

MINUTES

January 29, 2010

ST. MALO LAKE STEWARDSHIP WORKING GROUP MEETING

Present: Marc Hamonic, Luc Lahaie, Neil Loughran, Georges Beaudry, Kristy-Layne Carr, Pat Watson, Jules Gosselin, Jodi Goerzen

Invited Guests: Donna Smiley, Jen Shaykewich, Jason Lasuik, Kari Schulz, Jennifer Rogers, Lesley Gaudry, Bruce Duggan

1. Welcome of Invited Guests – **Donna Smiley** – Coordinator, Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Program, **Jen Shaykewich** – Manager, Environmental Livestock Program, **Jason Lasuik** – Environment Officer, Steinbach, **Jennifer Rogers & Kari Schulz** – Community Planners, **Lesley Gaudry** – Economic Development Officer, RM of De Salaberry, **Bruce Duggan** – Business Professor, Providence College
2. Approval of the Agenda

01-2010: Georges Beaudry – Jules Gosselin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be hereby adopted as presented with the addition of Bruce Duggan under item 6e.

CARRIED

3. Question Period with our invited guests

Jen and Donna have both prepared presentations based on the questions that handed to them ahead of time and are prepared to handle questions at the end of both presentations.

Jen – Livestock Program

- Presentation covers: regulation, regulatory requirements (setbacks), grandfathered operations, manure application buffers
- Field storage of manure is defined as temporary (spread by Nov 1), setbacks must be 100m from water, no permit required
- A storage facility is long-term, must have adequate storage, require a permit, must account for soil & groundwater conditions, setbacks are required, must have enough area to spread on
- Not-in-use facilities can be temporary (must be maintained) or are in the process of being decommissioned

Manure Application

- Winter spreading is prohibited for all new operations and for existing operations greater than 400 AU (animal units)
- Will be prohibited for 300-400 AU by Nov 2010, for all operations by 2013
- Application restrictions are based on N & P
- Operations greater than 300 AU must submit a manure management plan
- For setback distances see schedule B of Regulation
- Spills must be reported
- Discharge is prohibited to surface & groundwater

Mortalities

- Must be stored securely (refrigeration)
- Disposal by: burial (limitations), incineration, composting, rendering, other on request

Permits

- First step is to process applications, get RM approval, site inspection (setbacks), check consistency with regulations & construction standards, issue permit
- Will visit 3 times

Inspection of Older Facilities

- Older facilities are registered by grandfathering
- Inspect facilities affected by flooding
- Biosecurity
- Seepage/spillage

Processing of Manure Management Plans

- Identify & notify of any deficiencies
- Review soil tests
- Verify spread fields
- Audits – approximately 10% of plans

Response to Spills

- Conduct site inspection
- Clean-up order (if needed)
- Advise Manitoba Water Stewardship if close to streams

Complaints/Enforcement

- Limitations
- MB Conservation has no jurisdiction to enforce RM by-laws
- Don't respond to nuisance complaints
- For enforcement, compliance is mandatory
- Emphasis in on prevention of damage to the environment
- Enforcement options based on: protecting the environment, record of individual, attitude, seriousness, urgency, difficulty to correct, deterrent effect
- Warning is issued first, followed by director's order, offence notice (tickets that vary in price), formal prosecution (court – fine or jail)

Donna – Onsite Wastewater Management

- Enforcement is the same as for Livestock
- New amendment made in Oct 2009
- Wastewater is sewage & greywater
- Minimum lot size is new: 2 acres, frontage of 60m (198 ft site width)
- This is consistent with lot size requirement in subdivision regulation

Variances

- For existing lots not meeting the new size requirements
- Examined on a case by case basis: no lagoon/municipal service in the area, location, size, soil etc

Restrictions for Parks, Sensitive Areas

- New: holding tanks only
- Variances may be considered

Secondary Treatment

- Additional step in treating wastewater
- Removal of biodegradable material
- Capable of some nutrient removal
- Biofiltration treatment: passed through peat fibre (air space) or synthetic media (passive treatment)
- Aerobic treatment: inject air into the system, first in septic tank then flows to dispersal field
- Both systems approved for Manitoba

Red River Corridor Area – Redefined

- Holding tanks or secondary treatment on existing lots

Connecting to Wastewater Collection (new & existing)

- Take existing system out of service
- Must be done within 5 years for new collection or with transfer of land
- No new installations of sewage ejectors
- Must decommission ejectors with transfer of land
- To decommission: leave field alone or use decommission tank

Questions for Donna (see attached list)

1. MB Conservation does not have data specific to St Malo Lake. Check with Manitoba Water Stewardship.
2. Has been touched on already. Provincial Parks are only allowed holding tanks. Any development outside of the Park is restricted by the lot size. Grey water pits are not allowed unless the water is not under pressure. A grey water field could be built but there needs to be enough area.
3. There is not enough capacity in municipal lagoons to enforce existing systems. The RM could create a by-law but must be willing to enforce it themselves. Systems are grandfathered in until a complaint occurs. Metal holding tanks are NOT allowed unless a particular one is used (approved by CSA). Conservation will investigate systems crossing ownership boundaries (subdivision).
4. Existing outhouses are ok if they are not serviceable by pump out trucks (unless a by-law is in place). They are not a huge problem with run-off because they are seasonal. Existing grey water pits are ok unless a problem surfaces. Any type of pump is considered water under pressure. Using “top” liquid is ILLEGAL and will result in a ticket. Composting toilets are good but that only covers the toilet. If other water is under pressure, then a field is still needed.
5. MB Conservation has jurisdiction over those issues. RM’s can also issue by-laws.
6. Manitoba Water Stewardship’s (MWS) jurisdiction. They have a handout for resources.
7. MB Conservation will respond to complaints, and review applications. Can they investigate a larger area with more than one homeowner? Conservation does not have a lot of manpower. Check with the local office.
8. Public Education works the best. Sometimes complaints/investigations get others to also comply. A survey could be sent out to determine what types of sewage disposal are being used. Perhaps the SRRCD could provide incentives.
9. Check out Grindstone cottage group – Moe Tipples. Create local “champions”.

