



**SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
JOINT MUNICIPAL SERVICE BOARD (JMSB)
2022 First Quarter (Q1) Meeting**

**April 28, 2022
9:30am – 12:00pm
Via video & telephone conference**

- 1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ADOPT AGENDA**
- 3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**
- 4. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES**
 - 4.1 Minutes of the SSEA Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting held April 27, 2021
 - 4.2 Minutes of 2021 Fourth Quarter (Q4) meeting of the SSEA Joint Municipal Service Board held January 27, 2022
 - 4.3 Minutes of the SSEA 2022 Special Meeting of the Board held February 4, 2022
 - 4.4 Business arising from the minutes
- 5. SEVERN SOUND SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY MEETING**
 - 5.1 Suspend the SSEA meeting to allow the SS SPA to meet
 - 5.2 Severn Sound Source Protection Authority Meeting
 - 5.3 Re-convene the SSEA joint municipal service board meeting
- 6. SSEA FIRST QUARTER 2022 REPORT**
- 7. PRESENTATIONS**
 - 7.1 Tamara Brincat, Invasive Species Program Coordinator – *Invasive Species Mitigation at Municipal Boat Launches*
 - 7.2 Emily Edgley, Citizen Science and Water Quality Coordinator – *SSEA Citizen Science Update*
- 8. SSEA FINANCIAL REPORTS**
 - 8.1 Staff Report 01-22-SSEA - 2022 1st Quarter Draft Financials
 - 8.2 Staff Report 02-22-SSEA – Status of 2021 Audit and 2021 Draft Financials
 - 8.3 Staff Report 03-22-SSEA – Mileage Rate Policy
 - 8.4 Staff Report 04-22-SSEA – Insurance Update
 - 8.5 Staff Report 05-22-SSEA – Draft 2023 SSEA Budget

9. SSEA CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

- 9.1 Staff Report 06-22-SSEA - SSEA Grant Application Update
- 9.2 Staff Report 07-22-SSEA - SSEA Invasive Species Program Update
- 9.3 Staff Report 08-22-SSEA – SSEA Community Tree Planting & Seedling Distribution Program Update
- 9.4 Staff Report 09-22-SSEA – SSEA Depave Paradise Program Update
- 9.5 Staff Report 10-22-SSEA – SSEA Healthy Soils=Healthy Watersheds Program Update
- 9.6 Staff Report 11-22- SSEA – SSEA Monitoring Program Update

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

- 10.1 Staff Report 12-22-SSEA – Executive Director Q1 Report (On Table)

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

MECP Funding announcement for Georgian Bay Township – Councillor Paul Wiancko

12. CORRESPONDENCE

- 12.1 Correspondence from Oro-Medonte re: Microplastics
- 12.2 Correspondence from Township of Severn re: Microplastics

13. CLOSED SESSION

- 13.1 In-camera Item Re: Personnel Matter

14. OTHER BUSINESS

15. ADJOURN



SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
Agriculture Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting
Tuesday April 27, 2021 9:02 a.m. – 9:41 a.m.
Online – Zoom

Present:

Paul Maurice (Chair)	North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association (NSSCIA)
Colin Elliott	Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA)
Dave Ritchie	Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA)
Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma	Chair, SSEA Board; Township of Tiny

Regrets:

Staff:

Julie Cayley	SSEA Executive Director
Melissa Carruthers	SSEA Risk Management Official/Risk Management Inspector
Morgan Gillies	SSEA Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Program Coordinator
Tamara Brincat	SSEA Invasive Species Program Coordinator

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Maurice called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION: 09-21

Moved by: D. Ritchie Seconded by: C. Elliott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The agenda of the SSEA Agricultural Advisory Committee dated April 27, 2021 be approved.

Carried;

Chair Maurice asked that an update on the agricultural signs and weather stations be added under other business.

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of February 25, 2021 SSEA Agriculture Advisory Committee Meeting

MOTION: 10-21

Moved by: C. Elliott Seconded by: D. Ritchie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The SSEA Agricultural Advisory Committee approve the minutes of the February 25, 2021 SSEA Agricultural Committee meeting.

Carried;

5. UPDATES

5.1 Healthy Soils Healthy Watersheds – project update – Julie Cayley – SSEA ED

MOTION: 11-21

Moved by: D. Ritchie

Seconded by: C. Elliott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the update of the Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds project in Severn Sound be received for information.

Carried;

Ms. Cayley introduced Morgan Gillies to the committee and that he would be working as the Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Program Coordinator, reviewed project summary and updated group on soft launch of program with some of the local farmers in the Issue Contributing Area within the Township of Tiny.

5.2 SSEA Invasive Species – Tamara Brincat, Invasive Species Coordinator

MOTION: 12-21

Moved by: C. Elliott

Seconded by: D. Ritchie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: that the SSEA Invasive Species presentation be received for information.

Carried;

Ms. Brincat provided a presentation on the status of the SSEA Invasive Species program and asked the group if there were any invasive species issues or needs they have. Species voiced included; fleabane, purple strife, water hemp, and in general road side ditch maintenance to control new weeds.

5.3 Additional Members – Agricultural Advisory Committee Discussion

MOTION: 13-21

Moved by: C. Elliott

Seconded by: D. Ritchie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The SSEA Agricultural Advisory Committee members and SSEA staff will approach the individuals whose names had been voiced as well as advertising to elicit interest for additional members to sit on the committee.

Carried;

General discussion was had around names of people that could be approached to join committee. Suggestion to post for interest, and reach out to municipalities and local agricultural groups to reach a broader range of individuals was voiced.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Agricultural Signs

Chair Maurice provided an update that they are working on finalizing the signs before submitting to the Township of Tiny and that the intent is to have signs across the watershed, but for now only in the Township of Tiny.

6.2 Weather Stations

Chair Maurice provided an update that he has approached a local farm supply store to gain interest of having a weather station on their property. Interest is there and currently looking into cost and options. Ms. Cayley asked Chair Maurice to provide the contact information so that SSEA staff could connect with them as well.

Action Item:

- Chair Maurice to provide farm supply contact information to Ms. Cayley

7. ADJOURN

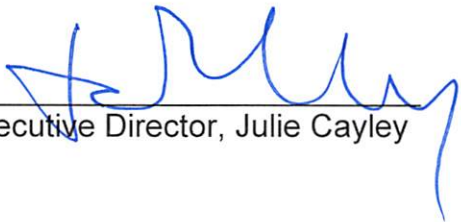
MOTION: 14-21

Moved by: D. Ritchie Seconded by: C. Elliott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The SSEA Agricultural Advisory Committee held on April 27, 2021 adjourn at 9:41 a.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.

Carried;

Chair, Paul Maurice



Executive Director, Julie Cayley

Approved this 6th day of April 2022



**SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
JOINT MUNICIPAL SERVICE BOARD (JMSB)
2021 Fourth Quarter (Q4) Meeting**

**January 27, 2022
9:30am – 12:00pm
Via video & telephone conference
Draft Minutes**

Present via zoom video:

SSEA Chair, Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma
SSEA Vice Chair, Councillor Paul Wiancko
SSEA Past Chair, Councillor Ron Stevens
Councillor Ian Veitch
Councillor Perry Ritchie
Deputy Mayor Anita Dubeau
Councillor Carole McGinn
Councillor Barry Norris

Township of Tiny
Township of Georgian Bay
Township of Severn
Township of Oro-Medonte
Township of Springwater
Town of Penetanguishene
Town of Midland
Township of Tay

Staff present via zoom video:

Julie Cayley
Lex McPhail
Judy Limoges
Cliff Evanitski
Melissa Carruthers
Michelle Hudolin
Tamara Brincat
Aisha Chiandet
Nicole Stott
Nikki Priestman
Paula Madill
Emily Edgley

Executive Director
IT Manager/GIS Applications Specialist
Treasurer
Office Manager
Risk Mgmt. Official/Risk Mgmt. Inspector
Wetlands & Habitat Biologist
Invasive Species Program Coordinator
Water Scientist
Invasive Species Management Technician
Watershed Health Coordinator
Ecosystem Technologist
Citizen Science & Water Quality Coordinator

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walma called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION: 2021-106

Moved by: A. Dubeau

Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: the SSEA Joint Municipal Service Board approve the Meeting
Agenda dated January 27, 2022

Carried;

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None declared.

Steffen/Julie introduced Cliff – Office Manager to the Board

4. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of 2021 Third Quarter (Q3) meeting of the SSEA Joint Municipal Service Board held October 25, 2021

MOTION: 2021-107

Moved by: R. Stevens Seconded by: P. Wiancko

RESOLVED THAT: the SSEA Joint Municipal Service Board approve the minutes of the Third Quarter (Q3) meeting of the SSEA Joint Service Board held October 25, 2021

Carried;

4.2 Minutes of the SSEA 2021 Special Meeting of the Board held December 10, 2021

MOTION: 2021-108

Moved by: I. Veitch Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: the SSEA Joint Municipal Service Board approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board held December 10, 2021

Carried;

4.3 Business arising from the minutes

5. ELECTION OF SSEA CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

SSEA 2021 Chair Walma to step down, Pro Tem Chair Julie Cayley, SSEA Executive Director, to conduct the election portion of the meeting.

Election Procedures

Julie Cayley, Pro Tem Chair reviewed election procedures.

Appointment of Scrutineers

MOTION: 2021-109

Moved by: A. Dubeau Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Lex McPhail and Melissa Carruthers be appointed as scrutineers for the 2022 Election of SSEA Officers; and

FURTHER THAT: the electronic ballots be destroyed after the election process.

Carried;

Nominations for the Position of Chair

Anita Dubeau nominated Steffen Walma for the position of Chair for 2022.

Affirmation of nomination

Steffen Walma affirmed he would be willing to run for the position of Chair for 2022

Pro Tem Chair Julie Cayley called for further nominations three times. No further nominations were put forward.

MOTION: 2021-110

Moved by: I. Veitch Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: nominations for the position of SSEA Board Chair be closed.

Carried;

Election of SSEA Chair Result

Steffen Walma was acclaimed as Chair for 2022.

Nomination for the Position of Vice Chair

Steffen Walma nominated Paul Wiancko for the position of Vice Chair for 2022.

Affirmation of nomination

Paul Wiancko affirmed he would be willing to run for the position of Vice Chair for 2022.

Pro Tem Chair Julie Cayley called for further nominations three times. No further nominations were put forward.

MOTION: 2021-111

Moved by: I. Veitch Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: nomination for the position of SSEA Vice Chair be closed.

Carried;

Election of SSEA Vice Chair Result

Paul Wiancko was acclaimed as Vice Chair for 2022.

