



MINUTES



ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, February 19, 2009

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Bolen, Exeter TA

STAFF PRESENT

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

CALL TO ORDER

Lawrence McLachlan called the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Annual Meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 01/09

Moved by Bill Siemon

Seconded by Paul Hodgins

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the February 19, 2009 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Annual Meeting be approved.”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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 02/09

Moved by Bob Norris

Seconded by Bill Siemon

“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 03/09

Moved by Mark Simpson

Seconded by Jim Ginn

“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 2009.

Paul Hodgins nominated Lawrence McLachlan for Chair. Mr. Prout called for nominations two more times.

MOTION #BD 04/09

Moved by Jim Ginn

Seconded by George Irvin

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

Carried.

Lawrence McLachlan accepted his nomination and Mr. Prout declared Lawrence McLachlan, representative for the Municipality of North Middlesex as Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for 2009.

Election of Vice Chair

Nominations were called for the position of Vice Chair for 2009.

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

MOTION #BD 05/09

**Moved by Bob Norris
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

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

Carried.

Jim Ginn accepted his nomination. Mr. Prout declared Jim Ginn representative for the municipality of Central Huron as Vice Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for 2009.

Lawrence McLachlan assumed the Chair and the meeting resumed.

The two new members were welcomed to the Board of Directors. Representing the municipalities of Adelaide- Metcalfe and Middlesex Centre is David Bolton and Mark Simpson represents the municipalities of Lambton Shores and Warwick.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION #BD 06/09

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by David Bolton**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on December 18, 2008 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of Auditor

MOTION #BD 07/09

**Moved by Mark Simpson
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the firm of MacNeill Edmunson be appointed as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Auditor for 2009.”

Carried.

Appointment of Solicitors

MOTION #BD 08/09

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“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 2009.”

Carried.

Appointment of Financial Institution

MOTION #BD 09/09

Moved by Paul Hodgins

Seconded by Mark Simpson

“RESOLVED, THAT the Bank of Montreal, Exeter Branch be appointed as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority’s financial institution for 2009.”

Carried.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. 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 five *Applications for Permission* and three *Minor Works Permits*.

2. Fourth Quarter 2008 Financial Statement

Brian Horner, Financial Services Coordinator presented the unaudited fourth quarter financial statement. The audit is scheduled for the week of February 23rd and will be presented at the March 19th Board of Directors meeting.

3. 2008 Terrestrial SAR Inventory

Kate Monk, Stewardship & Lands Supervisor reported that the ABCA owns and manages over 700 acres on 7 parcels located within the Ausable River Valley ANSI. Authority owned properties within the ANSI were selected for terrestrial species at risk inventories by ABCA staff. Several populations of rare and at-risk terrestrial plant species were documented in an initial field survey. It is recommended that more field inventory work be carried out with a comprehensive three season inventory for management purposes. Threats need to be assessed and recovery teams be consulted to determine the best course of action for protection of these species. Detailed management prescriptions should be developed and a monitoring program for select species at risk populations be implemented.

4. ABCA Awards Policy Revision

Judith Parker, Corporate Services Coordinator presented a report outlining some revisions to the current awards policy for years of service. Recommended revisions included:

1. Retain the value and gifts that are currently offered however, the following options would be added to the recognition awards:
 - a. plant a tree in the name of the award recipient (create a staff/member tree grove at Morrison Dam Commemorative Woods)
 - b. provide a cheque to the award recipient for the appropriate value of which the recipient will make a donation to a charity of their choice.
 - c. provide a store gift card/certificate to the award recipient for the appropriate value eg. Canadian Tire
 - d. provide a cheque to the award recipient for the appropriate value.
2. That Years of Service be calculated on 12 month basis, running from date of awards event to the next date of awards event.
3. That Board of Director years of service be calculated at 4 year increments to correspond with term of council. This change would become effective following the 2009 awards event.
4. That the years of service for staff continue to be calculated at 5 year increments.
5. That no changes be made to the Conservationist Award nomination and recognition.

MOTION #BD 10/09

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by David Bolton**

“RESOLVED THAT the increments for recognizing the director’s years of service remain at 3 years as per the current policy.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 11/09

**Moved Bill Siemon
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the recommendation of providing a cheque for the value of the award be removed from the revised policy.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 12/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the revised Awards Policy be approved as amended.”

Carried.

5. Vehicle Purchase

Kate Monk advised that the vehicle and equipment reserve received a greater than budgeted allocation at the end of 2008. Staff feel it is in the best financial interest of the ABCA to purchase a vehicle in 2009 which will alleviate the need of renting a vehicle for the majority of the year.

MOTION #BD 13/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors authorize staff to purchase a new vehicle for technical staff in the spring of 2009 through the approved ABCA capital purchase process.”

Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS1. Drinking Water Source Protection Update

Cathie Brown, Project Manager provided some background for the new directors on the various Drinking Water Source Protection committees and their duties. There will be minutes of the Source Protection Committee and Joint Management Committee for the next Board meeting.

2. Striking Committee

Lawrence McLachlan presented the minutes and recommendations for appointments to Standing Committees for approval of the Board of Directors. It was also recommended to change the format of the Board meetings to start at 10:00 a.m. with the exception of March and December which will be held in the afternoon.

MOTION #BD 14/09

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by George Irvin**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Striking Committee minutes of January 15, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Proposed Accessible Information and Communications Standard
File: A.7.1
Brief: Copy of correspondence from Conservation Ontario to the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario providing comments following a review of the proposed Standard.
- b) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: Thank you to Kari Jean, ABCA Aquatics Biologist from Grand Bend Rotary Club for her presentation on the Old Ausable Channel Plan.

- c) Reference: Land Securement Plan
File: A.5.3.
Brief: Acknowledgement from Donna Cansfield, Minister of Natural Resources of the submission for approval of the ABCA 2008-2020 Land Securement Plan. The plan is being reviewed by ministry staff.
- d) Reference: Low Water Response
File: W.8.6.1
Brief: Notice from Ministry of Natural Resources of funding available to conduct proactive work under the Ontario Low Water Response program to collect essential data to support activities at Level 1 and II low water conditions.
- e) Reference: Bell Canada
File: L.12.4
Brief: Notification from Bell Canada that the company voicemail system was compromised. by fraudsters.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The date chosen for the next Property Management Committee meeting along with an orientation tour by air of the watershed is March 12, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.
2. George Irvin spoke about the proposed provincial legislation regarding wind turbines. Tom Prout advised that the ABCA has no policy or position statement about wind turbine energy.

MOTION #BD 15/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff investigate the issue of wind turbine energy on ABCA lands and develop a draft position statement or policy for the Board’s consideration.”

Carried.

3. Bill Siemon inquired whether the ABCA was aware of the slope failure behind the Huronview complex at Clinton. Alec Scott responded that the ABCA was aware and had been on-site. There is no funding available for erosion control projects at this time.
4. Jim Ginn advised that MNR is reviewing Off Road Vehicle use in environmentally sensitive areas. He and Kate Monk have been invited to attend a meeting and will bring the concerns of the Board to the discussions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 A.m.

Lawrence McLachlan
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

