



**REGIONAL WATERSHEDS ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 10, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Allan Billard, Chair  
Mr. Peter Lund  
Mr. Tom Mills  
Dr. Barry Thomas  
Mr. Pierre Clement

**REGRETS:** Mr. Walter N. Regan  
Mr. Mark McLean  
Mr. Adam Fancy  
Mr. Richard Hattin, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Timothy Hayman

**STAFF:** Mr. Cameron Deacoff, Environmental Performance Officer  
Mr. Peter Duncan, Manager, Infrastructure  
Mr. Paul Morgan, Senior Planner  
Ms. Katie Neale, Planning Intern  
Ms. Jane Crosby, Legislative Support

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Board are available online:  
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/rwab/index.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m., and the Board adjourned at 6:45 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. in the Helen Creighton Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Alderney Public Library, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth.

A quorum was not reached when the meeting was called to order, however it was decided that the meeting would proceed provided no motions were considered or passed.

Mr. Lund noted that he would be leaving the meeting early.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 12, 2014**

Approval deferred until the January 2015 meeting.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

The Board discussed several items they would like to consider at future meetings. The Board briefly discussed the Sandy Lake report and noted that it was a very good example of recommendations. It was noted that this isn't an item they would necessarily have on an agenda. It was simply for information. Mr. Mills indicated that he would like the airport interchange item discussed on the next agenda. Several members and staff noted that they hadn't received this item as it was sent electronically.

Mr. Mills indicated that he would like to discuss the contract for water quality monitoring with SLR that will start in 2015. He added that it would be beneficial to receive information from staff on the sites for testing, the boundaries and other details.

Mr. Clement arrived at 5:23 pm.

Mr. Clement inquired if the Sawmill River Daylighting issue could be discussed. The Chair indicated that he would contact that Clerk's office regarding this item as this may need to be requested from the ESSC.

Mr. Clement also asked if the Oathill Lake Conservation Society's addition of an aeration device for the lake is something that could be discussed at a future meeting. He added that it is an interesting concept for discussions on lake water quality. Mr. Deacoff indicated that the spec sheet on such a device would likely have to come from the Conservation Society. The Chair indicated that he could approach the Society for some information on the system.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

**5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE**

**7. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**7.1 Model Community Plan Environmental Section – Watercourse and Wetland Protection, Tree Management, Public Awareness**

**Watercourse and Wetland Protection: Policies E-62 to E-76**

**E-62**

The Board agreed that they are in support of this policy and the sentiment expressed. It was noted that this is highly regulated by the Department of the Environment. Mr. Lund inquired about a wetland schedule. Mr. Duncan responded that it is a map of wetlands in excess of 2000 square metres and explained the intention of the schedule.

**E-63**

Mr. Morgan provided some background information on this policy and the Board entered into discussion. The Board is in support of the policy however it was noted that the current policy is quite strong, thereby making this policy redundant.

**E-64**

The Board supports this policy and held a discussion on jurisdictional immunity. The Board discussed who this policy applies to. Mr. Duncan noted that this policy applies to all construction sites. Staff noted that they hope that the stormwater management by-law will complement this.

**E-65 and E-66**

It was noted that these policies are redundant.

**E-67**

The Board agreed that they are in support of this policy.

**E-68**

The Board agreed with this policy however they noted that in a supply watershed there should be extra buffering. They also indicated that the language in the policy rationale is much better than the policy statement and would like to see it used.

**E-69**

The Board supports this policy however; similar to policy E-68 they would like to see the language used in the rationale used in the statement.

**E-70**

The Board indicated that they do agree with this policy; however they expressed that there is a need to emphasize better management practices for vegetation and trees. They noted that some practices need to be more reasonable for the removal of vegetation, especially trees that may be a hazard.

**E-71**

The Board expressed that they support this policy.

**E-72**

The Board expressed that they support this policy.

**E-73**

The Board noted that this policy is redundant.

**E-74**

The Board expressed that they support this policy and held a brief discussion on the Trails Act.

**E-75**

The Board noted that this policy is irrelevant.

**E-76**

The Board noted that this policy is irrelevant and outside their mandate.

Mr. Lund left the meeting at 6:20pm.

**Tree Management: Policies E-137 to E-149**

The Board expressed that in general, they do support all of the statements in general terms within this particular section. They indicated that for policy E-137 they do support the Urban Forest Master plan, however there needs to be some leniency with regards to removal of trees that may present themselves as a problem or hazard. The Board also noted that policy E-139 sets out their interest and encompasses their thoughts on this section.

**Public Awareness: Policies E-170 to E-173**

**E-171**

The board discussed the importance of public awareness and that they support the statement provided that it becomes more regional in scope. They noted that there should be more established public awareness programs. Mr. Mills suggested that there should be a package of information sent out to new home and property owners. The Board also briefly discussed the Animal Defecation By-law and whether it is working or not.

**E-172**

The Board supports this policy.

**E-173**

The Board supports this policy provided it become more regional in scope.

The Board confirmed that this section completed the review of the Model Community Plan Environmental Section Update. Mr. Duncan indicated that there would likely be a high level summary of the item completed for February that would come back to the Board for review.

**7.2 Proposed 2015 Meeting Schedule**

The Board generally agreed with the schedule; however they noted that they would defer this item until the next meeting due to lack of members present.

**8. ADDED ITEMS - None**

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 14, 2014**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Jane Crosby  
Legislative Support

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**INFORMATION ITEMS**  
None

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