

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, October 15, 2015

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Doug Cook, Wayne Hall, Bob Harvey, George Irvin, Burkhard Metzger, Don Shipway, Mike Tam

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dave Frayne

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Judith Parker, Alec Scott, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk, Mari Veliz

OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Montgomery, CKNX Radio

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Tam called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 69/15

Moved by Burkhard Metzger

Seconded by Don Shipway

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the October 15, 2015 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors 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 70/15**

**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Wayne Hall**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on September 17, 2015 along with the Budget Committee meeting held on October 8, 2015 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTESProposed 2016 Budget

Brian Horner, General Manager presented revisions to the proposed 2016 budget discussed at the previous meeting. The Board of Directors had requested staff to prioritize the projects and reduce the combined levies to a 2% increase. Removed from the budget was purchasing a back-up generator and outsourcing the Director’s Orientation Handbook. The Natural Heritage Study will be phased over two years; CA Lands Species at Risk project will be funded from anticipated surplus and the Watershed Hydrology Study will be funded from reserves. After discussion, it was decided to reduce the wages from a 2% CPI increase to 1.5%. The changes recommended by staff will achieve a combined project and general levy increase of 2.0%.

MOTION #BD 71/15

**Moved by Doug Cook
Seconded by George Irvin**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors approve the 2016 ABCA Fee Schedule as presented, and

FURTHER, THAT the 2016 ABCA Pay Grid be approved at a 1.5% consumer price index increase, and

FURTHER, THAT the member municipalities be advised of the 2016 proposed project levy, general levy and budget and provided with the supplementary information for the 30 day review, as the weighted vote by apportionment is intended to be held at the November 26, 2015 Board of Directors meeting.”

Carried.

PROGRAM REPORT1 (a) Development Review

Andrew Bicknell 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 6 *Applications for Permission* and 6 *Minor Works Permits* to construct works within regulated areas.

(b) Violation/Appeals Update

- (i) Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water and Planning reported staff were advised of a violation in the Municipality of Lambton Shores within Lakeshore Area 1. A permit was issued for approved construction works of a residence, however the landowner has contravened the conditions of the permit. Staff are working through the violation and permitting process with the landowner.
- (ii) Staff received a report on vegetation removal in the Municipality of Bluewater where the lake bank has been clear-cut and burned.

MOTION #BD 72/15

**Moved by Doug Cook
Seconded by Burkhard Metzger**

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

Carried.

2. Rock Glen Conservation Area Low Flow Crossing

A low flow culvert crossing over the Hobbs-McKenzie Drain provides access to the majority of the facilities at Rock Glen CA. The cement is being eroded away and water is travelling beneath the culvert undermining the structure. Staff are concerned with the integrity of the structure and feel it requires emergency replacement.

MOTION #BD 73/15

**Moved by Don Shpway
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Rock Glen Conservation Area low flow culvert crossing be replaced in 2016 with funding from the Property Management or Recreation Reserve.”

Carried.

3. Response to *Conservation Authorities Act* Review

Brian Horner presented the proposed response from ABCA to the *Conservation Authorities Act* review discussion paper.

MOTION# BD 74/15

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Wayne Hall**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors support the submission to the Environmental Bill Registry in response to the *Conservation Authorities Act* review discussion paper posted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.”

Carried.

4. Third Quarter Financial Statement

Brian Horner presented the Statement of Profit/Loss to September 30, 2015 with comparatives to the 2015 approved budget.

PRESENTATION

Kate Monk, Stewardship, Lands & Education Manager gave an overview of the ABCA conservation lands management program. The ABCA owns 9,000 acres of wildlife management areas, agreement forests, conservation areas and management areas. The properties were acquired to protect valley lands and alleviate property damage from flooding. As owners of conservation lands there is always pressure to find a balance between environmental goals and the public's expectation to use the lands for recreation. Across the province there are 270 conservation areas. Staff continue to seek funding to maintain aging infrastructure. Managing the conservation areas involves maintaining trails with the help of volunteers; being diligent to keep trails safe and free of hazards; patrolling to keep ATVs off of conservation lands; removing dead ash trees and harvesting the conifer and hardwood forests. A "good dog program" was initiated with support of Miller's Country Store. Patrol officers will give out donated dog treats whenever they meet a dog owner along a trail, who has their pet on a leash. Conservation passes are required to hunt on ABCA lands where hunting is permitted.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Brian Horner presented the General Manager's report. Highlights were given on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming meetings and activities held over the previous month. This report is distributed to the municipalities for their councillors' information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION #BD 75/15

**Moved by Doug Cook
Seconded by George Irvin**

"RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee meeting held on October 5, 2015 and the motions therein be approved as presented."

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Middlesex Stewardship Council
File: A.5.1
Brief: Correspondence from Chair Bob Shiell that the Middlesex Stewardship Council will be dissolving and terminating its agreement with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority.

- b) Reference: Board Resignation
File: A.10.1
Brief: Letter was received from Vice Chair Ute Stumpf advising she has moved out of the watershed and will resign her position on the ABCA Board of Directors as a representative for the municipalities of Adelaide-Metcalf and Middlesex Centre.

The scrutineers passed out ballots to the directors for voting and then collected them for counting. Scrutineer Geoff Cade declared that George Irvin, representative for the Municipality of Bluewater is Vice Chair of Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for the remainder of 2015.

MOTION #BD 79/15

**Moved by Bob Harvey
Seconded by Burkhard Metzger**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ballots be destroyed.”

Carried.

NEXT MEETING

Due to the A.D. Latornell Symposium, the next Board of Directors meeting was scheduled for November 26, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Mike Tam
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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