

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, April 11, 2013

**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area**

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dave Frayne, Paul Hodgins, Lorie Scott, Bill Siemon, Don Shipway, Ute Stumpf, Mike Tam, Janisse Zimmerman

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Burkhard Metzger

OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Gilbert

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Davin Heinbuck, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Kate Monk, Tom Prout, Alec Scott, Mari Veliz

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Frayne called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 31/13

Moved by Lorie Scott

Seconded by Don Shipway

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the April 11, 2013 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting be approved.”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**MOTION #BD 32/13****Moved by Lorie Scott****Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 21, 2013 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

PROGRAM REPORTS1. a) Development Review

Andrew Bicknell, Regulations Coordinator prepared and 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 two *Applications for Permission* and two *Minor Works Permit*.

1. b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water and Planning reported that staff are in discussion with affected landowners in the Township of Lucan Biddulph to seek a resolution to a violation.

MOTION #BD 33/13**Moved by Lorie Scott****Seconded by Bill Siemon**

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

Carried.

2. Canadian Forest Service Emerald Ash Borer Biological Control Study

Ian Jean, Forestry and Land Stewardship Specialist reported that Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority has been contacted by the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) as part of their search for candidate sites for a Canadian Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Biological Control Study. EAB has been present in the Ausable and Bayfield watersheds since 2008, and some areas are now showing heavy ash mortality. The Canadian Forest Service will be establishing a Biological Control Study Release using the American-reared candidate parasitoids and established protocols. It is likely that one or more ABCA-owned properties will be suitable for the study. CFS will be field evaluating potential study sites in late April or May.

MOTION #BD 34/13

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT Canadian Forest Service be allowed to use property owned by Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for the Emerald Ash Borer Biocontrol Study provided the study does not interfere with normal use or management of the selected property.”

Carried.

3. Phragmites Control Progress

Kate Monk, Stewardship and Conservation Lands Supervisor reported on the progress of the control of *Phragmites australis* (common reed) in Lambton Shores. There is a significant amount of phragmites on Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority land in Lambton Shores. On-the-ground phragmites control has begun again this year in the Port Franks area with rolling and then burning on ABCA, municipal and private land. Funding for this work is from the Ministry of the Environment Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund. The next step is to monitor phragmites, turtles, and the regrowth of native plants.

4. Quarterly Financial Statement

For the Board’s information, Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor provided the statement of profit and loss to March 31, 2013.

5. Drainage Act and Regulations Team (DART)

Davin Heinbuck, Lands and Water Technologist provided an update. The DART committee was formed in 2008 due to issues that have arisen in the application of the *Conservation Authorities Act* Section 28 regulations to some activities undertaken under the *Drainage Act*. The DART has been established to deal with these issues and promote good working relationships while meeting *Drainage Act* and *Conservation Authorities Act* legislative requirements. Phase 1 of the DART Protocol is complete and available for use by Municipal Drainage Superintendents and Conservation Authorities. The *Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol: Protocol for Municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Drain Maintenance and Repair Activities* document has received approval from the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

MOTION #BD 35/13

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Program Reports #3 - 5 be received as information.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Supervisor made a presentation on the Highlights of the 2013 Watershed Report Card; how compiling watershed data can improve the local environment. Measuring helps better understand our watershed; we can then focus our work where it is needed

and track progress. Watershed environmental indicators include Terrestrial conditions and Aquatic conditions. Conservation Ontario Standards were used to establish the grades. Terrestrial conditions include forest cover, forest interior, streamside cover, and wetland cover. Groundwater quality and surface water quality is summarized in the report.

General actions for improved local watersheds include increasing forest plantings around local woodlots and in non-productive land; enhance wetlands in strategic areas; groundwater testing and investigate wells; surface water drain maintenance practices and land erosion control, manure management, upgrade septs and WWTP where necessary. For specific actions, look at the maps as to where you live, evaluate your property and follow recommended actions.

The reported grades suggest a watershed that needs improvement; there is room for optimism; continue to look for opportunities.

