

NIAGARA PENINSULA SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

WELLAND

September 19, 2017

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Bellantino Perco (Chair)
R. Bator
C. Bodimeade
P. Grenier
A. Michaud
D. Semple
C. Vega
A. Willems

MEMBERS ABSENT: T. Dalimonte

LIAISONS PRESENT: P. Jekel, Niagara Public Health Representative
B. Forrest, Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change
B. Baty, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (delayed)

LIAISONS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: J. Campbell, Supervisor, Special Projects
S. Miller, Manager, Water Resources & Restoration
D. Gullett, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Crowell, Niagara Region RMO

ROLL CALL

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

BUSINESS:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., welcomed everyone and requested our two new committee members introduce themselves. Mr. Carl Bodimeade, a professional engineer is the new Public at large representative. He has a water and environmental background and is currently working for Hatch. He owns a small organic blueberry farm and his interests include environmental health and water resources.

Ms. Annie Michaud is our new commercial sector representative. She is also a professional engineer and happy to be a part of this committee. Currently works at Terra Dynamics Consulting Limited and in the environmental department at Niagara College.

Mr. Campbell requested he would like to walk on two letters under other business, and this will not impact the agenda items for this evening. The Chair asked if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare it. Mr. Bodimeade said he may have a potential conflict with his employer being contracted to design the water treatment plant in Niagara Falls. There being none, the following resolution was then presented:

SPCR-12-17

MOVED BY: R. Bator

SECONDED BY: D. Semple

THAT: The agenda be accepted as printed.

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(1) MINUTES – JUNE 13, 2017 SPC MEETING

The Chair asked if there were any errors or omissions in the minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting. The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-13-17

MOVED BY: P. Grenier

SECONDED BY: R. Bator

THAT: The minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held June 13, 2017 be received and approved as printed.

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Mr. Campbell confirmed the following:

Item 3:

Niagara Region is proceeding with drinking water protection signage along the regional roads for Welland, Port Colborne and Thorold. The Spills Action Centre phone numbers will be added to the signs.

Item 6:

The Niagara real estate association was contacted through their website regarding the available mapping tools.

Item 7:

OPG has encapsulated portions of their canal. This may change the Highway 406 IPZ-1 and IPZ-2. He will follow up with Ontario Power Generation.

(3) **UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR, PROJECT MANAGER, MOECC, RISK MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL AND COUNCILLOR PAUL GRENIER**

Chair

Ms. Bellantino Perco was officially appointed as the Chair of the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Committee on August 22, 2017. Our two new members were appointed at the June Source Protection Authority meeting, and we will require a new industrial sector representative.

There is an SPC Chairs and Project Managers meeting October 12 and 13th in Toronto. Mr. Glen Murray has stepped down as the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, and this is the tenth anniversary of the Clean Water Act 2006 coming into effect. The Chair mentioned she would like to coordinate an orientation session for the new members in the very near future.

Project Manager

Mr. Campbell said he will discuss the stakeholder workshop update further under Report 09-17. Our two new members were approved at the June Source Protection Authority meeting.

He also held a number of meetings with individual stakeholders that were unable to attend the workshops including:

- Thorold Planning (Section 36)
- Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services
- Thorold Fire Department
- Niagara Region Director of Water & Wastewater and staff
- OPG – DeCew waterworks canal; and
- Niagara Area Planners

Port Colborne's Official Plan was approved August 28, 2017.

Mr. Campbell is attending a Great Lakes Chloride Forum October 4, and is going to the SPC Project Managers meeting October 12 and 13, 2017.

MOECC

Ms. Forrest mentioned there is a lot going on right now moving forward, improvements, efficiencies and larger changes will be discussed at the upcoming Chairs meeting then posted on the registry for comments.

A new table of drinking water threats will be launched which is a dynamic on-line tool allowing users to look up potential threats. Ms. Vega questioned if a threat doesn't turn up, and Ms. Forrest replied if you can't find a certain threat, just let her know.

Mr. Bator asked if any of the threats were taken off, and as far as Ms. Forrest can recall, no threats have been removed.

Risk Management training is scheduled for November if there are enough participants to have this session.

Improving First nations drinking water is part of the MOECC Source Protection mandate and the Prime Minister has made quite a bold commitment primarily working on infrastructure and site assessments.

Lastly, the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area Section 36 workplan is one of the first three currently being worked on in the province. This will be discussed by Jayme under a later report.

Risk Management Officer

Ms. Croswell said as Jayme indicated on the signage there are challenges with municipalities using a provincial template for the drinking water protection signs.

In regards to past blue-green algae issues, a very robust sampling procedure for algae has set a bench mark for next year.

Lastly, with staffing changes and acting positions at the Region, additional staff have been trained in risk management so there will be more availability if needed.

Councillor Paul Grenier

Mr. Grenier attended the Canadian Water Summit in June that took place in Toronto. He expressed it was a wonderful event and pointed out the following highlights:

- Opened with Marissa Sterling involving more females in the industry;
- Former Ontario Minister of Environment and Climate Change Glen Murray was a keynote speaker;
- Pricing of water – our ability to engage in safe drinking water and appropriate use of waste water as a concept;
- Recycling of storm water in Guelph;
- Innovative partnerships to address the water gap in Indigenous communities;
- Regional mock exercise is coming up.

The next summit is to be held in Vancouver, and the idea of participating in these types of events to promote the good job we are doing and what this committee has achieved would be great. He was very glad he attended, and thanked the Chair for the opportunity to present this to the committee. Mr. Baty commented on the Region looking into Ramsar designation. Mr. Bodimeade indicated he will be attending the CWWA conference in November.

(4) SECTION 36 DRAFT REPORT

Mr. Campbell showed a powerpoint presentation on the Section 36 Draft Report (attached). The following comments were made:

- The first goal is to address the required updates;
- The temporary intake in Niagara Falls will require a new IPZ-1 and threats assessment (potentially a new IPZ-2);
- A new alternate intake and open channel being put into a pipe from the Welland Canal at DeCew Falls Main Intake, and these changes should result in a water system which is less vulnerable to land use activities;
- Mr. Bodimeade inquired about the timing of Enbridge twinning the pipeline, and the Chair mentioned this will now be a recognized threat;
- Ms. Forrest suggested looking at other SPP's to see what they have done with their policies for pipeline threats;
- Phosphorus and algal blooms – In Lake Erie the intakes may be affected by this. It is timely to implement courses of action in Niagara to help the bigger picture on the U.S. and Canadian side.
- Private water wells – Mr. Semple commented when the source water program began private / rural development was not included. From a previous planner's perspective, the issue is massive policy wise.

The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-14-17

MOVED BY: P. Grenier

SECONDED BY: C. Vega

THAT: the Source Protection Committee (SPC) receive for consideration this draft report for updating the Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan.

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(5) OTHER BUSINESS

The City of Port Colborne and the City of Thorold have both requested extensions to update their Comprehensive Zoning By-law for Source Water Protection. The Chair questioned what are the consequences if the timelines are not adhered to. Ms. Forrest responded other areas have requested extensions, and they look at the risk. At the end of the day it has to be done, but they are adhering to the Official Plans and Zoning By-laws. There is not a specific procedure to ask for an extension or approval. It was suggested we endorse these extensions and recommend to the Source Protection Authority to support this. The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-15-17

MOVED BY: R. Bator

SECONDED BY: C. Bodimeade

THAT: the Source Protection Committee recommend that the Source Protection Authority grant the extensions as requested.

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:35 pm.

M. Bellantino Perco, Chair

D. Gullett, Recording Secretary