

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

MINUTES

MEETING: Authority Meeting
DATE: Thursday, November 7, 2019
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Administration Office, Formosa

CHAIR: Dan Gieruszak

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Allen, Maureen Couture, Mark Davis, Barbara Dobreen, Mark Goetz, Cheryl Grace, Tom Hutchinson, Steve McCabe, Don Murray, Mike Myatt, Sue Paterson, Diana Rae, Christine Robinson, Bill Stewart

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Peacock, CAO, Lower Thames Conservation Authority (via Teleconference)
Richard Wyma, CAO, Essex Region Conservation Authority (via Teleconference)
Al Leach, Vice President, Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village
Carl Seider, Project Manager, Drinking Water Source Protection
Bill Twaddle, Chair, Drinking Water Source Protection

STAFF PRESENT: Dick Hibma, Interim General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations
Laura Molson, Manager, Accounting
Shaun Anthony, Coordinator, Flood Warning/Water Quality
Donna Lacey, Coordinator, Forestry
Janice Hagan, Administrative Assistant

Chair Dan Gieruszak, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. He introduced Dick Hibma, Interim General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer for SVCA. The Chair welcomed Mark Peacock and Richard Wyma who attended the meeting via teleconference.

1. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION #G19-70

Moved by Mike Myatt

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the agenda be adopted as adopted.

CARRIED

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No persons declared a pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the Authority Meeting – October 3, 2019

MOTION #G19-71

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Paul Allen

THAT the Minutes of the Authority meeting, held on October 3, 2019 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Bill Stewart arrived at the meeting at 1:07 p.m.

4. Presentation

a. Lake Erie Flooding & High-Water Levels

Richard Wyma, GM/S-T, Essex Region CA and Mark Peacock, GM/S-T Lower Thames Valley CA presented via teleconference information regarding water level trends in the Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair areas. They explained that the shoreline has been fully developed with non-sustainable cottages and residential structures and that much of the existing development is in a state of disrepair due to high water levels and extensive wave energy. The concerning trends over the last 4 years are major increases in high water levels and flooding, exceeding previous high levels. The region has been in a perpetual flood watch situation since April 10th. The situation has resulted in extreme property and road damage, bluff failures, and erosive effects putting property owners in danger. It was noted that even with seasonal decline in lake levels, monthly mean levels are still above the previous record highs from 1986.

Christine Robinson arrived at the meeting at 1:36 p.m. Tom Hutchison arrived at the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

The presentations by Richard and Mark are appended to the office copy of the minutes. It was requested that the PowerPoint presentations be circulated to the members. Richard and Mark left the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

b. Saugeen Valley Children’s Safety Village

Al Leach, Vice President, Saugeen Valley Children’s Safety Village [SVCSV] provided an updated report on the activities of the SVCSV. He told the members that the first children’s instructional class was held in October. He reviewed the current lease arrangement which has provided SVCSV rent-free accommodations. The lease agreement requires renewal prior to April 2020 and SVCSV is requesting that the same arrangement be extended for the next 5 years. After discussion the following motion was passed:

MOTION #G19-72

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT SVCA enters into another five-year lease with Saugeen Valley Children’s Safety Village [SVCSV] rent free, and further

THAT SVCSV continue to maintain the buildings and grounds as per the original agreement.

CARRIED

Al Leach left the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

a. Realtors Association of Grey Bruce Owen Sound

Erik Downing discussed the submitted report summarizing the meeting with the Realtors Association Grey Bruce Owen Sound [RAGBOS] held in August 2019. Consideration for the establishment of a working committee with RAGBOS was not accepted, however it was noted that follow-up meetings may be beneficial for education and relationship building. After further discussion the following motion was passed:

MOTION #G19-73

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the Authority meet bi-annually with RAGBOS, and further

THAT Staff continue to work with RAGBOS to establish a strategy and communications piece with the goal of the Authority to meet with RAGBOS in first quarter of 2020.

CARRIED

b. 2013-2018 Environmental Planning & Regulations File Statistics

The members discussed the report submitted by Erik Downing in the agenda package. Discussion surrounded potential ways to reduce time frames for permitting. The members requested that the Planning & Regulations staff present a report on the types of general inquiries received and timeline for resolution.

c. Forestry Fee Schedule

There was no discussion on the presented 2020 Forestry Fee Schedule.

MOTION #G19-74

Moved by Mike Myatt

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT the 2020 Forestry Fee Schedule, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda

MOTION #G19-75

Moved by Christine Robinson

Seconded by Cheryl Grace

THAT the reports, Minutes, and information contained in the Consent Agenda, [items 6a-d], along with their respective recommended motions be accepted as presented.

a. Program Report

b. Accounts Payable Report

THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$410,619.54 be approved as distributed, and further: THAT the Finance Report to September 30, 2019 be accepted as distributed.

c. Correspondence for members' information

d. News Articles for members' information

CARRIED

7. Other Business

a. GM/S-T Position

The Chair briefed the members on the process involved for hiring the new interim General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer. He told the members that Grant McLevy, Senior Manager Human Resources, Grey County would be assisting with the selection process early in 2020.

b. Personnel Policy

Laura Molson reviewed the amendments to the Personnel Policy. After a short discussion the following motion was passed:

MOTION #G19-76

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Diana Rae

THAT the Personnel Policy revised November 2019 be accepted as distributed.

CARRIED

8. New Business

a. Administration Bylaw change re Executive Committee

The GM/S-T reviewed the Administrative Review procedure changes made at the Authority meeting on October 3, 2019. It was noted that an update to the Administrative Bylaws were required to reflect the new procedure.

MOTION #G19-77

Moved by Mike Myatt

Seconded by Steve McCabe

WHEREAS the Authority members delegated responsibility for Administrative Reviews to the Executive Committee at the October 3, 2019 Authority meeting; and

WHEREAS the Administrative Review proceedings are to be open to all available Board members, that a majority of the Executive Committee must be present to constitute the meeting, and that all members present have voting privileges;

THAT the following wording be added to Section 13 [Executive Committee] of the SVCA Administrative By-Laws:

...the Executive Committee is empowered to: "f. Hold administrative reviews with respect to the completeness of a S28 permit application and that such reviews be open to attendance by all Authority members and that all Authority members present have voting privileges and that a majority of Executive Committee members must be present to constitute a meeting. Any motions subjected to a vote require a majority of those members present and voting."

CARRIED

b. Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks meeting

The Chair summarized the meeting held with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. He reported that the Minister was not in attendance, however ten of his staff were present. Topics of discussion surrounded the value of Conservation Authorities, updated mapping, and the elimination of the SVCA Agricultural Program. He noted that further consultation has been recommended for January-February 2020.

c. General Manager's Meeting October 28, 2019

The GM/S-T distributed a report summarizing key points discussed at the General Managers' Meeting, October 28, 2019. The report is appended to the office copy of the minutes.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m. on motion of Don Murray.

Dan Gieruszak
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary