



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Administration Centre
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Chair's Welcome
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
4. Disclosure of intention to record this meeting by video and/or audio device
5. Adoption of Minutes from March 21, 2019
6. **Business Out of the Minutes**
7. **Program Reports - Action Items**
 - Report 1: (a) Development Review (O Reg 147/06) - Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk
(b) Violation/Appeals Update - Geoff Cade
 - Report 2: Meeting Provincial Priorities for Reducing Regulatory Burden
- Brian Horner, Geoff Cade
- Program Reports - Information Items**
 - Report 3: Investment Income Update - Adam Skillen, Skillen Investment Management
 - Report 4: Profit/Loss Statement January through March 2019 - Brian Horner
8. **Presentation: ABCA Flood Forecasting & Warning Program** - Davin Heinbuck
9. **General Manager's Report**
10. **Committee Reports**
 - Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation - Judith Parker
 - Jones Pedestrian Bridge Working Group - Brian Horner
 - Source Protection Committee - Mary Lynn MacDonald
11. Correspondence
12. New Business
13. Committee of the Whole - legal matter
14. Adjournment

Source Protection Authority Meeting to follow

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- April 20 Easter in the Park at Morrison Dam CA at 11 a.m.
- April 19 and April 22 - office closed for Good Friday and Easter Monday
- April 22 Earth Day
- April 27 Jones Bridge Opening Ceremony at 10 am.
- May 4 Morrison Dam Fishing Derby
- May 13 Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee
- May 16 Board of Directors Meeting at 10 a.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Doug Cook, Adrian Cornelissen, Bob Harvey, Dave Jewitt, Mike Tam, Marissa Vaughan

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Ray Chartrand, George Irvin, Alex Westman

STAFF PRESENT

Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Abbie Gutteridge, Davin Heinbuck, Brian Horner, Daniel King, Megan Leedham, Judith Parker, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk

OTHER PRESENT

Grant Inglis, Solicitor
Jeremy Giles, MacNeill Edmundson Professional Corporation

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Doug Cook called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 16/19

**Moved by Mike Tam
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the March 21, 2019 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Annual Meeting be approved.”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest at this meeting or from the previous meeting.

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO RECORD PROCEEDINGS

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION #BD 17/19

**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Marissa Vaughan**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors Annual Meeting held on February 21, 2019 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

2018 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Brian Horner introduced Jeremy Giles of MacNeill Edmundson, Professional Corporation. The 2018 audited financial statement was presented to the Board for their review.

MOTION #BD 18/19

**Moved by Adrian Cornelissen
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2018 audited financial statement be approved as presented.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Grant Inglis, Solicitor with Little, Inglis, Price & Ewer LLP provided an outline of the roles and responsibilities of representatives to the Board appointed by their municipality. A director must wear three hats: (1) a representative of the municipality; (2) a director on a conservation authority Board; (3) a quasi-judicial member of a Hearing Committee pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06. A director must always act in the best interest of the conservation authority by being knowledgeable of the organization; acting honestly and in good faith with loyalty to the corporation; complying with legislation; and avoiding conflict of interest. When meeting as a Hearing Committee, the director sits as a judge and should act in the best interest of the conservation authority without viewing or discussing evidence pertaining to any potential Hearing.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Meghan Tydd-Hyrnyk, Planning & Regulations Officer presented the Development Review report pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06 Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses. Through the application process, proposed

developments within regulated areas are protected from flooding and erosion hazards. Staff granted permission for 7 *Applications for Permission* and 8 *Minor Works Permit*.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

Staff attended court in regards to the violation on Chicken Island in Lambton Shores where the landowner undertook works in a regulated floodplain area. The file has been deferred until a later court date.

MOTION #BD 19/19

Moved by Bob Harvey

Seconded by Dave Jewitt

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors affirm the approval of applications as presented in Program Report # 1 - Development Review.”

Carried.

