

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

MINUTES

MEETING: Board of Directors
DATE: Thursday, March 18, 2010
TIME: 1:00 pm
LOCATION: Resource Centre, Headquarters Conservation Area

CHAIR: Doug Freiburger

DIRECTORS PRESENT: John Bell, Gord Campbell, Luke Charbonneau, Anne Eadie, Dan Gieruszak, Ron Hewitt, Tom Kuglin, Mark MacKenzie, Manley Risk, Dan Sullivan, Carl Zettel

DIRECTORS ABSENT, WITH REGRET: Peter Hambly, Ralph Winslade

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jack Riley

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Coffey, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Dave Pybus, Senior Manager, Flood Forecasting & Land Management
Gary Senior, Senior Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations
Jo-Anne Harbinson, Manager, Water Resources & Stewardship
Jim Penner, Manager, Forestry
Shannon Wood, Manager, Communications
Al Leach, Manager, Lands
Laura Molson, Manager, Accounting
Don Smith, Project Manager, Drinking Water Source Protection
Bonnie Sherman, Executive Secretary
Guests & Members of the Press

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ron Hewitt requested that a discussion regarding solar energy be added to the agenda under Matters Arising.

MOTION #G10-24

Moved by Manley Risk
Seconded by Dan Sullivan
THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

Carried

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Anne Eadie declared a declaration of pecuniary interest relative to an item in the Executive Committee minutes. Mrs. Eadie advised she had not declared a pecuniary interest at the beginning of the February 11, 2010 Executive Committee meeting as she had hoped some form of mediation was still possible. Also, she apologized for not declaring sooner but did not realize it was necessary until reading the correspondence from the Authority's solicitor. She noted she also declared a pecuniary interest at the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council meeting on Monday, March 15.

SVC FOUNDATION – CHEQUE PRESENTATION

Ed Moric, Chair of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Foundation, presented the Chair of Saugeen Conservation with a cheque for \$14,768.00, representing the proceeds from the Foundation's 2009 fundraising events. Chair Freiburger thanked the members of the Foundation for all their hard work and dedication.

Mr. Moric also reminded the Directors about the upcoming Maple Syrup Festival and encouraged them to participate.

3. MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – February 11, 2010

MOTION #G10-25

Moved by Tom Kuglin

Seconded by John Bell

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings, held on February 11, 2010, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Reserves Report

A copy of Report #4a, entitled Reserve Report, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G10-26

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT appropriations to and from reserves, as at December 31, 2009, be approved as distributed.

Carried

Engineering Service Proposals

Following up from the last Board of Directors meeting discussions regarding hiring consultants for special projects, the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer enquired if there was any Board interest in hiring one consultant, as many municipalities do, that would be called upon on an as needed basis. Staff was directed to develop a draft Terms of Reference for the Board of Directors' review.

Solar Energy

The Property & Building Committee was requested to investigate, in detail, the possible investment in solar power, both at the Formosa site as well as other Authority properties, and to come back with a report to the full Board of Directors with a recommendation whether or not the Authority become involved in solar energy production.

2009 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – PRESENTATION BY BDO

Dennis Kraemer, of BDO, Walkerton, presented the 2009 Financial Statements to the Board of Directors.

MOTIN #G10-27

Moved by Tom Kuglin

Seconded by Anne Eadie

THAT the 2009 Financial Statements, as audited by BDO, be accepted as presented.

Carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Jerry J. Ouellette, MPP, Official Opposition Critic, Natural Resources – requesting comments concerning legislation, regulations and the organizational responsibilities of Conservation Authorities

Dick Hibma, Chair, Conservation Ontario – responding to Mr. Ouellette’s request for comments

Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation – newsletter

Information re *Eureka Exchange* event on March 20 and *Going for the Green* – bringing green innovation, investment and productivity to small businesses operating in Canada and worldwide

6. REPORTS

Chair & Conservation Ontario Report

Conservation Ontario has finalized their budget with a drop in the amount initially proposed in their yearly levy. As a result, Saugeen Conservation’s 2010 levy increase will be \$1,432.00.

