

**MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT WATERSHED  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Notes**

November 22, 2017 – 6:30 pm

Nova Scotia Natural Resource Education Centre, Middle Musquodoboit

**Attendance:**

Andrew Faulkner (AF), Principle Planner & Dev. Officer.....Halifax Regional Municipality  
Barry Geddes (BG), Watershed Manager.....Halifax Water  
Anna McCarron (AM), Source Water Planner.....Halifax Water  
Matthew McFetridge (MM), Forest Technician.....NS Dept. Natural Resources  
Hugh Parker (HP), Representative.....Musquodoboit River Watershed Society (MMWS)  
Kerry-Anne Taylor, potential rep (see ToR agenda item below).....Community Landowner

**Regrets:**

John Dillman (JD), Representative.....Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture  
Valerie Farnell (VF), Representative.....Community Customer  
Dawn MacNeill (DM), Watershed Planner.....Nova Scotia Environment

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***1. Attendance / Introductions:***

**AM/BG distributed the following materials:**

- Meeting Agenda;
- March 8, 2017 Meeting Notes; and
- Two (2) Maps illustrating proposed sign locations:
  1. Google Earth Map; and
  2. ArcGIS Map, created by Halifax Water

**AM called meeting to order (AF and BG arrived during introductions):**

- Introductions;
- Regrets noted as above; and
- No quorum noted (insufficient community representation – 2 of 3 req'd – ToR sec. 18);
  - See membership quorum discussion under section 2. ***Old Business:*** c. ToR.

	<u>Action</u>
<p><b>2. Old Business:</b></p> <p><b>a. Review of March 8, 2017 meeting Notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corrections to Notes: spell check...“that, that”, “the how the” “thruthing” and “Blackie Lake”.</li> <li>• March 8 Notes Action Items updates (<u>underlined</u>) are incorporated under applicable Agenda Items.</li> </ul>	<p><b>AM</b></p>
<p><b><u>March 8, 2017 Notes not accepted due to lack of quorum.</u></b></p> <p><i>BG assumed Chair position and proceeded with Agenda:</i></p> <p><i>i. Emergency Preparedness:</i></p> <p><u>Annual Firefighters Meeting (MM/DM/BG)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FF Meeting did not occur in 2017;</li> <li>• MM to confirm whether there will be a FF meeting in 2018 by checking with area fire technologist.</li> </ul> <p><u>Emergency Contact Numbers for GIS files (BG – DM)</u></p>	<p><b>Ongoing MM</b></p>
<p><b>b. Education and Awareness:</b></p> <p><i>i. Signage:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AM is responsible for the sign erecting task over the next year;</li> <li>• Members’ attention was directed to maps indicated on page 1;</li> <li>• Sign site locations and landownership were reviewed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Re Department of Natural Resources (DNR): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Halifax Water was previously given permission to put signs in front of DNR office in Middle Musquodoboit;</li> <li>▪ Prov. Park sign site needs permission from DNR Parks Dept.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Send request to erect proposed DNR land sign sites to MM to direct to proper authorities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Re Signs proposed on private property: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Signs may be restricted by HRM bylaw and considered 3<sup>rd</sup> party signage governed under building permit bylaw;</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Re NS Transportation &amp; Infrastructure Renewal site signs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ask to place signs on NSTIR right of way;</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Re Logos on Signs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Could place sticker of student-generated logo on signs and help instill pride, brand recognition, etc.,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Complete</b></p> <p><b>AM/MM</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No other logo permitted so as not to confuse mandated group message i.e., water quality protection for drinking water purposes.</li> <li>○ Re MMWS Signage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Halifax Water could consider helping MMWS create separate signage relative to the Committee’s mandate inside the watershed;</li> <li>▪ Halifax Water supports community efforts e.g., BBQs for clean-ups etc., that uphold Committee’s mandate.</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. <i>Brochure Distribution</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SWP Brochure was distributed around the community; e.g., Reid’s restaurant (HP), and the Natural Resources Education Centre (MM).</li> </ul> </li> <li>iii. <i>Newsletter/Outreach Opportunities:</i></li> </ul>	<u><b>Action</b></u>
<p><u>AM to ask Councillor Steve Streach whether he has a Newsletter into which contact information may be placed.</u></p> <li>iv. <i>Watershed Boundary Changes:</i></li>	Ongoing
<p><u>Send shapefile of the new Middle Musquodoboit watershed area boundary to DM.</u></p>	Complete
<p><b>c. Terms of Reference (ToR):</b></p> <li>i. <i>Forestry/Woodlot Owner and Other Membership Recruitment:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Re Forests sector:</li> </ul> </li>	
<p><i>Q: Has anyone approached Taylor’s Mill, Conform, Christmas tree side, Glenmore Industries? (HP)</i></p> <p><i>Q: Is there a local group that the forest sector meets with? (AM)</i></p> <p><b>A:</b> Forest Technicians meet locally. Conform members are the dominant company in area. Management Coop contains 60% landowners.</p> <p><b>Action: Barry will look / relook into these suggested contacts.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Re Agriculture sector – rep is pending.</li> </ul>	BG
<li>ii. <i>Community (Customer) representative:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Search continues.</li> </ul> </li> <p><b>Action: Talk to Halifax Water communications staff about putting out a call for customer membership through bills.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Re Landowner sector – position filled by KT per section 14 of ToR;</li> </ul>	AM/BG
<p><u>Contact as recommended to fill vacant Watershed Advisory Board positions.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still no quorum for this meeting, pending agriculture member;</li> <li>• Even with addition of pending agriculture member, community members would need to attend each meeting to achieve quorum;</li> <li>• Failing quorum, decisions could be made by email.</li> </ul>	Ongoing

