

FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Flood Advisory Committee was held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 10:00 am.

- Present:** Councillor Lisa Patton, Chair
Councillor Mike Cooper
Mayor Christine Blair
Hank Kolstee, Citizen Representative
Dan Troke, CAO
Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works
Rod MacLennan, Project Supervisor/Consultant
Paul Smith, Director of Community Development
Terry McKay, Manager of Land Protection, NS Agriculture
Councillor Tim Johnson, via Zoom
- Regrets:** Charlotte Sullivan, NS Environment & Climate Change
Citizen Rep - Vacant
- Introductions** Introductions were made to new members.
- Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Hank Kolstee
Opposed - None

“That the agenda be approved as presented.” Carried Unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes:** Moved by Hank Kolstee and seconded by Councillor Cooper.
Opposed – None.

“That the Minutes from the meeting on September 11, 2024, be approved as presented.” Carried Unanimously.
- Business Arising from the Minutes:** Councillor Cooper inquired if the Town of Truro would be coordinating a Joint Flood Advisory Committee meeting. Dan has reached out CAO of Truro several times with no response.
- Election of the Vice Chair** Councillor Patton asked for nominations of a new Vice Chair.

Councillor Cooper nominated Councillor Tim Johnson.
Councillor Johnson accepted the nomination.
Councillor Patton asked twice more for further nominations.

“That Councillor Tim Johnson will be the new Vice Chair” Carried Unanimously.
- Recording of Minutes** Michelle made everyone aware that the minutes were being voice recorded for minute-taking purposes and would be deleted once minutes were completed.
- New Applications** No new applications received.
- Review of Projects for 2024/25:** The following updates were made to the project list:

Portapique Beach Road, Portapique (Portapique Cemetery Co):

- Ongoing monitoring
- Cemetary Association unsuccessful in getting funding
- No issues identified

Farnham Road (Fenerty):

- Remaining top soil and seeding to be put on hold pending legal advice due to berm construction in riparian zone.

MacLand Drive, Onslow (Anonymous):

- Mr. Smith (owner with the culvert) is unwilling to sign the contract as his property is up for sale.
- Reach out again to Mr. Smith to sign the contract. Could potentially help with the sale of his property.

Wharf Road, Great Village (Hudson):

- Rod to reach out to discuss with owner to confirm proceeding with work.

Branch Road, Onslow Mountain (Stone):

- On hold - Michelle will reach out to the NSPW for an update

Onslow Mountain Road (Drainage), Belmont:

- No plans to replace. Michelle can put it in with Stone property and ask for an update.

Mountain Lee Road (Drainage), North River:

- Complete.
- Rod to meet with landowner as it is slumping at the upper end.
- Lower end is now flooding. Rod & Councillor Patton to visit site.
- Rod to provide quote for cleanup at next meeting.

Spruce Drive, Salmon River (Shipley):

- Complete.

College Road, Valley (Woodbury):

- Site visit required

Chestnut Court, Salmon River (Parker):

- Complete

Truro Road, North River (Terry):

- Site visit required

Hillvale Drive, Valley (Bucci):

- Site visit complete – Stability required.
- Approx. cost of \$20,000 – May need to build road for excavator
- Rod to provide a firm estimate for the next meeting.
- Policy states that if flooding affects the primary residence there is a \$2500 cap, but if it is protecting the property there is no cap.

Terms of Reference & Policy:

Michelle provided an overview of the TOR. There are 6 voting members and 3 non-voting members. Voting members consist of the Mayor of

Colchester County and three (3) Council members of the County Council. Two (2) Citizen Representatives from the County of Colchester, chosen by County Council. The non-voting members consist of one (1) representative from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment, one (1) representative from the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, one (1) representative from the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture.

In addition to primary membership of the FAC, the Director of Public Works shall be Ex-Officio member of the FAC.

There is currently one vacant citizen representative seat.

A motion was put forward to add Paul Smith from Community Development as an Ex-Officio to the TOR.

Approved by Hank Kolstee and seconded by Councillor Cooper.
None Opposed.

“That Paul Smith be added to the Flood Advisory Committee as an Ex-Officio”. Carried Unanimously.

Discussion was had on potential changes to the policy. Should the committee move to a grant approving program and what would be the level of involvement from the committee. What type of work we would approve, and what are the risk and liabilities for a grant program.

It was agreed by the committee to invite Denins James, our Solicitor, to the next committee meeting.

Budget: Operating Budget of \$125,000 pending approval from Council.

New Business: Lower Truro Culvert on McClures Brook is blocked. Every year the committee provides funding for the culverts to be cleaned out. Rod has estimated less than \$2000 for cleaning and he will proceed.

Consulting Proposal: *Rod left the meeting at 11:20am*

Michelle gave a summary of the contract. Fees increased from \$600 to \$700 a month. Everything else has stayed the same.

Councillor Johnson suggested making a job estimate form for Rod to bring to site and to bring back to each meeting. The job estimate should include a timeframe of when site visits need to be completed.

A motion was made to create a job estimate form for site visits.

Approved by Councillor Johnson, and second by Councillor Cooper.
None Opposed

“that a Job Estimate Form be created by site visits” Carried Unanimously.

Future Meeting Dates: The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 9, 2025, at 10:00 am in Council Chambers pending Dennis’ availability.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 am.

Christa Wojcik,
Recording Secretary