



**HALIFAX WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

September 14, 2005

PRESENT:

Dr. Wayne Stobo, Chair
Ms. Ellinor Williams, Vice Chair
Mr. Frank Hope
Mr. Walter Regan
Dr. Barry Thomas
Dr. Sankar Ray
Mr. Derrill Hynick
Mr. Gerry Samson

ABSENT:

Ms. Janis Rod (regrets)
Councillor Linda Mosher (regrets)
Ms. Christine Smith
Mr. Ross Evans

**STAFF AND
OTHERS:**

Mr. Richard Harvey, Planner II
Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager, Environmental Performance
Mr. Keith Manchester
Ms. Anna McCarron, Observer

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1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Room, City Hall.

2. Approval of the Agenda and Additions/Deletions

MOVED by Mr. Hope, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the agenda as presented be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. Items to be added to Next Agenda

- The Source Water Protection Plan - Municipality of East Hants (Chair)

4. Approval of the Minutes

The Chair reviewed the minutes of July 20, 2005 and noted that Mr. Regan was to prepare a letter pertaining to Glen Arbour Phase 8. Mr. Regan indicated he did not have the letter at this time; therefore, the Chair deferred this item to the next meeting.

The Chair referred to submitted information items pertaining to Dr. Spencer Lee and advised that Dr. Lee submitted his resignation from the Committee because he has moved to British Columbia.

The Chair referred to the concept plan of 24 Grant Line Road, Stillwater Lake that was submitted as information, and suggested members review it and consider sending a letter to staff similar to the one the Board had sent to Karen Godwin on a previous concept plan.

Mr. Hope pointed out that, at a previous meeting, there was some discussion of the Board developing generic responses which could be used when providing recommendations, and he suggested that this concept plan was a case that the Board could provide a generic response.

It was agreed that Mr. Hope would draft a response and bring it back to the next meeting for the Board's review. The Chair advised that this item would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Hope the minutes of July 20, 2005 be approved as submitted. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. Business Arising from Minutes/Deferred Items:

5.1 Case 00617: Amendment to Districts 14 & 17 Plan and LUB for Aerotech Business Park

This matter was last discussed at the Board's meeting in July, at which time it was deferred to give members more opportunity to review the report.

The Chair indicated that he had some difficulty in coming up with recommendations the Board could make at this point because the report seems like a concept plan.

The Board entered a discussion and the following comments/recommendations were put forward:

- the Board's Guideline definitions of 'watercourse' and 'wetland' could be used to replace the current definition of watercourse.
- if development is to occur, it is to refer to Provincial guidelines in terms of handling pyritic slate which is excavated out of the site.
- the development of a golf course within a watershed not be encouraged.
- sewage treatment plant should be at a tertiary level and receiving waters have a dilution rate that meets a 5 to 1 ratio.
- HRM follow the Board's Guideline in regard to a 30 metre buffer around watercourses and wetlands.

With regard to the three matters staff were asking for comment on from the Board, ie. *The new uses to be permitted in the Aerotech Business Park area; the changes to the proposed watersheds for Bennery Lake and Lake Major; and the creation of a conservation zone south of Aerotech Business Park*, the Board was in agreement that it did not have any issues with these; however, the Board did have concerns of water quality issues, which were discussed and noted above.

Mr. Bone advised that he would appreciate receiving the Board's comments as soon as possible.

The Chair advised that he will prepare the recommendations and bring forward to the next meeting for final approval.

5.2 Water Testing Results Review

This item was not discussed.

6. New Business:

6.1 Lake Sampling Program - Update by Mr. Tony Blouin, HRM Environmental Services

A document entitled, *HRM Water Quality Program* was submitted by Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager, Environmental Performance.

Referring to the submitted information, Mr. Blouin noted that it outlined plans for HRM's Water Quality Monitoring Program and, at this time, he was in attendance to present the information and obtain any feedback, suggestions or comments from Board members.

Mr. Blouin outlined the criteria staff developed for choosing lakes to be sampled and noted the initial list of candidate lakes, and he responded to questions.

The following comments were noted:

- Third Lake, Lake Thomas, and Rocky Lake have beaches (document indicates otherwise).

- Lake Fletcher and Grand Lake are sources of drinking water and are used for swimming.
- Drain Lake has sewage going into it.

The Chair suggested that the Board members review the list as handed out by Mr. Blouin, and if they have additional information to provide concerning background on the lakes to send them to Mr. Blouin via e-mail at blouint@halifax.ca.

6.2 Bennery Lake Watershed Committee - Update by Mr. Keith Manchester

- Information and minutes regarding the Bennery Lake Watershed Committee had been circulated as information at the Board's July meeting.

At the invitation of the Chair, Mr. Keith Manchester provided an update on the Bennery Lake Watershed Committee. The Chair had noted that prior to his term expiring on HWAB, Mr. Manchester volunteered to be the Board's representative on the Committee; and he continued as the representative after his term on HWAB.

In his remarks Mr. Manchester reviewed the terms of reference that were drawn up for the Bennery Lake Watershed Committee, and briefly elaborated on some of the matters that were discussed. He advised that, to his knowledge, the Committee met once and will probably only meet one more time and then be disbanded because the Bennery Lake water system will be transferred to the Halifax Water Commission.

6.3 Executive Summary - At A Watershed: Ecological Governance and Sustainable Water Management in Canada

An executive summary, entitled *At A Watershed: Ecological Governance and Sustainable Water Management in Canada* was submitted.

The Chair suggested that, for the next meeting, members read through the document and if the Board feels that a letter should be sent to Regional Council or staff, alerting them to the document, the board members be prepared to present their views. He advised that the item would be place on the agenda for next month.

6.4 Water Quality Report for Hail Pond

The Board members briefly discussed the Water Quality report for Hail Pond dated June 2, 2005, and no further action was taken on this matter.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The Chair advised that he would be away during the Board's next regularly scheduled meeting of October 19, 2005. He noted that he would forward the recommendations on the Aerotech report for the next meeting, for review.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant