

**BEDFORD WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD**

**MARCH 11, 2009**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Rick Hattin, Chair  
Mr. Lem Murphy, Vice Chair  
Dr. Sankar Ray  
Ms. Lynn Davis  
Councillor Tim Outhit

**REGRETS:** Ms. Kate Hadden  
Mr. Quentin Hill

**GUESTS:** Councillor Peter Lund  
Councillor Bob Harvey  
Ms. Ellinor Williams, Chair, HWAB  
Mr. Walter Regan, HWAB  
Mr. Ross Evans, HWAB  
Dr. Barry Thomas, HWAB  
Mr. David Ripley, HWAB

**STAFF:** Ms. Barbara Coleman, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Due to the attendance of the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board and their Councillors, the Chair requested that introductions be made.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 10, 2008**

**MOVED By Dr. Sankar Ray, seconded by Mr. Lem Murphy that the minutes of December 10, 2008 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA / ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

**MOVED By Mr. Lem Murphy, seconded by Dr. Sankar Ray that the Order of Business be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING/DEFERRED BUSINESS:**

**4.1 Possible Merger of the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board and the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board**

Mr. Rick Hattin, Chair, advised the group that the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board had invited members of the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board and the Councillors involved in that Watershed to attend this meeting to discuss the possible merger of the two Boards noting the following:

- Because most of the Bedford Watershed area has been developed, the workload of the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board has not been sufficient enough to keep the Board fully engaged and current with what is going on;
- The Bedford Watershed Advisory Board has developed a process that when a new development agreement comes before them for review, the proponent knows exactly what documentation is required of them to properly present their proposal, further, they know what the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board will accept and not accept as standards.
- Due to the complexity of the area covered by the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board, the workload of this Board has been increasing.

Mr. Hattin suggested two different ways to approach these problems:

1. Redraw the boundaries of both Watersheds to more equally distribute the work loads of the two Boards; or,
2. Merge to two Boards as one.

Mr. Hattin opened the floor to Ms. Williams, Chair of the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board.

Ms. Williams advised the group that the workload of the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board has not increased with the last development agreement coming before it in November.

She further advised that the mandates of the two Boards are vastly different with the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board having a much broader mandate than the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board. She also noted that the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board deals with 35 planning strategies and 20 different districts whereas the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board deals with one only.

Discussion ensued with the following highlights noted:

- Strong arguments for both redrawing the boundaries and merging the two Boards could be made;
- Need to capture the expertise that is on both Boards;
- There is a strong need to make the mandates and Terms of Reference of both Boards the same so that proponents coming before the two Boards would be treated in the same manner and clarify any inconsistencies.

Dr. Sankar Ray noted that perhaps it would be beneficial to keep the two Boards with the boundaries changed to reflect a more evenly distributed workload and then a super Board created to oversee the review of existing and new policies.

Dr. Barry Thomas noted that only about 5% of the Board's time is spent on development agreements with the rest of the time being spent on wider issues such as the Red Book or the possible development of a Green Book, which would be an environmental guide to accompany the Red Book.

Dr. Thomas also noted that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board has a very different makeup from either the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board or the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board, noting their positions on the Board are mandated through their Terms of Reference.

It was felt that it would not be feasible to try to merge with the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board at this time.

Ms. Lynn Davis entered the room at 7:36 p.m.

Discussion ensued with the following motion being placed.

**MOVED By Mr. Lem Murphy, seconded by Mr. Ric Hattin that:**

- **The Bedford Watershed Advisory Board appoint two of its members to meet with two members of the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board to review and make recommendations, if necessary, to their individual Terms of Reference to ensure that the Terms of Reference of both Boards are the same, and**
- **That each Board make their recommendations for changes to its respective Community Council for approval.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED**

It is noted that the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board will need to pass the same motion at their next meeting, March 18, 2009 in order for this to be carried out.

**4.2 Outline of a Model of Total Phosphorus levels in the lakes of the Paper Mill Watershed - Walton D. Watt**

Mr. Hattin advised the group that the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board had been collecting data three times a year on the lakes in their watershed since 2001. At their last meeting it was decided that they would engage Mr. Walton D. Watt to conduct a multi-lake model of the Papermill Lake watershed area to evaluate the effects of development plans on the trophic status of the lakes for the use of the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board to evaluate the effects of development plans on the trophic status of the lakes.

Mr. Hattin further informed the group that this model could be used for any watershed even to the extent of finding out what would happen if a development increased or changed its makeup.

In response to Ms. Williams' question of who funded this work, Councilor Outhitt advised that the funds were allocated out of his discretionary funds. He assured Ms. Williams that should the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board require funds that they should contact their Councillors.

**4.3 Water Quality Testing - Stantec (formerly Jacques Whitford)**

- Briefing notes dated March 3, 2009 from Cameron Deacoff, Chair, Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan Steering Committee
- Report on Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan for HRM dated March 2009

Ms. Kate Greene, Stantec (formerly Jacques Whitford) made a presentation to the Board. She introduced Julianne Sullivan, Stantec, Shannan Murphy, Stantec, Rick Scott, CWRS, Rob Jamieson, CWRS, and Cameron Deacoff, Chair, Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan Steering Committee. She advised this presentation is in order to fulfil the requirements of the RFP 08-056 to create a Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan for HRM.

A brief discussion period ensued with the members of team answering questions.

Ms. Greene asked that the Bedford Watershed Advisory Board to review the documentation that accompanied the presentation and provide consolidated comments to Stantec on or before April 10, 2009.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS: NONE**

**6. STATUS SHEET REVIEW:**

**6.1 Kearney/Paper Mill Dams**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.2 Bedford West Water Quality Monitoring Program**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.3 Morris Mill Pond – Infill Water Lot**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.4 Development Agreements at First Reading**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.5 Case 00970 - Sub Area 2 of the Bedford West Planning Strategy**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.6 Paper Mill Run - Flooding on Morris Property/Re-Direction of Stream**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.7 Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board Testing Protocol**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.8 Union Street Storm Water Management 2006**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**6.9 Bedford West Storm Water Management Plan**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**7. Planning Services Status Sheet - Update**

Due to time restraints, this item was deferred.

**8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**9. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Nauss Room, LeBrunCentre.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Barbara Coleman  
Legislative Assistant