MOTION: 2021-112

Moved by: A. Dubeau Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: The Severn Sound Environmental Association Joint Municipal Service Board has appointed for the year of 2022, Officers as follows:

Chair: Steffen Walma

Vice Chair: Paul Wiancko

Past chair: Ron Stevens

Carried;

*SEVERN SOUND SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY MEETING
No SSSPA Mtg.*

6. SSEA FOURTH QUARTER 2021 REPORT

MOTION: 2021-113

Moved by: B. Norris Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: The Fourth Quarter 2021 report presented by Julie Cayley, Executive Director be received for information.

Carried;

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Ldd Egg Mass Survey Results and Defoliation Forecast for 2022 –Tamara Brincat (SSEA Invasive Species Program Coordinator)

MOTION: 2021-114

Moved by: I. Veitch Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Ldd Egg Mass Survey Results and Defoliation Forecast for 2022 presentation from Tamara Brincat be received for information.

Carried;

Councilor McGill joined the meeting at 9:55 am – left at 10

7.2 SSEA 2021 Ldd Egg Mass Survey Results and Defoliation Forecast for 2022 Report

MOTION: 2021-115

Moved by: A. Dubeau Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: Ldd Egg Mass Survey Results and Defoliation Forecast for 2022 report from Tamara Brincat be received for information.

Carried;

ACTION ITEM: Report to be sent to Mayors and Councils with a request to be included in an upcoming agenda.

Executive Director Cayley informed the Board that Tamara Brincat was being nominated for an award.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Cayley to share invasive species award ceremony login with the Board.

Councilor McGill rejoined the meeting at 10:05

8. SSEA FINANCIAL REPORTS

8.1 Staff Report 55-21-SSEA - 2021 4th Quarter Draft Financials

MOTION: 2021-116

Moved by: A. Dubeau Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 55-21-SSEA regarding the 2021 Fourth Quarter Draft Financials be received as information.

Carried;

ACTION ITEM: DWSP funding reserves “Call of the Chair” meeting to be held regarding reserves and how to handle request.

8.2 Staff Report 56-21-SSEA – 2022 Staff COLA Salary Increase

MOTION: 2021-117

Moved by: I. Veitch Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 56-21-SSEA regarding a 2022 annual COLA salary increase of 2.0%, based on the 2022 Budget be approved by the Board; and

FURTHER THAT: The Executive Director be authorized to implement this cost of living increase for SSEA FTE staff effective January 1, 2022

Carried;

8.3 Staff Report 57-21-SSEA - SSEA Reserve Schedule - At December 31, 2021 and Projected Reserve Schedule at December 31, 2022

MOTION: 2021-118

Moved by: B. Norris Seconded by: P. Wiancko

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 57-21-SSEA regarding the 2021 SSEA Reserve Schedule, AND;

FURTHER THAT: the 2022 projected reserve schedule be approved by the Board

Carried;

8.4 Staff Report 58-21-SSEA- Township of Tay Request use of SSEA Reserve for 2022

MOTION: 2021-119

Moved by: P. Ritchie Seconded by: I. Veitch

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 58-21-SSEA regarding Tay Township's request to utilize their portion of the 2020 DWSP funding of \$9,254 currently in the SSEA Contingency Reserve to offset their share of SSEA costs in 2022, be approved by the SSEA Board.

Carried;

8.5 Staff Report 59-21-SSEA - Appointment of Auditors for 2021

MOTION: 2021-120

Moved by: P. Wiancko Seconded by: B. Norris

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 59-21-SSEA regarding appointing the audit firm for the SSEA Treasurer municipality, Township of Tay, currently Pahapill and Associates Professional Corporation, to perform the 2021 annual financial audit of the SSEA, be approved by the SSEA Board.

Carried;

8.6 Staff Report 60-21-SSEA - Risk Management Services Budget Update

MOTION: 2021-121

Moved by: C. McGinn Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 60-21-SSEA regarding an update on the Risk Management Services budget be received for information.

Carried;

ACTION ITEM: Further clarification of increase to Oro-Medonte to be provided to financial staff and Acting CAO.

9. SSEA CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

9.1 Staff Report 61-21-SSEA – SSEA COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

MOTION: 2021-122

Moved by: P. Wiancko Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 61-21-SSEA regarding SSEA Covid-19 Vaccination Policy, be received for information.

Carried;

9.2 Staff Report 62-21-SSEA – Severn Sound Source Protection Authority (SS SPA) Drinking Water Source Protection Update and SSEA Risk Management Services 2021 Q4 Update

MOTION: 2021-123

Moved by: P. Ritchie Seconded by: C. McGinn

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 62-21-SSEA regarding an update on the activities undertaken by SSSPA and SSEA Risk Management staff during Q4 of 2021 be received for information.

Carried;

9.3 Staff Report 63-21- SSEA – SSEA Q4 Grant Application Update

MOTION: 2021-124

Moved by: A. Dubeau Seconded by: P. Wiancko

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 63-21-SSEA regarding SSEA Grant Application Update, be received for information.

Carried;

9.4 Staff Report 64-21-SSEA – SSEA Invasive Species Program Q4 Update

MOTION: 2021-125

Moved by: R. Stevens Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 64-21-SSEA, regarding SSEA Invasive Species Program Update, be received for information.

Carried;

9.5 Staff Report 65-21-SSEA - Sustainable Severn Sound (SSS) Special Project Q4 Update

MOTION: 2021-126

Moved by: P. Ritchie Seconded by: I. Veitch

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 65-21-SSEA, regarding the SSEA's SSS special project Q4 update for the 4th quarter of 2021 be received for information.

Carried;

9.6 Staff Report 66-21-SSEA - SSEA Depave Paradise Program Q4 Update

MOTION: 2021-127

Moved by: A. Dubeau Seconded by: B. Norris

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 66-21-SSEA regarding SSEA Depave Paradise Program be received for information.

Carried;

9.7 Staff Report 67-21-SSEA - SSEA Healthy Soils=Healthy Watersheds Q4 Program Update

MOTION: 2021-128

Moved by: A. Dubeau Seconded by: C. McGinn

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 67-21-SSEA regarding SSEA Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Q4 Program Update be received for information.

Carried;

9.8 Staff Report 68-21-SSEA – SSEA Past and Upcoming Events Q4

MOTION: 2021-129

Moved by: B. Norris Seconded by: I. Veitch

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 68-21-SSEA regarding SSEA Past and Upcoming Events, be received for information.

Carried;

9.9 Staff Report 69-21-SSEA – New SSEA Partner Weather Station

MOTION: 2021-130

Moved by: B. Norris Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 69-21-SSEA regarding the installation of a New SSEA Partner Weather Station, be received for information.

ACTION ITEM: Staff to follow up with Environment Canada for potential data sharing opportunities.

Carried;

9.10 Staff Report 70-21-SSEA – SSEA Office re-opening update

MOTION: 2021-131

Moved by: C. McGinn Seconded by: P. Ritchie

RESOLVED THAT: Staff verbal update on SSEA Office re-opening update, be received for information

Carried;

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

10.1 Staff Report 71-21-SSEA – Executive Director Q4 Report (On Table)
Deferred

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. CORRESPONDENCE

13. CLOSED SESSION

There are no closed session items for this agenda.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

14.1 Staff Report 72-21-SSEA – SSEA 2022 Board Meeting Schedule

MOTION: 2021-133

Moved by: P. Wiancko

Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 72-21-SSEA regarding the 2022 SSEA Board Meeting Schedule, be received for information, AND

FURTHER THAT: the Board of Directors approves the following schedule of SSEA Board of Directors meetings for 2022. Meetings will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at a location to be determined.

- Fourth Quarterly Meeting: January 27, 2022
- First Quarterly Meeting: April 28, 2022
- Second Quarterly Meeting: July 28, 2022
- Third Quarterly: October 27, 2020
- Fourth Quarterly: January 26, 2023

Carried;

14.2 Staff Report 73-21-SSEA – Video Posting and Archiving of SSEA Board Meetings

MOTION: 2021-134

Moved by: A. Dubeau

Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 73-21-SSEA regarding the Posting and Archiving of SSEA Board Meeting Video content be received as information; AND

FURTHER THAT: direction be provided regarding the period of time SSEA Board Meeting video content is posted and archived; AND

FURTHER THAT: period of time between posting and archiving is one year

15. ADJOURN

MOTION: 2021-135

Moved by: R. Stevens

Seconded by: no seconder

RESOLVED THAT: this meeting of the SSEA Board of Directors held on January 27, 2022 adjourn at 11:02 to meet again on April 28, 2022 or at the call of the chair.

Carried;

Chair, Steffen Walma

Executive Director, Julie Cayley

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2021



**SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
JOINT MUNICIPAL SERVICE BOARD (JMSB)
CALL OF THE CHAIR (via video and telephone conference)
February 4, 2022 9:00 a.m.**

Present via telephone:

SSEA Chair, Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma Township of Tiny

Present via zoom video:

SSEA Past Chair, Councillor Ron Stevens Township of Severn
 Councillor Ian Veitch Township of Oro-Medonte
 Deputy Mayor Anita Dubeau Town of Penetanguishene
 Councillor Paul Raymond Township of Tay

Regrets:

SSEA Vice Chair, Councillor Paul Wiancko Township of Georgian Bay
 Councillor Carole McGinn Town of Midland
 Councillor Perry Ritchie Township of Springwater

Staff present via zoom video:

Julie Cayley	Executive Director
Lex McPhail	IT Manager/GIS Applications Specialist
Judy Limoges	Treasurer
Melissa Carruthers	Risk Mgmt. Official/Risk Mgmt. Inspector
Cliff Evanitski	Office Manager

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walma called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. He then turned over the proceedings to Board Member Anita Dubeau to Chair via Zoom.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION: 2022-01

Moved by: R. Stevens Seconded by: I. Veitch

RESOLVED THAT: the SSEA Joint Municipal Service Board approves the Meeting Agenda dated February 4, 2022.

Carried;

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

None

5. SEVERN SOUND SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY MEETING

No SSSPA Mtg.

6. PRESENTATIONS

None

7. SSEA BUSINESS

None

8. SSEA CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

The Chair called upon the Executive Director and Treasurer to speak to the report. Discussion followed.

MOTION: 2022-02

Moved by: I. Veitch Seconded by: R. Stevens

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 01-22-SSEA regarding SSEA Drinking Water Source Protection 2021 Municipal Revenue be received; and

FURTHER THAT: the SSEA Board approves Option 2 as amended; and

FURTHER THAT Option 2 states: Municipalities have the option to maintain and grow their reserve or refund the 2021 DWSP annual funds to individual SSEA Partner Municipalities as requested per Municipal Council motion.

