

FINAL APPROVED MINUTES
as of April 21, 2008

Meeting #3 – Monday, March 31, 2008

Sun Gro Centre
Beausejour, Manitoba
10:15 am - 4:00 pm

1. Call to Order

Meeting #3 of the Southeast Regional Groundwater Management Plan (SRGMP) group was called to order at 10:15 am on Monday, March 31, 2008 at the Sun Gro Centre in Beausejour, Manitoba by Cornie Goertzen, Chair of the SRGMP.

Present:

Last Name	First Name	Agency
Anderson	Kristina	Manitoba Water Stewardship
Benoit	Dan	Manitoba Métis Federation Inc.
Betcher	Bob	Manitoba Water Stewardship
Butler	Rob	Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration
Dugard	Mark	RM of Brokenhead
Evans	Laurie	RM of Ste. Anne, Vice-Chair of SRGMP
Gagnon	Jean	RM of La Broquerie
Goertzen	Cornie	Seine Rat River Conservation District, Chair of SRGMP
Gunning	Ed	RM of St. Clements
Heppner	Neil	RM of Taché
Hinrichs	Albert	RM of Whitemouth
Holtmann	Henry	Dairy Farmers of Manitoba
Kalyta	Phil	City of Steinbach
Keller	Greg	Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines
Martens	Herm	RM of Morris
Matile	Gaywood	Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines
Matthews	Rob	Manitoba Water Stewardship
Maynard	Gerry	RM of De Salaberry
Menard	Dave	RM of Taché
Mihaychuk	Ron	RM of Franklin
Morris	Lawrence	RM of East St. Paul
Nedotiafko	Rob	Manitoba Water Stewardship, Coordinator
Oswald	Barry	Manitoba Water Stewardship, Lead Coordinator
Ould	Phil	Concerned Citizens of the RM of Piney and Buffalo Point

Present (continued):

Last Name	First Name	Agency
Parks	Candace	Manitoba Water Stewardship, Secretary and Coordinator
Peterson	Doug	Manitoba Floodway Authority
Riekman	Marla	Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Ross	Marc	Cooks Creek Conservation District
Sadorski	Shane	Manitoba Cattle Producers Association
Sawka	Earl	RM of Piney
Schellenberg	Sam	Pembina Valley Water Cooperative
Seniw	Jane	Devils Creek Watershed Coalition
Stefaniuk	Bob	RM of Ritchot
Steinke	Glenn	Town of Beausejour
Stewart	Jennifer	Red River Basin Commission
Summach	Dwayne	Manitoba Forage Council
Swidersky	Jim	RM of Stuartburn
Wang	Jianrong	Manitoba Water Stewardship
Wruck	Gus	RM of Lac du Bonnet
Yosyk	Alvin	RM of Alexander
Young	Dave	RM of Reynolds

Regrets:

Last Name	First Name	Agency
Griffin	Duane	City of Winnipeg
McRae	Curtis	Keystone Agricultural Producers

2. Acceptance of Proposed Agenda

The proposed agenda was accepted.
 Moved by Dan Benoit – Manitoba Métis Federation Inc.
 Seconded by Alvin Yosyk – RM of Alexander
 Carried.

3. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting #2

The proposed minutes were accepted.
 Moved by Bob Stefaniuk – RM of Ritchot
 Seconded by Herm Martens – RM of Morris
 Carried.

Secretariat's Report

Candace Parks addressed the following three points:

a. Emailing of Minutes

Linda Hovorka-Smith the alternate from the Concerned Citizens of the RM of Piney and Buffalo Point called Manitoba Water Stewardship (MWS) to say she did not receive an electronic copy of the proposed minutes from meeting #2 sent on Friday, March 7, 2008. Candace asked the representative in attendance, Phil Ould, if he knew if Linda had figured out why she did not receive the minutes. Phil responded that he had not spoken to Linda lately and was unsure if the problem was rectified.

Candace asked the SRGMP group in attendance if anyone else had difficulty receiving the emailed minutes. No one else mentioned that they did not receive the electronic minutes.

b. Posting of approved minutes on rural municipality websites

During the Steinbach workshop on March 19th, a member of the public in attendance asked if the SRGMP minutes be posted on RM websites.

It was agreed to by the SRGMP group that only final approved minutes should be posted on the web. It was suggested that the minutes be posted on the MWS website therefore RM websites can provide a link to the MWS website. Barry Oswald responded that this is what is eventually going to happen however it will take up to three months before the MWS website will be available.

If any RM wanted a copy of the final approved minutes please contact Candace at (204) 945-2181 or at candace.parks@gov.mb.ca Her contact information has now been added to the footer of the minutes.

Candace mentioned that all proposed minutes to be distributed to the SRGMP group should be either a locked Word document or a PDF file to lessen the chances of someone altering the document.

The motion to adopt that all minutes are to be saved in a secure format in addition only final approved minutes can be posted on websites.

Moved by Dan Benoit – Manitoba Métis Federation Inc.
Seconded by Bob Stefaniuk – RM of Ritchot

Agency Appointments of Representatives and Alternatives

- 1) Beyond Factory Farming Inc. officially declined involvement in the SRGMP group.
- 2) The City of Winnipeg and Keystone Agricultural Producers sent regrets for not attending today's meeting
- 3) The City of Selkirk and the RM of Montcalm are officially auditing the SRGMP process.
- 4) Several agencies have not appointed an official alternate. The latest SRGMP directory lists the SRGMP agencies that have yet to register an alternate. Please provide Candace with this information so she can update the SRGMP directory accordingly.