2. Flood Emergency Planning Meeting

Davin Heinbuck, Water Resources Coordinator provided an synopsis of the Flood Emergency Planning Meeting held on February 19, 2019. There were 30 attendees representing 7 watershed municipalities as well as CEMC staff from 4 counties. The OPP were represented by officers from 2 counties and there were attendees from 2 media outlets and 1 neighbouring conservation authority. Roles and responsibilities for the conservation authority during a flooding event were reviewed. Gerald Cheng, Warning Preparedness Meteorologist with Environment and Climate Change Canada was the guest speaker.

PRESENTATION

Megan Leedham, Wetlands Specialist provided an update on wetland cover assessments and different policy perspectives and gaps that may leave wetlands vulnerable to loss. The project focused on wetland protection in the Nairn Creek subwatershed within the Municipality of North Middlesex. Environment Canada suggests a landscape should contain 6 % wetlands. In the Ausable Bayfield watershed there is an average of 2% wetland cover and in Nairn Creek sub watershed there is 0.85%. Benefits of wetlands is to improve water quality, reduce flooding, replenish groundwater, absorb carbon and for recreation and wildlife habitat.

Policies protecting and recognizing wetlands include: Provincial Policy Statement, Species at Risk Act; Middlesex Woodland Conservation Bylaw, Middlesex Natural Heritage Strategy; local Middlesex municipal bylaws; Official Plans and Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority regulations. In the Nairn Creek subwatershed there were 69 wetland polygons identified in aerial photography (64 areas met four or more of the criteria categories overall). Between 2006-2015 there had been 4 acres (2%) of wetlands removed. This may seem insignificant but in an area that has 0.85% coverage it is substantial. An additional 11 acres of land was removed that showed signs of being wet and may have been classified as a wetland if assessed further. In conclusion, a combination of 6 policies did not protect all of the wetlands or the wet areas that may have been wetlands in the past.

There have been stewardship efforts to create wetlands in a portion of Nairn Creek subwatershed. The average amount of restored wetlands in one year was 22 acres. Scaling to the section of Nairn Creek over 10 years is 9 acres. When that is offset against the 15 acres removed - there is a net loss.

Some tools for communicating the value of wetlands would be education and stewardship outreach such as landowner wetland walks; bioblitz; landowner newsletter; brochure. Another idea is measuring the hydrological effects of wetlands and the financial benefits of protecting them. The Board suggested the information presented should be provided to municipal councils and staff.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Brian Horner provided a written report with a brief update on the progress of various projects, staff training, upcoming meetings or events and general activities over the previous month.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Shoreline Management Plan
File: W.4.11
Brief: A note of appreciation from Leslie Meyers on behalf of the Beach of Pines Association for the time and effort spent over the past 2 years in revising the Shoreline Management Plan.
- b) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: A note of thanks to the ABCA conservation education staff for providing a program at the Lucan Public Library.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION #BD 20/19

**Moved by Mike Tam
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 3:53 p.m. to discuss property, legal and personal matters with Brian Horner, Judith Parker, Geoff Cade and Abbie Gutteridge remaining in attendance.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 21/19

**Moved by Bob Harvey
Seconded by Mike Tam**

“RESOLVED, THAT Committee of the Whole rise and report at 4:20 p.m.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 22/19

**Moved by Adrian Cornelissen
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

“RESOLVED, THAT the information on the property, legal and personal matters be received as presented.”

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

George Irvin
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

*Copies of Program Reports are available upon request.
Contact Judith Parker, Corporate Services Coordinator.*

Introduction

I am pleased to provide the Board of Directors with a brief update on ABCA projects, programs, new partnerships, funding opportunities and activities over the past couple of months. This report also includes information about Conservation Ontario and some of its activities on behalf of Ontario's 36 conservation authorities. If you have any questions please call me. *Note:* This is not an inclusive list – only some highlights.

Conservation Ontario

Conservation Ontario is the network of 36 Conservation Authorities, local watershed management agencies that deliver services and programs that protect and manage water and other natural resources in partnership with the government, landowners and other organizations. Conservation Authorities promote an integrated watershed approach balancing human, environmental and economic need. Conservation Authorities are organized on a watershed basis.