Carried Unanimously

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

None

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

11. CORRESPONDENCE

None

12. CLOSED SESSION

There are no closed session items for this agenda.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Board Member P. Raymond asked for Motion 2022-02 to be forwarded to him as he had an upcoming municipal meeting.

14. ADJOURN

MOTION: 2022-03

Moved by: P. Raymond

Seconded by: no seconder required

RESOLVED THAT: the special meeting of the SSEA Board of Directors held on February 4, 2022 adjourn at 9:19 am to meet again on April 28, 2022 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried;

Acting Chair, Anita Dubeau

Executive Director, Julie Cayley

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2022



Severn Sound Environmental Association 2022 1st Quarter (Jan. 1 - Mar. 31) Report/Update

Staffing/HR

Administration, Staffing, Training and Volunteers

Administration

Two SSEA Board meetings were held (2021 4th Quarter & special call of the Chair meeting).

Staffing

Welcome to Office Manager Cliff Evanitski!
Remote work and successful grant applications enabled SSEA to provide several contract staff opportunities. THANK YOU to *Canada Summer Jobs*, BioTalent Canada, and ECO Canada for supporting contract staff members Walker Hunter (Environmental Stewardship Development Assistant), Nicole Stott (Biodiversity Conservation Intern), Emily Edgley (Environmental Monitoring & Citizen Science Program Assistant) and Shannon Mawhinney (Watershed Resilience Coordinator).

THANK YOU to outgoing staff: Nicole Stott, Biodiversity Conservation Intern; Morgan Gillies, Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Program Coordinator; and Walker Hunter, Environmental Stewardship Development Assistant.

Advertised for 7 seasonal staff positions (hiring pending funding).

Training/Professional Development

SSEA staff attended 25 no-cost webinars on a range of SSEA program related topics. As well, four SSEA staff completed the MECP's RMO/RMI training course for Drinking Water Source Protection. The Executive Director successfully completed the certificate in Women in Leadership from Cornell University.

Volunteers - THANK YOU

THANK YOU to all 13 citizen science volunteers who provided data through our Ice Spotters Program!

Education, Engagement, Outreach

Presentations, Articles, Social Media, Events, Inquiries

Most presentations, meetings, videos etc. have been recorded and posted to the [SSEA YouTube channel](#).

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!
The Women of Severn Sound Environmental Association

SOME OF THE WOMEN OF SEVERN SOUND - LEFT TO RIGHT - TAMARA, MICHELLE, AISHA, NIKKI, NICOLE, EMILY, SHANNON SITTING... JULIE, PAULA AND JOY

THE WOMEN OF SEVERN SOUND - WOMEN BRING UNIQUE SKILLS AND STRENGTHS TO ORGANIZATIONS AS STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS. TEAM SSEA IS PROUD OF OUR STRONG TEAM OF WOMEN WHO ARE LEADING OUR ORGANIZATION AND OUR SCIENCE, TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS. I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT, AS WOMEN, IT IS IMPORTANT TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE AND MAKE SPACE FOR OTHER WOMEN AS THEY MOVE UP IN THEIR CAREERS. THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL OF US! - JULIE (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)

"A WOMAN IS CAPABLE OF INCREDIBLE STRENGTH AND POWER ON HER OWN, BUT WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM WE BECOME AN EXTRAORDINARY FORCE THAT CAN MAKE ANYTHING POSSIBLE" - NIKKI (WATERSHED HEALTH COORDINATOR)

"WORKING ON A TEAM FULL OF BRILLIANT, STRONG, COMPASSIONATE AND FUN WOMEN MAKES TACKLING ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES MORE MANAGEABLE." - AISHA (WATER SCIENTIST)

"I AM VERY FORTUNATE TO WORK WITH AN AMAZING AND CARING GROUP OF WOMEN, WHO ARE SO KNOWLEDGEABLE, COMMITTED AND PASSIONATE ABOUT OUR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT" - MICHELLE (WETLANDS & HABITAT BIOLOGIST)

Thank you to Southern Georgian Bay Chamber of Commerce recognizing SSEA Staff on International Women's Day

Virtual Presentations

Presentations to the SSEA Board on various program updates. Staff delivered presentations at 6 additional events and council meetings during Q1.

Articles/Publications/News

CTV Barrie interviewed staff and provided [coverage of the Tree Seedling Distribution Program](#); staff submitted an article for the MTM Conservation Association newsletter on the Matchedash Bay Turtle study.

Social Media

Our Facebook page is back in action as part of the suite of social media platforms used to deliver messaging to the public. A total of 161 posts were made on SSEA Instagram, Facebook and Twitter accounts this quarter to audiences of 489, 144, and 410 followers respectively. Staff made an additional Facebook post on Orr Lake winter sampling to the Orr Lake Ratepayers Association with approximately 418 members. A total of 3 new videos related to SSEA programs, were posted on the SSEA YouTube channel with a total of 33 views and 36 subscribers.

SSEA participated in National Invasive Species Awareness Week campaign by posting across all social media. Staff also ran a social media campaign on Winter Salt best management practices, which included 16 posts and 1 video that reached 5339 users.

THANK YOU to the Gloucester Pool Cottage Association for providing ad space in their annual magazine.

Events/Meetings/Conferences

Presented to the Midland Horticultural Society and two virtual conference/forum events on invasive species. Team SSEA attended 10 municipal and external partner meetings throughout the quarter.

Two abstracts were submitted and accepted for the Joint Aquatic Science Meeting in May.

Inquiry Responses (excluding SSS and Source Water)

SSEA responded to 34 inquiries from municipal partners, members of the public, and contractors.

Tree Planting

Planting and Distribution

Planning for spring 2022 Tree Seedling Distribution Program and implementation of selected community tree planting events; 10,600 tree/shrub seedlings purchased. Helping the County of Simcoe promote the 100th Anniversary of County Forests, including support for SSEA tree plant projects.



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Fish and Wildlife Habitat/Natural Heritage

Invasive Species, Species at Risk, Wetlands, Wildlife and Habitat Stewardship

Invasive Species

Presented at the Tiny Special Meeting of Council - SSEA Ldd egg mass survey results. Partnered with the Invasive Species Centre on a project to provide guidance for aquatic invasive species mitigation at municipal public boat launches. Provided input to the provincial Best Management Practice document for the invasive plant goutweed. Continue to deliver technical support on the Wye Marsh Invasive Species Management and Farlain Lake Eurasian Water-milfoil Management projects.

Species At Risk

Staff completed reporting on the 2021 Matchedash Bay turtle monitoring project, connected with potential partners and are in the planning stages for 2022 field work to support this multi-year project.

Land Use Planning

Input and Review

Plan and Policy Input

SSEA contributed comments on 16 applications, reports, and Environmental Impact Studies, a decrease of 57% compared to the number of projects reviewed in Q1 of 2021.

Staff provided comments on the Township of Tiny's Policy to protect and enhance tree canopy and natural vegetation, the Town of Penetanguishene's Draft Tree By-law and Management Guidelines, the Township of Tiny Transportation Master Plan, the City of Orillia settlement area boundary expansion, Stormwater Management Guidance for the Township of Severn, and the Official Plan Review for the Township of Oro-Medonte. SSEA also submitted comments to five provincial Environmental Registry postings: Subwatershed Planning Guide, Expanding administrative penalties for environmental contraventions, Proposed Changes for the Next Edition of Ontario's Building Code, Low Impact Development Stormwater Management Guidance Manual, and Municipal Wastewater and Stormwater Management in Ontario Discussion Paper.

Drinking Water Source Protection

Source Protection Authority and Risk Management Services

Source Protection Authority Services

Staff attended six regional or provincial meetings on various topics such as communications, assessment report update requirements, Source Protection Committee meetings, and risk management topics specific to the Drinking Water Source Protection Program.

A "Drinking Water Source Protection 101" workshop was held for the planning department of Georgian Bay. Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report updates for three Oro-Medonte systems (Braestone, Maplewood, and Robincrest) were submitted to the Province (MECP) for approval. Staff continues to support municipalities in meeting their requirements with potential changes to various municipal water systems in the municipalities of Springwater, Severn, Oro-

Medonte, Tiny, Midland, and Orillia as well as with meeting their February 1, 2021 annual reporting requirements.

Risk Management Services

This quarter, staff commented on five development applications, answered twelve inquiries, and attended one pre-consultation meeting.

Monitoring Programs

Field/data collection: Open Water, Inland Lakes, Intakes, PWQMN/Tributaries, Stream Invertebrates, Stream Temperature, PGMN, Climate, and Citizen Science

Lake Sampling (Open Water, Inland Lakes, Intakes)

Submitted lab load request to the province for lake and tributary sampling, maintaining the standard sampling frequency and list of water quality variables for all programs.

A total of 4 Tay intake sampling events included collecting water chemistry and field data such as pH, turbidity, conductivity, and temperature. Water quality results are used to assess conditions and guide management decisions.

Winter sampling occurred on Orr Lake to track under-ice dissolved oxygen and phosphorus.

Tributaries (Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN), Stream Invertebrates, Temperature)

The monitoring team completed 3 PWQMN sampling runs at 14 sites throughout the watershed, collecting chemistry samples and field data. Identified over 10,000 stream invertebrates in 34 long-term samples from the Wye River, Coldwater River and Silver Creek watersheds to assess tributary health.

Groundwater (Provincial Ground Monitoring Network)

Level and baro loggers continue to collect hourly water level and temperature data at 9 well locations. The data is used to monitor long-term trends and assess if climate change is impacting groundwater.

Climate

The data from all 5 rain gauges have been corrected and compiled to compare data across the watershed and from site to site. Data is also used as part of SSEA's Climate Monitoring Program to analyze long-term water quality and climate trends.

The Midland and Lafontaine weather stations were checked and data was downloaded monthly. These stations have been tested and are ready to continue



Drinking Water intake sampling



Winter water quality sampling on Orr Lake

to record data for spring and summer 2022. The next calibration date will occur in fall 2022. Near real-time data can be viewed on the SSEA website (www.severnsound.ca).

Citizen Science (Shore Watch, Stream Watch, Ice Spotters, Invasive Species Spotters, Water Level Watch)

The 2021 Citizen Science Data Report is in the final stages.

All citizen science programs are gearing up for the 2022 season with in-person training session for volunteers on April 30th.

For the Ice Spotters program, observations for the ice-on period have been collected and observations are currently being made for the ice-off period. Since January we have collected observations from 13 volunteers.

Staff are developing iNaturalist project for Invasive Species Spotters volunteers to report observations.



