

Monitoring HRM  
Solid Waste  
Strategy community monitoring  
committee

DRAFT March 13

MINUTES OF MEETING  
7:00 pm February 27, 2002,  
Community Monitoring Committee Boardroom, Lakeside

1. Call to Order

The Chairman, Terry Henley, seeing a quorum present called the meeting to order at 7:09.

The Chairman introduced Mr. David McCaughan who was recently appointed by Halifax Regional Municipal Council.

Mr. McCaughan is a professional engineer residing in Cole Harbour.

2. Attendance

Present: T. Henley, R. MacAusland, D. McCaughan, S. Cober-Stasiulis,

R. Kelsie, Clr. G. Meade, J. Mitchell A. Murray, Clr. R. Walker,

L. Wilcox and D. Mason.

Regrets: Mayor P. Kelly, J. MacNeill, G. Merlin-Walsh,

Clr. R. Rankin, and K. Tufts.

Present: B. Smith, Director of Solid Waste, Halifax Regional Municipality

3. Agenda

Add 3.4 Construction & Demolition update.

Add: 3.5 review of scope and mandate.

MOTION to adopt the agenda as amended.

Moved: Cir. R. Walker, Seconded, L. Wilcox CARRIED

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting - November 28, 2001

MOTION to adopt the minutes of November 28, 2001 as circulated.

Moved: Cir. R. Walker, Seconded: L. Wilcox, CARRIED.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Community Monitoring  
Committee MEMBERS  
Society Directors  
Terry Henley, Chairman  
R.F. MacAusland, Vice-Chairman

Sandra Cober-Stasiulis,  
Secretary/Treasurer

Reg Kelsie  
Jane MacNeill  
Golda Merlin-Walsh

Jack Mitchell

Kenny Tuns

Lloyd Wilcox

Halifax Regional Municipality  
Appointments

Mayor Peter Kelly  
David McCaughan  
Councillor Gary Meade  
Anne Murray  
Councillor Reg Rankin

Councillor Russell Walker

Donald Mason, Executive Director

.1 The processing of residential green cart organics at the Otter Lake Waste Stabilization Facility The Executive Director reported there was no new information to come before the members.

B. Smith indicated that his department is to bring to the solid waste committee a contingency plan for implementation should an existing component facility fail. The organics pilot project at Otter Lake Facility is concluded and no other is scheduled there. He stated that Community Monitoring Committee would be consulted as the contingency plan is developed.

### .2 Provincial review of liners

The Executive Director reported there was no new information to come before the members.

B. Smith reported that a staff member was participating in the provincial review committee. He a consultant's report was still being reviewed and that its release would be later in the spring.

He understood that

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Members agreed that the Executive Director write the Nova Scotia Department Of Environment & Labour and obtain information on the timing of input of Community Monitoring Committee.

### .3 Request for information

The Executive Director reported that the payment had been processed and we are awaiting the correspondence reply from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice. He said he would inquire as to a delivery date for the requested materials.

### .4 Construction & Demolition update

#### Zoning, licensing and permitting

The Executive Director reported that Halifax Regional Municipal Council had on Tuesday past considered, but deferred for one week, a motion enabling Construction & Demolition sites to be zoned and licensed throughout Halifax Regional Municipality.

B. Smith summarized a staff report to Halifax Regional Municipality council. The report identifies a planning process of 19 municipal plan amendments and zoning that allows Construction & Demolition sites. The report also identifies three types of Construction & Demolition site:

- storage of inert materials,
- sorting of materials on site for recycling or use and disposal of non conforming materials at a certified landfill such as Otter Lake Residual Disposal Facility and sorting and disposal of non conforming materials in a certified lined landfill on site.

Applicants apply to Halifax Regional Municipality that jointly and in cooperation with zoning and operational license and Nova Scotia Department Of Environment & Labour for landfill construction and operation Nova Scotia Department Of Environment & Labour issue permits; Halifax Regional Municipality for land use permitting.

Mr. Smith responded to a question stating that staff responded to Council's request to assist the existing businesses to meet the new siting standards for licensing before applications from new businesses would be processed.

