



**SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
JOINT MUNICIPAL SERVICES BOARD
2012 THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING
October 18, 2012
Town of Midland Council Chambers
Dominion Avenue
Midland, ON**

Approved Minutes for Board

Present	Councillor Bob Jeffery Councillor Andrew Hill Councillor Kelly Meyer Mayor Ray Millar Councillor Dave Ritchie Councillor Perry Ritchie Councillor Ron Stevens Keith Sherman Gail Marchildon	SSEA Chair/Town of Midland City of Orillia Township of Oro-Medonte Township of Tiny Township of Tay Township of Springwater Township of Severn SSEA ED SSEA OM
Regrets	Deputy Mayor Pat Marion Councillor Paul Wiankco	Town of Penetanguishene Township of Georgian Bay
Guest	Kate Harries	Aware Simcoe

1. WELCOME

Chair Bob Jeffery welcomed the SSEA board. 10:30 AM

2. MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA:

Moved by: Ron Stevens

Seconded by: Ray Millar

To adopt the agenda of the 3rd Quarterly SSEA Meeting
Carried.

3. PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATION

None declared.

4. DEPUTATIONS

Presentation provided by Kate Harries on behalf of Aware Simcoe.

Chair Bob Jeffery thanked Ms. Harries for her presentation.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES AND PAST BUSIENSS

Moved by: Ray Millar

Seconded by: Ron Stevens

To approve the minutes of the July 19th, 2012 meeting of the SSEA.

Carried

6. ACCOUNTS

a) Third Quarterly report for 2012

Moved by: Dave Ritchie

Seconded by: Ron Stevens

To approve the Third Quarter Financial Report for 2012 with amendment.

Carried.

b) Third Quarter Confirmation of Accounts

Moved by: Ray Millar

Seconded by: Kelly Meyer

That the accounts for the 2nd QRT totaling \$32,616.53 be approved and confirmed as paid.

Carried.

c) Forecast of Revenues for Special Projects

Received for information.

Kelly Meyer thanked Keith Sherman on behalf of the Bass Lake Association saying they were very pleased with the work being done by the SSEA.

d) Draft 2013 Revenue and Expense Budget

Moved by: Ron Stevens

Seconded by: Ray Millar

To approve the Draft 2013 Revenue and Expense budget in principal.

Carried.

7. Staffing

Moved by: Ray Millar

Seconded by: David Ritchie

That the SSEA Executive Director Keith Sherman, be hereby directed by the Severn Sound Environmental Associations Joint Services Board to prepare and submit to the Severn Sound Environmental Association Member Municipalities as requested, a draft budget plan of the RMO/RMI start-up implementation cost.

Carried Unanimously.

8. SSEA Strategic Planning

a) Report on the Source Water Pre-work

Moved by: Ron Stevens

Seconded by: Kelly Meyer

That the SSEA Board directs SSEA staff to follow the plan outlined above in order to address the deferred revenue within the next five years.

Carried Unanimously.

9. Other Business

a) Great Lakes Water Levels

Keith Sherman submitted and reported on the joint letter to the Minister of the Environment regarding Georgian Bay Water Levels - Response To Upper Great Lakes water Level Study and Additional Information.

b) SSEA Minutes and Agenda's

SSEA staff were directed to continue to follow the model from the Town of Midland with the following changes starting in January 2013: the Agenda will no longer be labelled draft and will include reports that have been received and accepted one week prior to meeting; the Agenda will continue to be distributed to the board and posted on the SSEA website one week prior to the next regular board meeting; the draft minutes will be sent to the Board members in a reasonable time frame following the regular board meeting and resolutions passed at the meeting be made available.

c) Announcement from Chair

Chair Bob Jeffery announced that this would be his last meeting as he has been re-assigned. Kelly Meyer will fill the vacant position on the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee.

10. Next Meeting

The Fourth Quarterly meeting will be at 10:00 AM to be held on January 17th at Midland Council Chambers.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 1:00 PM.

Moved by: Andrew Hill

Seconded by: David Ritchie

Carried.

Keith Sherman, Executive Director/ SSEA Chair



**SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
2012-05
October 12, 2012
Town of Midland Dominion Room
Dominion Avenue
Midland, ON**

Approved Minutes for Committee

Present	Councillor Bob Jeffery Deputy Mayor Pat Marion Mayor Ray Millar Councillor Ron Stevens Keith Sherman Gail Marchildon	SSEA Chair/Town of Midland Town of Penetanguishene Township of Tiny Township of Severn SSEA ED SSEA OM
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Regrets	Councillor Paul Wiankco	Township of Georgian Bay
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1. **WELCOME: 8:40 A.M.**

2. **PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATION**
None declared.

