



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, March 17, 2011

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Jim Ginn, Paul Hodgins, Bob Norris, Lorie Scott, Bill Siemon, Don Shipway, Ute Stumpf, Mike Tam

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dave Frayne

STAFF PRESENT

Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Alec Scott, Julie Stellingwerff, Mari Veliz, Rob Carnegie

OTHERS PRESENT

George Irvin, Janisse Zimmerman - Municipality of Bluewater
Jeremy Giles - MacNeill Edmundson
Don Pearson - Conservation Ontario

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ginn called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 20/11

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the March 17, 2011 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 21/11****Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on February 17, 2011 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES1. Term of Board Members

Further to discussion at the February 17, 2011 Annual Meeting, Kate Monk, Acting General Manager presented the report prepared by General Manager Tom Prout regarding the appointment and term of Board members and when an Annual Meeting must be held. According to the *Conservation Authorities Act*, the first meeting of an authority must be held each year, before the 1st day of March and at that meeting the authority shall appoint a chair and vice-chair. Therefore, the Annual General Meeting must be held between January 1 and March 1 of each year. The concern is that a Board members' term of appointment does not end before the annual meeting can be held and there is a functioning Board of Directors.

MOTION #BD 22/11**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT based on the information above it is recommended that the General Manager or his designate have the power to call meetings and conduct business in the absence of a functioning Board of Directors.”

Carried.

2. Striking Committee Minutes

Following the approval of the Striking Committee minutes from January 7, 2011, a revision is needed to the appointment of members on the Standing Committees. Dave Frayne had been appointed to the Human Resources Management Committee but as Vice Chair is automatically on the HR Committee.

MOTION #BD 23/11**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT Lorie Scott be appointed to the Human Resources Management Committee.”

Carried.

3. Target for 2012 Budget

Paul Hodgins advised that he had talked with the council of Lucan Biddulph about setting a target for ABCA staff to consider when starting 2012 budget preparation. Council suggested a 2½ % target for an overall increase.

MOTION #BD 24/11

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors advise staff to target a 2 ½% increase when preparing the 2012 overall budget and prioritize projects during the process.”

Carried.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning presented the report prepared by Andrew Bicknell, Regulations Coordinator on the Development Review 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 one *Applications for Permission* and two *Minor Works* applications.

MOTION #BD 25/11

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Mike Tam**

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

Carried.

1.(b) Violations Update

- (i) Geoff Cade advised that the staff are proceeding to lay charges for the landowners in violation under Ontario Regulation 147/06 on Parr Line in the Municipality of South Huron.
- (ii) Staff are investigating a violation on Elmtree Drive and Fort Rose Road in North Middlesex. The landowner excavated a portion of the bank and had been informed of site restrictions under Ontario Regulation 147/06 when the property was purchased in 2010.

2. Conservation Education Risk Management

Julie Stellingwerff, Conservation Education Specialist presented the outline for the Conservation Education Risk Management Manual. The education department is committed to the health and safety of all participants attending conservation education programs and the manual will identify strategies for due diligence in managing risk. The final protocol will be brought to the Board for review and approval later in the year.

3. 2010 Private Land Stewardship Program

Kate Monk, Stewardship & Conservation Lands Supervisor gave an overview of the voluntary environmental projects undertaken by private landowners to conserve water and soil. Landowners need financial incentives to proceed with projects and our staff play an important role in linking people with the best funding opportunities and assistance in completing the paperwork. Landowners across the watershed implement best management practices each year but uptake is higher in areas with focussed community engagement through the ABCA Healthy Watersheds Program and local incentive programs such as the Huron County Clean Water Project. As the 2011 funding for stewardship financial incentives is announced, the Board will be informed so they can promote the programs in their community.

4. Vehicle and Equipment Tender Results

Kate Monk reported that there six tenders received for the purchase of a four-wheel drive extended cab pickup truck. The low tender from Exeter Chrysler was accepted. There were three tenders received for purchase of a new equipment float. The low tender of BreMar Trailers was accepted.

5. Audited 2010 Financial Statement

Jeremy Giles of MacNeill Edmundson LLP presented the auditor's report for the 2010 financial statement.

MOTION #BD 26/11

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2010 audited financial statement be approved as presented.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Coordinator gave a presentation on the Watershed Based Best Management Practices Evaluation Project (WBBE) that has secured approximately \$500,000 funding from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The project will evaluate environmental and economic effectiveness of best management practices at farm and small watershed scale; develop a watershed model determine effects of varying characteristics on water quality; assess private and societal benefits and costs associated with best management practices.

Next steps for WBBE, Huron are to continue monitoring to identify the differences amongst watersheds. To implement BMPS to see what the indicators tell at the site scale and at the watershed scale. To undertake a modelling exercise whereby the land use can help explain water quality indicators and costs associated with the BMPs. To do more work on indicators and address some of the limitations for direct environmental indicators.

Partners in the project include Huron County Federation of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Environment Canada, Ministry of Natural Resources and local landowners near Bayfield and Dashwood Ontario.

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.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: A thank you from Ian & Kari Jean in appreciation of the donation towards the commemorative woods following the loss of Ian's grandmother.
- b) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: A thank you from Andy & Nancy Bicknell in appreciation of the donation towards the commemorative woods following the passing of Andy's mother.
- c) Reference: Resignation
File: P.1
Brief: Letter of resignation from Darrell Innes, GIS Analyst with the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Water Protection Project effective March 18, 2011.
- d) Reference: Armstrong East Cottager Association
File: L.4.51
Brief: Correspondence from the the law firm of Oldfield, Greaves, D'Agostino, Billo & Nowak regarding motor vehicle access through Armstrong East, Port Franks. The matter will be referred to the Property Management Committee.
- e) Reference: Wetland Factsheets
File: A.5.3
Brief: Correspondence from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Biodiversity Branch advising of a series of five factsheets available to raise municipal awareness of wetland function and conservation.
- f) Reference: MNR Species at Risk
File: A.5.3
Brief: Correspondence from Ministry of Natural Resources to the ABCA as a landowner, advising that eastern flowering dogwood may grow on or near ABCA property. The MNR is developing a habitat regulation for the dogwood and requesting input for the content of the proposed regulation.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Property Committee

The Property Management Committee will meet on March 24, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. to deal with property matters.

2. Conservation Ontario

Chairman Ginn thanked Don Pearson, Conservation Ontario General Manager for attending the meeting. Mr. Pearson appreciated the opportunity to sit in on the Board meeting and was looking forward to the Partnership Appreciation & Awards Evening following the Board meeting. He explained the role of Conservation Ontario in supporting the network of conservation authorities across Ontario.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Jim Ginn
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