Comments have been provided to the EBR regarding the MNR Policies & Procedures for Conservation Authorities Plan Review and Permitting. Conservation Ontario is encouraging the Ministry to complete the documents as soon as possible.

Comments have also been submitted to the EBR with regards to wind power and water power energy sites. The Ministry of Natural Resources has been encouraged to direct their District staff to consult with local CA’s with regard to site permits on Crown Lands.

The Chair, Vice-Chair and the General Manager of Conservation Ontario are scheduled to meet with the Minister Jeffrey and the Premier’s Office to once again provide profile of the Conservation Authority program.

Finance Report

A copy of Report #6a, entitled Financial Reports, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G10-28

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Carl Zettel

THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$344,194.58 for December, 2009, January, February and March 2010 be approved for payment.

Carried

Program Report

A copy of Report #6b, entitled Program Report, is appended to the office copy of these minutes. Staff provided a detailed two-hour presentation on the Authority's Regulations to the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council members and staff as well as staff of the County of Bruce. It was felt that providing this presentation to all Councils, the Board and staff would be extremely beneficial.

MOTION #G10-29

Moved by Dan Sullivan

Seconded by Anne Eadie

THAT the Program Report be approved as presented, and further

THAT the Permits as identified in Report #6b and dated March 18, 2010, be approved by the Board of Directors.

Carried

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2010

These minutes were provided to the Board of Directors for their information. Anne Eadie declared a pecuniary interest and left the room for this discussion.

MOTION #G10-30

Moved by Tom Kuglin

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting, held on March 18, 2010, be received.

Carried

Anne Eadie rejoined the meeting, following these discussions.

7. NEW BUSINESS

2009 Annual Report

The Board of Directors were advised that the 2009 Annual Report was developed completely in-house, at a considerable saving.

MOTION #G10-31

Moved by Gord Campbell

Seconded by Dan Sullivan

THAT the 2009 Annual Report be accepted as presented and authorized for distribution.

Carried

Levy Distribution

A copy of Report #7a, entitled General Levy Distribution Discussion, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

At the direction of the Board of Directors, a report was compiled for discussion purposes on various alternatives to the distribution of general levy. Numerous scenarios were developed for the report. A definition was included for each category and the importance of these definitions was stressed.

At the present time, the only way to change how the levy distribution is accomplished is to have the legislation changed, which could prove to be a long and arduous process.

This information was provided at this time for discussion purposes.

Water Quality Report Presentation

In the absence of the Water Quality Specialist, the Manager of Water Programs and Stewardship Services presented the 2009 Water Quality Report and Slideshow.

This report will be made available on the Authority's website in the near future.

MOTION #G10-32

Moved by Mark MacKenzie

Seconded by Luke Charbonneau

THAT the 2009 Water Quality Report be accepted as presented.

Carried

Pasture Farm Tender Results

A copy of Report #7c, entitled 2010 Pasture Land Tender Report, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G10-33

Moved by Gord Campbell

Seconded by John Bell

THAT the tender for the rental of the McBeath Pasture Farm for 2010, in the amount of \$7,613.00, be awarded to Brian Dudgeon, it being the highest tender received and meeting all tender requirements.

Carried

Amendments to Administration Resolutions

A copy of Report #7d, entitled Administration Resolutions – Proposed Amendments, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

Anne Eadie announced a declaration of pecuniary interest regarding this matter, and left the room for the discussion.

MOTION #G10-34

Moved by Dan Sullivan

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT Section 66 of Saugeen Conservation's Administration Resolutions be amended to replace all reference to "Committee of the Whole, In Camera" with "Closed Session, In Camera", and further THAT the recommended additions to Section 41 of the Authority's Administration Resolutions, as detailed in Report #7d, dated March 18, 2010, be accepted.

Carried

Anne Eadie rejoined the meeting following this discussion.

Paisley Landslip

Jo-Anne Harbinson, Manager of Water Programs and Stewardship Services, showed slides of a recent significant landslip on the Saugeen River on the outskirts of the Village of Paisley.

The slippage, approximately 500 feet long and 30 to 40 feet high, threatens one residence only, at this time. No apparent cause for the slippage is visible at this time and Authority staff are keeping a close watch on the area.

