

MISSISSIPPI-RIDEAU SOURCE PROTECTION REGION
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MINUTES

Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee **April 1, 2010** **#4/10**

- Present:**
- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| George Braithwaite | Scott Bryce |
| Carol Dillon | Richard Fraser |
| Paul Knowles | Drew Lampman |
| Patricia Larkin | Randy Malcolm |
| Peter McLaren | Beverly Millar |
| Eleanor Renaud | Janet Stavinga (Chair) |
| Mary Trudeau | |
- Jean-Guy Albert (Medical Officer of Health Liaison)
Mark Burnham (Source Protection Authority Liaison)
Mary Wooding (Ministry of the Environment Liaison)
- Regrets:** Christine Leadman
- Staff:**
- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Charles Billington | Sommer Casgrain-Robertson |
| Rosalind Kee | Jackie Oblack |
| Michelle Paton | Brian Stratton |
- SPA Members:** Alan Arbuckle (Chair, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority)
- Guests:** Gerry Anderson (Carleton Place Urban Forest/River Corridor Committee)

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Chair Stavinga welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked participants to introduce themselves.

a) Agenda Review

Chair Stavinga reviewed the purpose of the meeting and the agenda.

b) Notice of Proxies **None**

c) Adoption of the Agenda

Motion 1-04/10

That the Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

d) **Declarations of Interest** **None**

e) **Approval of Minutes**

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson will amend the last sentence of the first bullet under Section 2.0 b) of the draft minutes (page 5) to clarify that the Member felt the linear equation had no firm mathematical basis.

Motion 2-04/10

That the minutes of the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee meeting of March 4, 2010 be approved as amended.

Carried

f) **Status of Action Items**

Motion 3-04/10

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the Status of Action Items report for information.

Carried

g) **Correspondence**

Chair Stavinga gave an overview of the correspondence that had been received (included in the agenda).

Motion 4-04/10

That a letter of support for local Rural Clean Water Programs be brought forward at the May 6, 2010 meeting.

Carried

2.0 Assessment Report Development

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson provided members with a review of progress to date:

- Two City of Ottawa open houses were held for the Britannia and Lemieux Island surface water vulnerability studies.
- The next open houses for Carleton Place, Perth, and Smiths Falls will take place in late April.
- A draft of Chapter 6 will be brought forward at the May meeting for review and consideration. Included in this chapter will be new technical information on the Surface Water Threats Inventory.
- A small portion of the threats inventory, a section of IPZ-3 for Carleton Place and Perth, will be brought forward in June.

The entire preliminary draft Assessment Report will be brought to the Committee in June at which time Members will be asked to approve the report as draft so public consultation can begin mid June. Notices regarding the

consultation process will be mailed to every property owner where a potential significant threat has been identified as soon as public consultation details have been confirmed.

a) **Revised IPZ-3 Vulnerability Scoring for Draft Surface Water Studies**

Brian Stratton summarized the revised IPZ-3 vulnerability scoring for the draft Inland Surface Water Studies (Carleton Place, Perth and Smiths Falls) and directed Members to the memo from J.F. Sabourin and Associates Inc. dated March 23, 2010 (included in the agenda).

The revised methodology relies primarily on distance from the intake when determining vulnerability scores for IPZ-3. Small adjustments are made to reflect runoff potential - CN value and slope.

Members stressed that conclusions should be consistent and science based to facilitate discussion at public open houses and to make our position more defensible. Concrete examples and illustrations would be beneficial. The public also needs to know that these are draft documents and are open to change.