3. **REVIEW OF MINUTES AND PAST BUSINESS**

Moved by: Ron Stevens

Seconded by: Pat Marion

To approve the minutes of the July 6th, 2012 Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

Carried

4.

RECOMMENDATION:

Subject to the input from the Ad Hoc Committee, the following recommendation will be provided to SSEA Board:

THAT THE SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
JOINT MUNICIPAL SERVICES BOARD REVIEW THE AGENDA AND
MINUTE PROCEDURES FOR THE NEXT CALENDAR YEAR.

5. Strategic Actions 2013 – 2019

Committee reviewed SSEA's priorities up to 2013 that have been covered in the Agreement, Schedule A - Strategic Plan. This was followed by a forward look at 2013-2018 projects and priorities.

6. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 11:00 AM.

Moved by: Ron Stevens

Seconded by: Pat Marion

Carried.

7. Next Meeting:

To be determined.

Keith Sherman, Executive Director/ SSEA Chair



319 King Street North, Alliston, Ontario L9R 1L3

Presentation to directors of the Severn Sound Environmental Association

October 18, 2012

Good morning.

My name is Kate Harries and I am here to speak on behalf of AWARE Simcoe. Our group was formed to push for a commitment to transparency in the 2010 municipal election because of a growing dissatisfaction with the failure of some local governments to communicate effectively. Information was being withheld, or released too late in the decision-making process, meetings were held behind closed doors or without due notice to the public. The result was an uninformed and disengaged public, resentful of their elected representatives and suspicious of the democratic process. We determined to change that – to renew the lines of accountability and promote public participation. Following the 2010 election, members of AWARE in various municipalities started to monitor local government. Other groups not affiliated with AWARE took on the task in some municipalities. We also monitor Simcoe County Council and the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and, as our network grows, other agencies and boards will be added.

We see **timely** dissemination of information as an absolute key to an informed electorate and good decision-making, and we do what we can to advance that cause. The information our volunteers gather is posted on the AWARE website, goes out on Twitter to several hundred subscribers, goes onto our Facebook page and is sent to an email list of several hundred people. On occasion, we also alert the media about matters we feel have slipped under the radar. Recently we set up the AWARE News Network to increase the efficiency of our information dissemination.

At our July board meeting (attended by representatives from 14 municipalities) directors from AWARE Oro-Medonte shared their concerns about the fact that SSEA does not make reports available to the public at

the time they are presented to the SSEA board. The AWARE board believes that, as a public agency, SSEA should meet basic requirements for open government. We do not know whether the Municipal Act applies to your organization but it offers a reasonable standard and is generally adhered to by local agencies.

The AWARE board was advised that the SSEA failed to provide reports that had already been presented to the SSEA board at their April 19, 2012 meeting upon request by AWARE Oro-Medonte's Sandy Agnew, and we were told that the SSEA continued to withhold the reports despite a further request being filed under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. Mr. Agnew also asked for details of SSEA expenditures. The cheque register that was released to him shows the SSEA's disbursements for the fourth quarter of 2011. **But every cheque recipient's name was blacked out.** A letter from your executive director Keith Sherman, dated June 11 2012, states that the documents contain personal information that had been provided in confidence. We presume that the vast majority of these payments were to companies that do business with SSEA, rather than any type of compensation of a personal nature. In any case, the public (in this case Mr. Agnew) has the right to know details of these transactions. It is a fundamental obligation of any organization receiving tax dollars to divulge to whom the money is being paid.

At the July SSEA board meeting, you passed a resolution, apparently condemning Mr. Agnew. When Mr. Agnew asked for a copy of the resolution, it was refused. He was told he would have to wait until the minutes were approved at the next board meeting (today's).

AWARE Simcoe can see no justification for this lack of transparency and timeliness, which is aggravated by the fact that the board only meets every three months. It appears all board decisions and supporting information are withheld for three months, by which time one would assume that they have been implemented.

We urge you as SSEA board members to examine and update your communications and reporting procedures with a view to making them more accessible to members of the public.

We suggest:

1. Advance notice, with agenda, of all SSEA board and public committee meetings be posted on your website. We understand, for instance, that the

board had a special meeting on July 6 and, as far as we know, no public notice was given of that meeting.

