

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, December 20, 2012

**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

Jim Ginn

OTHERS PRESENT

Rod Glen, Municipality of Warwick
Bob Montgomery, CKNX Radio
Scott Nixon, Exeter TA

STAFF PRESENT

Jenna Allain, Andrew Bicknell, Hope Brock, Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Tracey McPherson, Kate Monk, Tom Prout, Judith Parker, Alec Scott, Julie Stellingwerff, Mari Veliz

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Directors and staff gathered prior to the meeting for an announcement by Ben Lobb, MP for Huron Bruce on behalf of Service Canada. The ABCA is the recipient of Career Focus funding through the HRSDC Youth Employment Strategy to create work experience for a post-secondary graduate. Chair Dave Frayne thanked Mr. Lobb and stated the funding will permit the ABCA to offer a position that will allow a young person to acquire environmental mapping, web and database skills. Rob Carnegie, ABCA GIS Assistant spoke on the benefits he has experienced as a Career Focus recipient in the past.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Frayne called the meeting to order at 2:52 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 110/12

**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the December 20, 2012 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 111/12

Moved by Bill Siemon

Seconded by Paul Hodgins

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on November 15, 2012 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Bill Siemon requested clarification and amendment on the wording of Motion #BD 105/12 regarding the fee structure for staff to process applications for permission for Commercial Renewable Energy Projects.

MOTION #BD 112/12

Moved by Bill Siemon

Seconded by Lorie Scott

“RESOLVED, THAT Motion #BD 105/12 be amended by removing the words...‘where digital data and engineering details are not provided by the proponent.’

Carried.

MOTION #BD 113/12

Moved by Lorie Scott

Seconded by Ute Stumpf

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on November 15, 2012 and the motions therein be approved as amended.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

2013 Proposed General Levy Vote

MOTION #BD 114/12

Moved by Paul Hodgins

Seconded by Bill Siemon

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2013 General Levy be approved at \$868,624.”

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Adelaide Metcalfe	✓		
Bluewater		✓	
Central Huron			✓
Huron East	✓		
Lambton Shores	✓		
Lucan Biddulph	✓		
Middlesex Centre	✓		
North Middlesex	✓		
Perth South	✓		
South Huron	✓		
Warwick	✓		
West Perth	✓		

The result was Yea 76.34% and Nay 23.66% based on the current value assessment apportionment schedule.”

Carried.

2013 Proposed Project Levy Vote

MOTION #BD 115/12

Moved by Paul Hodgins

Seconded by Mike Tam

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2013 Project Levy be approved at \$305,810.”

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Adelaide Metcalfe	✓		
Bluewater		✓	
Central Huron			✓
Huron East	✓		
Lambton Shores	✓		
Lucan Biddulph	✓		
Middlesex Centre	✓		
North Middlesex	✓		
Perth South	✓		
South Huron	✓		
Warwick	✓		
West Perth	✓		

The result was Yea 76.34% and Nay 23.66% based on the current value assessment apportionment schedule.”

Carried.

2013 Proposed Budget**MOTION #BD 116/12****Moved by Don Shipway****Seconded by Janisse Zimmerman****“RESOLVED, THAT the 2013 proposed budget be approved.”****Carried.**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 four *Applications for Permission* and one *Minor Works Permit*.

1. b) Violation/Appeals Update

The violation currently being addressed by staff is ongoing. The second raft of the engineer's report has been received and hopefully can be resolved in the near future.

MOTION #BD 117/12**Moved by Bill Siemon****Seconded by Lorie Scott****“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors affirm the approval of applications as presented in Program Report # 1 - Development Review.”****Carried.**2. Amendments to O.Reg. 147/06 - ABCA regulation of development, interference with wetlands and watercourses and alterations to shorelines and watercourses

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning gave background on the amendments. The provincial government and Ministry of Natural Resources have approved actions that have impacted the *Conservation Authorities Act* and related regulations, policy and operations of conservation authorities. The intent is to simplify and streamline the permitting process under S.28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The amendments are seen to have limited impact to the ABCA's regulatory program.

MOTION #BD 118/12**Moved by Janisse Zimmerman****Seconded by Lorie Scott****“RESOLVED, THAT whereas an ‘amending’ regulation to the individual *Conservation Authorities Act* Section 28 ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation’ has been prepared in conformity**

with the provisions in Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the amended Ontario Regulation 97/04;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority adopts the subject ‘amending’ regulation that will amend the individual *Conservation Authorities Act* Section 28 ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation’; O. Reg 147/06, and

THAT the said ‘amending’ regulation be submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources for consideration by the Minister of Natural Resources for the Minister’s approval.”

Carried.

3. Conservation Ontario Whitepaper: Watershed Management Futures for Ontario

On behalf of Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities, Conservation Ontario has provided its whitepaper entitled *Watershed Management Futures for Ontario* to the Ministries of Natural Resources, Environment, and Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs as well as all provincial political parties. The intent is to stimulate a discussion between conservation authorities and the province on options for a renewed watershed management partnership. Five specific areas that should be discussed are: confirmation of a conservation authority mandate; enhancements of conservation authority-provincial ministry relationships; revamped conservation authority governance model; development of a sustainable funding model; improved accountability framework.