Rural Ontario Municipalities Association – Director Report

Representatives from the Municipality of South Bruce as well as the Township of Huron-Kinloss recently met with the Minister of Natural Resources at the ROMA Conference. Carl Zettel and Anne Eadie, along with their municipal representatives, were told by the Minister that she has received numerous complaints lately from various municipalities expressing their concerns that Conservation Authorities are becoming too authoritative. There is a concern that CA's are becoming more of a legal body when they should be providing an advisory role. The Minister also indicated she would be reviewing difference aspects of CA's in the near future.

An invitation was extended for Minister Jeffrey to visit the area and tour a more rural Conservation Authority. She indicated she would be happy to visit the area. Staff was instructed to invite the Minister to the area, possibly for a special session of the Board of Directors. Directors will be notified when, and if, a visit can be arranged.

New SVCA Website Launch

Shannon Wood, Manager of Communications, demonstrated the Authority's new website and showed the numerous changes, compared to the old site. It is proposed to launch the new site following the maple syrup event.

Insurance Claim – Durham CA Gatehouse & Picnic Shelter

A copy of Report #7e, entitled Replacement Gatehouse – Durham Conservation Area, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G10-35

Moved by John Bell

Seconded by Luke Charbonneau

THAT staff review each design/build quotation in detail, and further THAT the lowest quotation received meeting specifications for a replacement gatehouse with the new dimensions and anchored to a suitable foundation be accepted and that the contract to build and place the gatehouse be issued, subject to receipt of a building permit from the Municipality of West Grey, and further THAT the difference in funds between the insurance settlement amount and the contract be covered by funds from the Power Work Camp Reserve and/or Saugeen Parks Reserve.

Carried

Durham CA Activity Centre

Staff requested direction from the Board of Directors as to whether the Activity Centre destroyed in the tornado of August 20, 2009 should be replaced with a similar structure or whether the Board would prefer to see a more conventional building. Whatever type of building is placed on the site will still require an engineer's stamp before a building permit can be issued by the municipality.

A quote of \$180,000 has been received to construct a conventional building. Engineered drawings would be required as well.

The insurance company has indicated they will cover 90% of the replacement value of the destroyed structure, being approximately \$23,450.00. It was felt the old coverall-type structure served the community well.

After considerable discussion, the consensus of the Board of Directors was to proceed immediately with the placement of a similar structure, suitably anchored. All agreed that no building is tornado-proof.

At this point, Dan Sullivan and Anne Eadie apologized and left the meeting.

Water System Changes – Conservation Areas

A copy of Report #7f, entitled Small Drinking Water System – Legislation, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G10-36

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the March 18, 2010 staff report on the update of the legislative changes for the Authority’s drinking water systems be received, and further

THAT the Authority implement the changes required as a result of the risk assessment analysis, including acquisition of a turbidity level device, and further

THAT appropriate Authority staff complete the necessary training in “drinking water system operation and maintenance” as directed by the public health inspector.

Carried

Three staff members will receive the necessary training.

Upper Durham Dam Hydraulic Assessment

A copy of Report #7g, entitled Dam Hydraulic Assessment Study – Upper Durham Dam, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G10-37

Moved by John Bell

Seconded by Luke Charbonneau

THAT the report entitled Dam Hydraulic Assessment Study – Upper Durham Dam, completed by WESA OEL Hydrosys of Carp, Ontario, be received, and further

THAT staff be directed to present the report to the Municipality of West Grey, and further

THAT upon approval of the Municipality of West Grey, staff request proposals for the structural assessment and spillway design modifications (if required).

Carried

Strategic Plan – Public Process

Directors were surveyed for their opinion regarding how to deal with the public process to present the Strategic Plan. It was felt that, after consider discussion and considering the low public turnout at the previous public meetings, two public meetings be held, one in the western and one in the eastern parts of the watershed. Any suggestions received at these two sessions will be considered for incorporation into the final Plan, and the document will be finalized.

Copies of the draft document will be forwarded to all municipalities as well as any persons who had attended the public meetings. The Plan will also be posted on the Authority’s website.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm on motion of Ron Hewitt.

Doug Freiburger
Chair

Bonnie Sherman
Executive Secretary