2. Any resolution passed by the board be made available immediately. A resolution, with a mover and a seconder, voted on by those present, is a decision. It may be reversed at a subsequent meeting, but at the time of voting, it is a fact. The public has a right to know what decisions have been made.

3. Reports to the board be made available to the public in advance of the meetings at which they are to be discussed, when the agenda is posted. Our understanding of the present practice is that these reports are withheld for three months. This makes it impossible for any member of the public to have a grasp of what the SSEA is doing, and what information or research it is basing its actions on. It makes it impossible for the public to have any meaningful input into the deliberations of the board.

4. Minutes of board meetings be made available within a reasonable time, which we suggest would be a week, with the proviso - as is the practice generally - that the minutes are a draft and subject to change until finally ratified by the board.

AWARE Simcoe considers that such changes would make the SSEA's practice in compliance with the Municipal Act, which we think is a desirable goal, and likely to benefit both your agency and the public.

I was delegated by the AWARE Simcoe board to make this submission to your July meeting, but that was not allowed, which is why I am here many months later. I do appreciate this opportunity to detail our concerns and look forward to your response.

Thank you,

Kate Harries

Vice-chair, AWARE Simcoe

Editor, AWARE News Network

Severn Sound Environmental Association
Revenues Budget Third Quarter 2012
as of Sept 30, 2012

	2012 Budget	Collected or Invoiced to Date	Remaining
Georgian Bay	\$27,102	\$27,102	\$0
Midland	\$40,072	\$40,072	\$0
Orillia	\$26,342	\$26,342	\$0
Oro-Medonte	\$35,182	\$35,182	\$0
Penetanguishene	\$31,091	\$31,091	\$0
Severn	\$30,602	\$30,602	\$0
Springwater	\$27,513	\$27,513	\$0
Tay	\$35,736	\$35,736	\$0
Tiny	\$57,224	\$57,224	\$0
Municipal sub-total(2)	\$310,864	\$310,864	\$0
Community/Private	\$4,000	\$1,903	\$2,097
Projects (3)	\$25,000	\$1,586	\$23,414
Recoveries (4)	\$35,000	\$23,480	\$11,520
Source Water Protection(5)	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0
Prior Year Surplus/(deficit)(6)	(\$2,191)	\$0	(\$2,191)
TOTAL REVENUES	\$402,673	\$367,833	\$34,840
Special Projects (7)	\$165,640		

(1) Revenues related directly to the Environmental Association which do not include project funds (cash and in-kind) from partners.

(2) Municipal share is based on 2007 assessment.

(3) Projects administered by the Association (10%).

(4) Work done by the SSEA Office for the Partners and/or others.

(5) Administration from Source Water Protection (from LSRCA)

(6) Prior year Surplus/(deficit) amount

(7) Special Projects Salary & Benefits to SSEA

Severn Sound Environmental Association
Budget Expenditures 2012
as of Sept 30, 2012

Deliverable	2012 Total Budget	2012 To Date	Balance
Administration			
Treasurer expense	\$4,500	\$3,065	\$1,435
Legal fees	\$3,500	\$153	\$3,347
Audit fees	\$6,500	\$5,179	\$1,321
Insurance	\$7,000	\$6,272	\$728
Meeting expense	\$1,500	\$495	\$1,005
Travel expense	\$2,500	\$810	\$1,690
Conference expense	\$2,000	\$2,651	(\$651)
Office Supplies & equipment	\$9,000	\$7,554	\$1,446
Printing&Copying	\$100	\$31	\$69
Postage and Shipping	\$929	\$520	\$409
Phones	\$2,500	\$1,723	\$777
Space rental	\$10,500	\$7,879	\$2,621
SSEA Vehicle	\$2,000	\$241	\$1,759
Sampling contracts (sampling boat & analyse	\$12,000	\$11,949	\$51
Health and Safety	\$1,500	\$1,007	\$493
Sub total:	\$66,029	\$49,528	\$16,501
Salaries & Benefits			
Undistributed Salaries & Benefits	\$52,000	\$33,339	\$18,661
Overall Coordination	\$68,000	\$57,000	\$11,000
Office administration	\$65,000	\$49,579	\$15,421
Database Maintenance	\$65,000	\$38,640	\$26,360
Natural Heritage & plan review	\$18,000	\$18,449	(\$449)
Monitoring & Surveillance	\$34,644	\$41,948	(\$7,304)
Rural Programs	\$10,000	\$10,633	(\$633)
Sustainability Plan support		\$0	\$0
Water Scientist	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$0
Sub total:	\$336,644	\$273,588	\$63,056
Special Projects (Salaries & benefits only)	\$165,640	\$108,793	\$56,847
Total Salaries & benefits:	\$502,284	\$382,381	\$119,903
Total (not incl. special projects):	\$402,673	\$323,116	\$79,557