4. Coordinators Report

Barry Oswald identified the seven available handouts to be picked up at the door. These included:

- 1) Meeting Agenda;
- 2) Updated SRGMP Directory;
- 3) Updated Study Area Map which included the First Nations and smaller communities;
- 4) Approved Method of Operations and Terms of Reference;
- 5) Conversion factor sheet;
- 6) A copy of Bob Betcher and Jianrong Wang's PowerPoint presentation from the February 25, 2008 SRGMP meeting; and
- 7) Agenda and handouts from the public workshops.

Copies of the Science Member presentations were distributed to the SRGMP group just prior to their presentations.

Barry referenced the December 2007 Clean Environment Commission report, "Environmental Sustainability and Hog Production in Manitoba" and stated his opinion based on a quick read that the report expressed concern for surface water quality but not for groundwater.

Barry commented that there are similarities between surface and groundwater planning in that they are conducted on the area of influence namely the watershed as determined by the waterway network for surface water and in our case the study area as determined by the groundwater flow regime. He emphasized, however, that he, as a layperson, perceived a significant difference between groundwater and surface water planning in that the respective flow velocities are very different. He noted that in

Manitoba, surface water, flowing in waterways, proceeds at velocities from one to 20 feet per second (ft/s) whereas groundwater flowing laterally through the ground proceeds at velocities from one to 20 feet per year.

Other Business

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Bob Betcher was unable to present in the morning and, consequently, his presentation was rescheduled to the afternoon. Rob Matthews then opted to present in the morning instead of at 1:00 pm as scheduled. The SRGMP group decided to proceed with item 5b on the agenda while waiting for Rob to set up his presentation.

Public Workshop Summary

Rob Nedotiafko summarized the four public workshops which were held in Oakbank (March 18), Steinbach (March 19), Beausejour (March 20) and Ile des Chênes (March 26). Overall, the public attendance was light; Oakbank had four participants, and on average 17 participants attended the other three workshops. Barry Oswald, Rob Nedotiafko and Candace Parks facilitated the workshop sessions. Cornie Goertzen, the SRGMP Chair, attended all workshop sessions. Laurie Evans, the SRGMP Vice-Chair, attended the workshops held in Oakbank, Steinbach and Beausejour.

The workshops included presentations by Rob Nedotiafko outlining the study area and the planning process as well as workshop exercise sessions. During the sessions, participants were first asked to individually identify issues the groundwater management plan should focus on. Afterwards, participants were asked to form small working groups in order to present and discuss their issues to each other and to then collectively identify the five priority issues the group thought the management plan should address. Groups were then asked to have one person present their group's priority issues to the other participants in attendance.

Workshop participants were informed that the issues they identified would be provided to the SRGMP group for consideration and incorporation in the management plan. Participants were also told to expect a draft plan prepared for public review in the next 1.5-2 years, where the public would have a second opportunity to participate in the planning process and review the draft at public workshops in future. Rob stressed that if a participant was interested in the SRGMP process, they can be kept apprised through one of the 53 local stakeholder agencies listed on the worksheet handout.

For the next SRGMP meeting, MWS will synthesize the issues identification information gathered from the public workshops and provide the SRGMP group with a summary.

With regard to public attendance at the workshops, MWS mentioned that a sign-in sheet was not used at any of the open houses in order to identify participants.

Due to the concern of the “poor” attendance at the public workshops, Barry mentioned that;

- People may be “too busy”.
- People may not be concerned about their groundwater.
- People may know that the people at this table are representing their interests in this regard and trust your judgment.
- Advertisements were placed in seven regional newspapers with ads appearing;
 - In back-to-back issues of five weekly papers.
 - In one monthly paper.
 - In one Saturday edition of the Winnipeg Free Press.
- The advertisement and the newspaper names were distributed at the last meeting.

Maybe the next set of workshops, which will occur when the draft plan is completed, should be advertised more or by additional means.

5. New Business

a. Science Members Presentations

- i. Rob Matthews - Manager, Water Rights Licensing, MWS made an overhead and PowerPoint presentation titled “Water Use Licensing Process” from the February 25, 2008 meeting.

-----Lunch-----

- ii. Doug Peterson – Manager, Environmental Services, Manitoba Floodway Authority made a PowerPoint presentation titled “Manitoba Floodway Authority.
- iii. Bob Betcher - Manager, Groundwater Management, MWS made a PowerPoint presentation titled “Sustainable Yield”.

In the interest of time, Marla Riekman’s presentation on Agricultural Landscapes and Water Quality was postponed to the April 2008

SRGMP group meeting.

6. Next Meeting

The SRGMP group agreed to have the SRGMP meeting #4 on Monday, April 21, 2008 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in Oakbank.

If a venue is not available in Oakbank, arrangements will be made to have the meeting in either Steinbach or Beausejour. Exact details of the meeting location are TBA.

7. Adjournment

The Chair thanked the group for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

APPROVED