The following are the minutes of the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 2, 2012 at the Grand River Conservation Authority, 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge, ON.


**Members Regrets:** P. General, J. Harrison, A. Henry, C. King, J. Laird, G. Montour, J. Oliver, P. Wilson, D. Woolcott

**Proxy Representatives:** P. Busatto (J. Laird), B. Fields (J. Oliver), T. Schmidt (P. Wilson)

**Liaisons:** J. Mitchell, SPA Liaison; L. Ross, Provincial Liaison

**Region Management Committee:** J. Farwell, GRCA; R. Geysens, LPRCA; S. Martyn, CCCA;
C. Murray, KCCA; K. Smale, CCCA;

**Staff:** D. Belanger, City of Guelph; S. Brocklebank, GRCA; J. Etienne, GRCA; N. Davy, GRCA; L. Heyming, GRCA; E. Hodgins, Region of Waterloo; C. Jacques, LPRCA; M. Keller, GRCA; A. Loeffler, GRCA; H. Malcolmson, MOE; L. Minshall, GRCA; T. Ryan, GRCA; M. Silverio, City of Hamilton; K. Smith, GRCA; A. Souwand, City of Cambridge; L. Stafford, City of St. Thomas; E. Stahl, GRCA

1. **Call to Order**
   C. Ashbaugh called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. **Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 17 Members Constiutue a Quorum (2/3 of members)**
   The Recording Secretary called the roll and certified quorum.

3. **Chairman's Remarks**
   C. Ashbaugh welcomed members, staff and guests and noted the following:
Two Early Engagement meetings were held in January- one for Perth County on January 18, and one for the County of Wellington on January 19. For Perth County project managers from the Lake Erie, Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley, and Thames-Sydenham Source Protection Regions (SPRs) attended. Project managers from the Lake Erie, Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley and Saugeen, Grey Sauble and Northern Bruce Peninsula SPRs were present for the County of Wellington. The purpose was to discuss cross boundary issues, compare the policy approaches of the various SPRs, and prepare the municipalities for pre-consultation. Both meetings were excellently attended by municipal staff, mayors and councilors, and the presentations given by the project managers were effective and positively received.

Staff involved in organizing the Early Engagement meetings were commended for their dedication and effort. M. Keller, L. Ross, D. Murray and D. Parker were especially recognized for their outstanding ability to communicate with and support municipal partners.

On January 24th, the Lake Erie Region Management Committee met at Kettle Creek Conservation Authority for their quarterly meeting. The meetings have remained highly productive since the format was first designed in 2003, and continue to unite the conservation authorities of the Lake Erie Region (LER) in their support for the Source Protection Program.

4. Review of Agenda

Moved by: D. Murray  
Seconded by: L. Perrin carried unanimously

THAT the agenda for the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee meeting of February 2, 2012 be approved.

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest made in relation to the matters to be dealt with.


Moved by: D. Parker  
Seconded by: M. Wales carried unanimously

THAT the minutes of the previous meeting January 12, 2012 be approved as distributed.

7. Hearing of Delegations

J. Etienne welcomed 2 guests from the Republic of Malawi, Elvis Maswaswa and Young Samanyika. Both Maswaswa and Samanyika had been visiting the Grand River Conservation Authority for 2 days, as part of a 4 week leadership exchange program sponsored by Engineers Without Borders (EWB).

J. Etienne provided a profile of each leader, as summarized below.
Elvis Maswaswa:
- Water Monitoring Assistant for the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development (Malawi), which aims to increase the supply of safe, economically and environmentally sustainable water to its regions
- Facilitator with various ‘train the trainer’ initiatives at the national level
- Instrumental in gathering and leading a team to develop and pilot EWB’s Household Safe Water Handling Practices Program and is also a leader for the Community-Led Total Sanitation Program
- Interested in learning about best practices in managing data and information, which would allow him to look more systematically at the villages and communities where he leads water and sanitation projects
- Also interested in learning more about social marketing and how ideas about sanitation can be promoted effectively within the community