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2012

	Budget	Actual	Remaining
Revenues	\$402,673	\$367,833	\$34,840
Expenditures	\$402,673	\$323,116	\$79,557
Balance to date	\$0	\$44,717	(\$44,717)

**Deferred Revenue 3rd QRT
September 30, 2012**

Project	Closing 2011	Funds Received 2012	Current Revenues	Expenditures 2012	Closing Balance September 2012	Salary and Benefits 2012
802 - Ground Water Project	(1,998.51)	-	(1,998.51)	-	(1,998.51)	
804 - Habitat Strategy Analysis	-				-	
805 - Penetang Const Wetland	(4,366.21)	-	(4,366.21)	-	(4,366.21)	
806 - Urban Storm water Impl	-				-	
807 - Land Mgmt Analysis	-				-	
808 - SS Trib Fish Comm	-				-	
809 - Wye Marsh Bio Inventory	-				-	
811 - Bass Lake Survey	-				-	
812 - Geo Bay LL Survey	-				-	
813 - Honey Harbour Survey	(77.34)	(4,500.00)	(4,577.34)	15,535.58	10,958.24	
814 - Stage III Project	-				-	
815 - EGB Consulting Project	-				-	
816 - EGB Monitoring Project	-				-	
817 - Rural Non-PT Source	-				-	
818 - Wetlands Evaluation Pro	(1,993.50)	(6,764.75)	(8,758.25)	4,382.50	(4,375.75)	4,344.33
819 - Near Shore Fish	-				-	
821 - Sustainability Project	-				-	
822 - Natural Shorelines Project	-	-		-	-	
823 - EGB Sediment Project	-				-	
824 - Hog Creek Project	-				-	
825 - Lake Couchiching Project	(1,694.76)	-	(1,694.76)	-	(1,694.76)	
826 - Shore Watch Project	(385.07)	-	(385.07)	-	(385.07)	
827 - Economic Project	-				-	
828 - Huronia Trib Rehab	-				-	
829 - Trent Severn Waterway	-				-	
830 - Toxics Mgt Strategy	-				-	
831 - Healthy Streams Project	(3,815.51)	(1,252.00)	(5,067.51)	3,493.15	(1,574.36)	
834 - Source Water Pre-work	260,330.26	(22,373.67)	237,956.59	13,112.92	251,069.51	41,394.13
838 - Fish Habitat Project	(1,576.32)	-	(1,576.32)	399.61	(1,176.71)	

**Deferred Revenue 3rd QRT
September 30, 2012**

Project	Closing 2011	Funds Received 2012	Current Revenues	Expenditures 2012	Closing Balance September 2012	Salary and Benefits 2012
839 - Well Aware Program	(9,117.47)	-	(9,117.47)	208.59	(8,908.88)	208.59
840 - Municipal Pre-Screening	-				-	
843 - Elmvale Children's Water Fest	-				-	
844 - Tree Distribution Project	(8,651.75)	(11,562.80)	(20,214.55)	8,306.43	(11,908.12)	2450.34
845 - Planning Review Project	(265.48)		(265.48)		(265.48)	
848 - COA Tribs Project	-				-	
849 - Exotic Species Project	-				-	
851 - Woodland Evaluation	903.35	-	903.35	-	903.35	
853 - Inland Lakes	(7,637.15)	(3,600.00)	(11,237.15)	15,395.47	4,158.32	
854 - Early Response Project	(100,611.19)	(3,178.00)	(103,789.19)	32,225.28	(71,563.91)	
855 - ER Promotion Project	(16,677.17)	(24,452.30)	(41,129.47)	9,575.11	(31,554.36)	5,817.78
856 - Source Water Implementation	-	(50,709.33)	(50,709.33)	58,918.81	8,209.48	54,578.22
TOTAL	102,366.18	(128,392.85)		161,553.45	135,526.78	108,793.39
Accounts Receivable (DR balances)	261,233.61				275,298.90	
Deferred Revenue	(165,944.93)				(139,772.12)	
	<u>95,288.68</u>				<u>135,526.78</u>	

Severn Sound Environmental Association
CONFIRMATION OF ACCOUNTS
July 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012