MOTION #BD 119/12

Moved by Lorie Scott

Seconded by Ute Stumpf

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority support the purpose of the whitepaper which is to encourage dialogue with the Ontario government about roles and responsibilities for managing Ontario’s watersheds.

Carried.

4. Conservation Authorities Act - Section 29

Kate Monk, Stewardship and Conservation Lands Supervisor gave an update on activities happening on ABCA conservation lands. A summary of hunting passes sold for permission to hunt on ABCA lands, indicates there are 404 active passes generating \$9000 in revenue. Staff have been blocking off access points where off-road vehicles have been entering conservation lands. A special use permit has been granted for a snowmobile trail in the McGregor Tract on a new logging trail.

5. ABCA Land Securement Plan

Kate Monk gave a presentation outlining the land securement plan developed by the ABCA and approved by the Minister of Natural Resources for the period 2008-2020. The ABCA can protect environmentally sensitive and significant lands by holding title (fee simple) or holding rights on the lands (easements, covenants, lease agreements). Criteria for priority areas would be natural

heritage systems, lands that are suitable for restoration where forest and wetland areas can be increased. The secondary priority would be other ecological or strategic areas such as groundwater recharge or discharge areas and regional flood plain. The properties owned historically by the ABCA have master or management plans that identify adjacent properties that would be suitable for acquisition. A list of target areas was identified through analysis of natural heritage features. These areas represent lands that need to be secured to maintain current levels of forest cover in ABCA watersheds.

Discussion on Draft Watershed Report Card

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Coordinator asked the directors for feed back on the draft Watershed Report Cards that will be launched to the public in March. The report cards are to demonstrate the basic question whether the watershed provides water that is drinkable and for recreation. Also how healthy is the water as there are 155 possible physical and chemical attributes for protection of aquatic life. Through accumulated local data, the watershed indicators of forest conditions, surface water quality, wetland cover and groundwater quality are ranked and graded. The directors were asked to provide input to the clarity of the report cards and to identify some top actions needed to enhance the watershed where they live. The comments will be compiled in the next revision.

Conservation Education Report

Julie Stellingwerff, Conservation Education Specialist provided an update on the environmental programs offered during 2012. There were 8000 students participate in school programs and special events. The Weston Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow Program had a successful first year at Camp Sylvan with 7 urban schools participating. The number of bookings for highschool programs increased while elementary aged field trips were less. The summer day camp participation was more successful this year with lots of community interest.

PRESENTATION

Anne McBride, Conservation Education Assistant gave an overview of the Weston Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow Program. This is a new initiative for the ABCA, and the program is a partnership with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority, the Living City Foundation and funded by the W. Garfield Weston Foundation. The funding targets nature deficit disorder by inviting Grade 6 students from urban schools to a 2 ½ day outdoor experience at Camp Sylvan. There are three phases to the program. The first phase is a pre-visit with the class to prepare them for their Camp Sylvan experience. Second phase is attending the camp and the third phase is a post visit to the classroom. The target areas are Sarnia, St. Catharines, Chatham and London. Some of the students attending are from areas that have a lack of outdoor opportunities which can lead to behavioural challenges. Activities the students are highlights are: loading a dishwasher, hands-on learning, chores, eating three meals a day, taking part in a healthy routine, exercise instead of screen time. A media clip produced as a thank you by one of the schools was shown.

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 or events and activities over the previous month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**MOTION #BD 120/12**

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes from Joint Management Committee meeting on November 1, 2012 and the Source Protection Committee meeting held August 14, 2012 be approved as presented.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 121/12

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors adjourn the regular meeting and convene for a Source Protection Authority meeting at 4:45 p.m to discuss the DWSP 2013-14 source protection work plan submission to Ministry of Environment for review and approval.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 122/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Mike Tam**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Source Protection Committee meeting adjourn and the regular Board of Directors meeting reconvene at 4:53 p.m.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: A note of thanks to the ABCA from Judith Parker and family for the support given in the loss of her father.
- b) Reference: Director Appointments
File: A.10.1
Brief: Notice was received from the following municipalities regarding the appointment of municipal representatives to the ABCA Board of Directors: Lambton Shores - Lorie Scott; Middlesex Centre - Ute Stumpf; Huron East - Bill Siemon; Bluewater - Janisse Zimmerman; Central Huron - Burkhard Metzger; North Middlesex - Don Shipway; Warwick - Lorie Scott; West Perth - Mike Tam.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Tom Prout circulated a newspaper article from the Huron Expositor, recognizing Bill Siemon for 25 years of service as a councillor in the Municipality of Huron East.
2. The Striking Committee and Human Resources Committee members set January 10, 2013 as the next meeting date.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**MOTION #BD 123/12**

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 4:56 p.m. with Tom Prout, Kate Monk and Judith Parker remaining in attendance.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 124/12

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors rise at 5:08 p.m. and report that staff were instructed to proceed with the legal matter as discussed.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 125/12

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

“RESOLVED, THAT Motion #BD 82/12 be rescinded as per the property matter discussed in Committee of the Whole.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 126/12

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

“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 97 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, 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 127/12

Moved by Bill Siemon

Seconded by Lorie Scott

“RESOLVED, THAT on behalf of the Board of Directors the members would like to convey their appreciation to the ABCA staff for all their efforts throughout the year.”

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Dave Frayne
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

