

FRENCH RIVER SOURCE WATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

A meeting of the French River Source Water Protection Committee was held at the Tatamagouche Library on May 13, 2019 at 10:00 am.

- Present:** Councillor Mike Gregory, Chair
Mayor Christine Blair
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart
Perry Swan, Village Commission Rep
Greg Watson, Citizen Rep
Doug Bastow, North Shore River Restoration Group
Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
Michael Allen, Nova Scotia Environment (Watershed Planner)
- Regrets:** Kim Baldwin, Citizen Rep
Garth Demont, Department of Natural Resources
- Approval of Agenda:** The meeting was called to order at 10:05am.

The agenda was approved.

Moved by Doug Bastow, Seconded by Greg Watson.
- Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting of February 28, 2019 were approved.

Moved by Mayor Blair, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Stewart.
- Business Arising:** There has been no update on the release of the RFP from Energy and Mines for the exploration rights for the closure area.
- Letter, Mines and Energy, Uncapped Exploration Well:** The letter was sent on May 3, 2019, and a copy was attached to the meeting package. No response received.
- Protected Water Area Designation:** Mike Allen from Nova Scotia Environment reviewed the Committee's draft document for the designation and suggested some changes which he felt would facilitate approval. He has not yet reviewed the document with the Province's legal staff. The Committee reviewed the proposed changes by M. Allen (see attached). The only comments were as follows:
- The Municipality of Colchester should be changed to the Municipality of the County of Colchester
- The Committee also asked that the breakdown of setback requirements for agricultural activities from watercourses remain in the document, even though these are already listed in the Agricultural Best Management Practices document. This was moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart and Seconded by Greg Watson.
- All in favour.
Motion carried.

Public Consultation:

The Committee discussed the appropriate timing for public consultation. M. Allen noted that when the Municipality makes official application to the Province for designation of the watershed area, this application must be accompanied by documentation showing that appropriate public consultation has taken place. The process must ensure that all concerns are addressed, and an effort has been made to communicate with all affected property owners.

The Committee decided that public consultation should occur in June before the document is presented to Council for consideration. It was decided that two public meetings should take place, the first on June 18th at 7pm at the Warwick Mountain Hall, and the second on June 19th at 7pm at the Tatamagouche Fire Hall. County staff to develop a mailing list and begin to make the necessary arrangements.

Notifications of the public meetings should also be placed on the Village Facebook site, the County website, the Light's website, the Truro Weekly News, and the bulletin boards at the Tri County Ford and the Library.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24th at 10:00am. Location to be confirmed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

Moved by: Greg Watson

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Newell