General Administration

Audit		
Admin Fees/Town of Midland	3,016.97	
Legal Fees	152.00	
Insurance	-	
Meeting Expenses	-	
Mileage	106.58	
Conference	736.08	
Rental	2,380.10	
Office Supplies	1,618.84	
Postage and Shipping	224.61	
Telephone	642.33	
Health and Safety	160.38	9,037.89

Special Projects

Contracted Services	21,452.82	
Supplies and Materials	816.44	
Vehicles	390.23	
Unleaded Gas	919.15	23,578.64

Total AP 32,616.53

Forecast of Revenues for 2012 as of October 18, 2012

Project	Year	Source	SSEA Revenues				Status
			Request	"Community"	"Projects"	"Recoveries"	
Sustainability							
Sustainability Project	2012						
P-control							
Inland Lakes	2012	O-M	10452		950		C
	2012	Midland	3000		300		C
	2012	GB Twp	17274		1661		C
Habitat							
DFO Rehab	12/13	DFO	15500		1550		P
Wetland Restoration							
Wetland Evaluation	2012	Tiny	8183		744		C
	2012	HCF	1000		100		C
Natural Shorelines	2012	CFIP/CWIP	750				C
Healthy Streams	2012	CFIP/CWIP	4000				C
Tree Distribution	2012	NSSC	10000		250		C
Fish Habitat	2012	Tay	4000		400		C
	2012	U of W	3000		300		P
Pollution Prevention							
Early Response Promotion	11/12	LSRCA	42510				C
Source Protection							
Source Protection Planning							
Agreement8	11/12	LSRCA	20000			8000	C
Agreement9	12/13	LSRCA	119000			22000	C
Midland well survey 2011	2012	Midland	5000		500	4500	C
Well Aware	2012	GCC	5800		580		P
Planning							
Plan Review	2012	County	3000		300	2700	P
	2012	Munic	15000		1500	13500	P
Mapping services	2012	Munic	1000		100	900	P
	2012	Community	500	500			P
Monitoring							
PGMN	2012	MOE-EMRE	3000				C
SMDHU Monitoring-beaches	2012	SMDHU					P
Atmospheric TP	2012	LSRCA				0	R
COA Monitoring-open water	11/12	COA-MOE	7500		750	6750	C
	12/13	COA-MOE	10000		1000	9000	P
Trib Fish Biomass							
Sale of publications	2012	Community	200	200			P
Fund Raising	2012	Community	3300	3300			P
Totals			312969	4000	10985	37350	30000
Target				4000	25000	35000	30000
P		Proposed					
C		Comitted					
D		Deferred					
R		Rejected					

Agency Acronyms

CFIP/CWIP	MNR Community Fisheries/Community Wildlife Involvement Program
COA-MNR	Canada-Ontario Agreement - MNR
COA-MOE	Canada-Ontario Agreement - MOE
County	County of Simcoe
CWS	Environment Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
EC	Environment Canada
FCM	Federation of Canadian Municipalities
GBINP	Georgian Bay Islands National Park
GC	Green Communities Foundation
GLSF	Environment Canada - Great Lakes Sustainability Fund
HCF	Huronian Communities Foundation
LSRCA (CO)	Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (Conservation Ontario)
MNR	Ministry of Natural Resources
MOE	Ministry of the Environment
NSCFDC	North Simcoe Community Futures Development Centre
NSSC	North Simcoe Stewardship Council
NSSCIA	North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association
OGS	Ontario Geological Survey
PC	Parks Canada - Georgian Bay Islands National Park
PC-TSW	Parks Canada - Trent-Severn Waterway
SCCF	Simcoe County Christian Farmers
SCFA	Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture
SMDHU	Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit
Trillium	Ontario Trillium Foundation
U of W	University of Windsor

**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Draft Revenues Budget 2013
as of October 18, 2012**

	2013 Budget	Collected or Invoiced to Date	Remaining
Georgian Bay	\$29,481	\$0	\$29,481
Midland	\$44,115	\$0	\$44,115
Orillia	\$28,625	\$0	\$28,625
Oro-Medonte	\$38,598	\$0	\$38,598
Penetanguishene	\$33,981	\$0	\$33,981
Severn	\$33,430	\$0	\$33,430
Springwater	\$29,946	\$0	\$29,946
Tay	\$39,222	\$0	\$39,222
Tiny	\$63,467	\$0	\$63,467
Municipal sub-total(2)	\$340,864	\$0	\$340,864
Community/Private	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000
Projects (3)	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
Recoveries (4)	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
Source Water Protection(5)	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000
Prior Year Surplus/(deficit)(6)	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL REVENUES	\$434,864	\$0	\$434,864
Special Projects (7)	\$165,640		

(1) Revenues related directly to the Environmental Association which do not include project funds (cash and in-kind) from partners.

