



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, June 17, 2010

**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area**

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Jenna Bowen, Davin Heinbuck, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Tom Prout

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ginn called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 43/10

Moved by Dave Frayne

Seconded by David Bolton

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the June 17, 2010 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 44/10

Moved by Mark Simpson

Seconded by Bob Norris

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on May 20, 2010 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

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 ten *Applications for Permission* and ten *Minor Works* application.

MOTION #BD 45 /10

**Moved by Lawrence McLachlan
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

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

Carried.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Information Update

Andrew Bicknell reported that the next court date is early August for the violation occurring on the lakebank in Stanley Ward of Municipality of Bluewater. The landowner has retained a geotechnical engineer and is working with staff. Another recent violation concerns development on Chicken Island, Port Franks. The landowner did not follow the terms and conditions of the *Application for Permission*. The Board will be advised of additional information as it is forthcoming.

2. Sinkhole Area Water Quality Sampling

Davin Heinbuck, Lands and Water Technologist, gave the background on the water quality monitoring program for the sinkhole area. Within the ABCA watershed, there is an area where a number of sinkhole features are evident on the landscape. Generally in the southwest corner of West Perth and Huron East. Between 2001 and 2004, more than 50 sinkholes of various sizes were identified and investigated in relation to water quality issues through funding from Ministry of Environment and Ontario Geological Survey. A monitoring well was drilled near the Chiselhurst sinkhole and became a Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network well.

Between 2004 and 2010, monthly water samples were taken through the original studies and Drinking Water Source Protection program. Unfortunately the 2010-2011 DWSP budget does not include funding to continue this water quality monitoring. The Source Protection Committee requested that Ministry of Environment give regard to funding the sinkhole area sampling but to date, the response is that MOE will only fund municipal sources of drinking water. Staff are reviewing options for new cost share funding to maintain the data set for the current monitoring program.

MOTION #BD 46/10

**Moved by Lawrence McLachlan
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the municipalities of West Perth and Huron East be contacted to determine if they are agreeable to share in the sampling costs for the 2011 budget year as proposed, and;

FURTHER THAT, the municipalities of West Perth and Huron East be contacted to determine if they are agreeable to share in the sampling costs for the remainder of 2010 in the same cost sharing as proposed for the 2011 budget year, and;

FURTHER, THAT subject to agreement of the municipalities of West Perth and Huron East on the proposed cost sharing, the ABCA contribute their share of costs for taking two samples to complete the 2010 sampling and also that the ABCA share of costs be included in the 2011 budget.”

Carried.

3. Personnel Regulation #8 Revisions

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor provided the revisions required for the ABCA Personnel Regulations to comply with Bill 168 amending the *Occupational Health & Safety Act* in regards to Workplace Violence and Harassment. George Irvin suggested there be consistency in wording in regards to reporting incidents of workplace violence and harassment. After discussion it was recommended that all references read *General Manager and/or Board of Directors*.

MOTION #BD 47/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors approve the proposed revisions to ABCA Personnel Regulation #8 Workplace Harassment, as amended for consistence of wording.”

Carried.

4. Spring Reforestation Program Update

Ian Jean, Forestry & Stewardship Specialist provided a summary of the tree planting totals for the spring reforestation program. There were 57,000 trees planted in 2010 as compared to 61,000 in 2009. ABCA staff planted trees for 36 landowners on 40 separate planting sites. 106 watershed landowners participated in the pick-up program.

5. Drain Class Authorization Program

Davin Heinbuck provided an update to the 2010 Drain Class Authorization procedures and updates for the Maintenance of Municipal agriculture Drains under Section 35(2) of the *Fisheries Act*. In order to provide the latest information on the class authorization approvals process for drain maintenance, ABCA staff prepared and distributed DFO's 2010 information package to both the CEO/Clerk and Drainage superintendents of each watershed municipality.

MOTION #BD 48/10

**Moved by Mark Simpson
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors receive the information reports as presented.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Ian Jean gave a presentation on the ABCA spring reforestation program with information on planting site preparation, differences between plugs and transplant seedlings, hand and machine planting projects and the landowner’s responsibilities for tending the new planting sites. Staff are able to assist landowners by linking them with cost recovery and cost-share programs that provides grants to undertake tree planting projects.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Tom Prout provided a written report with a brief update on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming events and general activities over the previous month. It was suggested that the General Manager’s Report be sent to the municipal councillors as a means of conveying the activities ABCA staff are involved in for the watershed communities.

