

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Paul Hodgins, Burkhard Metzger, Don Shipway, Ute Stumpf, Mike Tam, Janisse Zimmerman

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Les Falconer, Dave Frayne, Lorie Scott

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Tony Drinkwalter, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Alec Scott, Austin Spencer, Joe Vandenberg

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Tam called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and welcomed everyone attending. Austin Spencer and Joe Vandenberg, summer students hired through the MNR Summer Experience Opportunities Program were introduced to the Board.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 59/14

**Moved by Ute Stumpf
Seconded by Janisse Zimmerman**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the June 19, 2014 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 60/14**

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on May 15, 2014 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTESOntario Regulation 147/06 - Permitted Minor Addition Size

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning provided a report in response to the Board’s request for background as to how the 20% increase in existing foundation area was arrived at in the *ABCA Policy & Procedures Manual for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 147/06*. The policy stipulates that when residential structures are located within a hazardous area, such as a stable slope limit of the bank, the maximum permissible addition size is 20% of the existing building footprint. This is referred to as a ‘minor addition’ and is referenced in several policies that cover a variety of situations. The intent of Ontario’s floodplain management and hazard land policies are to protect life and property from impacts associated with hazardous areas such as floodplains, and areas subject to erosion and soils movement. There is flexibility in the policies for permitting modest additions to existing residences which are identified as at risk. New development is not permitted in these areas.

MOTION #BD 61/14

**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Authority retain its policies regarding minor additions to existing structures located within hazardous areas.”

Carried.

PROGRAM REPORT1. (a) 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 17 *Minor Works Permits* and 18 *Applications for Permission* with NextEra Energy Canada, ULC - Goshen Wind Inc. and Jericho Wind, Inc. to construct works within regulated areas specific to industrial wind generation projects.

Andrew Bicknell presented a report specific to Application #2013-15. The applicant proposes an exterior staircase onto an existing building which encroaches within the flood hazard along Lake Huron shoreline. The staircase will be located on the east side of the building furthest from the lake and outside the flood hazard. The footprint area of the staircase is small and will only increase the area by approximately 5%. Staff are recommending that construction of the staircase is relatively minor and does not result in significant increased risk to the occupants or property loss in the event of flooding.

MOTION #BD 62/14

**Moved by Janisse Zimmerman
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT consideration be given to both the unique nature of the application, and the intent of the Authority policy, such that Application #2013-45 be approved subject to a permit being issued by Authority staff under Ontario Regulation 147/06 with typical conditions.”

Carried.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade reported that staff are working with a lakeshore landowner in the Municipality of Bluewater who started renovating a cottage and constructing an addition without a permit. In the Municipality of Central Huron, staff have been made aware of a wakeboard park that has built structures and done excavating without a permit.

MOTION #BD 63/14

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Don Shipway**

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

Carried.

2. Cameron Gillies Diversion Channel

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager provided an update on Motion # BD79/13 from the July 18, 2013 meeting of the Board, requesting the Municipality of North Middlesex to include the Cameron Gillies Diversion Channel in the drainage report and cost-sharing assessment schedule under the Drainage Act. Mike Devos of Spriet Associates has estimated costs to proceed with this project as \$3,500 to \$4,000 plus \$3,500 expenses. Additional costs may be expenses related to any potential appeals by affected landowners.

The Diversion Channel was constructed as part of the Parkhill Dam Channel and regular maintenance work on the diversion is eligible for 50% grant from MNR. Major maintenance works would be eligible for 50% grant through the MNR Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure program. As part of the dam project, an easement is registered on title with Mr. Joe Poore to inspect and maintain the diversion channel in perpetuity. Annual cost for regular maintenance work is approximately \$1,300.

To initiate the petition, signatures are needed from two of the three landowners - ABCA, Municipality of North Middlesex and Joe Poore. Staff are concerned about possible costs that the ABCA may incur on this project.

MOTION #BD 64/14

**Moved by Janisse Zimmerman
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA not sign the petition for this drainage work until there is more information on potential costs to the ABCA and the Board discusses impacts to downstream landowners and consideration of the diversion channel easement agreement with Mr. Joe Poore.”

Carried.