(2) Municipal share is based on 2007 assessment.

(3) Projects administered by the Association (10%).

(4) Work done by the SSEA Office for the Partners and/or others.

(5) Administration from Source Water Protection (from LSRCA)

(6) Prior year Surplus/(deficit) amount

(7) Special Projects Salary & Benefits to SSEA

**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Draft Budget Expenditures 2013
as at October 18, 2012**

Deliverable	2013 Total Budget	2013 To Date	Balance
Administration			
Treasurer expense	\$4,500	\$0	\$4,500
Legal fees	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500
Audit fees	\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500
Insurance	\$7,000	\$0	\$7,000
Meeting expense	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Travel expense	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Conference expense	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
Office Supplies & equipment	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000
Printing&Copying	\$100	\$0	\$100
Postage and Shipping	\$814	\$0	\$814
Phones	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Space rental	\$12,200	\$0	\$12,200
SSEA Vehicle	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Sampling contracts (sampling boat & e	\$14,000	\$0	\$14,000
Health and Safety	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Sub total:	\$72,614	\$0	\$72,614
Salaries & Benefits			
Undistributed Salaries & Benefits	\$52,000	\$0	\$52,000
Overall Coordination	\$71,000	\$0	\$71,000
Office administration	\$66,625	\$0	\$66,625
Database Maintenance	\$66,625	\$0	\$66,625
Natural Heritage & plan review	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Monitoring & Surveillance	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000
Rural Programs	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000
Sustainability Plan support		\$0	\$0
Water Scientist	\$34,000	\$0	\$34,000
Sub total:	\$362,250	\$0	\$362,250
Special Projects (Salaries & benefits c	\$165,640	\$0	\$165,640
Total Salaries & benefits:	\$527,890	\$0	\$527,890
Total (not incl. special projects):	\$434,864	\$0	\$434,864

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2012

	Budget	Actual	Remaining
Revenues	\$434,864	\$0	\$434,864
Expenditures	\$434,864	\$0	\$434,864
Balance to date	\$0	\$0	\$0

Report on the Source Water Pre-work

October 18, 2012

Prepared by Keith Sherman

Throughout the development of the Source Water Protection Plan documents, the SSEA has assembled data from all aspects of our environmental monitoring and analysis work as well as our community contact and outreach efforts. The majority of this work supported the development of the Assessment Report for the Severn Sound Source Protection Area, the databases supporting the program and the various public consultation processes supporting the program. The broad nature of the source water project encompassed work that was carried out under a variety of SSEA projects, some of which were carried out prior to the start of the Source Water Protection Program and prior to the capacity building agreements with Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority. The work consisted largely of labour by existing SSEA staff, contracted service and expenses for travel and materials. The result has been analysis and consolidation of practically all the data that SSEA has collected over the years including some dating back to the time of the Severn Sound Remedial Action Plan activities. The data represents an ongoing resource that will be used by SSEA in support of virtually all future projects that are undertaken. The database should be considered an investment in the future activities of the SSEA.

As the nature of the work was very time-sensitive, and the requirements of the MOE varied after work plans were set, it was not always possible to revise the Agreements with LSRCA to encompass the work required to assemble the information and accommodate the budget requirements. Several projects were consolidated during 2011 into the Source Water Project by journal entry, resulting in a deferred revenue in the Source Water Project. The current deferred revenue of the project, "Source Water Pre-work" (9834), is approximately \$260,000 (as of September 30, 2012).

No further costs will be applied to Source Water Pre-work as we have entered a new phase of Source Water Protection work as of April 1, 2012 consisting of completion of the Proposed Source Protection Plan (SPP)(under Source Water Implementation, 9856), some technical work including stewardship (Early Response program 9854, 9855) and the Midland-Penetanguishene-Tiny Tier 3 Water Budget, and municipal and public consultation on the SPP (also under Source Water Implementation, 9856). The work for these projects is accommodated under Agreements with LSRCA extending to December 2012. It is expected that an Agreement with LSRCA will be forthcoming in 2013 to continue support for Source Water Implementation including technical work involving threats data preparation and verification, completion of the Tier 3 Water Budget, and technical updates needed for completion of the Source Protection Plan.

The following plan is proposed to deal with the deferred revenue in Source Water Pre-work.

