

**West Hants Municipal Climate Change Action Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
July 9, 2014**

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**Present:** Councillor Victor Swinamer  
Councillor Randy Matheson  
Councillor Jennifer Daniels  
Kathy Kehoe, Director of Recreation  
Rick Sherrard, Director of Public Works

**Staff:** Karen Dempsey, Director of Planning

**Regrets:** Paul Maynard, REMO Coordinator  
Jeanne Bourque, Planner

### **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Dempsey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Ms. Dempsey called for nominations for Chair.

Councillor Matheson nominated Councillor Swinamer as Chair.

Ms. Dempsey called for further nominations, hearing none, declared Councillor Swinamer as Chair.

Chair Swinamer accepted the position, and asked for nominations for Vice Chair.

Councillor Matheson nominated Councillor Daniels for Vice Chair.

Chair Swinamer called for further nominations, hearing none, declared Councillor Daniels for Vice Chair.

Councillor Daniels accepted the position.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by Mrs. Kehoe and Councillor Daniels to approve the Minutes of the Climate Change Adaptation Committee of September 25, 2013.**

**Motion carried.**

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Moved by Councillor Daniels and Councillor Matheson to approve the agenda as presented.**

**Motion carried.**

## **COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Ms. Dempsey noted that when the Adaptation Committee was set up it consisted of Councillors Jennifer Daniels, Victor Swinamer and Randy Matheson; the Chief Administrative Officer; one representative from each of the Planning, Public Works and Recreation Departments; and the Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) Coordinator; as well as the Planning Technician as a resource person for mapping. Ms. Dempsey advised that Ms. Bourque drafted a Committee Terms of Reference for the MCCAP Committee with the same people from the Adaptation Committee.

A lengthy discussion was held about accessing the MCCAP Committee on Sharepoint.

Ms. Dempsey reviewed the draft MCCAP Committee terms of reference.

Discussion was held about the need to have the REMO Coordinator's attendance at the MCCAP meeting. Staff will contact Paul Maynard. Suggestion was made that a work plan be drafted for the next meeting.

**Moved by Mrs. Kehoe and Councillor Daniels to adopt the MCCAP Committee Terms of Reference as presented.**

**Motion carried.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Elderkin Marsh Dyke Topping**

Ms. Dempsey advised that she would have the Director of Public Works speak on this matter. Ms. Dempsey noted that she had mentioned this item at the last PAC meeting about having some discussion with Mr. Sherrard. Mr. Sherrard has had some discussion with the Department of Agriculture as well.

Mr. Sherrard noted that there has been some work done to raise the height of the dyke at Tregothic Marsh by the Department of Agriculture. Craig Bauchman of Department of Agriculture had said the Department would like to continue on and do the Elderkin Marsh in Falmouth, but their main struggle is getting suitable material to top the dykes, and it is costly to truck it in. Mr. Sherrard asked Mr. Bauchman if there was an opportunity for the Municipality to partner with the Department of Agriculture. He suggested providing a borrow pit somewhere in the location of the Falmouth Sewage Treatment Plant where the topping can be stored so it will

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make it easier to truck. Mr. Bauchman had said that the location was suitable for dyke topping to do the work on the Elderkin Marsh. Mr. Sherrard advised that this matter follows the objectives of the MCCAP. This work would be done by the Department of Agriculture with no cost to the Municipality other than the in kind contribution of soil.

Ms. Dempsey agreed that the topping of the dykes to a certain elevation was seen as one of the MCCAP projects and that a memo to Council advising them of the project would be sent to the next Committee of the Whole meeting in July.

Discussion was held about the topping of the Elderkin Marsh and it was agreed that this was a worthwhile project.

Committee members discussed opportunities for Committee Education. Staff could arrange to have various resource people attend future meetings, for example, rep from NS Agriculture, Dr. Danika van Proosdij, Graham Fisher of Municipal Affairs

Chair Swinamer suggested that Craig Bauchman be invited to the next MCCAP meeting to give a presentation on the coastal dykelands.

Discussion was held about getting Dr. Danika van Proosdij to give a presentation as she had done much research on the dykes throughout Nova Scotia.

Discussion was held about communicating with the public with respect to the MCCAP, and updating the municipal website.

**Moved by Councillor Matheson and Mrs. Kehoe to update the municipal website with respect to the MCCAP.**

**Motion carried.**

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Communication plan, document sharing plan, using Sharepoint vs regular email**

The Committee agreed to notification of meetings by email and sharepoint.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be scheduled for September 9, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Councillor Matheson and Mr. Sherrard that the meeting adjourn.**

**Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

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Chair