Ice-off observation from Sturgeon Bay on April 1st

Sustainable Severn Sound Special Project

Climate Change Action Plans, Partners for Climate Change Protection (PCP) Program

Partners for Climate Protection

SSEA continues to support our municipal members of the PCP program and are happy to welcome our newest member, the Town of Springwater. Springwater has signed the PCP resolution and is working with SSEA to set up the PCP Milestone tool and begin data collection to establish a GHG baseline before creating their GHG reduction targets and Climate Action Plans. Penetanguishene has declared a climate emergency on a recommendation from SSEA in their 2019 GHG update. This is a re-commitment to their Local Climate Action Plan.

Bee City Initiative

SSEA staff continue to support Severn Sound watershed Bee City members. We continue to work with the Town of Midland on their No-Mow Zone Project. SSEA and Midland staff have been planning the restoration of an additional site at Little Lake Park. The site will undergo invasive species management and then be seeded with a native seed mix.

SSEA staff are supporting Tiny Township in their recent Bee City designation including co-hosting two webinars over Earth Week to help promote the new Bee City Designation and the importance of native plants and native pollinators.



Depave Paradise Program

SSEA is working with the Township of Georgian Bay to plan their Depave event being held at Honey Harbour Park on May 1st, between 10AM and 2PM. Volunteers will remove 100 m2 of asphalt and at future events will help to plant 100m2 of pollinator gardens. The first interim report was submitted to obtain funds from Green Communities Canada.



Site plan meeting at Honey Harbour Park with Township staff

In Q1, SSEA attended numerous planning meetings with municipal and external stakeholders including:

- Bee City meetings With Town of Midland
- Bee City meeting with Township of Tiny
- Regional Climate Change Exchange meeting
- Regional Depave Coordinator meetings (3)
- Simcoe County transportation planning session

SSS provided feedback/support to multiple municipal partners in the form of strategic plans, GHG data summarization and PCP participation, and grant proposals including: EROs; Ontario building code and Low Impact Development Stormwater Management Guidance Manual; and Bee City Team administration services to the Town of Midland and Tiny Township

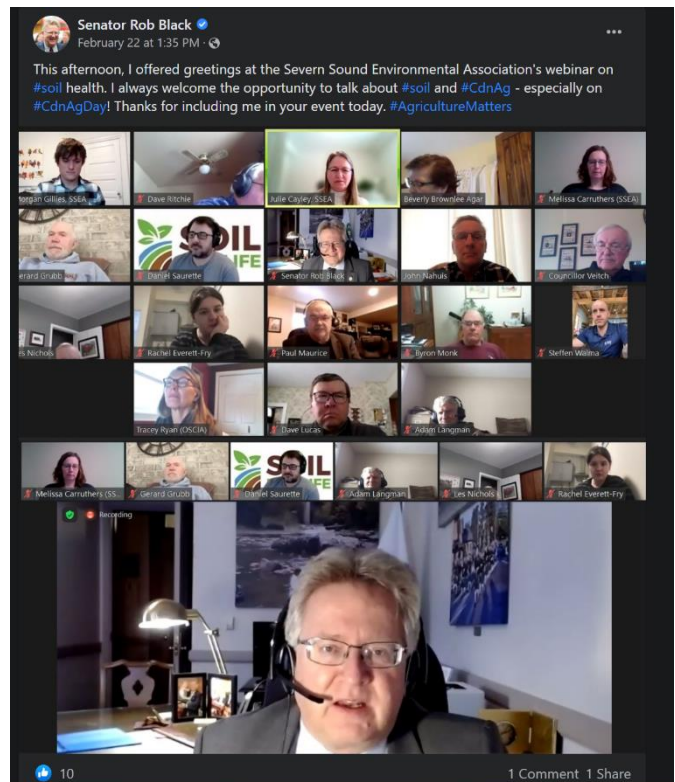
Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Special Project

Soil and Watershed Health BMPs, Agriculture Nutrient Management

The HS=HW pilot project was funded thanks to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Great Lakes Local Action Fund. This funded phase of the Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Special Project came to an end in this quarter. In this quarter, reimbursements to local farmers were provided, final reporting was completed, as well as, a webinar that was co-hosted by the North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association “Soil Health - What Does It Mean to Me and Why Should I Care?” opened by Senator Rob Black, and retained an independent Certified Crop Advisor to work with two producers to complete a Farmland Health Check-up.

Over the 12 months of this project, staff conducted 24 in-person farm visits with 8 farmers, 3 additional farmers contacted by phone/email. This project achieved significant success including:

- **Soil Sampling** - over 160 soil samples taken and analyzed. More intensive grid or zone soil sampling will improve fertilizer efficiency



maximizing the efficiency of crop nutrient uptake and minimize the loss of nutrients to surface and groundwater.

- **Cover Crops** - over 990 acres of cover crop planted. Cover Crops are plants/crops planted to cover the soil with the intention of stabilizing soil, slowing erosion, adding organic matter to the soil, reducing nitrogen loss and can have a variety of other benefits including increasing biodiversity and providing pollinator habitat.
- **Education and Outreach** - 28 Twitter posts, 13 Instagram posts, 2 Facebook posts, 4 YouTube videos. MPP the Honourable Jill Dunlop made a program announcement. SSEA partnered with North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association (NSSCIA) to host 3 webinars and staff did 1 live broadcast about soil health to 20 students (Georgian Bay District Secondary School). A local videographer to produce three agricultural videos.

Data Analysis and Reporting

Statistics, Data Management & Analysis, Reporting, and GIS/Mapping

Statistics/Data Management & Analysis

Routine, year-round data management consisting of PWQMN, Georgian Bay water levels and regional climate data, and open water/inland lake water chemistry, zooplankton and algae data processing continues as normal. Additional analyses were completed for tributary (chemistry, benthos, and temperature) and groundwater monitoring for inclusion in a draft update for the Source Water Protection Assessment Report chapter on Watershed Characterization. Analyses are ongoing on open water chemistry data to determine the impact of reduced sampling frequency in the event of provincial lab load cuts. Datasets were provided to the Muskoka Watershed Council to support reporting of water quality results in North and South Bays.

Data from 40 stream temperature loggers have been compiled to complete thermal stability graphs for all sites. Thermal stability graph outcomes have been updated from 1999 to 2021 and include over 300 sites around the Severn Sound watershed.

Reporting

SSEA completed one [Water Quality Update](#) for both Orr Lake winter sampling.

Partnerships

New/Updated NGO partners and MOU's, Academia

SSEA is continuously working with new municipal and NGO/external partners to deliver effective environmental stewardship, including active membership with GBB's ICECAP and the SMDHU's Climate Change Exchange Committee and Climate Change Charter Working Group

Academia

Three project proposals were developed for the Georgian College Applied Research Program.

Datasets provided under various data sharing agreements with:

- Ontario Tech University - research on algae in Severn Sound
- McMaster University - research on water quality in Honey Harbour

Financial

Grants, Budget, Invoicing

Grants

Multiple grants have been secured or applied to by SSEA this quarter to maintain and expand services including:

- Forests Ontario Over-the-Counter Tree Program Subsidy: \$2,100 for Tree Distribution Program (successful)
- Invasive Species Centre 2022 Microgrant for Invasive Species Education, Community Action, and Management Planning in Ontario: \$1,000 for Penetanguishene Waterfront Park Phragmites Management and Site Restoration (successful)
- Invasive Species Centre funding for Municipal Guidance for Establishing AIS Mitigation at Public Boat Launches Project: \$5,000 for creating advanced draft document (successful)
- TD Friends of Environment Foundation: \$8,000 for pollinator education kits and increasing habitat (successful)
- Provincial Great Lakes Local Action Fund: \$50,000 for Improving Habitat in the Severn Sound Watershed (pending approval)
- Federal 2 Billion Trees Program: \$267,507 for expanding the SSEA's small-scale tree planting initiatives into a larger-scale tree planting program (pending approval)
- Federal Canada Summer Jobs: \$12,600 wage subsidy to hire youth for seasonal positions (pending approval)
- Intact Foundation Municipal Climate Resilience Fund: \$100,000 to develop a comprehensive natural asset management plan for the Town of Midland (pending approval; Town of Midland application facilitated by SSEA)
- EcoAction: \$100,000 to expand the Healthy Soils = Health Watersheds Program (pending approval)
- Grassland Stewardship Initiative: \$20,800 for grassland habitat restoration (landowner opted not to proceed)
- World Wildlife Fund Canada Nature and Climate Grant Program: \$112,000 for Replanting for a Resilient Severn Sound (unsuccessful)
- Scotts Gro for Good grant: \$1,000 for pollinator education kits and increasing habitat (unsuccessful)
- Georgian Bay Land Trust bursary: \$3,500 for communications related to celebrating 20 years post delisting (unsuccessful)

Budget

All 2022 budget deputation to municipal partners complete.

Invoicing

In Q1, SSEA issued 22 invoices: 7 Core, 6 RMO, 7 SSS, 1 Wye Marsh, 1 Invasive Species Centre.

Thank you from Team SSEA

- Julie Cayley - Executive Director
- Lex McPhail - IT Manager/GIS Applications Specialist
- Paula Madill - Ecosystem Technologist
- Michelle Hudolin - Wetlands & Habitat Biologist
- Aisha Chiandet - Water Scientist
- Melissa Carruthers - Risk Mgmt. Official/Risk Mgmt. Inspector
- Judy Limoges -Treasurer (p/t)
- Nikki Priestman - Watershed Health Coordinator
- Tamara Brincat - Invasive Species Program Coordinator
- Morgan Gillies - Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Program Coordinator
- Emily Edgely - Citizen Science & Water Quality Coordinator
- Shannon Mawhinney - Watershed Resilience Coordinator
- Nicole Stott - Biodiversity Conservation Intern
- Walker Hunter - Environmental Stewardship Development Assistant
- Cliff Evanitski – Office Manager





**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) - April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 01-22-SSEA
Date: April 18, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Judy Limoges, Treasurer

SUBJECT: 2022 1st Quarter Draft Financials

Strategic Plan Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 01-22-SSEA regarding the 2022 first quarter draft financials be received as information.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the board with the first quarter 2022 draft financials.

Background

Please be advised that the 2022 financial report reflects that finances are trending favourably for the first quarter. This is mainly due to invoicing municipal partners for 2022 Core services, RMO services and SSS. Spending is in line as expected.

The SSEA team continues to monitor revenues and expenses in line with the 2022 budget.

Prepared by:

Approved for Submission by:

Original signed by

Original Signed by

Judy Limoges, Treasurer SSEA

Julie Cayley, Executive Director

Attachment: SSEA Draft Financial Report ending March 31, 2022



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board Meeting
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) – April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 02-22-SSEA
Date: April 18, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Judy Limoges, Treasurer

SUBJECT: 2021 Draft Financials and Audit

Strategic Plan Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 02-22-SSEA regarding the 2021 draft financials and audit be received as information.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with up to date 2021 draft financials.

