



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McLachlan called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dave Frayne, Jim Ginn, Paul Hodgins, George Irvin, Lawrence McLachlan, Bob Norris, Bill Siemon, Mark Simpson

DIRECTORS ABSENT

David Bolton

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

John Cottrill - Ministry of Natural Resources

WELCOME

Chair Lawrence McLachlan introduced Mr. John Cottrill, Policy Advisor for the Conservation Authorities Branch of Ministry of Natural Resources. Mr. Cottrill explained that he was visiting with conservation authorities to view projects and discuss programs with staff. This will aid in identifying any issues that he could present to the Minister of Natural Resources to strengthen the partnerships.

He asked the directors to provide him with some feedback on what they saw as their role. Chair McLachlan responded that the ABCA is predominately an agricultural watershed and there are a number of farmers on the Board who can liaise with the public on such topics as drainage. On this issue, Mr. Cottrill mentioned that he appreciates the input of ABCA Lands & Water Technologist, Davin Heinbuck, who sits on a provincial drainage committee.

Mr. Cottrill asked about the relationship the ABCA has with the Ministry of Natural Resources at the district and regional level. Jim Ginn responded that he appreciates the good relationship but

feels there is a lack of 'extension' staff. If the conservation authority is to help fill the role of technical advise at the local level, then the conservation authorities will need more funding.

George Irvin commented that he and Kate Monk sit on a newly formed committee coordinated by MNR (Clinton office) looking at strategic management for all-terrain vehicles in Huron County.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 100/09

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the October 15, 2009 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.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION #BD 101/09

**Moved by Bob Norris
Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on September 17, 2009 and the Budget Committee meeting held on October 8, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

1. 2010 Proposed Budgets

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor provided revisions to the project and general levy as requested by the Budget Committee at the October 8th meeting. Staff had prioritized the new projects into high, medium and low for the Board's consideration. The revised general levy was presented with five options addressing amortization as per PSAB 3150 requirements and level of commitments to reserves. George Irvin commented that it is hard to decide on projects that should be deleted or deferred but the general levy needs to be reduced. The Board directed staff to provide information that would retain all staff. Lawrence McLachlan suggested that the blended levies should be under 6%.

2. Bendway Weir

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager updated the Board on the Bendway Weir Erosion Control Project and cost sharing for maintenance of the Bendway Weir project in the Armstrong East subdivision. Following the last Board meeting, staff met and discussed the issue of transferring

ownership of ABCA properties in Plan 427. It is recommended that the Board keep the issue of agreeing to the landowner share of the project assessment schedule separate from the negotiations on transferring of ABCA property ownership.

MOTION #BD 102/09

**Moved by Bob Norris
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

“RESOLVED, THAT the invoice in the amount of \$30,590.99 for the assessment on Lot 21-23 Plan 427 for the Armstrong East Bendway Weir Erosion Control project be paid, and

FURTHER, THAT the invoice in the amount of \$7,429.81 for the assessment on Lot 24 Plan 427 for the Armstrong East Bendway Weir Erosion Control project be paid.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 103/09

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT staff pursue negotiations for possibilities of transferring ownership of Lot 26, Plan 427, Port Franks in the Municipality of Lambton Shores.”

Carried.

3. Draft Business Plan 2010-2020

Subsequent to directors' input at the last Board meeting, Tim Cumming presented the draft 10-year Business Plan 2010-2020 *Towards a Healthier Watershed*. Further input and direction can still be incorporated into the plan as it is anticipated to seek Board approval by year end and introduce the document at the next Annual Meeting.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (i) Development Review

Andrew Bicknell, Regulations Coordinator prepared 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 five *Applications for Permission* and one *Minor Works* application.

MOTION #BD 104/09

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

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

Carried.

1. (ii) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning advised that a landowner and contractor had begun installing a sheet steel retaining wall part way down the lake bank. The landowner indicates the intent of the wall is to protect against erosion, but the design submitted suggests that fill is to be placed to extend the top of the lake bank toward the lake. Staff have received an *Application for Permission* and are working with the proponent.

As an update to a previously reported violation in Lambton Shores, the proponent has worked at restoring the site and was prepared to plead guilty, however the court date has been deferred.

MOTION #BD 105/09

Moved by Bob Norris

Seconded by Dave Frayne

“RESOLVED, THAT the update on violations and appeals pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06 be received as presented.”

Carried.

The directors asked staff to review the surcharge fee for committing violations under Ontario Regulation 147/06 and report back to the Board.

2. 2009 Conservation Areas Report

Kate Monk, Stewardship & Conservation Lands Supervisor presented a slide show of the ABCA conservation areas with an overview of the maintenance, development and visitor use during 2009.

3. Quarterly Financial Statement

Brian Horner presented the consolidated third quarter financial statements for the ABCA and Drinking Water Source Protection Program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation

MOTION #BD 106/09

Moved by Jim Ginn

Seconded by George Irvin

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation meeting held on October 1, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

Water Response Team

MOTION #BD 107/09

Moved by Bob Norris

Seconded by Jim Ginn

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Ausable Bayfield Water Response Team meetings held on July 21, 2009 and September 29, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

For the directors information, Tom Prout provided an overview of projects, staff training and development, funding opportunities, Conservation Ontario activities and upcoming events over the past month.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: A note of thanks from Julie Gibson and the organizers of the Arkona Colour Tour for the Board’s support in waiving the gate fees at Rock Glen Conservation Area for their hike/bike event held on October 3, 2009
- b) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1.
Brief: A thank you from Zakiah Taha, Science & Technology Branch of Canada Centre for Inland Waters for the help from ABCA staff in completing the survey for the Environment Canada paper on *How is Science being used by Ontario’s Conservation Authorities*.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Lawrence McLachlan
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

