



BEDFORD WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, March 9, 2005
Minutes

- PRESENT:** Mr. Don Lowther, Chair
Mr. Rick Hattin
Mr. Kevin Dean
Ms. Kate Hadden
Ms. Elaine Loney
Mr. Doug Murray
Dr. Sankar Ray
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher
- REGRETS:** Mr. Lawrence White, Vice Chair
Ms. Deborah Gillis
Mr. Lem Murphy
Mr. Will Matheson
- ABSENT:** Mr. Cedric Pilkington
Mr. David Gorsline
- STAFF:** Mr. Paul Morgan, Planner
Mr. John Sheppard, Manager, Environmental Engineering Services
Mr. David Ellis, Senior Environmental Engineer
Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager Environmental Performance (Water)
Mr. Angus Schaffenburg, Planner II
Ms. Stephanie Parsons, Legislative Assistant
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant
- OTHERS:** Mr. David Nantes, Vice President, Annapolis Group Inc.

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Nauss Room, Lebrun Centre, 36 Holland Avenue, Bedford.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rick Hattin requested a copy to the letter that was sent to the Birch Cove/Blue Mountain Society. The Legislative Assistant advised an e-mail response was sent out at the request of the Chair and would forward a copy to the Board Members.

MOVED by Mr. Doug Murray, seconded by Mr. Kevin Dean that the minutes of February 9, 2005 and January 12, 2005 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

The Chair suggested, and it was agreed, to move item 7.2.1 Stormwater and Wastewater Presentation to be the first order of business and 7.2.2 Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy to be second.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STATUS SHEET ITEMS:

4.1 STATUS SHEET:

4.1.1 Infilling of Moirs Pond

No discussion due to time constraints.

4.1.2 Kearney/Quarry/Paper Mill Dams

Mr. David Nautes, Annapolis Group Inc. stated that the application will be submitted to the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour tomorrow. Mr. Kevin Dean stated that it may not be feasible, due to cost and environmental impact to put fish ladders on these dams. The Chair expressed concern that the Memorial Park named in honour of Scott Saunders will be torn up to allow the installation of fish ladders.

4.1.3 Paper Mill Lake - Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Program

Deputy Mayor Goucher provided an update. He advised he spoke with Mr. Steve Jensen, Capital District Health Centre and Mr. Jensen indicated he was not aware the lab was shut down. He added that they want to meet with Committee members and explain what happened;

and further, the Capital District Health Board are committed to re-doing the test, including the field work.

4.1.4 Storm Water Management: Union Street Area

No discussion due to time constraints.

4.1.5 Paper Mill Run

No discussion due to time constraints.

4.1.6 Stormceptors

No discussion due to time constraints.

4.2 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:

4.2.1 Board's Terms of Reference

No discussion due to time constraints. Deferred to next meeting.

5. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS:** None

6. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:** None

7. **REPORTS:**

7.1 SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

7.1.1 Water Quality Inventory Committee

No discussion due to time constraints.

7.1.2 Paper Mill Lake Advisory Committee

No discussion due to time constraints.

7.2 STAFF REPORTS:

7.2.1 Stormwater and Wastewater in HRM Presentation

Mr. John Sheppard, Environmental Management Services, distributed copies of the presentation dated March 9, 2005 Stormwater and Wastewater in Halifax Regional Municipality. He noted the following:

- Most of the infrastructure is in the capital district
- There are currently 13 treatment plants, this will increase by three when the Harbour

Solutions Project is complete

- In order to be in compliance with Federal and Provincial Legislation HRM needs to invest 540 million dollars or 20 million dollars a year to replace the infrastructure, HRM is currently spending 5-6 million a year.

In response to Mr. Hattin, Mr. John Sheppard noted that the plan/cost is to upgrade and maintain the current system not to expand due to growth.

Deputy Mayor Goucher asked if they will be separating sewage and wastewater lines. Mr. John Sheppard commented that separating the sewage and wastewater lines is very expensive, staff are carrying out a Wastewater Management Study of the Peninsula to determine if it is feasible to separate the lines in Halifax. Other cities have tried it and have abandoned it because it is expensive and the benefits are minimal, however it is being done at Duke and Salter Street.

Mr. John Sheppard gave an overview of projects and initiatives within HRM and the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board Area and noted the following:

- The Stormwater and Wastewater Infrastructure Database Project is being done throughout the Municipality. It is to convert records information into GIS and LIS System.
- The Wastewater Resource Management Study is complete and will be implementing recommendations on a priority basis.
- The Wastewater Treatment Upgrade Study, capacity analysis and risk analysis will be implemented on a priority basis out of the capital budget.
- In the BWAB area the plan includes two million dollars a year to deal with wet weather overflows.
- The Beaverbank Local improvement project is almost complete.

A discussion ensued with regard to the Board not receiving any feedback on the Wastewater Resource Management Study and that the Board's concerns are not reflected in the Regional Plan. Mr. John Sheppard stated that not all the recommendations from the Watershed Advisory Boards have been included into the final document but are referenced as part of the final report. The Dillon report is available on the website. Mr. Tony Blouin commented that there were 40 recommendations in various categories. They are looking at how to implement them through various policies.

Mr. Tony Blouin will provide copies of the report for the Board. The full report and recommendations and comments from the Advisory Boards can be found on the website at <http://www.halifax.ca/environment/waterres.html>

The Chair asked why there were truck loads of rock in the floodplain along Sackville River which is apparently for walking trails. Residents of Union Street are concerned about the potential of flooding. Mr. John Sheppard stated that by putting rock in a flood plain the area loses its retention. Mr. Angus Schaffenburg will check into it and report back to the Board.

It was agreed that Mr. John Sheppard would meet with the Board on an annual basis to provide an overview of Stormwater and Wastewater Management in HRM in terms of current activities, future plans, initiatives, and projects that are within the mandated area of the Board.

The Chair thanked Mr. John Sheppard for his presentation.

7.2.2 Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy

- A copy of the Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy had been circulated to the Board in their agenda packages.

Mr. Paul Morgan, Planner, circulated a revised copy of the Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy Policies.

Mr. Morgan stated that this report is more detailed and incorporates recommendations from Public Participation Committee and Regional Planning Committee. He indicated that he was here to obtain feedback from the Board as per Regional Councils request and any storm water plans will be referred to the Bedford Waters Advisory Board before going to Community Council.

In regard to time lines for water testing Mr. David Nantes, Vice President Annapolis Group Inc. stated that it should start this fall, but formal time lines have not been established.

Ms. Elaine Loney noted an error on page 7 policy BW4" the requirements of policy BW5 "should read "... the requirements of policy BW3"

Deputy Mayor Goucher noted that critical threshold parameters need to be clearly defined.

It was agreed by the Board that Mr. Paul Morgan would attend the next meeting to review the remainder of the policies. The Chair advised that in the interim that Board members would review the document and to have any questions ready for the next meeting.

8. ADDED ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS - None

9. NEXT MEETING - April 13, 2005

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Stephanie Parsons
Legislative Assistant