

MISSISSIPPI-RIDEAU SOURCE PROTECTION REGION

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MINUTES

**Mississippi-Rideau
Source Protection Committee**

September 1, 2011

#9/11

Location: Rosedale Hall, Township of Montague
657 Rosedale Road South, Montague

Present: George Braithwaite Scott Berquist
Scott Bryce Carol Dillon
Richard Fraser Paul Knowles
Drew Lampman Patricia Larkin
Pieter Leenhouts Randy Malcolm
Peter McLaren Beverly Millar
Eleanor Renaud

Mary Wooding (Ministry of the Environment Liaison)

Ken Graham (Source Protection Authority Liaison)

Staff: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson Allison Gibbons
Tiffany Ones Michelle Paton
Brian Stratton

Guests: Duncan Abbott David Hammonds
Vanessa Orchowshki Debra Pretty-Straathof

Regrets: Tammy Rose Janet Stavinga (Chair)

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson offered Chair Stavinga's regrets and advised that Scott Bryce would be chairing the meeting. Chair Bryce asked participants to introduce themselves.

a) Agenda Review

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson advised that staff had drafted an additional policy idea for Committee consideration: 3.0e Transportation Corridors. She asked that the following Motion to waive the rules of procedure be considered.

Motion 1-9/11

Moved by:

Eleanor Renaud

Seconded by:

Patricia Larkin

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee suspend the Governing Rules of Procedure, Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest as outlined in Section 2.2.3 and in accordance with Section 2.2.5 in order that the Committee may amend the agenda and receive the accompanying material.

Carried

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson also proposed that the Agenda be amended to include a 2012 Meeting Schedule under Item 5.0 Other Business.

b) Notice of Proxies None

c) Adoption of the Agenda

Motion 2-9/11

Moved by:

George Braithwaite

Seconded by:

Carol Dillon

That the Agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

d) Declarations of Interest None

e) Approval of Minutes

In response to a question from a member, Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that while not all action items arising from the Minutes are added to the "Status of Action Items", they are tracked and acted upon by staff.

A member asked that, for clarity, Item 1.0 f) be amended to read "W.F. Baird & Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd"

Motion 3-9/11

Moved by:

Paul Knowles

Seconded by:

Eleanor Renaud

That the minutes of the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee meeting of August 4, 2011 be approved as amended.

Carried

f) Status of Action Items

Chair Bryce reviewed the Status of Action Items. The following updates were noted:

4. Ottawa River Watershed Inter-Jurisdictional Committee

Mary Wooding advised that participants were hoping to schedule a meeting for late fall 2011.

Motion 4-9/11

Moved by:

George Braithwaite

Seconded by:

Carol Dillon

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

Carried

g) Correspondence

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson reviewed the correspondence and noted the following:

1. Ministry of the Environment Letter dated August 4, 2011
The proposed Assessment Report for the Mississippi Valley Source Protection Area was approved as submitted. Minor edits to the report are not permitted at this stage.
2. Ministry of the Environment Letter dated August 4, 2011
The proposed Assessment Report for the Rideau Valley Source Protection Area was reviewed. The Ministry of the Environment allowed amendments to the Assessment Report because of the proposed work on the Kemptville and Merrickville Drinking Water Systems. The revisions were submitted to the Ministry of the Environment on August 19, 2011 and are currently being reviewed.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson spoke to the Ministry of Environment's concerns regarding the proposed "accompanying document" to the Assessment Reports. Staff have drafted a letter of response, to be signed by Chair Stavinga and the Chairs of the Source Protection Authorities, explaining the rationale for the accompanying document.

Motion 5-9/11

Moved by:

Eleanor Renaud

Seconded by:

Scott Berquist

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the Correspondence for information and direct staff to submit the attached letter of response to the Ministry of the Environment.

Carried

2.0 Source Protection Plan Progress

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson reviewed Source Protection Plan progress to date. She advised that the last policy concepts would be presented to the Source Protection Authorities on September 21 and 22, 2011.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson explained the next steps in policy development. Policy fact sheets will be created for each of the significant threats.

In September, all municipalities will receive a complete set of draft policy concepts for review and comment. As well, all other agencies identified as potential policy implementers including government ministries, health units and conservation authorities will receive relevant draft policies for review and comment. Property owners who may be affected by a policy will receive relevant policy fact sheets. Other interested parties will receive relevant information.

In October, public open houses will be held to solicit public feedback.

In November, the Source Protection Committee meeting will concentrate on an overview of all the draft policies, this will include a cross-referencing summary. Staff hope to present a summary from the other 18 Source Protection Regions as well.

The December, January, and February meetings will involve considering all the comments received on the draft policies and amending policies as necessary.

In March, staff hope to present a full draft plan for Committee review.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson then proposed that the October 2011 Source Protection Committee meeting be cancelled to allow staff to focus on implementing the public consultation process. As well, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson asked the Committee to postpone the December 1 meeting to December 15 at 10 a.m. to accommodate a 60-day policy comment window for municipalities and policy implementers.

Motion 6-9/11

Moved by:

George Braithwaite

Seconded by:

Patricia Larkin

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the Source Protection Plan Progress staff report for information.

Carried

Motion 7-9/11

Moved by:

George Braithwaite

Seconded by:

Patricia Larkin

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee cancel their October 6, 2011 meeting while early engagement and public consultation is underway on draft policy concepts.

Carried

Motion 8-9/11

Moved by:

George Braithwaite

Seconded by:

Patricia Larkin

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee move their December 1, 2011 meeting to December 15, 2011 at 10 a.m. to accommodate a 60-day comment period for municipalities.

Carried

Patricia Larkin proposed that she, Carol Dillon, and Sommer Casgrain-Robertson work to clarify the wording in the yellow text boxes on Page 15 of the Agenda package and will present a revised option to the Committee in November.

3.0 Draft Policy Ideas

a. Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Source Material, Grazing, Pasturing, Outdoor Confinement Areas and Farm Yards

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson highlighted the following definitions:

Agricultural Source Material (ASM) is material produced on a farm and applied to land to improve the growth of crops and for soil conditioning.

Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) is material not produced on a farm that is applied to land to improve the growth of crops and for soil conditioning. NASM is comprised of three categories depending on the qualities of the material

Outdoor Confinement Area (OCA) is an enclosure with no roof with a very high animal concentration (typically larger than 15 animals per acre where animals are fed and watered and grazing provides less than 50% of their feed.

Farm-Animal Yard is an enclosure with no roof and a high animal concentration where food and water are not provided.

Nutrient Unit (NU) is a unit of measurement developed to standardize the nutrients generated by different sizes and types of livestock. One nutrient unit represents the number of animals required to produce 43 kg of nitrogen or 55 kg of phosphorus annually. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that a nutrient unit chart had been circulated to members earlier in the year.

Nutrient Management Strategy is the document that shows how all the nutrients that are generated on the farm (ASM) will be managed including the capacity of livestock housing and manure storages, site selection, design and engineering of new nutrient storages and runoff management.

Nutrient Management Plan is the document that sets out how much and where the nutrients will be applied to the land.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reviewed the locations and circumstances where the application and storage of ASM, and the application, storage and handling of the different categories of NASM could be considered significant drinking water threats. She confirmed that there are some properties in the Mississippi-Rideau region where existing activities related to ASM, NASM, and outdoor livestock areas are considered to be significant drinking water threats.

After reviewing the existing regulations, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson explained the policy options available and spoke to the draft policy ideas being presented for consideration.

Members discussed the ideas and noted the following:

1. Nutrient Management Plans and Strategies are used by some property owners even though they are not required to under the *Nutrient Management Act*;
2. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) may not prioritize the protection of water as Source Protection Committees do. Staff will investigate the priority given to water protection under the *Nutrient Management Act* during the pre-consultation process.
3. The application and/or storage of ASM and NASM is considered to be a significant drinking water threat if the activity occurs within 100 meters of a well. Members questioned whether this threshold also applies to intakes.

Motion 9-9/11

Moved by:

George Braithwaite

Seconded by:

Randy Malcolm

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the Draft Policy Ideas for agricultural and non-agricultural source material, grazing, pasturing, outdoor confinement areas and farm yards and direct staff to undertake early engagement with potentially affected persons and bodies.

Carried

b. Commercial Fertilizer

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson highlighted the following definitions:

Commercial Fertilizer is a synthetic substance containing nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium (or other plant food intended for use as a plant nutrient) that is applied to land to improve the growth of crops.

Managed Lands include cropland, fallow land, pasture, golf courses, sports fields and lawns to which fertilizer could be applied.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reviewed the locations and circumstances where the use of commercial fertilizer could be considered a significant drinking water threat. She directed members to the chart on Page 33 and advised that the "0"s indicated in the chart under Existing Significant Threats Application for Almonte, Carp, Kemptville, Merrickville, Richmond, Westport, Carleton Place, Perth, and Smiths Falls should be replaced by "Not Applicable". Only Munster should show a "0" because this is the only area that can meet the significant threat circumstances as a result of the percentage of managed lands. She confirmed that there are some property parcels in the Mississippi-Rideau region where the handling and storage of commercial fertilizer is considered to be a significant drinking water threat

After reviewing the existing regulations, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson explained the policy options available and spoke to the draft policy ideas being presented for consideration.

Motion 10-9/11

Moved by:

Carol Dillon

Seconded by:

Paul Knowles

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the Draft Policy Ideas for commercial fertilizer and direct staff to undertake early engagement with potentially affected persons and bodies.

Carried

c. Pesticide

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson spoke to the storage, handling or application of pesticide. She directed members to the list of 11 chemicals listed in the provincial Tables of Circumstances on Page 40.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reviewed the locations and circumstances where the storage, handling or application of pesticide could be considered a significant drinking water threat. She confirmed that there are some property parcels in the Mississippi-Rideau region where the application of pesticide is considered to be a significant drinking water threat. There are also property parcels where the handling and storage of pesticide is considered to be a significant drinking water threat.

After reviewing the existing regulations, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson explained the policy options available and spoke to the draft policy ideas being presented for consideration.

Debra Pretty-Straathof asked about the amount of pesticide that a retail outlet is allowed to store. Staff responded that the type of pesticide determines the quantity that can be stored.

In response to a suggestion by a member, staff will consider whether to note the requirement for a custom applicator to take a commercial pesticide spray course. Staff will also investigate whether the Agrichemical Warehousing Standards Association requirements include product knowledge for small pesticide retailers such as hardware or automotive outlets.

Motion 11-9/11

Moved by:

Bev Millar

Seconded by:

Pieter Leenhouts

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the Draft Policy Ideas for pesticides and direct staff to undertake early engagement with potentially affected persons and bodies.

Carried

d. The Management of Agricultural Source Material - Aquaculture

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that, while aquaculture is a moderate threat, it is one of the subcategories listed under “Agricultural Source Material”. Aquaculture involves farm-raising cultured fishing facilities located either in the water or on land. The fish manure and by-products such as uneaten feed and dead fish are a type of agricultural source material. Aquaculture is considered a moderate threat in Intake Protection Zones that have a vulnerability score of 10 or 9.

Following a discussion, staff were directed to amend the statement on Page 48 of the Agenda package to read:

“In the Mississippi-Rideau region there are aquaculture facilities but none are located in an area where they would be a moderate drinking water threat.”

Motion 12-9/11

Moved by:

Eleanor Renaud

Seconded by:

Carol Dillon

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the Draft Policy Ideas for the management of agriculture source material - aquaculture and direct staff to undertake early engagement with potentially affected persons and bodies.

Carried

e. Transportation Corridors

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson reviewed the draft policy ideas for transportation corridors which refer to roads, railways and shipping lanes. Transportation of dangerous and/or hazardous goods along these corridors poses a risk of spills which could put municipal drinking water systems at risk. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson emphasized that the draft policy ideas were drafted to direct municipalities to update their emergency response plans to include information on drinking water systems and associated vulnerable areas including transportation corridors.

Motion 13-9/11

Moved by:

Peter McLaren

Seconded by:

Drew Lampman

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the Draft Policy Ideas for transportation corridors and direct staff to undertake early engagement with potentially affected persons and bodies.

Carried

Patricia Larkin advised that while travelling in another Source Protection Region she had seen signage indicating that “You are entering a Source Protection Area”. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that some individual municipalities have taken the initiative and installed signage. Source Protection Committee Chairs are working with the Ministry of Transportation to lobby for the use of consistent signage across the Province.

4.0 Community Outreach

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson reviewed the community outreach activities.

In response to a question from a member, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that staff had recently met with the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit. Mary Wooding added that Ministry of Environment Liaisons have been meeting and undertaking outreach activities with other ministries and provincial organizations.

Carol Dillon announced that the Friends of the Tay Watershed's 11th Annual Watershed Discovery Day would be held at the Eco-Tay Education Centre on September 18.

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that the upcoming Municipal Working Group meeting will be held on October 20 at the Perth Civitan. Registration will begin at 9:00 am and the session will start at 9:30 am.

Motion 14-9/11

Moved by:

Eleanor Renaud

Seconded by:

Bev Millar

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

Carried

6.0 Other Business

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson advised that a Source Protection Committee meeting schedule must be posted on the website six months in advance and presented a draft schedule for approval. She pointed out that the January meeting has been pushed back one week to January 12, 2012.

Motion 15-9/11

Moved by:

George Braithwaite

Seconded by:

Randy Malcolm

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the 2012 Meeting Schedule as presented.

Carried

7.0 Member Inquiries None

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8.0 Next Meeting
November 3, 2011, 1 pm
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
3889 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick

9.0 Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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Scott Bryce
Chair

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Michelle Paton
Recording Secretary