



MINUTES



ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, February 18, 2010

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

David Bolton, Jim Ginn, Paul Hodgins, George Irvin, Lawrence McLachlan, Bob Norris, Bill Siemon, Mark Simpson

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dave Frayne

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Bolen, Exeter TA
Bob Montgomery, CKNX Radio
Fred Simmons, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Evan Krebs, Steve, Jenni & Katelin Boles, Janette Richards

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Tracey Boitson, Bev Brown, Cathie Brown, Geoff Cade, Davin Heinbuck, Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Tom Prout, Alec Scott

CALL TO ORDER

Lawrence McLachlan called the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Annual Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 01/10

Moved by David Bolton
Seconded by Mark Simpson

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the February 18, 2010 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Annual Meeting be approved.”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

At this time, there were no disclosures of pecuniary interest at this meeting or from the previous meeting.

ELECTIONS

Chairman McLachlan asked for a motion to appoint a Chairperson for the Elections.

MOTION #BD 02/10**Moved by Bob Norris****Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“RESOLVED, THAT Tom Prout be appointed as chairperson for the election proceedings.”

Carried.

Lawrence McLachlan relinquished the Chair and Tom Prout proceeded with the elections.

Appointment of Scrutineers**MOTION #BD 03/10****Moved by Bill Siemon****Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT Geoff Cade and Andrew Bicknell be appointed as scrutineers.”

Carried.

The positions of Chair and Vice Chair were declared vacant.

Election of Chair

Nominations were called for the position of Chair for 2010.

Bill Siemon nominated Jim Ginn for Chair. Mr. Prout called for nominations two more times.

MOTION #BD 04/10**Moved by Mark Simpson****Seconded by Lawrence McLachlan**

“RESOLVED, THAT nominations for the position of Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority be closed.”

Carried.

Jim Ginn accepted his nomination and Mr. Prout declared Jim Ginn representative for the Municipality of Central Huron as Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for 2010.

Election of Vice Chair

Nominations were called for the position of Vice Chair for 2010.

Paul Hodgins nominated George Irvin for Vice Chair. Mr. Prout called for nominations two more times.

MOTION #BD 05/10

Moved by Jim Ginn

Seconded by Bob Norris

“RESOLVED, THAT nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority be closed.”

Carried.

George Irvin accepted his nomination. Mr. Prout declared George Irvin representative for the municipality of Bluewater as Vice Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for 2010.

Jim Ginn assumed the Chair and acknowledged the leadership of outgoing Chair, Lawrence McLachlan, over the past two years.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION #BD 06/10

Moved by Lawrence McLachlan

Seconded by Bill Siemon

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on December 17, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINTUES

1. Launch of Business Plan 2010-2020

Past Chair Lawrence McLachlan provided opening remarks for the public launch of the 10 year business plan *Towards a Healthier Watershed*. He thanked the staff, members of the public and press who were attending the launch. More than six decades ago, in 1946, the municipalities of this watershed were planning ahead when they called for the creation of a conservation authority. Because of their planning for the future, we have a greener watershed today. Our forest conditions and water quality are better protected than they would have been if those municipal representatives had not forged ahead with long-term planning.

Today, for every dollar the municipalities invest, the ABCA is able to leverage another three dollars from other foundations, federal and provincial governments and other sources, for the benefit of a healthier watershed. The new ten year business plan commits the ABCA to a new model of management where many partners, including the public, set the direction of the conservation authority. The business plan is a living document and will be reviewed every five years. This integrated watershed management model will be challenging but the landowners, watershed residents and the children will have the greatest power in creating a healthier watershed in the future.

Evan Krebs, student at Hensall Public School, Katelin Boles, student from Exeter Public School and Janette Richards, a Lucan area landowner spoke about what the conservation authority has meant to them. The students reminded everyone of what they have learned through the conservation education programs provided at their schools. Ms. Richards spoke about the technical advice received from ABCA staff for land stewardship projects on her farm.

Chair Ginn and Past Chair McLachlan thanked the speakers for their presentation and gave them each a gift of appreciation.

2. Ausable River Drain Update

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning provided an update on the Ausable River Drain apportionment of costs. The petition for drainage works failed before any drainage work was undertaken. However, costs associated with the petition exceed \$200,000. The Ontario Drainage Referee has released the decision on apportionment as a result of the hearing held during February of 2009. The Drainage Referee concluded to apportion the ABCA \$32,327 for costs associated with an environmental appraisal and a cost/benefit analysis. Staff have prepared a letter requesting a detailed cost accounting and a copy of the results of the environmental review and the cost benefit study. At present, the solicitor for the Municipality of Bluewater is corresponding with the Drainage Referee regarding the apportionment of costs that were not addressed by his decision.

George Irvin declared a conflict of interest if the Board of directors needed to discuss this further.

Tom Prout advised that it is unknown at this time if the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs will be providing a one third grant for the assessed costs.

MOTION #BD 07/10

**Moved by Lawrence McLachlan
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the matter be deferred until a future meeting.”

Carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of Auditor

MOTION #BD 08/10

**Moved by David Bolton
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the firm of MacNeill Edmunson be appointed as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Auditor for 2010.”

Carried.