Young Samanyika:
- Principal Environmental Health Officer for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for the Ministry of Health (Malawi), which seeks to deliver health services and disseminate health information to 13 million Malawians
- Involved in increasing access to health care facilities, service expansion and integration, and battling communicable diseases
- Develops and leads the Ministry’s various sanitation initiatives including his current National Hand-washing Campaign
- In his previous role as the District Environmental Health Officer, he helped to greatly reduce the number of cholera outbreaks in the area by working closely with the affected communities and public health officials and providing his staff with new technical support
- Hopes to improve his management and technical skills, as well as learn how public health officers in Canada promote sanitation and hygiene
- Looking to obtain specific knowledge on water quality testing and simple, local waste management and recycling technologies

J. Etienne highlighted how through their visit to Canada, both men were able to share their experiences from home and will bring back the lessons they have learned to their communities in Africa. While visiting the GRCA, they were exposed to Source Protection initiatives, the Waste-Water Optimization Pilot, and overall capacity building techniques.

8. Presentations
   None

9. Correspondence
   a) Copies for Members
      i) Correspondence to Craig Ashbaugh, Chair, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee from Mary Anne Covelli, Director, Source Protection Programs Branch, Ontario Ministry of the Environment Re: Transitional Policies for Implementation of Source Protection Plans
ii) Correspondence to Craig Ashbaugh, Chair, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee from Mary Anne Covelli, Director, Source Protection Programs Branch, Ontario Ministry of the Environment Re: Review of the Proposed Assessment Report for the Grand River Source Protection Area

iii) Correspondence c.c. Craig Ashbaugh, Chair, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee to Mary Anne Covelli, Director, Source Protection Programs Branch, Ontario Ministry of the Environment from John C. Williamson, Chair, Cataraqui Source Protection Committee Re: Source Protection Plans - Provincial Implementation Funding

There were no questions or comments regarding the correspondence.

b) Not Copied

None.

Res. No. 10-12 Moved by: M. Ceschi-Smith
Seconded by: D. Murray carried unanimously

THAT the correspondence be received for information.

10. Reports

a) SPC-12-02-01 Update: Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program Municipal Special Projects Funding Applications

S. Brocklebank provided an overview of the report SPC-12-02-01.

H. Cornwell noted that remediating potentially contaminated soil was part of the City of Guelph’s Fuel Tank Replacement Project. He asked if the soil was tested for contamination, or was contamination assumed because it commonly occurs. D. Belanger confirmed that the soil was visually contaminated.

Res. No. 11-12 Moved by: A. Dale
Seconded by: T. Schmidt carried unanimously

THAT Report SPC-12-02-01 Update: Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program Municipal Special Projects Funding Applications be received as information.

b) SPC-12-02-02 Source Protection Policy Development, Early Engagement, and Pre-consultation Update

E. Stahl provided an overview of report SPC-12-02-02.
D. Parker noted that the County of Wellington stretches across 5 SPRs, which could each have completely different approaches. He asked if achieving a standard set of policies for the County of Wellington was becoming any more probable. M. Keller responded that the Source Protection program was not designed to have one set of policies apply across regions; therefore, the goal is not to have identical policies for all of the County of Wellington’s townships. However, significant progress has been made towards achieving harmonization of policy approaches wherever possible. D. Parker added that varying policy approaches could devalue the real estate of farm properties within the county. Farmers looking to purchase acreage could neglect areas with more restrictions, and chose to buy in townships where there exists more ‘freedom’. M. Keller pointed out that regardless of the county township; there will be Source Protection policies in place to protect those vulnerable areas. Inevitably, there will be differences across municipal and regional boundaries; however, the ultimate goal of protecting source water remains the same. The program is designed to create policies that are protective, reasonable and fair.