The three current Construction & Demolition operations are at Goodwood, Harrietsfield and Preston. All three existing businesses appear to qualify for licensing for storage and sorting but only the operator at Harrietsfield can meet the criteria for on-site disposal because of the area requirement. The company now at Goodwood has not the capability there for disposal and has applied for a new site capable of establishing a disposal site on the eastern side of the municipality.

Responses by Mr. Smith to member questions include:

- the HRM standards are higher than those of Nova Scotia Department of Environment & Labour licensing

- Nova Scotia Department of Environment & Labour requires HRM to issue permits for disposal of non compliance materials
- The HRM license standards will be forwarded to Community Monitoring Committee. The operating facilities license compliance will be "policed" by HRM bylaw staff.

Clr. Meade, also a member of Halifax Regional Municipality's Solid Waste Committee, said that Halifax Regional Municipality had already approved site development criteria for Construction & Demolition sites.

Members expressed displeasure that a monopoly could be evolve from this licensing process and that only one applicant may qualify for Construction & Demolition disposal at this time.

#### Monitoring

Members questioned Mr. Smith on the public monitoring of the Construction & Demolition sites' licenses and permits. He responded that a public monitoring function was not considered as part of the staff recommendation on Construction & Demolition licensing.

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Members emphasized the Community Monitoring Committee's existing monitoring role of Construction & Demolition sites including:

the Halifax C&D Limited site at Goodwood its influence on the method of operation of these sites in Halifax Regional Municipality. the expectation of continuing to monitor these sites.

o the two plus years wait for the procedures on zoning, licensing and permitting

#### .5 Scope and mandate

Members reviewed the citizen monitoring that was adopted as an inteyal part of the strategy and that the implementation of the element facilities meet that strategy requirement of citizen monitoring, the Otter Lake facility is subject to constant exclusivity of solid waste disposal and and impact on Otter lake Facility now involves Community Monitoring Committee, monitoring is specific to geology and sites but nor administration operation of those facilities.

MOTION that it be hereby resolved that Community Monitoring Committee request Halifax Regional Municipality to agree to a modification of the agreement between Halifax Regional Municipality and Community Monitoring Committee in respect to monitoring so that the monitoring role of Community Monitoring Committee be expanded to all facilities of the Integrated Solid Waste Strategy of Halifax Regional Municipality as opposed to Otter Lake Facility as it now exists.

Moved; R. F. MacAusland, Seconded: J. Mitchell, CARRIED

#### 6. New Business

There was no new business.

#### 7. Updates Of Committees

##### .1 Communications

A. Murray reported on committee activities:

.1 MOTION that the annual general meeting by 6:45 pm May 23 at the Keshen-Goodman library, Lacewood Drive, Clayton Park.

Moved: A. Murray, seconded, R. Kelsie, CARRIED

.2 The next newsletter will be determined at a later date.

.3 The brochure will be prepared to include those members recently appointed by Halifax Regional Municipality.

.4 The committee is operating within its budget allocation.

MOTION that the report on the communications committee be accepted. Moved: A. Murray Seconded; S. Cober-Stasiulis CARRIED.

##### .2 Technical (Data Analysis)

The committee report prepared by J. MacNeill was delivered by D. Mason.

.1 Water Sampling The committee will follow up on the water quality testing protocol at Otter Lake Facility by reviewing the sampling locations and the protocols for sampling. The operator and his consultant along with Halifax Regional Municipality staff have agreed to a paper review and a site visit to sampling locations. A time will be established soon for a site visit.

.2 Monthly Statistics The monthly statistics for the Otter Lake Facility are being incorporated into a system model that will be reviewed by the committee and prepared for the next meeting.

.3 Committee Member Change And Chair It is recommended that David McCaughan be added to the Data Committee and assume the Chair. J. MacNeil will continue as a committee participant but does not currently have the time required for chair.

MOTION that the report of the Technical Committee be accepted and that D. McCaughan be the chairman of the technical (data analysis) committee.

Moved: Cir. R. Walker,                      Seconded: Clr. Meade                      CARRIED.