Members expressed concern with:

- The need to better understand IPZ vulnerability scoring;
- The need to better understand the methodology used; and
- The need for clearer technical rules governing surface water vulnerability studies as the current ones are too vague and allow for too much interpretation and local discretion.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson informed Members that during a recent conference call MOE clarified that Committees are not at liberty to include additional content in their Assessment Report beyond what is required by the Regulations and Technical Rules. Specifically, MOE will not be able to approve Assessment Reports that contain statements that question technical rules or direct the Provincial to undertake additional work outside the scope of the Clean Water Act. In light of this clarification staff rethought Chapters 6 (Surface Water Sources) and Chapter 8 (Topics for Additional Research). Ms. Casgrain-Robertson gave Members a brief presentation proposing that:

- Chapter 8 strictly identify Assessment Report data gaps
- An accompanying document be prepared to capture all other concerns the Committee has raised, or has been made aware of, that fall outside the current scope of the Source Protection Planning process. These include uranium and the protection of private wells. This document would be submitted to MOE with the Assessment Report.
- Chapter 6 contain a very visible and transparent introductory section clearly identifying that there has been substantial discussion about the surface water vulnerability scoring methodology. The reason for the discussion is there is no prescriptive methodology in the Technical Rules so individual consultants are developing their own methodologies which are subject to debate. This section will stress the need for MOE to work with experts to develop a preferred methodology. This Technical Guidance

must be issued in time for Committees to reassess, if needed, their surface water vulnerability scoring in advance of Source Protection Plan policies being implemented in 2013. MOE will probably not approve this section but it is important that it be included for transparency during public consultation and to raise the issue with MOE.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that Source Protection Plans are due in August 2012 but plans must contain policies for all land use activities that are or could be a significant drinking water threat. This means vulnerability scores do not determine what policies you develop, they determine where those policies will apply.

Motion 5-04/10

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee amend the IPZ 3 vulnerability scoring in the following draft studies and their summaries:

- Carleton Place Surface Water Study
- Perth Surface Water Study
- Smiths Falls Surface Water Study

Carried

One Member Dissented: Mary Trudeau

b) Preliminary Draft Assessment Report Chapter

Jackie Oblak summarized the contents of Chapter 7 – Climate Change.

Members suggested a number of revisions to the chapter:

- Page 7-4: Paragraph 2 – Need to clarify the reason for including non-significant trends.
- Page 7-5: Under “Fall” – Change wording from “each month” to “in each month” or “monthly”.
- Page 7-5: Under “Summer” – Add clarifying sentence regarding increases and decreases in precipitation.
- Page 7-6: Under Water Quantity – Include a statement that waterways are regulated.
- Page 7-6: 2nd last paragraph, last sentence – change to read “Increasing temperatures may also increase the duration and/or frequency of winter melting periods”.
- Page 7-10: Transport Pathways should also talk about roads and sewers.
- Page 7-11: Investigate feasibility of including Monthly Average Climate Data from the Ottawa Airport. Staff believed the data shown was consistent with the data shown in the Water Budget but they will look into it.
- Ensure that references are cited within the document when appropriate.

Motion 6-04/10

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the following chapter for inclusion in the preliminary draft Assessment Report:

- Chapter 7 – Climate Change

Carried

3.0 Draft Source Protection Plan Regulation

a) Overview of Draft Regulation

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson gave a brief overview of the *Source Protection Plans Developed Under the Clean Water Act – Draft Regulation Amendments Proposal* (slides attached).

b) Draft Comments for Submission to the Environmental Registry

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reviewed the draft comments prepared by staff for submission to the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry. Members made a number of revisions:

- Comment #3 – the first two sentences need further clarification
- Comment #5 – change last line to read “drinking water threat and/or will not be updated in a timely manner”
- Comment #7 – change “Written Rationale” to “Explanatory Document”
- Comment #20 – delete last sentence

Motion 7-04/10

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the comments as amended for submission to the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry, Registry Number 010-8766 (Regulatory Components to Support the Development and Implementation of Source Protection Plans under the *Clean Water Act 2006*).

Carried

4.0 2010 MRSPC Meeting Schedule

Chair Stavinga reviewed the 2010 MRSPC Meeting Schedule. Chair Stavinga proposed changing the start times of the June and August meetings from 7 pm to 6 pm since those meetings will entail reviewing and approving the draft and proposed Assessment Reports. This means the public “Meet & Greets” will begin at 5pm.

