



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, December 17, 2009

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McLachlan called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Bolen, Exeter Times Advocate
Bob Montgomery, CKNX Radio

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 121/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the December 17, 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 122/09

**Moved by Mark Simpson
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on November 12, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

1. 2010 Proposed Project & General Levy

Chairman McLachlan inquired whether the members would be in agreement to defer the vote on the proposed 2010 levies until later in the agenda when all directors are in attendance. The directors agreed by consensus.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) 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 four *Applications for Permission* and ten *Minor Works* application.

MOTION #BD 123/09

Moved by Dave Frayne

Seconded by David Bolton

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

Carried.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

Andrew Bicknell provided an update on the issues staff are working to resolve:

- i) A landowner in Municipality of Lambton Shores, - Southcott Pines, removed a significant amount of sand from a site. Staff are working with the proponent.
- ii) The Thames Valley District School Board formally withdrew their appeal to the Mining & Lands Commissioner in response to the Board denying their application to waive installation of a culvert at the new elementary school in Lucan. The culvert has subsequently been installed and the school is open.
- iii) The landowner who cleared a sand dune in front of his cottage in the Municipality of Lambton Shores has appeared in Provincial Offenses Court with a guilty plea. The judgement was a minimal fine because of the extensive financial commitment in restoring the site.
- iv) The Municipality of South Huron are conferring with staff in an investigation of a campground that has been established in a woodlot west of Exeter.

- v) In the Denfield area, staff were informed of trees being removed from a site for installation of culvert.
- vi) Staff will be following up on a report of a structure below top of bank along the lakeshore in the Municipality of Bluewater.

2. OMERS vs Group RRSP

Tom Prout, General Manager reported that staff have not determined their position on the current Group RRSP provider or OMERS. However, staff did hold a vote on the idea of changing the contribution levels of the current Group RRSP plan to those set by OMERS for 2010. The vote resulted in a recommendation that ABCA change the contribution levels for the Group RRSP from 6% employer/6% employee to 6.4% employer/ 6.4% employee for all wages up to the CPP limit and 9.6% employer/9.6% employee for all wages above the CPP limit. It is also recommended that the change noted above, be effective sometime on/or after January 1, 2010 and on/or before January 1, 2011.

MOTION #BD 124/09

Moved by George Irvin

Seconded by Mark Simpson

“RESOLVED, THAT a decision on the recommendation to increase the Group RRSP contribution levels be deferred until the 2011 budget discussions.”

Carried.

3. Flood Message Terminology

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager advised the Board that the ABCA has been discussing with neighbouring conservation authorities a change to flood messaging. The trend in other parts of Ontario is to use ‘High Water Safety Bulletin’ instead of ‘Flood Safety/Monitoring Bulletin.’ The provincial Standards for Flood Message Terminology recognize this as acceptable messaging for use in Ontario.

MOTION #BD 125/09

Moved by Jim Ginn

Seconded by Mark Simpson

“RESOLVED, THAT effective January 1, 2010, the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority replace the terminology “Flood Safety / Monitoring Bulletin” with “High Water Safety Bulletin” and

FURTHER, THAT this be reinforced with our member municipalities when updating the 2010 ABCA Flood Emergency Plan and hosting the annual ‘Planning for Flood Emergencies’ meeting.”

Carried.

4. ABCA Business Plan

Tom Prout presented the final draft of the 10 year business plan 2010-2020 *Towards a Healthier Watershed* for further comment or input. The document will be released at the ABCA Annual Meeting.

MOTION #BD 126/09

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by David Bolton**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA Ten-Year Business Plan 2010-2020 be adopted as presented.”

Carried.

5. 2009 Conservation Education Report

Julie Stellingwerff, Conservation Education Specialist, provided a review of the 2009 conservation education program for the July to December period.

6. Presentation

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Coordinator gave a presentation on *Community Monitoring & Action in Bluewater*. She spoke on development of the *Lake Huron Framework for Community Action* in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and other partners. The ABCA has compiled good information/data on water quality from the 18 sampling stations across the watershed. However, it is not complete because of gaps in information for all the tributaries. Looking locally, there is a common goal amongst communities to improve water quality. In the Municipality of Bluewater, the Bluewater Shoreline Residents Association has been collecting water quality data since 1997 in cooperation with the ABCA, health unit, government organizations and MOE. The healthy watersheds staff continue to seek out grants and funding to assist in developing subwatershed plans that will engage the local communities in the actions needed to reach the common goal of improving water quality.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES2010 Proposed General Levy**MOTION #BD 127/09**

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2010 General Levy be approved at \$740,537.”

	<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 57.85% and Nay 42.15%, based on the current value assessment apportionment schedule.” **Carried.**

2010 Proposed Project Levy

MOTION #BD 128/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2010 Project Levy be approved at \$269,254.”

	Yea	Nay	Absent
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 77.12% and Nay 22.88% based on the current value assessment apportionment schedule.”

Carried.

2010 Proposed Budget

MOTION #BD 129/09

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by David Bolton**

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2010 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Budget be approved as presented.”

Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION #BD 130/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation meeting held on November 26, 2009; the ABCA-MVCA Joint Management

Committee meeting held on November 27, 2009; the Source Protection Committee meetings held on September 30, 2009 and October 2, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

Lawrence McLachlan reported that the Human Resources Committee had no report at this time but will be meeting in January 2010.

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: Trails Open 2009
File: A.7.2
Brief: A report on participation in the Trails Open Ontario 2009 program ran by Ontario Heritage Trust from June 1st to the end of October indicate 22 conservation authorities were involved in this province-wide natural heritage tourism program.
- b) Reference: Value of Ecological Services
File: A.5.2
Brief: Study released by Credit Valley Conservation reports that the CA provides ecological services worth more than \$371 million annually.
- c) Reference: Thank you
File: F.6
Brief: Acknowledgement from the municipalities of West Perth, South Huron and Huron East for staff attending their council meetings to discuss the proposed 2010 budget.
- d) Reference: Bill 168
File: P.7.2
Brief: Notice that the Ontario government has passed Bill 168 - Violence & Harassment in the workplace legislation.
- e) Reference: Infrastructure Stimulus Funding
File: A.37.19
Brief: Notice that the application for funding under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund has been denied.
- f) Reference: Watershed Report Cards
File: W.7.23.1
Brief: Acknowledgement that Mari Veliz, Healthy Watershed Coordinator will be a member of the Conservation Ontario Watershed Report Card working group.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Lawrence McLachlan
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