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 meetings, events or activities over the previous month.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation
File: A.9
Brief: Anne Melady has been a dedicated volunteer with the Conservation Dinner committee for the past several years and has expressed interest in joining the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation Board of Directors.

MOTION #BD 36/13

**Moved by Janisse Zimmerman
Seconded by Lorie Scott**

“RESOLVED, THAT Anne Melady be appointed to the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation Board of Directors.”

Carried.

- b) Reference: UTRCA Watershed Conservation Centre
File: A.5.2
Brief: Invitation to the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority's Official Opening of their new building on May 31, 2013 between 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- c) Reference: Conservation Ontario Annual Report
File: A.7.2
Brief: Copies are available of the 2012 Annual Report entitled *Conservation Authorities Contribute to Healthy People & Watersheds*.

- d) Reference: Conservation Ontario Step Into Nature
File: A.7.2
Brief: Conservation Ontario produced a fact sheet entitled *The Benefits of Nature - Ontario's Conservation Areas Contribute to Healthy People*.
- e) Reference: Erb Family Foundation
File: F.22.1
Brief: Confirmation of the third and final installment of the grant from the Fred and Barbara Erb Family Foundation. The funding assists landowners to construct "blue/green infrastructure" projects in the Bayfield watershed and monitor the corresponding water quality.
- f) Reference: Conservation Authorities Group Insurance Program
File: A.24.2
Brief: Conservation Ontario Group Insurance and Benefits Committee have completed the renewal negotiations. There will be an overall reduction in the premium of 2%. The program now includes an additional \$5,000,000 in umbrella liability coverage and new coverage for sudden and accidental pollution.

MOTION #BD 37/13**Moved by Lorie Scott****Seconded by Bill Siemon**

"RESOLVED, THAT any correspondence not specifically dealt with be received and filed."

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**MOTION #BD 38/13****Moved by Don Shipway****Seconded by Janisse Zimmerman**

"RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 11:37 a.m. for property and financial matters with Tom Prout and Bev Brown remaining in attendance."

Carried.

MOTION #BD 39/13**Moved by Mike Tam****Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

"RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors rise and report at 12:19 p.m."

Carried.

MOTION #BD 40/13

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Mike Tam**

“RESOLVED, THAT the policy regarding procedures for video and audio recording at meetings be approved as presented by staff and reviewed by the ABCA solicitor.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 41/13

**Moved by Mike Tam
Seconded by Janisse Zimmerman**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Gift Acceptance Policy be approved as presented by staff and reviewed by the ABCA solicitor.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 42/13

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT as per the public tender opening held August 2, 2012, the Board of Directors approve the recommendations for sale of properties all within the County of Middlesex, located at Part Lots 2,3,4 and 5, Concession 5 WCR, in the Municipality of North Middlesex consisting of 135 acres more or less; Part Lots 1, 2 and 3, Concession 5 ECR in the Municipality of North Middlesex consisting of 210 acres more or less; Part Lot 9, Concession 7 ECR in the Municipality of North Middlesex consisting of 77 acres more or less; and a house and shed at 2458 McGuffin Hills Drive in the Municipality of North Middlesex consisting of 1.17 acres more or less, thereby furthering the objects of the Conservation Authority pursuant to Section 21 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and

FURTHER, THAT Part Lots 1, 2 and 3, Concession 5 ECR, on the north side of McGuffin Hills Road, in the Municipality of North Middlesex will have a conservation easement, and

FURTHER, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority request permission from the Minister of Natural Resources to retain all funds from the sale of said lands in a reserve for future projects such as the costs of selling the land, (legal, survey, severance etc.) acquisition, restoration and management of natural areas, control of flooding and erosion and overall watershed management.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 43/13

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors authorize staff to renew any existing agreements with AECOM Canada Limited and further that any requests for additional agreements be brought to the Board for their consideration.”

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Dave Frayne
Chair

Bev Brown
Financial Services Coordinator

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