Background and Analysis

Please be advised that the 2021 draft financial report reflects that finances are trending favourably. We are in a net revenue position as expected.

This is mainly due to a reduced amount of core spending; core expenses are tracking at 85%. Payroll expenses are under budget due to unfilled staff vacancies. We also have savings in travel, legals, supplies/materials and training.

Core project and cost recovery revenues are underbudget and are mostly offset by external funding for staff that was not included in the 2021 budget: Canada Summer Jobs, Biotalent Canada, ECO Canada and Community Development Corp. (CDC).

Projects are tracking favourably. Note that as previously indicated, the funding for the SSS project in 2021 is short due to only six confirmed municipal partners where the budget included seven. Measures had been taken to keep expenses to a minimum and external funding sources were explored to try to minimize this project shortfall. However, this project is in a deficit position in the amount of \$12,751 in 2021. This shortfall is more than offset by the 2021 surplus so no further action is required.

In addition, DWSP program currently reflects zero as was the case throughout 2021. This is due to the provincial funding agreement being signed after the 2021 budget was set. At the special meeting of the Board held on February 4, 2022, it was decided that the municipal DWSP funding

for 2021 would be transferred to the SSEA reserve. This is reflected in the attached 2021 draft financials.

SSEA also received additional funding in 2021 that was not included in the 2021 budget: Farlain Lake and Wye Marsh projects, Great Lakes Local Action provincial funding (Healthy Soils=Healthy Watershed project), Citizen Science project, Matchedash Bay Turtle project (Species at Risk) and Depave Paradise project.

Various items have not been included in the attached financial report as we proceed to complete our year end and work towards the annual audit: interest income, deferred revenue, employee future benefits adjustment, audit adjustments, etc.

Conclusion

The SSEA team has been extremely diligent, spending frugally and securing external revenue sources. SSEA will finalize 2021 in a surplus position.

As of April 14, our Treasurer municipality, the Township of Tay, has advised that the 2021 financial audit has not yet been scheduled.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Judy Limoges, Treasurer SSEA

Julie Cayley, Executive Director

Attachment: 2021 SSEA DRAFT Financials



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) - April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 03-22-SSEA
Date: April 19th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Judy Limoges, Treasurer and Cliff Evanitski, Office Manager

SUBJECT: SSEA Mileage Rate Policy

Strategic Plan Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 03-22-SSEA regarding SSEA's Mileage Rate Policy be received; and

FURTHER THAT: The Board approve a rate of \$0.61/km up to 5,000 kilometres per staffer, and a rate of \$0.55/km above that amount - effective April 28, 2022.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with information in order to make decisions that could impact the current and 2023 Draft budgets.

Background and Analysis

On October 14th, 2016, the SSEA Board passed a motion approving an annual review of mileage rates utilizing the Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA) kilometre rates that are set at the end of each year.

For 2022, the CRA has a posted rate of \$0.61/km for the first 5,000 kilometres driven, with the rate dropping to \$0.55/km for every kilometre above that amount.

The SSEA owns one van for staff use. As such, with a dozen plus staff during the busy field season, SSEA employees are often required to utilize their own vehicles for meetings, site visits and/or the field work that takes place. Gas prices have increased significantly over the past couple of months with prices topping over the \$1.90/litre mark. While that number has dipped recently, the Canadians for Affordable Energy are predicting that gas prices will soon be back to \$1.80 per litre range as summer nears – and that Ontario could potentially see fuel surpass the \$2 per litre threshold before September.

A survey of municipal partners and similar organizations shows current mileage rates.

Organization	Rate per Kilometre
Georgian Bay Township	.60/km (follow CRA rates)
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority	.61/km for first 5000 km; .55/km after that
Town of Midland	.61/km (follow CRA rates)
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority	.61/km (follow CRA rates)
Township of Severn	.61/km (follow CRA rates)
Severn Sound Environmental Association	.54/km
Township of Springwater	.58/km (follow CRA rates)
Tay Township	.59/km for first 5000 km
Township of Tiny	.61/km

Conclusion:

The proposed new SSEA rate can be accommodated into the existing budget as Covid-19 has reduced the mileage normally charged by staffers for attending meetings, site visits, etc.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Judy Limoges, Treasurer SSEA
 Cliff Evanitski, Office Manager SSEA

Julie Cayley, Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 04-22-SSEA
Date: April 15th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Judy Limoges, Treasurer

SUBJECT: 2022 INSURANCE COSTS

Strategic Plan Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 04-22-SSEA regarding the 2022 commercial insurance costs be received as information.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board that we are again experiencing an increase in the cost of commercial general liability and property insurance.

Background

Based on the 2022 invoice for insurance recently received from Intact Public Entities Inc. through Mink Insurance Services Limited, the cost of insurance for SSEA has increased 15% over 2021 invoiced costs. The Board will recall, SSEA staff budgeted in 2022 considering potential increases to insurance costs including \$12,393.00 for general insurance. The general insurance actual cost that will be reflected on the 2022 SSEA financial statements is \$11,997, reflecting a favourable variance in 2022 of \$400.

Conclusion

The Executive Director has advised the insurer to proceed with binding coverage for the renewal effective April 15, 2022. Staff will also consult the insurer regarding anticipated cost increases as the 2023 budget draft is finalized.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Judy Limoges, Treasurer SSEA

Julie Cayley, Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) - April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 05-22-SSEA
Date: April 11th, 2021
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Judy Limoges, Treasurer

SUBJECT: 2023 Draft Budget

Strategic Plan Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 05-22-SSEA regarding the 2023 Draft Budget be received; and

FURTHER THAT: The SSEA Board direct its Executive Committee to work with staff to formulate a draft Budget for the Board's approval prior to distribution to its municipal partners.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to assist the Board in formulating the 2023 Budget so that it reflects the policy and service direction set out in SSEA's Strategic Plan, while meeting the support requirements of its municipal partners – recognizing the fiscal challenges posed by Covid to all agencies.

Background and Analysis

On July 18, 2019, the SSEA Board of Directors approved both the 2020 Budget, and in principle the proposed five-year plan for 2020 to 2024.

The 2023 Budget approved in principle (in the original 5-year budget planning process) reflected a 2% increase. However, in 2022 the Board approved a 2022 Budget reduction of 2.1% from the 2022 approved in principle. This results in carrying over that 2.1% reduction into 2023 is that the 2023 Budget *approved in principle* now reflects an increase of 4.1% in municipal core funding of \$36,300.

Recognizing the budget constraints that all are facing, SSEA staff would like to garner input from the Board Executive on how to best move forward, especially taking in consideration the potential impact of the Pay Equity/Compensation Review, 20th Anniversary of SSEA Celebrations and potential funding restraints posed by the provincial election.

Conclusion

The approach to formulating the 2023 Budget is designed to ensure SSEA continues to provide the key services required by its municipal partners and watershed constituents, while meeting its own organizational requirements – with the goal of best trying to get SSEA back into alignment with its Five-Year Plan.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Judy Limoges, Treasurer SSEA

Julie Cayley, Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) – April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 06-22-SSEA
Date: April 28th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Aisha Chiandet, Water Scientist; Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands & Habitat Biologist; Tamara Brincat, Invasive Species Coordinator; Shannon Mawhinney, Watershed Resilience Coordinator
SUBJECT: SSEA Grant Application Update

APPLICABLE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

Goal 1: Sound Science
Goal 2: Supportive Partnerships
Goal 3: An Engaged & Informed Community
Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 06-22-SSEA regarding SSEA Grant Application Update, be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report

To update the Board on funding applications that have been submitted or approved during the first quarter of 2022, or are in current preparation and will impact budget and workload in 2022 and beyond.

Background

The following lists funding applications submitted in Q1 of 2022 and also applications that are currently in preparation and pending submission.

Approved Funding:

1) TD Friends of Environment Foundation Grant (TD Bank)

Project Title: *Projects for Pollinators (P4P)*

Programs Supported: Bee City initiative, Depave Paradise, Sustainable Severn Sound

Approved For: \$8,000 over 1 year

SSEA In-kind: \$6,182

Description: Increase pollinator habitat and biodiversity in the watershed by promoting No Mow zones, invasive species removals, distributing pollinator kits, and public education.

Impact: Increase staff resources and project materials to engage the public on increasing pollinator habitat.

- 2) Education and Community Action Microgrant (Invasive Species Centre)**
Project Title: Penetanguishene Waterfront Park Phragmites Management and Site Restoration
Programs Supported: Invasive Species
Approved For: \$1,000 for 1 year
SSEA In-kind: \$1,000 in 2022
Description: Provide financial support for smaller scale community invasive species management at Champlain Wendat Rotary Park, Penetanguishene.
Impact: Increase staff resources, enhance volunteer recruitment, and purchase native plants and signage.
- 3) Invasive Species Centre**
Project Title: Municipal Guidance for Establishing AIS Mitigation at Public Boat Launches
Programs Supported: Invasive Species
Approved For: \$5,000 (1 month)
SSEA In-kind: \$1,000 in 2022
Description: SSEA will create an advanced draft document describing a range of site modifications that could be made to a municipal boat launch.
Impact: Increase staff resources, creates a resource for municipal partners to help them engage in IS prevention.
- 4) Forests Ontario**
Project Title: Over-the-Counter Tree Program Subsidy
Programs Supported: Tree Seedling Distribution Program
Approved For: \$2,100 over 1 year
SSEA In-kind: staff time for project implementation in 2022.
Description: Subsidy of \$0.25 per tree seedling for up to 8,400 seedlings for 2022 Tree Seedling Distribution over-the-counter program.
Impact: The SSEA sets seedling prices so that the Tree Seedling Distribution Program is self-funded; the Forests Ontario subsidy allows seedling prices to be set lower for participants.
- 5) Grassland Stewardship Initiative (Forests Ontario)**
Project Title: Severn Sound Grassland Stewardship Project
Programs Supported: Natural Heritage/Species at Risk
Total Applied For: \$40,500 over three years
Approved For: \$20,800 over 1 year
SSEA In-kind: \$32,050
Description: Habitat restoration on private land to support the conservation and recovery of Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark populations.
Impact: Increase staff resources, expertise and capacity to implement grassland enhancement.
Note: *Landowner opted not to proceed with project at this time.*
- 6) Simcoe County Trail Signage Development (County of Simcoe)**
Project Title: Celebrating 20 years post-delisting: Severn Sound Educational Sign Project
Programs Supported: Education & Outreach, 20th Anniversary of Delisting
Total Applied For: approx. \$19,000
Approved For: TBD (informal agreement to cover cost of signs)
SSEA In-kind: TBD (will include staff time to develop sign content)
Description: Create and install educational signage at locations of significance along the Simcoe Loop Trail that are within the Severn Sound watershed such as entry into the Severn Sound

watershed, river crossings, and viewpoints overlooking Severn Sound. This will support educational objectives related to celebrating 20 years post-delisting.
Impact: Support to cover cost of creating signage.