1. The Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) made a webinar available to CA's on April 4, entitled "Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations." On April 5, 2019, MECP introduced two postings on the Environmental Registry for 45 day comment period ending May 20, 2019. ERO #013-5018 entitled "*Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations – Conservation Authorities Act*" and ERO#013-4992 entitled "*Focusing Conservation Authority Development permits on the protection of people and property*" can be found on the Environmental Registry www.ebr.gov.on.ca.

Projects, Programs and Studies

1. The 2018 ABCA Annual Report was released on March 21. Copies are available at the Administration Centre or it can be downloaded from the website at www.abca.ca.
2. In addition to annual inspections of Flood and Erosion Control structures, Ross Wilson completed Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) applications to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) for funding on projects.
3. Fundraising continues for the Jones Pedestrian Bridge, which is now open. The official opening and ribbon cutting on the Bridge is Saturday April 27. Thanks to all the gracious donors who supported this project.
4. Staff continue to work closely with Huron County Soil and Crop Improvement Association as well as participating contractors and other stakeholders to finalize the tile design for the Huronview Demonstration Site project. The committee is also busy planning the on-site Demonstration Day to be held on June 15 for drainage engineers, contractors, farmers and the general public.
5. Hope Brock has been working with the Bayfield River Valley Trail Association to organize another Rain Barrel sale with pick up in Bayfield on Saturday May 11.

Training

1. Ross Wilson and Nathan Schoelier completed Working at Heights training.
2. Daniel King, who recently received his P. Eng., enrolled in the Universite Polytechnique course in partnership with Engineers Canada on Sustainability in Practice.

Meetings and Special Events

1. More than 70 people attended the Partner Appreciation Evening held to recognize our partners in conservation within the Ausable Bayfield watershed. The guest speaker, Trevor Dickinson, Professor Emeritus, University of Guelph, spoke on *Climate Change and Development in Rural Areas: Impacts on Streamflow and Floods in Southern Ontario*. Koos and Nathalie Vermue, agricultural producers from the Bayfield area, were recognized with the Conservationist of the Year Award.
2. The Partnership Appreciation Evening also recognized Board members and staff for their years of service: Directors – Dave Frayne (12 years) and Bob Harvey (3 years), Staff – Judith Parker (30 years); Dale Cable (20 years); and Brian Horner (10 years).
3. Summer Nature Day Camps will be held July 8-12 for ages 6-9 (Explorers) and July 22-26 for ages 10-12 (Adventurers). There are still opening for the Adventurers camp. For those interested in registering or volunteering, please contact Denise Iszczuk or Nina Sampson in our Education Department.
4. Brian Horner, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer attended the Conservation Ontario Annual General Meeting on April 1st at Black Creek Pioneer Village. At the meeting Wayne Emmerson, representing Lake Simcoe Region CA, was elected Chair and Alan Revill, representing Cataraqui Region CA, was elected Vice-Chair.
5. Davin Heinbuck, represented ABCA and Conservation Ontario, as an instructor at a Drainage Superintendent's course in Guelph on March 7. Topics of discussion included drainage as per the *Conservation Authorities Act*, DART Protocol and alternative Drain Maintenance Techniques.
6. Tommy Kokas attended a week long course in Guelph focusing on Agricultural Erosion Control Structures.
7. The Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley (ABMV) Drinking Water Source Protection Committee (SPC) met on Friday, March 22, 2019, after the Huron County Water Project Steering Committee meeting which were jointly attended. Topics of discussion were Nutrient Management and related strategies to protect water quality.
8. The Education Department has been busy planning and participating in the Huron Perth Agriculture & Water Festival April 9 & 10, as well as judging at the Science Fair on April 3.
9. Kate Monk attended the annual Conservation Areas Working Group meeting on March 21 held at Kelso Conservation Area. Topics included Provincial Offences training, working with the provincial government, a new conservation area guidebook to be soon released, and the new Cannabis legislation.