MOTION #BD 49/10

**Moved by Dave Frayne
Seconded by George Irvin**

“RESOLVED, THAT the General Manager’s Report be appended to the Board of Directors minutes and forwarded to the municipal councils as a method of communicating the monthly activities of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority on behalf of the watershed municipalities and residents.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Lucan Trails Committee
File: R.6.1
Brief: A group of volunteers have formed the Lucan Trails Committee and developed a master plan for a network of trails in the Lucan area. A representative has met with ABCA staff to review their proposal.
- b) Reference: Conservation Areas Workshop
File: S.1
Brief: Notice of upcoming Conservation Areas Workshop *Special Places, Special People*, to be held on October 27-29 at Geneva Park, Orillia.
- c) Reference: Student Bursary
File: A.5.1
Brief: Announcement from Ray Letheren on behalf of the IAEUITL, that the Ausable

Bayfield Conservation Authority will receive a \$1400 bursary to employ a Huron County student during the summer, to work on projects that will emulate protection of the lake water and river tributaries. IAEUITL members are the Friends of Bayfield River, Bluewater Shoreline Residence Association, Bayfield Ratepayers Association, Ashfield Colborne Lakefront Association and support through the Huron County Health Unit.

- d) Reference: Habitat Stewardship Program 2010/2011
File: W.7.17.1
Brief: Correspondence from Environment Canada -Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk in Ontario advising that the proposal, *Ausable River Recovery Strategy Implementation* was successful in receiving \$87,000 in funding.
- e) Reference: Watershed Evaluation of Beneficial Management Practices
File: S.69.4
Brief: Report from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada with results of a pilot project assessing the environmental and economic performance of selected beneficial management practices in seven watersheds across Canada. In Ontario, South Nation Conservation Authority participated in the four-year project.
- f) Reference: Proposed Assessment Report
File: A.6.23.1
Brief: Letter from Larry Brown, Source Protection Chair, that the Proposed Assessment Report was submitted to the Minister of Environment by the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee.
- g) Reference: OMAFRA Funding Announcement
File: W.11.14.1
Brief: A funding announcement of \$250,000 from the Minister of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs included four ABCA projects totalling \$40,000 focussing on water quality improvements in the south east shore of Lake Huron.
- h) Reference: Adapting to Climate Change in Ontario
File: A.5.8
Brief: Summary of recommendations and strategic goals was received in the report of the Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation entitled *Adapting to Climate Change in Ontario: Towards the design and implementation of a strategy and action plan*. The report is available at <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/publications/7300d.pdf>.
- i) Reference: Integrated Watershed Management Planning
File: A.7.2
Brief: Copy of an article entitled “Integrated Watershed Management Planning in Manitoba - Promoting Local Knowledge” in *Water News, March 2010*. The article discusses the challenges of initiating integrated watershed planning and the cooperation between local landowners, government technical staff and municipal planning in developing watershed management plans.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on July 15, 2010. The August 19th Board meeting will be cancelled, unless called by the Chair.
2. Compliments from the Board of Directors to Tim Cumming, Communications Specialist for the quality of media releases distributed on behalf of the ABCA.
3. Mark Simpson expressed appreciation to Kari Jean, Mari Veliz and Hope Brock for engaging the citizens in the Port Franks area with the Biodiversity Project. The residents are learning about the unique features of where they live and spinoff projects will be the result.
4. Jim Ginn expressed thanks to Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Coordinator for conducting an informative woodlot tour of the Bayfield North Gullies. Another informative event for the local community.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**MOTION # BD 50/10**

**Moved by Lawrence McLachlan
Seconded by Dave Bolton**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 11:50 a.m. with Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Tom Prout and Judith Parker remaining in attendance.”

Carried.

Jim Ginn declared a conflict of interest with a property matter and left the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

MOTION # BD 51/10

**Moved by Bob Norris
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report at 12:15 p.m.

Carried.

Jim Ginn returned to the meeting.

MOTION # BD 52/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff enter into negotiations with the County of Middlesex for the transfer of land required for the McGuffin Hills Drive Bridge Project.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 53/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff be authorized to proceed negotiations for transferring ownership of certain parcels along the Ausable River Cut.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 54/10

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Lawrence McLachlan**

“RESOLVED, THAT ABCA submit payment in two installments to the Municipality of Lambton Shores for the apportioned amount assessed to Lot 26 for the Bendway Weir project.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 55/10

**Moved by Dave Frayne
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA enter into a legal easement agreement with the Nature Conservancy of Canada permitting access to their property in the Port Franks area for repairing a pedestrian bridge .”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 56/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff be authorized to investigate options for additional office space.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 57/10

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Lawrence McLachlan**

“RESOLVED, THAT the information on Ausable River Drain be received as presented.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 58/10

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Lawrence McLachlan**

“RESOLVED, THAT staff be authorized to proceed with negotiations on the proposed oil and gas lease agreement.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 59/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff obtain a legal opinion on the wind energy lease agreement as discussed.”

Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Property Management Committee**

George Irvin, Chair of the Property Committee advised the Board that a representative from Canadian Green Power attended their meeting requesting access onto ABCA properties for environmental studies.

MOTION #BD 60/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff be directed to deal with Canadian Green Power in authorizing access onto ABCA properties within the proposed wind energy project area and ensuring the results are received for the environmental studies.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 61/10

**Moved by Dave Frayne
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Property Management Committee meeting held on June 8, 2010 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Jim Ginn
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