Funding Pending Approval:

7) EcoAction Fund (Environment Canada)

Project Title: *Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds (HS=HW)*

Programs Supported: Agriculture stewardship

Total Applied For: \$100,000 over 3 years

SSEA In-kind: approximately \$25,000

Description: Expand pilot phase of the HS=HW project to improve water quality and sequester greenhouse gases by working with farmers in North Simcoe to explore and encourage adoption and promote action on soil health best management practices.

Impact: Increase SSEA resources to work with the agricultural community and support soil health.

8) Federal Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) (Service Canada)

Programs Supported: Invasive Species, Sustainable Severn Sound, Field Monitoring

Total Applied For: \$12,600

SSEA In-kind: \$16,094

Description: Wage subsidy to hire youth (aged 15-30 years) for seasonal positions; if approved, SSEA would be eligible for up to 50% of the provincial minimum wage for a minimum of six weeks. SSEA also partnered with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters on a CSJ application for their *Invasive Species Hit Squad* program; if approved, an additional staff person would be available to SSEA at minimal or no cost.

Impacts: Increase staff resources for various programs, and provide youth with the opportunity to gain and develop valuable skills and experience.

9) Municipal Climate Resilience Fund (Intact Centre)

Project Title: Town of Midland: Valuing Nature: A Natural Assets Inventory, Assessment and Valuation

Programs Supported: Natural Heritage, Sustainable Severn Sound

Total Applied For: \$100,000 over 1 year (Town of Midland application, supported by SSEA)

SSEA In-kind: \$7,200

Description: Develop a comprehensive natural asset management plan, including inventory, condition assessment and economic valuation, to manage and protect natural assets, prioritize those that would benefit from enhancement/restoration, and build an economic case for investing in new natural assets, with a focus on those that will help mitigate flood risk for the Town.

Impacts: Increase expertise related to natural asset inventory and valuation; municipal-level natural assets project that can be used to inform additional work in other SSEA municipalities

10) Provincial Great Lakes Local Action Fund

Project Title: Improving Habitat in the Severn Sound Watershed

Programs Supported: Invasive Species, Natural Heritage, Sustainable Severn Sound

Total Applied For: \$50,000 over 1.5 years

SSEA In-kind: \$90,267

Description: SSEA will support our municipal partners in naturalization and habitat restoration projects on municipally-owned land that will act as demonstration sites to educate and empower the community to take action on their own properties.

Impact: Increase staff resources, build organizational capacity, support partner municipalities in habitat initiatives.

11) Federal 2 Billion Trees Program (NRCan)

Project Title: Building Tree Planting Capacity in the Severn Sound Watershed

Programs Supported: Tree Planting, Tree Distribution

Total Applied For: \$276,507 over 2 years

SSEA In-kind: \$64,830

Description: Expand the SSEA's existing small-scale tree planting initiatives into a larger-scale tree planting program through increasing staff resources and organizational capacity.

Impact: Build organizational capacity, develop plan to guide growth of tree program, significantly and strategically increase the number of trees that will be planted in rural, suburban and urban areas.

Pending Submission in April 2022:

12) Smart and Caring Grant (Huron Community Foundations)

Project Title: TBD

Programs Supported: TBD

Total Applied For: \$1,000-2,000 over 1 year

SSEA In-kind: TBD

Description: Project application will likely focus on purchasing equipment needed for environmental monitoring projects in the Severn Sound watershed.

Impact: Build organizational capacity to conduct environmental monitoring.

Support Letters Provided

13) Federal Habitat Stewardship Program for Species At Risk

Project Title: Save Matchedash Bay Project

Project Lead: Georgian Bay Forever

Description: Targeted Blanding's Turtle monitoring program and invasive phragmites removal within Matchedash Bay (extension of existing program).

Impact: Increase staff resources, contribute to Severn Sound species at risk conservation and improve management of invasive species.

SSEA commitment: Blanding's Turtle monitoring; in-kind support for phragmites management.

14) Provincial Great Lakes Local Action Fund

Project Title: Divert and Capture 2.0

Project Lead: Georgian Bay Forever

Description: Continue work to engage the community to reduce their reliance on single and lightly used plastics while also providing hands-on opportunities to remove garbage and plastics from the waters and shoreline of Georgian Bay.

Impact: Provide information that can be communicated to the public on actions to reduce plastics entering Georgian Bay.

SSEA commitment: Share results and actions throughout the duration of the project.

Partnership Agreements, Approved in Principle or Signed - not applicable for this quarter, none pending

Analysis/Discussion

SSEA works to secure external funding both independently and in partnership with numerous organizations, in order to support special projects and core operations that support the Strategic Plan. Note that some of the grants and partnerships pending submission are for more than one year. The current total funding amounts (excluding pending submissions) for the next three years (projected for all four quarters) are as follows:

2022 – approximately* \$112,186

2023 – approximately* \$27,675

2024 – approximately* \$15,000

*Note: amounts for some projects for 2023 onward may change, and have to be confirmed each year

Expected Impact on SSEA budget/workload

SSEA grant applications included budgeted amounts for staff resources, which may include funds to support existing positions and/or new hires depending on the project, and other costs such as equipment, mileage/vehicle expenses, materials and supplies, and goods and services that would support the projects, if approved. Where permitted by the fund, project budgets also include an amount to support SSEA overhead expenses. The expectation is that approved grant applications would offset existing staff and equipment resources and expand deliverables.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Aisha Chiandet, Water Scientist
Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands & Habitat Biologist
Tamara Brincat, Invasive Species Coordinator
Shannon Mawhinney, Watershed Resilience Coordinator

Julie Cayley, Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) - April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 07-22-SSEA
Date: April 28th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Tamara Brincat, Invasive Species Program Coordinator
Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands & Habitat Biologist

SUBJECT: SSEA Invasive Species Program Update

APPLICABLE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

- Goal 1: Sound Science**
 - Goal 2: Supportive Partnerships**
 - Goal 3: An Engaged & Informed Community**
 - Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization**
-

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 07-22-SSEA, regarding SSEA Invasive Species Program Update, be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the key activities and accomplishments of the SSEA Invasive Species Program during Q1 of 2022.

Background

The Invasive Species Program is a core program of the SSEA. The SSEA is working to address public and municipal concerns regarding non-native invasive species establishment within the Severn Sound watershed, and to reduce the ecological, economic and social impacts of invasive species, while fostering regional partnerships and community relations.

Updates

The following is a summary of the Invasive Species Program in the First Quarter of 2022.

Technical Support

- 2021 Municipal Invasive Species Reports are in progress. There will be an opportunity for municipal representatives to review and discuss the reports before finalization.
- Staff presented at the *Tiny Special Meeting of Council – Ldd* on SSEA Ldd egg mass survey results.
- Staff reviewed and provided input to the provincial Best Management Practice document for the invasive plant, goutweed (pending public release).

- Submitted 2021 annual report to the MNMNR summarizing activities under the SSEA's Authorization under the Invasive Species Act to collect, remove, and/or transport select species of aquatic invasive plants for educational purposes.

Education & Outreach

- Responded to 9 new invasive species inquiries across all eight partner municipalities, providing technical support to municipal staff and the public. Inquiries were related to identification, requests for information and community science related to invasive/non-native species.
- Participated in the *National Invasive Species Awareness Week* social media campaign on SSEA Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts, posting about daily topics and themes.
- iNaturalist project in development for *Invasive Species Spotters* volunteers to report observations. Met with Georgian Bay Biosphere and Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) staff to learn about their iNaturalist programs.
- Delivered update presentation at Ontario starry stonewort partner meeting on 2021 findings and *Invasive Species Spotters* program.
- Delivered presentations on the SSEA Invasive Species Program at the Invasive Species Centre Invasive Species Forum (recording available here: <https://youtu.be/F65PmhL8ueQ>) and Ontario Invasive Plant Council Conference (recording available here: https://youtu.be/V3_SYKlbAi0).
- Planning in progress for attending local Earth Week events (April 18 to April 23) to provide education and resources.

Funding

- The SSEA was fortunate to receive continued support through BioTalent Canada's *Science and Technology Internship Program – Green Jobs* which helped support the SSEA Invasive Species Program, increasing capacity for project delivery and communications. Through this funding, one youth was hired in 2021, and the contract wrapped up in Q1 of 2022.
- Through the *Canada Summer Jobs* funding program, one youth was hired in January on an 8-week contract to assist with SSEA environmental stewardship initiatives, including the Invasive Species Program.
- SSEA applied for two Invasive Species Technicians (8-week contract staff) through the 2022 *Canada Summer Jobs* funding program. The OFAH applied for Invasive Species Technicians through the 2022 *Canada Summer Jobs*; if successful, SSEA will host one additional Technician.
- Received \$5,000 from the Invasive Species Centre for Municipal Boat Launch Project delivery (see Special Projects section).
- Facilitated the preparation and submission of municipal applications to the 2022 Microgrant for Invasive Species Education, Community Action, and Management Planning in Ontario, funded by the Invasive Species Centre, to support implementation of small-scale invasive species management projects on municipal properties:
 - Midland (municipal-led) - Little Lake Park Japanese Knotweed Removal;
 - Penetanguishene (SSEA-led) - Penetanguishene Waterfront Park Phragmites Management and Site Restoration;
 - Severn (municipal-led) - Roadside Hogweed Management Program;
 - Tiny (municipal-led) – Spotted Knapweed and Habitat Restoration.

Partnerships

- Met with the Nature Conservancy of Canada's invasive species representatives about potential project collaboration and areas of work.
- Met with OFAH staff about receiving invasive mystery snail training and permits.

Special Projects

- Continued to deliver work on the 2021-2022 Farlain Lake Eurasian Water-milfoil (EWM) Management project, including providing technical expertise.
 - Participated in EWM Committee workplan meetings.
- Continued to deliver work on the 2020-2024 Wye Marsh Invasive Species Management Project, including technical support.
 - Submitted 2022 budget (pending approval);
 - Participated in 2022 workplan meeting.
- Partnered with the Invasive Species Centre on a project to provide guidance for aquatic invasive species mitigation at municipal public boat launches. Project involved staff time to create an advanced draft document.

Conclusion

The SSEA Invasive Species Program has successfully fostered relationships with municipalities, partner organizations and associations. Staff continues to research and identify external funding opportunities and support municipal and community-led invasive species projects.

Accomplishments are shared through presentations, social media and other communications. Significant activities and tasks, including public and municipal outreach, as well as, education and securing funding, were accomplished in the Q1 of 2022 benefitting the SSEA partner municipalities and residents.

