

To:	Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	January 24, 2019
Subject / Report No:	PDR-CW-12-19
Title:	Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee
Prepared by:	Randy Scherzer
Reviewed by:	Kim Wingrove
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	All
Status:	Recommendation adopted by Committee of the Whole as presented as per Resolution <i>CW32-19</i> ;

Recommendation

1. That the Terms of Reference for the Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee be endorsed as attached to Report PDR-CW-12-19; and
2. That the following members of Council be appointed as members of the Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee:
 - a. Warden Hicks
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

Executive Summary

The Forest Management Plan is a key document that outlines how the County Forests are to be managed over a 20 year period. The current Forest Management Plan was adopted by County Council in 2003. Grey Sauble Conservation Authority who is contracted to manage the County Forests has been working on an update to the Forest Management Plan. The previous Forest Management Plan was completed in consultation with a Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee (FMPAC) which included key representatives involved in the forest industry. The County Forests are certified under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) through the Eastern Ontario Model Forest. FSC requires an advisory committee to be established to provide input into the Forest Management Plan. As such, it is recommended that the proposed FMPAC Terms of Reference attached to this Report be endorsed and that the Warden and two Council representatives be appointed to the FMPAC.

Background and Discussion

The Grey County Forest Management Plan was approved by County Council in January 2003. The Forest Management Plan (FMP) guides all management activities in the Grey County Forests over a 20 year period. The period for the current FMP is from January 2003 to December 2022. The following is a link to the current [Forest Management Plan](#). It includes goals, objectives, principles, strategies, options and targets for the Grey County Forests pertaining to such matters as:

- recreational,
- educational and heritage uses of the forests,
- timber production,
- the maintenance and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitats,
- protection of ecologically sensitive areas and significant species, and
- the further acquisition or disposal of County Forest properties.

The County contracts Grey Sauble Conservation Authority to manage the County Forest properties in accordance with the Forest Management Plan. Grey Sauble Conservation Authority staff have been working on an update to the Forest Management Plan. An advisory committee was established previously to help provide input into the creation of the Forest Management Plan. It is recommended that an advisory committee be established to provide input and advice into the completion of the updated Forest Management Plan. The Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee (FMPAC) will also help to address the requirements under the Forest Stewardship Council certification standards as the County Forests are currently FSC certified.

Attached is a recommended Terms of Reference for the FMPAC. In addition to the Warden and two appointed Council members, it is recommended that representatives from the following groups also be invited to participate on the FMP Advisory Committee:

- Up to two logging industry representatives
- Owen Sound Field Naturalist's representative
- Stewardship Grey Bruce Network representative
- Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority staff representative
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry staff representative
- Sydenham Sportsmen Association representative
- Bruce Grey Woodlands Association representative
- Saugeen Ojibway Nation representative
- Metis Nation of Ontario representative
- Historic Saugeen Metis representative
- Up to two trail group/organization representatives

Grey Sauble Conservation Authority staff and County Planning Department staff will provide support to the FMPAC.

An Open House/Public Meeting will also be held this year to receive any comments and feedback from members of the public. FMPAC will make recommendations on the public consultation process. Any comments received from the public will be reviewed by the FMPAC

with recommendations provided for any further revisions to the draft FMP. Once the FMP has been supported by the FMPAC, a draft FMP will be presented to County Council for its consideration. We anticipate that the FMPAC will meet two to three times.

Legal and Legislated Requirements

Applicable legislation includes the *Forestry Act* and the *Municipal Act*. It will be important for the Forest Management Plan to also be consistent with Provincial Policy Statement, Niagara Escarpment Plan (for County Forests within the Niagara Escarpment Plan area), and the Grey County Official Plan.

Financial and Resource Implications

The update to the Forest Management Plan has been included in previous budgets as well as additional funding (\$5,000) proposed in the 2019 budget to complete the Forest Management Plan update. There may be some members that require mileage compensation which will be funded out of the Forestry budget.

Relevant Consultation

- Internal (Clerks)
- External (Grey Sauble Conservation Authority)

Appendices and Attachments

Terms of Reference for the Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee (attached)
[Current Forest Management Plan](#)

Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee

Purpose:

To oversee and provide direction to Grey Sauble Conservation Authority staff and County Planning Staff for the completion of an updated Forest Management Plan.

Scope of Responsibility:

- To provide expertise, input and advice into the completion of the updated Forest Management Plan.
- To provide recommendations on the public consultation process.
- To review the comments received as part of the public consultation process and to recommend edits to the draft Forest Management Plan.
- To recommend a final draft Forest Management Plan for Council's endorsement.

Membership:

- The Warden and two County Councillors
- Up to two logging industry representatives
- Owen Sound Field Naturalist's representative
- Stewardship Grey Bruce Network representative
- Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority staff representative
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry staff representative
- Sydenham Sportsmen Association representative
- Bruce Grey Woodlands Association representative
- Saugeen Ojibway Nation representative
- Metis Nation of Ontario representative
- Historic Saugeen Metis representative
- Up to two trail group/organization representatives

Chair and Vice Chair:

The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected from the voting members.

Meetings:

Meetings will be at the call of the Chair as required.

Quorum:

A quorum shall consist of more than 50% of the membership of the Committee and include a minimum of two (2) elected representatives

Resources:

- Grey Sauble Conservation Staff including the By-law Enforcement Officer/Forest Manager and the Lands and Habitat Coordinator
- Grey County Planning Department Staff
- Administrative support provided by the Administrative Assistant from the Planning Department

Reporting Relationship:

The Forest Management Plan Committee reports directly to the Committee of the Whole with recommendations being finalized by County Council.

Lead Staff:

- Director of Planning and Development or designate
- By-law Enforcement Officer/Forest Manager

Financial Support:

- Overall financial support for undertaking the Forest Management Plan will come from the Forestry Budget

End Date:

The Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee will disband following the approval of the updated Forest Management Plan by Council.