1. Journal entries will be made for any projects that make use of Source Water Pre-work data in order to credit Source Water Pre-work for a portion of the labour posted to other projects.
2. Invoices for Recoveries from plan review work will direct a portion of the billed labour to Source Water Pre-work.

The time-frame for eliminating the deferred revenue is estimated to be within five years starting in 2012.

Recommendation:

That the SSEA Board directs SSEA staff to follow the plan outlined above in order to address the deferred revenue within the next five years.



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October 18, 2012

To Mayors and Councils of the Corporations of the
Township of Tiny
Town of Midland
Town of Penetanguishene
Township of Tay
Township of Georgian Bay
Township of Severn

RE: GEORGIAN BAY WATER LEVELS – RESPONSE TO UPPER GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL STUDY AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following comments are offered in preparation for your discussions with the federal government.

Background

The long-term historical water level chart for Lake Michigan-Lake Huron-Georgian Bay, maintained by the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS), should be should be consulted as a summary of changing water levels for the record of water level measurement (1918 to present) (see http://www.waterlevels.gc.ca/C&A/netgraphs_e.html). The same link will have the long-term water levels for Lake Superior.

The final study report key findings and recommendations are provided in ATTACHMENT #1

There are a number of technical reports that are also associated with the two main Study Reports. Most of these reports are modeling studies of the effects of various factors on the hydrology of the Great Lakes and resulting water levels. Staff of SSEA are not qualified to peer review many of these reports. The report on the Ecological Evaluation of the Lake Superior Rules (Scudder Mackey, 2011) has some important conclusions that are based on the work of Pat Chow-Fraser and her researchers from McMaster University. Her work provides the best ecological basis for determining the importance of maintaining water levels in Georgian Bay.

Another aspect of the response to the decline in water levels is the recommendations for an adaptation strategy. There were several programs that were funded by the federal government when the water levels were high in the 1980s, to secure shorelines and dwellings from erosion damage. Similarly, a few years ago when water levels started declining, there was a funding program of the federal government to support marina operators in Georgian Bay with additional maintenance dredging and to streamline approvals for dredging proposals in existing marinas. The point is that there is precedent for the federal government to support shoreline owners in adapting to low water levels.

ISSUES FOR GEORGIAN BAY

Reversing of high water level adaptation of the 1980s and 1990s

During the 1980s and 1990s, many shoreline owners put measures in place to adapt shorelines and facilities to higher water levels which prevailed at that time. Measures included:

- revetments, retaining walls, shoreline armoring, and groynes to alleviate erosion of shoreline features and protect on-shore structures.
- docks and wharfs placed on fixed pilings or fill, so as not to be damaged or flooded by wave up-rush.
- dredging of mooring areas and channels in areas of shallow slope to achieve easy access for pleasure craft and increase shoreline lots.

Many shoreline docks and marinas are still adapted to higher water levels because of the use of fixed pilings and dependence on maintenance dredging to maximize nearshore slips in areas of shallow slope.

In many nearshore areas of Severn Sound and along the Georgian Bay coast of the Township of Tiny, the structures and measures responding to high water conditions are now literally emerging from the water and interfering with uses previously enjoyed by shoreline residents.

An excellent example of the reversal of the high water measures is the recent reconstruction of the Town docks at the Town of Penetanguishene. The old wharfs, built during higher water conditions, were based on fixed pilings with floating finger docks. These have been replaced by a floating system of main docks secured by adjustable “spuds” and connected to finger docks for pleasure craft docking. The project was funded by the federal government and could not have been taken on by the municipality alone.

Critical water levels

The ecological evaluation of the Lake Superior regulation plan by Scudder Mackey (2011, The Ecological Evaluation of Lake Superior Regulation Plans for the International Upper Great Lakes Levels: Integrated Ecological Response Model for the Upper Great Lakes Study ETWG) considered, in part, wetlands in eastern Georgian Bay (including some in Severn Sound) and concluded: “the rate of additional fish habitat loss as water levels decline further below 176 meters is approximately 15% per meter. Therefore, it is critical that water levels be maintained above 176 meters in order to minimize further loss of fish habitat in the eastern Georgian Bay region.” (p.36). The question is whether the rules developed for Lake Superior can achieve water levels above 176 m with the additional downward trend expected from climate change effects on Lake Michigan-Lake Huron-Georgian Bay. The report dealing with eastern Georgian Bay recommends: “Maintain fish habitat (i.e., vegetation conditions) and access (i.e., connectivity) in eastern Georgian Bay wetlands by maintaining sufficient water exchange with the main bay – uncertainty is relatively low regarding the adverse impact concern, but ongoing monitoring of the response is warranted.”

Intake and outfall function

Another issue that has been given little attention in the study is the impact of low water levels (and potential falling water levels) on surface water supplies. In the Severn Sound area of Georgian Bay, the Municipal Rope Subdivision Water System intake, has a relatively shallow inlet structure and cannot be deepened without extensive blasting of bedrock or extension into deeper water. Similarly, the water system on Georgian Bay Islands National Park uses a relatively shallow intake. In addition to these two communal intakes, many shoreline owners rely on private intakes for their source of water supply. The impact of lowered water levels has brought the normal fluctuations in water level, that are part of Georgian Bay, closer to the elevation of the inlet structures of these intakes. Some private intakes are now occasionally out of water. If they cannot easily be deepened, the water systems may be rendered useless.

I hope these comments will be of some use in pressing for funding support for shoreline owners, as well as for further study of all aspects of water level management in the upper Great Lakes.

Yours truly,



Bob Jeffery, Chair
Severn Sound Environmental Association

CC: IJC Upper Great Lakes Water Levels Study Board
Honourable Minister of the Environment
Mr. Bruce Stanton, MP Simcoe North

ATTACHMENT #1 Key Findings and Recommendations from the Final Report to the IJC of the International Upper Great Lakes Water Levels Study, March, 2012

Key Findings

Key Finding 1:

Most of the key interests have demonstrated their capacity to adapt to changes in water level conditions that have been within historical upper or lower ranges. However, future water levels that are outside these ranges would require some interests to carry out more comprehensive and costly adaptive responses than any undertaken to date.

Key Finding 2:

Changes in the levels of the upper Great Lakes may not be as extreme in the near future as previous studies have predicted. Lake levels are likely to continue to fluctuate, but still remain within the relatively narrow historical range – while lower levels are likely, the possibility of higher levels cannot be dismissed. Both possibilities must be considered in the development of a new regulation plan.

Key Finding 3:

The Study Board identified a regulation plan that will be more robust than the existing plan and that will provide important benefits related to the maintenance of Lake Superior levels, environmental impacts, economic benefits and ease of regulation.

Key Finding 4:

Restoration structures designed to raise Lake Michigan-Huron water levels would result in adverse effects on certain key interests served by the upper Great Lakes system.

Key Finding 5:

The potential for multi-lake regulation to address extreme water levels is limited by the uncertainty regarding future climatic conditions and NBS, very high costs, environmental concerns and institutional requirements.

Key Finding 6:

Adaptive management has an important role to play in addressing the risks of future extremes in water levels in the upper Great Lakes, though it requires leadership and strengthened coordination among institutions on both sides of the international border.

Key Finding 7:

Public concerns about water levels in the upper Great Lakes differ strongly depending on geographical location.

Study Recommendations to the IJC

1. The IJC should approve Lake Superior Regulation Plan 2012 as the new plan for regulating Lake Superior outflow and advise governments that the 1977A plan will be replaced with the new plan.
2. The IJC should prepare and issue new integrated Orders of Approval that consolidate all of the applicable conditions and requirements of the original and Supplementary Orders, as well as the additional considerations required to implement the recommended new plan, Lake Superior Regulation Plan 2012.

3. The IJC should seek to improve scientific understanding of hydroclimatic processes occurring in the Great Lakes basin and the impacts on future water levels as part of a continuous, coordinated bi-national effort. In particular, the IJC should endorse the following initiatives as priorities and strongly recommend ongoing government support:

- strengthening climate change modeling capacity in the Great Lakes basin in light of the promising preliminary results identified in the Study; and,
- enhancing hydroclimatic data collection in the upper Great Lakes basin.

4. An adaptive management strategy should be applied to address future extreme water levels in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin through six core initiatives:

- strengthening hydroclimatic monitoring and modelling;
- ongoing risk assessment;
- ensuring more comprehensive information management and outreach;
- improving tools and processes for decision makers to evaluate their actions;
- establishing a collaborative regional adaptive management study for addressing water level extremes; and,
- promoting the integration of water quality and quantity modelling and activities.

5. The IJC should seek to establish a Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Levels Advisory Board to champion and help administer the proposed adaptive management strategy for the entire Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River system.

6. The IJC should work with governments to pursue funding options and coordinate adaptive management efforts with the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Working Group, the renewal of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and the implementation of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resource Agreement.

7. Further study of multi-lake regulation in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River system should not be pursued at this time.