraction activities, the project manager advised that licensing requirements for on-site mitigation are already designed to address water quality risks and the consultant preparing the Tier One Water Budget for the City of North Bay system has been instructed to include potential impacts to water quantity (due to aggregate extraction activities) in his assessment. In response to a Member's concerns over potential grandfathering circumventing these protections, the MOE liaison advised that the Clean Water Act prevents that.

(b) Update on the Wasi Dam

Water quality monitoring of the Wasi River over the period of dam removal in the fall of 2007 confirmed that phosphorus levels remained within the expected range. Staff is in the process of preparing a report for Mayor Hec Lavigne of Callander.

(c) Update on Peter Richards' presentation to Powassan Town Council.

On April 10 NBMCA staff, the SPC Chair and the SPC agricultural rep M. Schlosser attended a special meeting of Powassan council with consultant Peter Richards to update council on Mr. Richards' preliminary findings that the municipal well field receives recharge water from Genessee Creek. M. Schlosser attended to represent the interests of farmers along the creek who might be affected by a revised delineation of the vulnerable area. In his presentation Mr. Richards advised council that the nature of the soil between the creek and the wellhead is similar to what is used in filtration beds and the water quality records which show consistent good quality for the wells support that. This issue will be investigated further as part of the current technical study to delineate the vulnerable area for the system.

(d) Adoption of Rules of Procedure/ Code of Conduct/Conflict of Interest Policy

The project manager advised that following consultation with the NBMCA's solicitor, the wording of the proposed Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy has been

amended to recognize that the SPC is required to comply with the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act R.S.O. 1990, Chapter M.50, last amendment: 2007, c.8, s. 219.

The Chair questioned the reference to quorum in that document and whether it might supersede SPC Quorum. The MOE liaison will verify which applies.

## **10. DAN WALTERS - SURFACE WATER PRESENTATION**

Professor Dan Walters of Nipissing University who is a member of the water budget peer review committee for the North Bay - Mattawa SP Area provided the SPC with some basic instruction in hydrology. This training in surface water principles was supplemental to the groundwater session provided at the previous meeting. Prof. Walters covered the following topics:

- 1) Hydrological Cycle
- 2) Stream discharge
- 3) Water quality
- 4) North Bay-Mattawa Source Protection Region

**Action: A copy of the presentation is to be provided to SPC Members.**

## **11. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Staff presented the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) and which were compiled using a computer application provided by MOE to facilitate standardized reporting and tracking. The draft ToR must be posted on the website for public review and comment. SPC members were reminded of the consultation session with municipalities scheduled for Thursday, April 17 at 7 p.m. at the Callander Legion. Discussion surrounded the following:

- a) How will the SPC develop policies for the plan?  
– MOE is expected to coordinate the development of standard policies which each SPC can work with to development their plan. SPCs would be free to modify or develop their own policies but ultimately the plan must be acceptable to the Minister of Environment.
- b) Could staff explain the rationale for the dollar amounts and what each task entails as SPC members need to be able to answer questions they may be asked?  
- The costs are estimates and cover the entire program period from its start in 2004. The tasks are standardized and many relate to the specifics of the technical studies.
- c) What is the process for Powassan Council to elevate the Trout Creek well cluster?  
- Council would be required to pass a new resolution. At this time, MOE is not committed to funding the technical work required for non-municipal systems elevated for inclusion in planning. All tasks identified in the ToR must be completed, so wording must be chosen carefully to reflect the risk that funding may not be available for elevated systems. In early March MOE made a presentation to project managers explaining preliminary ideas for identifying wellhead protection areas for well clusters. The vulnerable areas for residential wells tend to be small compared to municipal wellheads because of the smaller water demand of single households.

d) M. Schlosser, as agricultural rep expressed concerns over the lack of mention of compensation for landowners required to implement risk management procedures. Committee members were advised that their task relates to development of policies to protect sources of drinking water. The committee requested that wording be included to reflect their agreement that the issue of compensation should be considered. The MOE liaison advised that compensation is being provided through the Stewardship Fund and more information should be available after April 17.

**Action: Revise draft ToR to include reference to consideration of compensation.**

**Action: Include the Drinking Water Stewardship Fund as a discussion item for the next meeting's agenda.**

**Action: Committee members are to be provided with a sample plan.**

**Action: Error found in draft ToR on page 16; change CA to SPA.**

## **12. PUBLIC CONSULTATION SESSION ON ToR - May 22, 2008**

Timing for the meeting and session at Average Joe's on Trout Lake Road was tentatively set but will be verified once the meeting notice is drafted.

## **13. OTHER BUSINESS**

(a) Lighting / Room Acoustic issues – It was suggested that a system of microphones might solve the issue for those having problems hearing. Lighting was also identified as an issue. The group decided that their preference was to go back to meeting in the second floor boardroom despite the cramped quarters.

(b) NMBCA Communications staff presented a draft Drinking Water Source Protection newsletter.

(c) Watershed Tour – April 22, 2008. Meet at the Information Centre at 9 a.m.

(d) Dennis MacDonald, the Transportation rep, will be in Calgary and would like to provide some information to CPR regarding source protection in Ontario.

**Action: Staff will prepare a package of relevant material.**

## **14. CHAIR ADJOURNED MEETING 3:05 PM**

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Barbara Groves, Chair

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Sue Miller, Project Manager