Appointment of Solicitors**MOTION #BD 09/10****Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the firms of Little, Masson & Reid, Exeter and Little, Inglis and Price, London and Raymond & McLean, Exeter be the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority solicitors for 2010.”

Carried.Appointment of Financial Institution**MOTION #BD 10/10****Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Bank of Montreal, Exeter Branch be appointed as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority’s financial institution for 2010.”

Carried.PROGRAM REPORTS1. (a) Development Review

Andrew Bicknell, Regulations Coordinator 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 three *Applications for Permission* and six *Minor Works Permits*.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade provided an update on work that was done without approval in the Municipality of Bluewater where the lake bank was altered to create a laneway to the beach and disturbed the vegetation. A violation charge has been initiated.

1. (c) Drain Review Process

Geoff Cade updated the Board on the Authority’s drain review practices and suggested it is time for a review with possible formal permitting procedure. Historically, the ABCA has taken a co-operative position in review of proposals received under the Drainage Act and has not required these works to obtain prior written permission under its regulations. Rather, the ABCA provides advice intended to help resolve concerns under the Drainage Act, Conservation Authorities Act and the Fisheries Act. Currently, Davin Heinbuck, ABCA Lands & Water Technologist, is on the provincial Drainage Act Regulations Team (DART) and is working with municipalities, drainage engineers and OMAFRA to help address concerns with the Drainage Act process.

MOTION #BD 11/10

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the matter be deferred until further information is received.”

Carried.

2. Health & Safety Policy & Procedures Manual

Kate Monk, Stewardship & Conservation Lands Supervisor explained that the Health and Safety Policies and Procedures Manual will become part of the overall ABCA Health & Safety Program. The Conservation Ontario Health and Safety/Risk Management Committee has prepared and released the Generic Health and Safety Policies and Procedures Manual for the use of all 36 conservation authorities. Individual CAs can use the document in whole or in part for their guidance and policies. ABCA staff have reviewed the manual and made minor adaptations.

MOTION #BD 12/10

**Moved by Mark Simpson
Seconded by Lawrence McLachlan**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA approves the ABCA Health and Safety Policies and Procedures Manual.”

Carried.

3. Vehicle Purchase Tender

Kate Monk reported that five tenders were received for a new pick-up truck.

MOTION #BD 13/10

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the vehicle quotation from Eric Campbell Ford Lincoln Ltd. for a new 2010 Ford F150 pick-up truck at \$27,262.38 be accepted.”

Carried.

4. 4th Quarter 2009 Financial Statement

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor presented the unaudited financial statement for January through December 2009. The audit is scheduled for the week of February 22nd and the draft financial statements will be presented at the next meeting.

5. Exeter Dam Environmental Assessment

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager gave an update on the Exeter Dam environmental assessment. A public meeting was held in the fall of 2008 to provide South Huron council with options on the future of the Exeter Dam in MacNaughton Park. B.M. Ross and Associates were hired to complete an inspection of the dam and provide a report on its condition and estimates of maintenance costs for the next 5 years. The ABCA is waiting for a decision of council on whether the ABCA will be involved in future inspections and maintenance of the dam.

6. Ontario Regulations Mapping Update

Tracey Boitson, GIS/CAD Information Systems Specialist provided the mapping edits for updating the Ontario Regulation 147/06 Development, Interference & Alteration Regulations mapping sheets.

PRESENTATION

Davin Heinbuck, Water & Lands Technologist gave a presentation on discerning and identifying the risk management framework for drain review under Section 35 *Fisheries Act*.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION #BD 14/10

Moved by Lawrence McLachlan

Seconded by Bill Siemon

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation Annual Meeting held on January 21, 2010; the Friends of South Huron Trail Annual Meeting held on November 6, 2009; the Human Resources Management Committee meeting held on January 7, 2010; the Source Protection Committee meeting held on November 25, 2009; the Striking Committee meeting held on January 7, 2010 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

Tom Prout provided a written report with a brief update on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming events and general activities over the previous month. The General Manager’s Report is part of each Board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Ministry of Natural Resources
File: A.5.3
Brief: The new organization chart of the restructured Ministry of Natural Resources was received.
- b) Reference: All Terrain Vehicles
File: A.5.1
Brief: Correspondence was received from Mr. Klaus Keunecke raising concerns on permitting ATVs and other motorized recreation vehicles on significant natural areas.
- c) Reference: Zurich Landowners Association
File: L.4.24
Brief: Correspondence was received from Zurich Landowners Association raising concerns about the proposed Zurich Pool gas storage project initiated by Tribute Resources.

- d) Reference: Port Blake Park
File: A.5.1.
Brief: Inquiry from the Municipality of South Huron for a letter of support in pursuing funding from the Green Municipal Fund for development of an environmental education centre and day park at the Port Blake Park.

MOTION #BD 15/10

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the matter be deferred until more information is available.”

Carried.

- e) Reference: Third Party Review of CAs
File: A.7.2.
Reference: A copy of correspondence from Conservation Ontario Chair Dick Hibma to Mr. Jerry Oullette, MPP, Official Opposition Critic, Natural Resources, explaining the position of conservation authorities in response to the issue put forth by the Township of Essa in seeking an independent third party review of Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Jim Ginn
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