Motion 8-04/10

Moved by: Eleanor Renaud
Seconded by: Beverly Miller

That the June 3, 2010 and August 12, 2010 meetings of the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee begin at 6 pm with a “Meet and Greet” at 5 pm.

Carried

Motion 9-04/10

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the meeting schedule for the remainder of 2010 as amended.

Carried

5.0 Community Outreach

Chair Stavinga reported that the Regional Youth Water Symposium, attended by French and English high school students in the area, was a great event. She was impressed at how powerfully students were able to use media such as rap, art and poetry to present views on water issues.

Chair Stavinga presented to about 50 members of the Ontario Woodlot Association’s Lower Ottawa Valley Chapter. The topic was “Source Water Protection and the Woodlot Owner as a Stakeholder”.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reported that four people attended the Lemieux Island open house and approximately 18 attended the Britannia one. She said there was a lot of discussion about the studies and a summary of all comments will be provided for the Committee’s consideration at their May meeting.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson presented the Britannia and Lemieux Island surface water studies to the Mississippi Valley Source Protection Authority on March 24.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson made a presentation about groundwater protection at the Perth and Carleton Place high schools as part of the 2010 Envirothon.

George Braithwaite, Patricia Larkin, and Peter McLaren attended an assembly on drinking water at Maple Grove Public School. They were impressed by the participation of all students in the water usage reduction program including the reduction in use of plastic water bottles. Patricia Larkin will return to do a follow-up Eco review at the end of April.

Peter McLaren and Eleanor Renaud attended an OFA Consultation Session on the draft Source Protection Plan Regulation.

Carol Dillon participated in a Water Guardian's conference call. Participants commented on confusion during public consultation between the terms "transportation corridor" and "transport pathway". In our glossary, we need to clearly differentiate between the two.

Chair Stavinga will be participating in a Chairs conference call on April 12. The next Chairs meeting will be held in May in Windsor, Ontario. These meetings are now being held three times per year. At the May meeting Chair Stavinga will again speak to the challenges we are experiencing with our surface water studies.

Carol Dillon informed members that the Friends of the Tay Watershed will have a booth at Perth's Maplefest taking place on April 24. This will provide an opportunity for discussion with local residents.

Chair Stavinga reported that the Ottawa Riverkeeper, in partnership with the National Capital Commission, is hosting a one-day summit to bring together municipal and First Nations leaders to discuss the health and future of the Ottawa River. The summit, which is still in the planning stages, is scheduled for August 27, 2010, in Ottawa. Chair Stavinga has been in contact with Meredith Brown, Ottawa Riverkeeper, to discuss opportunities to collaborate.

Motion 10-04/10

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the Community Outreach report for information.

Carried

6.0 Other Business

Mary Trudeau informed Members that she has decided to resign from the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee. She explained that she does not want to risk her professional reputation by being associated with an Assessment Report that includes surface water vulnerability methodologies that she does not support. She regrets the Ottawa Riverkeeper will no longer be represented on the Committee and hopes her resignation does not preclude them from future involvement. She thanked Meredith Brown, Ottawa Riverkeeper, for supporting her decision to resign.

Chair Stavinga sincerely thanked Mary Trudeau for her invaluable contributions over the past two years. She highlighted that her technical expertise drew the Committee's attention to weaknesses in the initial surface water vulnerability studies which led to much improved studies. Chair Stavinga noted that she has had many discussions with Ms. Trudeau over the past few months to try and find ways to address her concerns and she deeply regrets that Ms. Trudeau felt the need to resign as her knowledge and perspective will be missed.

Many other Members expressed their appreciation for Ms. Trudeau's contributions and received her resignation with regret.

7.0 Member Inquiries None

8.0 Next Meeting

Date: May 6, 2010

Time: 7 pm

Location: Carp Fairgrounds (Agricultural Hall), 3790 Carp Road, Carp
6pm – public “meet and greet”

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

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Janet Stavinga
Chair

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Michelle Paton
Recording Secretary