Prepared by:

Approved for Submission by:

Original signed by

Original signed by

Tamara Brincat, Invasive Species Program Coordinator
Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands & Habitat Biologist

Julie Cayley, Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) – April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 08-22-SSEA
Date: April 28th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands & Habitat Biologist
SUBJECT: SSEA Community Tree Planting & Tree Seedling Distribution Program Update

APPLICABLE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

Goal 1: Sound Science
Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 08-22-SSEA regarding SSEA Community Tree Planting & Tree Seedling Distribution Program Update, be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the spring 2022 Community Tree Planting and Tree Seedling Distribution programs including impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

Background

The Severn Sound Remedial Action Plan/SSEA has been involved in coordinating tree plants since the early 1990s to restore wildlife habitat and improve water quality. The SSEA helps with project planning, obtaining native tree and shrub seedlings, and coordinating a variety of groups and volunteers, including local schools and community organizations (e.g., Scouts Canada). More than 240,600 seedlings have been planted through this Program to date.

To supplement the Community Tree Planting Program, the SSEA started the Tree Seedling Distribution Program in 2007. This over-the-counter tree sales program provides property owners with reasonably-priced, native seedlings for spring planting, increasing local tree cover. Nearly 127,000 seedlings have been purchased and planted to date by participants.

Analysis/Discussion

In spring 2021, the Tree Seedling Distribution Program proceeded despite the ongoing pandemic. With the indispensable help of member municipalities, the Program was successfully adapted to a contactless, curbside-style pick-up model, with pre-arranged pick-up times for participants and COVID-19 safety protocols in place. The SSEA did not coordinate volunteer/community tree planting in spring 2021 due to restrictions on the size of group gatherings at that time.

For spring 2022, the SSEA, with municipal support, is planning for Tree Seedling Distribution on May 6th & 7th. COVID-19 plans and safety protocols similar to 2021 will be incorporated where necessary to accommodate public health guidelines. For the 2022 program, there are currently 226 participants and more than 8,500 seedlings pre-sold, of eight species of native trees (White Pine, White Spruce, White Cedar, Balsam Fir, Tamarack, Sugar Maple, Black Walnut, Shagbark Hickory) and one species of native shrub (Nannyberry).

SSEA is implementing limited community tree planting in late April and early May at a property in Oro-Medonte on the Sturgeon River, at a large site that facilitates physical distancing. Scouts Canada, a long-time partner of SSEA, will be planting seedlings on April 30th, and a separate SSEA staff/Board/volunteer tree plant will take place during the week of May 10th on the same site. COVID safety protocols will be incorporated as needed (e.g. pre-registration of participants, limitations of number of people on site through staggered start time if required by public health guidance, encouraging physical distancing and frequent sanitizing).

Expected Impact on SSEA budget/workload

SSEA orders seedlings for both programs from the nursery in fall. A deposit of \$2,941 was paid in January to secure the order, with the balance due with spring pick-up.

The SSEA sets seedling prices so that the Tree Seedling Distribution Program is self-funded. For the 2022 Program, the SSEA was approved for a \$0.25 per tree subsidy up to \$2,100 from Forests Ontario. With this subsidy plus tree sales from participants, the 2022 program is expected to pay for itself, even with increased staffing and other costs (e.g. purchase of personal protective equipment) due to the pandemic.

For Community Tree Planting projects, 100% of the cost of seedlings planted by volunteers is reimbursed through a County of Simcoe Forestry grant. The County funds are available through a multi-partner, four-year (2019-2022) MOU between the County and SSEA, Dufferin Simcoe Land Stewardship Network, NVCA and LSRCA. The SSEA's staff costs for organizing and implementing Community Tree Planting are covered through core funding.

Conclusion/Recommendations

The SSEA continues to work to adjust to the evolving pandemic situation and deliver the Tree Seedling Distribution and Community Tree Planting programs in a safe manner that facilitates planting of bare root trees and shrubs across the watershed. The SSEA Board members are invited to join staff the week of May 10th (date to be determined) for SSEA staff/Board/volunteer tree plant.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands & Habitat Biologist

Julie Cayley, Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) – April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 09-22-SSEA
Date: April 28th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Shannon Mawhinney, Watershed Resilience Coordinator & Aisha Chiandet, Water Scientist
SUBJECT: Depave Paradise Program Update

APPLICABLE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

Goal 2: Supportive Partnerships

Goal 3: An Engaged & Informed Community

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 09-22-SSEA regarding Depave Paradise Program Update, be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the Q1 2022 Depave Paradise Program's progress and achievements to the SSEA Board of Directors.

Background

On July 26, 2021, the SSEA Board supported staff's recommendation to participate as a delivery agent in the Depave Paradise Program, a project of Green Communities Canada. Hardened surfaces have negative impacts on local waterways due to the disruption of the natural water cycle and the movement of contaminants through stormwater runoff. As summarized in SSEA's SSS Local Climate Change Action Plan, the projected rise in global temperatures is expected to result in intensification of the water cycle, causing more severe droughts, increased total precipitation, and increasingly intense storm events. By participating in the Depave Paradise Program, SSEA can help to reduce the amount of old and unwanted asphalt in our watershed, thereby reducing the potential for flooding in urban areas. The replacement of asphalt with green infrastructure or Low Impact Development (LID) features such as bioswales, permeable pavement and rain gardens can help to minimize the impacts of hardened surfaces. By becoming a delivery agent in the Depave Paradise Program, SSEA can now offer an engaging way to assist its municipal partners in their infrastructure needs, involve the local community and educate residents on the benefits of green infrastructure - while improving the hydrological and ecological functioning of a publicly accessible urban site.

Analysis/Discussion

SSEA staff has been working with the Township of Georgian Bay to plan its first Depave project. Through discussions with the Township, a site was identified at Honey Harbour Park in Honey Harbour, which the Township had plans to revitalize, including the removal of an old skating rink and replacing it with a smaller rink and covered pavilion. SSEA and Township staff along with volunteers will be removing a portion of the rink and planting pollinator gardens. Plans at the Park have evolved since discussions began regarding the Depave project, and the Park will now include six pickleball courts, in addition to a Metis healing garden and an invasive species removal project (not coordinated by SSEA). Due to the placement of the courts, replanting will not occur in the same location as the depaving. However, the equivalent of ~100m² in pollinator gardens will be established. This will include plant contributions to the Metis garden and replanting of the invasive species removal site. SSEA also intends to work with the Township to install a permeable border around the courts to capture runoff, along with a rain barrel to capture runoff from the pavilion.

The asphalt removal phase of the Depave project will take place May 1st at Honey Harbour Park (46 Blue Water Rd, Port Severn), with planting and installation of additional LID features to occur on subsequent dates. The event will run from 10 am until 2 pm with staff and volunteers removing roughly 100m² of pre-cut asphalt by hand.

Financial Implications

In becoming a delivery agent, SSEA was granted \$15,000 to support the implementation of one Depave Program project for 2022. A portion of these funds (\$7,000) was allocated towards the establishment of SSEA's new Watershed Resilience Coordinator position (52-week contract). The staff has been successful in securing a \$25,000 grant from the ECO Canada Science Horizons Internship Program which will offset the remaining cost of this position. The funds received from Green Communities Canada will support any other project costs, including plant and soil materials, tools, and communications and/or media requirements. The cost of cutting the asphalt and the removal of the asphalt material will be provided by the Township of Georgian Bay as part of their \$5000 in-kind contribution to the project.

Conclusion/Recommendations

SSEA is excited to be working with Georgian Bay on its first Depave Paradise project. This work contributes directly to the strategic goals, priorities, and mission of the SSEA by engaging and educating the public on the effects and issues associated with increasing impermeable surfaces.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Shannon Mawhinney, Watershed Resilience
Coordinator

Julie Cayley, Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) – April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 10-22-SSEA
Date: April 28th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Melissa Carruthers, Risk Management Official / Risk Management Inspector
SUBJECT: SSEA Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Program Summary

APPLICABLE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

Goal 1: Sound Science
Goal 2: Supportive Partnerships
Goal 3: An Engaged & Informed Community

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 10-22-SSEA regarding SSEA Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds Program Summary, be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the Severn Sound Environmental Association Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds (HS=HW) Program.

Background

The SSEA successfully secured a grant from the Great Lakes Local Action Fund (\$50,000) to promote and implement management actions that contribute to soil health in the Severn Sound Watershed which is critical to improving water quality. This funding was approved for work from April 2021 to February 2022 and included cost share for a project coordinator as well as on the ground project implementation. Priorities included outreach and education, identifying and implementing agriculture Best Management Practices (BMPs) including increasing the intensity of soil sampling and increasing the use of cover crops. Due to limits in funding and timing (\$50,000 for one year), the field implementation was focused on the Nitrate Issue Contributing Area in the Township of Tiny as first priority and expanded after project uptake was exhausted in that area.

Funding for this project ended February 2022.

Results

- SSEA hired a Project Coordinator in April 2021, contract completed April 2022.
- **Crop Advice** - Hired CCA Deb Campbell from Agronomy Advantage Inc. to provide advice to 2 separate farms to marry environmental goals with agronomic goals.

- **Soil Sampling** - *With over 160 soil samples taken and analyzed, this Project exceeded the target of 40 soil samples.* More intensive grid or zone soil sampling will improve fertilizer efficiency maximizing the efficiency of crop nutrient uptake and minimize the loss of nutrients to surface and groundwater.
- **Cover Crops** *With over 990 acres of cover crop planted, this Project exceeded the target of 100 acres planted in cover crop.* Cover Crops are plants/crops planted to cover the soil with the intention of stabilizing soil, slowing erosion, adding organic matter to the soil, reducing nitrogen loss and can have a variety of other benefits including increasing biodiversity and providing pollinator habitat.
- **Weather Stations** - New weather stations were installed, one in Midland (at no cost to this project) and one in Lafontaine (cost shared with Township of Tiny).
- **Education and Outreach** - Traditional as well as virtual and social media (video, livestream, podcast) approaches to reaching all generations of farmers in the project priority area.
 - 28 Twitter posts, 13 Instagram posts, 2 Facebook posts, 4 YouTube videos
 - MPP the Honourable Jill Dunlop program announcement.
 - Staff attended the Georgian Bay Festival on September 11th 2021, 60+ packets of mixed cover crop seeds were handed out.
 - SSEA partnered with North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association (NSSCIA) to host 3 webinars:
 - Healthy Soils in Simcoe County
 - How's Your Soil Health? by Peter Johnson
 - Soil Health, What Does It Mean To Me? And Why Should I Care?
 - 1 live broadcast about soil health to 20 students (Georgian Bay District Secondary School)
 - Worked with a local videographer to produce three agricultural videos.
- Worked directly with farmers to identify opportunities to improve and enhance soil health.
 - 24 in-person farm visits with 8 farmers, 3 additional farmers contacted by phone/email.
- Researched and networked to identify and contact 29 experts to work with the SSEA as soil health experts and champions from government, NGOs, University and Colleges, farm operators, independent experts including Certified Crop Advisors (CCA's), Professional Agrologists (Pags), Agriculture and Agri-food Canada (AAFC), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), University researchers, Georgian Bay Metis Council, NSSCIA, Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA) and local experts.
- The Project's ability to leverage other partnership investment went above and beyond original projections.
 - The GLLAC Grant of \$50,000 was budgeted to leverage \$104,810 (approximately 1:2). However, the final Project calculations demonstrate that the initiative successfully leveraged \$138,677, a leverage of 1:3.
- The final budget came in above expected at \$188,677 due to:
 - SSEA invested significantly more staff time than originally expected.
 - The SSEA underestimated the cost of cover crop seed. As such, the farmer cash contribution exceeded 50% (closer to 80% in some cases)
 - SSEA paid for an additional 3 months (\$16,716) of the project coordinator (over what the GLLAF grant covered).