Res. No. 12-12  Moved by: D. Murray  
Seconded by: L. Perrin  
carried unanimously

THAT Report SPC-12-02-02 Source Protection Plan Policy Development, Early Engagement and Pre-consultation Update be received as information.

c) SPC-12-02-03 Extension Request for Submission of Grand River Source Protection Plan

M. Keller provided an overview of report SPC-12-02-03.

B. Ungar asked if 6 months after the approval of the Assessment Report (AR) was sufficient enough time to complete the Grand River Source Protection Plan. M. Keller replied that there are specific requirements which must be completed to progress through the timeline (i.e. public consultation, bring comments to the SPC etc.) and it is believed that all of them can be completed within the 6 months. He emphasized the importance of addressing cross-boundary issues now, because solutions will need to be presented to the public.

A. Dale noted that Mary Anne Covelli, Director for the Ministry of the Environment’s (MOE) Source Protection Programs Branch, has decided on April 30th as the deadline for submitting the Grand River AR for final approval. However, the MOE continues to withhold the information necessary for resolving the concerns surrounding Conditions sites. L. Ross clarified that the MOE does have additional information to provide regarding 5 Conditions sites; however, the Director’s letter suggests other options which could be taken to address the MOE’s comments. Therefore, the delay in providing this information should not ‘hold up’ the process of completing the Grand River AR. R. Haggart asked how the Conditions sites could be discussed during pre-consultation if the information is not provided. L. Ross responded that the information is in support of the 5 sites no longer being considered Conditions. All of the MOE’s requested amendments to the Grand River AR will have the effect of reducing the vulnerable areas and/or the number of threats- not capture more people and properties.
T. Schmidt asked if the work required to complete the Grand River’s AR could be realistically achieved by April 30. M. Keller responded that the first step is to receive the information on the 5 Conditions sites from the MOE. In the meantime, a LERSPC meeting will be moved from May 3 to April 26 to approve the AR before its submission. Therefore, all of the work must be completed by April 19, in time for the mailout of the agenda and the reports. The current position of GRCA staff is that the work can be completed in time for April 19th; however, the ability to make the deadline cannot be confirmed without the information on the Conditions sites.

T. Schmidt commented that the April 30 deadline coincides with the MOE’s goals and timelines; however, it is not conducive to the LERSPC. The MOE initially postponed providing comments on the Grand River AR, consequently upsetting the original timeline. By choosing April 30, they are neglecting to acknowledge their role in causing this delay. He added that while some of the LERSPC members are municipal staff, others hold volunteer positions, and devote time to Source Protection after long working hours. The deadline does not allow enough time for these members to review all of the necessary information and provide meaningful comments, in order to make sound decisions and recommendations.

Res. No. 13-12 Moved by: T. Schmidt
Seconded by: W. Wright-Cascaden carried unanimously

THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to write to the Minister of the Environment requesting an extension of the deadline to submit the Grand River Source Protection Plan to December 31st, 2012 or six (6) months after the Amended Grand River Source Protection Area Assessment Report has been approved, whichever comes later.

d) SPC-12-02-04 Revised Timeline and Preliminary Assessment of Additional Work for Completion of Amended Grand River Assessment Report

M. Keller provided an overview of report SPC-12-02-04.

There were no questions or comments regarding the report.

Res. No. 14-12 Moved by: R. Krueger
Seconded by: B. Ungar carried unanimously

THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to make the recommended changes to the Grand River Source Protection Area Assessment Report in response to comments received during the consultation period on the Draft Assessment Report (April 15 to May 21, 2011), and comments received from the Ministry of the Environment, as per the Director’s letter (January 25, 2012).
THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee move the May 3, 2012 scheduled meeting to April 26, 2012 and cancel the April 5, 2012 meeting to accommodate shifting timelines for the Amended Grand River Assessment Report and the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Plans.

11. Business Arising from Previous Meetings

None

12. Other Business

a) Question and Answer Period

None

13. Closed Meeting

Not applicable

14. Next Meeting – Thursday, March 1, 2012, 1:00 pm
Grand River Conservation Authority Administration Office, 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge, ON

15. Adjourn

The Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee meeting of February 2, 2012 adjourned at 2:45 pm

Moved by: D. Parker
Seconded by: L. Perrin

carried unanimously

THAT the February 2, 2012 Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee meeting be adjourned.