R. F. MacAusland questioned B. Smith on the method of reporting Otter Lake Facility monthly statistics including:

How is negative input generated at the waste Stabilization Facility  
of

o Why do the daily figures not balance o Why the wide variance of the daily cover volume for the Residual Disposal Facility December @16.11% and January @ 21.5%

What tonnage of earth was used in December and January for daily cover volume for the Residual Disposal Facility

B. Smith agreed to provide that information.

### .3 Miller Monitoring

R. Kelsie said there was no new information to report.

### .4 New Era Farms Monitoring

S. Cober-Stasiulis reported that there was no new information to report, as the New Era liaison committee had not met. She noted a missing sign - the sign was installed by New Era on Prospect Road identifying the telephone number to call for complaints including odour.

Members agreed that Community Monitoring Committee write New Era and Halifax Regional Municipality to request the sign be reinstalled.

Chairman Henley reported that he and the Executive Director were invited to an impromptu visit to the New Era facility earlier in the day. G. Tibbo, currently managing the facility, provided a tour of the facility and identified extensive renovations which were in progress. Mr. Tibbo offered to Chairman Henley that the information from this impromptu visit and tour could serve as a report to Community Monitoring Committee and invited Community Monitoring Committee to tour the facility once the renovations were completed.

The following renovations were observed:

The general housekeeping was improved despite the construction renovations underway.

No odour was evident on this day.

The tipping floor air handling system was reconfigured to allow for interior negative pressure and with the air expelled to a biofilter.

The tipping floor was expanded by one truck bay and two bays lengthened to allow trucks to enter completely and close the door.

The tipping floor sorting line was scheduled that day for renovation over a ten day period.

The "cooking" box system used to eliminate pathogens, have been reconfigured to include new air and water handling capabilities. The cooking time is 8 to 11 days and being refined. . A specialist company is designing the biofilter media.

the curing building was doubled in size to form a Tee shape. The new building of size approximately 85 ft. x 200 ft. was constructed with a groundwater protection liner below. The original building has now a clay curtain wall surround for groundwater protection.

The curing building biofilters are being expanded to six from the existing three. Three new biofilters are constructed with the remaining three to be reconstructed in the spring. A specialist company is designing the biofilter media.

Chairman Henley also advised G. Tibbo that Community Monitoring Committee had requested through "Freedom of Information" the Department of Environment & Labour approvals and Ministerial Order documents from the past several years. G Tibbo indicated he was aware of the Community Monitoring Committee action and that this was acceptable to New Era.

#### .5 Public hours

There was no report from this committee.

### 8. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

#### .1 Operating budget update

S. Cober-Stasiulis reported that the board and its committees are operating within the allocated budget.

Expenditures to date are \$36,669.79. She forecasts that Community Monitoring Committee will finish the year within budget.

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Members discussed the annual budget request to Halifax Regional Municipality.

B. Smith confirmed that the 2002/3 budget was approved by Council.

MOTION that the Chairman request of Halifax Regional Municipality an agreement of a five year annual budget of \$65,000.00 for Community Monitoring Committee.

Moved: Cir. R. Walker, Seconded: Cir. G. Meade, CARRIED

### 9. Correspondence

.1 An update letter from Halifax Regional Municipality on the status of repairs to the stormwater line at Otter Lake Facility was received. The letter indicated that the repairs were completed, inspected by authorities and approved for use.

.2 The Chairman related a request for Community Monitoring Committee participation at a meeting on solid waste by Canadian Community Monitoring Committee Federation of Mayors and Municipalities. This meeting at Winnipeg is for input to a national guideline on solid waste programming by municipalities. The request of Community Monitoring Committee was for comments on public participation and public monitoring as experienced in this unique experience.

MOTION that Chairman T. Henley and Clr. R. Rankin attend a meeting of Federation of Mayors and Municipalities at Winnipeg and that Community Monitoring Committee pays their expenses estimated to be \$3000 from the Chairman and Special budget accounts.

.3 A positive letter in response to the last printed newsletter was received from D. Hynick of Halifax. His letter made several suggestions on the type of information he would like to see reported in future monitoring information.

11 Members agreed to refer the letter to the Communications and Technical committees.

### 10. Other Business

There was no other business.

### 11, Adjourn

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 9: 10 pm.

MOTION to adjourn. Moved: R. Kelsie

Smith confirmed that the

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Next meeting March 27, 2002 - 7:00 pm Lakeside  
Boardroom

D. L. Mason,  
Recording Secretary.