Analysis/Discussion

Final reporting was completed and submitted to Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Great Lakes Local Action Fund and the reimbursements to local farmers were paid. Farmers who participated in this Project consistently shared the concern regarding the impact of rising input costs on their operations and the cost risk of trying new or enhanced BMPs. Programs like HS=HW that offer cost-sharing incentives are vital for farmers to help mitigate risks and promote soil health.

Having a local trusted outreach/extension specialist (SSEA Staff and Project Coordinator) who knows the local conditions and community is critical to the success of these projects. Being able to build a trusted relationship with individual farmers and producers, is key to being able to effectively influence changes in practice, BMP implementation and program uptake. Keeping soil and nutrients where crops and farmers need them and out of the surface and groundwater, building and maintaining soil health, is a win for both agriculture and the environment, a win/win.

Conclusion

SSEA Healthy Soils = Healthy Watersheds (HS=HW) Program was possible thanks to Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Great Lakes Local Action Fund (\$50,000 grant). This project was well received by the agriculture community and achieved significant success exceeding project goals. More project reimbursement applications were received than Staff are pursuing funding opportunities to extend and expand the project.

Continuing to fund watershed-based soil health programs with the agriculture community at a local level is critical to achieving and maintaining long term watershed health goals. Staff will continue to seek funding to extend this program.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Melissa Carruthers,
Risk Management Official/ Inspector

Julie Cayley,
Executive Director



**Severn Sound Environmental Association
Joint Municipal Service Board
2022 First Quarterly Meeting (Q1) – April 28, 2022**

STAFF REPORT

No: 11-22-SSEA
Date: April 28th, 2022
To: Chair and Members of the SSEA Board of Directors
From: Aisha Chiandet, Water Scientist
SUBJECT: SSEA Monitoring Program Update

APPLICABLE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

- Goal 1: Sound Science**
 - Goal 2: Supportive Partnerships**
 - Goal 3: An Engaged & Informed Community**
 - Goal 4: An Exceptional Organization**
-

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 11-22-SSEA regarding Monitoring Program Update, be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report

To update the Board on SSEA's planned monitoring activities for 2022 and the request for lab load made to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

Background

Each year, SSEA conducts environmental monitoring on Severn Sound open water, inland lakes, tributaries, groundwater monitoring wells and at climate monitoring sites. This monitoring provides critical information on current status and trends in environmental quality, and informs municipal decision making. Monitoring data are used for such things as assessing raw drinking water conditions, informing timing of public works projects, background information for land use planning reviews, support for Official Plans, and making recommendations on stewardship actions by municipal decision makers and residents. Having the full monitoring program implemented in 2022 will be critical heading into the 20th Anniversary of delisting in 2023-24.

For some programs, the same sites are monitored each year, and for others, sites rotate. Under the Inland Lakes Monitoring Program, Little Lake is sampled annually, and Farlain Lake is sampled on a 5-year rotation, with the last survey being done in 2016. For stream invertebrate monitoring, sites are sampled biennially, with this year's focus being on the eastern half of the watershed. Intensive stream temperature classification will focus on several subwatersheds of the Coldwater R. Classification has been completed for Hogg Ck, Wye R, Sturgeon R, North R/Silver Ck, and streams along the Tiny Township shoreline.

Analysis/Discussion

The table below provides details on 2022 monitoring activities:

Program	Purpose	Focus	Timing (subject to change)	Budget Implications
Severn Sound open water	Long term water quality	Severn Sound, incl Honey Harbour	Full runs start May 3, biweekly to Oct 4 Extra North Bay runs - end of Apr/Nov	Barge rental for NB Personal mileage
Inland lakes	Long term water quality & levels	Little Lake Farlain Lake + trib + lake invertebrates	Start May 10, biweekly to Oct 10	Personal mileage
Drinking water intakes	Long term water quality & algae bloom monitoring	Tay Area & Rope intakes	Monthly Oct-Apr, biweekly from May-Sept	Personal mileage
Nuisance algae complaints	Respond to inquiries, identify harmful algae	Dependent on observations from residents/municipal staff		
PWQMN	Long term tributary water quality	Watershed wide	Monthly - during first week of month	Vehicle rental?
PGMN	Long term groundwater quality & quantity	Watershed wide	Level checks - Apr, Jun, Sept Sampling - Oct	Vehicle rental?
Stream invertebrates (benthos)	Long term stream health	Coldwater R, North R, Sturgeon R, Silver Creek	Aug	Vehicle rental?
Climate	Long term rain & air temperature	Watershed wide	Spring gauge/logger installation, summer download, fall removal	
Weather station	Long term & real-time climate	Lafontaine, Midland	Check stations every 2 months	
Long term stream temperature	Long term stream temperature & thermal classification	Watershed wide	Spring logger installation, summer download, fall removal	
Intensive stream temperature	Thermal classification & flow status of all reaches in one subwatershed	Coldwater River (2-3 subwatersheds)	Phase 1 – logger installation & site recon, complete by early Jul Phase 2 – evening field measurements on hot days - Jul/Aug	Vehicle rental? Additional loggers needed
Citizen science programs (Water Level Watch, Shore Watch, Stream Watch)	Supplemental environmental monitoring, water levels for Farlain L	Farlain Lake (WLW)	Installation of gauge on Farlain L - Apr Volunteer training, monitoring kit delivery - late Apr/May	Personal vehicle mileage to deliver kits

Lab Support

SSEA sends samples for the Severn Sound Open Water, Tay Drinking Water Intakes, Inland Lakes, and Tributary Monitoring Programs to the MECP labs in Rexdale and Dorset. This lab

support is crucial to the success of our monitoring programs. For 2022, a lab load request was made to cover our full sampling programs with none of the reductions that were made in 2021. Pending approval, this will allow SSEA to sample biweekly at all monitoring stations, and will include widespread chlorophyll *a* sampling and targeted metals sampling. Chlorophyll *a* is one of the Delisting Targets, and hasn't been sampled across all of Severn Sound since 2009.

SSEA continues to be a valued partner in the Provincial (Stream) Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) and Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN), and will receive support from the province to cover equipment costs and analyses (no lab load request needed).

SSEA is partnering with a research group at Ontario Tech University on a Masters project looking at algae communities in Severn Sound. Through this project, additional water quality and chlorophyll *a* samples will be analyzed for nearshore and open water sites around Severn Sound. Support will be required from SSEA in terms of additional open water sample collection.

Results Reporting

Further information on monitoring programs and results reporting can be found online:

- [Results](#) section on SSEA's website will continue to house Inland Lake updates for the current field year. Info & results from Severn Sound monitoring can be found [here](#) & in various [reports](#).
- Provincial websites provide results from [PWQMN monitoring](#) & [PGMN monitoring](#).
- SSEA [website](#) & [Current Weather Conditions](#) page show current data from SSEA climate stations.
- Report on 2021 Shore Watch and Stream Watch results will be available soon. All other Citizen Science program results, along with the report when completed, can be accessed [here](#).

Expected Impact on SSEA budget/workload

In order to support the above monitoring activities, field staff work some overtime hours which is compensated as time-in-lieu. Monitoring will be conducted by existing SSEA staff, with the addition of an Environmental Field Technician & Program Assistant through Canada Summer Jobs. There will likely be a need for an additional vehicle to support both monitoring activities and other SSEA program needs. Some personal vehicle mileage costs will be incurred to deliver water samples and to deliver citizen science monitoring kits. There is also a need to purchase additional loggers for intensive stream temperature monitoring (~\$2,000).

Conclusion/Recommendations

Monitoring programs will continue to provide critical information across the Severn Sound watershed. SSEA looks forward to a successful and busy field season, and staff welcomes Board members to join in for lake sampling on Severn Sound. Staff continues to work on reporting on new and existing data using engaging formats to inform municipal partners and residents. Support for ongoing monitoring in the watershed and the open waters of Severn Sound is critical looking ahead to reporting for the 2023-24 SSEA 20th Anniversary of delisting.

Prepared by:
Original signed by

Approved for Submission by:
Original Signed by

Aisha Chiandet, Water Scientist

Julie Cayley, Executive Director

Via email: deputymayor@tiny.ca

March 1, 2021

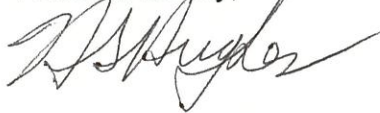
Steffen Walma
Chair, Severn Sound Environmental Association

Dear Mr. Walma:

Re: Correspondence dated January 10, 2022 from Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA), Microplastics Resolution

Your correspondence dated January 10, 2022 with respect to the above-noted matter, was received by the Council of the Township of Oro-Medonte at the February 23, 2022 Council meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Harry Hughes
Mayor
/vc

Cc: Oro-Medonte Council
Julie Cayley

April 11, 2021

via email

Severn Sound Environmental Association
489 Finlayson St,
PO Box 460,
Port McNicoll, ON
L0K 1R0

Dear Ms. Julie Cayley,

Re: Severn Sounds Microplastics Resolution

At its regular Corporate Services Committee meeting on March 23, 2022 the Council for the Township of Severn reviewed your January 10, 2022 correspondence regarding microplastics. Following discussion, the following motion was confirmed at the April 6, 2022 meeting:

Motion CSC2022-053

THAT the Council of the Township of Severn supports the resolution from Severn Sound Environmental Association regarding microplastics.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach me at agray@severn.ca or 705-325-2315 x 232.

Regards,

Alison Gray

Alison Gray, BAH, CMO, AOMC
Clerk