Questions for Jen (see attached list)

1. Regulations have changed over time. Confined livestock operations only need permits if they are over 300 AU. Existing operations are not enforced but will be brought into compliance if problems arise. There is no requirement to keep cattle off the water in a pasture situation.
 2. This point has been touched on. The Nov 2009 amendment states that the winter spreading ban will occur in 2013 and P regulations will apply to all in 2013. Crop fertilization is not covered under this regulation. Contact Dave Hay from MWS.
 3. There will be a minimum requirement for winter storage in 2013.
 4. MB Conservation (Manure Management) has jurisdiction over animal waste. Ag fertilizers/chemical is handled by Dave Hay.
 5. MB Conservation can be contacted with complaints, however, they need evidence. Useful info for them would be the locations of all livestock operations.
 6. Confined livestock areas must be a minimum of 100m from a waterway.
 7. MB Conservation does inspect storage facilities and there are monitoring wells in sensitive areas.
 8. Contact Manitoba Water Stewardship.
 9. If a new operation is proposed in a 100 year flood zone, it needs to be taken into account in the engineering. Existing operations need to register with MB Conservation and the risk to the environment will be evaluated.
5. Old Business
- a. Brochure – committee is created: Neil, Georges, Kristy-Layne & Marc (Chair)
-Will meet before the regular meeting
6. Related Projects
- a. Bruce Duggan – Providence College
-Would like advice on creating green space in Otterbourne and tying it into business/recreation (small scale St Malo area)
-RM would likely encourage such a project
7. Next Meeting – March 1, 2010: 10am brochure meeting, 1pm regular meeting
8. Adjournment

02-2010: Georges Beaudry – Jules Gosselin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting is hereby adjourned.

CARRIED

Questions for the Non-Agriculture Environment Officer

1. What can you tell us about the proven or likely effects on our river and lake from residences and cottages? Have these causes and effects been changing over time and, if so, why?
2. What are the current and to-come-into-effect-soon rules about residential and cottage sewage, waste disposal, and phosphorous/nitrogen runoff near our lake and river?
3. What is, or will be, the situation regarding existing non-conforming, or to be non-conforming, residential and cottage septic fields or non-conforming sewage disposal methods?
4. We have heard of a number of other methods of minimizing residential sewage pump-out quantities. Are any of these methods appropriate, such as for example: Outhouses? Rock-filled grey-water pits (for kitchen waste or baths/showers)? Using the "top" liquid for garden/yard watering or fertilizer? Mulching toilets and spreading the mulch on one's property? Are there any additional such "other" methods that are cost effective?
5. Which jurisdictions have what regulatory authorities regarding the discharge or effects of the various forms of potential waterbody damaging sewage and waste disposal, and phosphorous/nitrogen runoff from residential and cottage areas?
6. What types of regulation and control exist, or are soon to-come-into-existence, pertaining to residential or cottage related shoreline and river-bottom land stability, docks, vegetation, ditching or canalization, and other such features important to health of our river and lake?
7. How are residential and cottage areas policed regarding the above-noted waterbody-impacting environmental issues?
8. What are the most effective and efficient methods of residential and cottage environmental monitoring and control regarding the health of our river and lake? Which of these methods are in place, and which should we investigate further for our own monitoring system?
9. Are there any sources of residential or cottage-related information or case examples you think we should investigate?
10. Is there anything further you wish to add?

Questions for the Agriculture Environment Officer

1. What can you tell us about the proven or likely effects on our river and lake from agricultural uses - be it ag-related discharges, livestock use of the river, machinery crossings, etc? Have these causes and effects been changing over time and, if so, why?
2. What are the current and to-come-into-effect-soon rules about agricultural sewage and waste management, and other potentially waterbody damaging, chemical use and manure management near our lake and river?
3. What is, or will be, the situation regarding existing non-conforming, or to be non-conforming, agricultural sewage and waste disposal, chemical use, and manure management methods?

4. Which jurisdictions have what regulatory authorities regarding potentially waterbody-damaging discharge of the various forms of agricultural waste, chemical use, and manure management?
5. How are agricultural areas policed regarding potential waterbody-damaging environmental issues?
6. What types of regulation and control exist, or are soon to-come-into-existence, pertaining to shoreline and river bottom land stability, livestock watering, livestock or machinery crossings, vegetation, ditching or canalization, and other agricultural use features that may impact the health of our river and lake?
7. What are the most effective and efficient methods of agricultural, waterbody-related, environmental monitoring and control? Which of these methods are in place, and which should we investigate further for our own monitoring system?
8. Are there any sources of agriculture-related information or case examples you think we should investigate?
9. Is there anything further you wish to add?