<p><b>d. Logo Design Contest</b></p> <p><u>Create a MMWAC logo design contest in local school(s) which also will help to raise awareness in the community.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KT provided Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre (MVEC) Vice Principal name/contact to request school logo contest; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Also require tools to inspire students to create logo; i.e.,: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ToR vision statement/mandate;</li> <li>▪ demonstrate what this working watershed contains – i.e., trees, water, agriculture, drinking water;</li> <li>▪ reactivate the Adopt-a-Watershed (AaW) program;</li> <li>▪ connect with local Young Naturalist Club (YNC); and</li> <li>▪ use groundwater model in school presentation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Meet to discuss logo development and watershed awareness opportunities in schools and through YNC.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Action</u></b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>KT/AM</b></p>
<p><b>e. Livestock Access to Watercourses – Water Quality</b></p> <p><u>Assess new baseline water quality (WQ) sample site collection point.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kent Brook is a good control point for the water supply, it flows from the north and in the same direction as the Musquodoboit River; (BG)</li> <li>• Need a better baseline sample collection point, upstream from where the cows are in the water, flows from the south; (HP)</li> <li>• Any new baseline sample collection point must be safely accessible and timely for water quality samplers; (BG)</li> <li>• Site up Mill Rd about 2 miles is recommended; (HP)</li> <li>• Will assess site for suitability. (BG)</li> </ul> <p><i>Q: Could locals conduct sampling? (HP)</i></p> <p><b>A: Yes, coordinate with BL. (BG)</b></p> <p><b>A: KT offered to accommodate by bringing samples collected to Bennery Lake Water Supply Plant (WSP) for BL to pick up.</b></p> <p><b>Action: New time arranged to meet to assess new sample collection site.</b></p> <p><b>f. Water Quality (WQ) Data:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will continue to monitor WQ at intake to determine impact and develop plan to mitigate it.</li> <li>• Most impacted sites are Lindsay Brook and Barren Rd. sample sites.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>BG/HP</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atmospheric changes are improving WQ and affecting WSP function as they were designed to treat industrial quality water.</li> </ul>	<u><b>Action</b></u>
<p><i>Q: What toxic compound was found in water, referred to at previous meeting? (HP)</i></p>	
<p><b>A:</b> Research of microbial bacteria sources was compared with water quality assessments to identify sources of bacterial inputs that require risk management. Human bacteria was identified as the greatest source of bacterial input.</p>	
<p><b>Action: Barry to provide water quality data over at least two years for the Committee to compare normal with abnormal data to establish trends.</b></p>	<b>BG</b>
<p><b>g. Water Supply Plant Tour Date</b></p>	
<p><u>Invite members to tour WSP to gain better understanding of how system works.</u></p>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members were invited to Collin’s Park WSP which is similarly operated.</li> <li>• Once we have established more members, arrange a tour to the Middle Musquodoboit WSP.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3. New Business:</b></p>	
<p><b>a. Source Water Protection Report (SWPR):</b></p>	
<p><u>Members to provide comments to BG by mid-March.</u></p>	<b>Complete</b>
<p><u>Identify WQ collection sample sites by location and abbreviation on Source Water Protection report map/spreadsheet for easier identification for members.</u></p>	<b>Complete</b>
<p><b>b. Community Outreach</b></p>	
<p><i>Q: To help attract new members can the general public come to the meetings?</i></p>	
<p><b>A:</b> The ToR indicate that presentations can happen.</p>	
<p><b><u>Discussion:</u></b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a community outreach strategy to attract new members and generate awareness – suggestions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committee members attend an Open House (e.g., at Upper Musquodoboit community hall) to demonstrate what a watershed is through various tools (similar to those used in the schools – outlined above, i.e., AaW) including maps and water quality graphs; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop a method to attract watershed residents outside the customer service area to Open House – i.e., everyone benefits from a clean water supply</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Outreach tactics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Start in schools including NREC.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