3. Admin Centre HVAC Upgrades

Upgrades to the HVAC system at the Administration Centre was approved in the 2014 ABCA budget. Mechanical contractors from JMR Electric Ltd of Exeter examined the current system and provided recommendations on balancing and improving the ventilation. A quote was submitted for budgetting purposes. Staff are unaware of other mechanical contractors in the area that can carry out the repairs.

MOTION #BD 65/14

**Moved by Ute Stumpf
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT because of their expertise in this type of work, JMR Electric Ltd. Of Exeter be hired to complete the upgrades to the HVAC system for the Administration Centre at a cost of \$18,172 plus HST.”

Carried.

4. Emergency Repairs at Clinton Conservation Area

Kate Monk, Stewardship, Land and Education Manager advised that the low-flow crossing across the Bayfield River at Clinton Conservation Area is in need of repairs. Overtime, high flows have eroded material around the ends of the structure and staff have made repairs. However this spring there was significant damage and needs to be repaired immediately.

MOTION #BD 66/14

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Burkhard Metzger**

“RESOLVED, THAT staff proceed with emergency repairs to the low-flow crossing area at Clinton Conservation Area with funding coming from the property reserve if surplus funding is not available in the ABCA budget at year end.”

Carried.

5. Spring Tree Planting Program

Ian Jean, Forestry & Land Stewardship Specialist provided an update on the spring tree planting. The ABCA planted 48,000 trees and landowners planted 10,000 trees. Over 18,000 trees were planted on 30 acres of retired land in the Parkhill Creek valleylands. Students from Parkhill West Williams Elementary and North Middlesex District High School assisted. The season was challenging because of the lingering winter, plus frequent wet weather.

6. Camp Sylvan Education Program 50th Anniversary

Kate Monk reported that Saturday, September 20th will be a special event to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Camp Sylvan outdoor residential program. Self guided tours will commence at 6 pm at Camp Sylvan followed by a campfire at 7 pm. Each school class attending Sylvan this year will receive a 50th anniversary commemorative photo of their class. More than 20,000 students have participated in the Camp Sylvan Conservation Program.

PRESENTATION

Angela Van Niekerk, Wetlands Specialist gave an overview of the floating wetland raft project. 90% of the wetlands have been lost since the 1800's before settlement. The ABCA watershed has 2.4% wetlands and the target is 10%. Summer students assisted in the construction of three floating wetland rafts using recycled pop bottles to keep it afloat. As the plants grow, the roots go down through the layers into the water to take up nitrogen and phosphorus to improve oxygen for water quality. One wetland was launched in the Morrison Dam Reservoir and the other in the Old Ausable Channel with the help of Southcott Pines community volunteers.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Brian Horner provided a written report with a brief update on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming meetings and activities held over the previous month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION #BD 67/14

**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation meeting held on May 27, 2014 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Erb Family Foundation
File: W.11.15
Brief: Confirmation was received from John Erb, President of the Fred A and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation of a three-year grant towards implementing actions to continue to improve water quality for the Bayfield River.

- b) Reference: Land Stewardship & Habitat Restoration Program File; S.72.1
Brief: Confirmation from Ministry of Natural Resources that the funding application for the Port Franks Area Habitat Restoration Project to assist with phragmites control and site restoration was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Tony Drinkwalter, Land Services reported that the tractor model that was approved in the 2014 approved budget is no longer available. He has sourced a model that meets the needs of the Authority and requests permission to proceed.

MNOTION #BD 68/14

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT staff proceed with the purchase of the new tractor as discussed.”

Carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION #BD 69/14

**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 11:45 a.m. to discuss property, financial and personal matters, with Kate Monk, Alec Scott, Brian Horner and Judith Parker remaining in attendance.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 70/14

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Janisse Zimmerman**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report at 12:20 p.m.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 71/14

**Moved by Burkhard Metzger
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the proposal from the Municipality of South Huron requesting the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority enter into a Contaminant Attenuation Zone for the South Huron Landfill Site on ABCA property be denied.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 72/14

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT staff proceed as directed with the market wage comparison review as discussed.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 73/14

**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by Janisse Zimmerman**

“RESOLVED, THAT staff proceed as directed in the financial matter as discussed.”

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mike Tam
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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