



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, November 25, 2010

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Bev Brown, Cathie Brown, Geoff Cade, Aaron Clarke, Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Sharon Pavkeje, Tom Prout, Alec Scott

OTHERS PRESENT

Scott Nixon - Exeter Times Advocate
Bob Montgomery - CKNX Radio

CALL TO ORDER

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 95/10

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the November 25, 2010 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting be approved with additions.”

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 96/10

**Moved by Lawrence McLachlan
Seconded by David Bolton**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on October 21, 2010 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

Mark Simpson arrived at 10:07 a.m.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

Proposed 2011 Budget

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor prepared additional schedules to present for discussion on the 2011 proposed budget. Based on direction from the Board at the October 21 meeting, the budget revisions relate to exclusion of amortization values other than 10% of the specific assets. The proposed 2011 revised levies total \$1,1448,995 or 43.49% increase.

General Manager Tom Prout explained that 7.2% of the increase are items that the Directors have already agreed to proceed with. To assist the Board in their deliberations, staff prioritized the proposed 2011 projects into high, medium and lower priority. Discussions also centred around funding reserves for land securement, amortization, office expansion. Tom Prout reminded the Board that municipalities are able to secure capacity building funds to meet provincial regulations for accessibility of buildings, but the ABCA submitted an application for funding assistance which was denied.

Further discussion on the budget was deferred until later in the meeting.

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 twelve *Applications for Permission* and four *Minor Works* application.

MOTION #BD 97/10

**Moved by Lawrence McLachlan
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

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

Carried.

1. (b) Violations Update

Geoff Cade, Water & Planning Supervisor provided an update for the directors on recent violations under Ontario Regulation 147/06. The violation at Port Franks Chicken Island has been resolved with the issuance of a permit to remediate the site. A guilty plea was received for the violation on Crest Beach Road and the violation file is closed. There is no new information on the violation being investigated on Parr Line in the Municipality of South Huron where construction has taken place without approval on property that is 100% floodplain, a provincially significant wetland and ANSI.

PRESENTATION

Kari Jean, Aquatic Biologist and Hope Brock, Healthy Watersheds Technician, presented a slideshow on the Species At Risk Turtle Monitoring Program in the Port Franks area. There are 8 native turtle species in Ontario and all are found in the ABCA watershed. Seven of these are species at risk and the snapping turtle is a species of concern. The Port Franks Biodiversity Strategy was developed with community input and targeted the Turtle Monitoring Project. Community volunteers were trained to identify types and completed information required to initiate a database. Staff would like to continue this project in 2011.

2. Permission for Tile Drain Outlet

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager reported that staff were approached by the owner of the North Part of Lot 19, Concession 3, Usborne Ward, Municipality of South Huron to get permission to construct a tile drainage outlet across the ABCA property about 100 metres east of the workshop. The 6 inch drain would outlet to the Morrison Dam reservoir. A similar agreement was signed in 1996 and there have been no issues. In order to provide timely service, permission was granted on a similar agreement to that used in 1996.

MOTION #BD 98/10

**Moved by David Bolton
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors concur with the staff decision to allow a tile drainage outlet across the ABCA property at Morrison Dam Conservation Area.

Carried.

3. Fall Tree Planting Program Update

Ian Jean, Forestry & Stewardship Specialist reported that staff planted 1,660 balled and burlap conifers and potted hardwood trees for 8 watershed landowners. Five projects were windbreaks and one wildlife habitat enhancement project. Landowners purchased and planted an additional 760 trees. Township of Lucan Biddulph purchased 120 trees to provide to landowners for replacing roadside trees that died or were removed because of safety hazard.

4. Draft Lands and Rivers Improvement Act Technical Guidelines

Alec Scott advised that since 2006 the Ministry of natural Resources has been working to identify ways to modernize provincial dam safety requirements. MNR has now released draft “Technical Guidelines and Requirements for Approval under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*. Staff

have reviewed the draft LRIA Technical Guidelines (Volumes 1-5) and sent comments to Conservation Ontario for a coordinated response.

5. Agriculture Land Tender Results

Kate Monk, Stewardship & Conservation Lands Supervisor presented the results of the Agricultural land tender for properties in the Parkhill area and the Triebner Tract in Hay Swamp. In Parkhill, two parcels of adjacent farmland were combined to make a 60 acre parcel. Seven bids were received ranging from \$120 to \$242 per acre. One bid was received for the 31-acre parcel in the Triebner Tract at \$200 per acre.

MOTION #BD 99/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT program reports # 3 - 5 be received as information.”

Carried.

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: MVCA Watershed Resiliency Fund Staff Position
File: A.5.1
Brief: Request from Maitland Valley CA to discuss whether the ABCA is interested in jointly financing a staff person to investigate the development of a watershed resiliency fund. The purpose of the fund would be to increase the amount of funding available for stewardship initiatives through the Huron Clean Water Project.

MOTION #BD 100/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff be directed to review the request from Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and bring back a report.”

Carried.

- b) Reference: Royal Assent of Bill 68 *Open for Business Act*
File: A.8.30
Brief: Memorandum from Ministry of Natural Resources that Bill 68 received Royal Assent on October 25, 2010. Bill 68 includes amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* to add clarity and streamline the approvals process for certain land dispositions, update the limitations period for offences, clarify that terms of a permit must

be adhered to and provide regulation making authority to define any term in the Act that has not been defined.

- c) Reference: Bill 122 *Public Sector Accountability Act, 2010*
File: A.8.31
Brief: Notice from Conservation Ontario that the Ontario government introduced Bill 122, *Public Sector Accountability Act, 2010* to regulate the spending of public funds by the broader public sector in areas such as use of lobbyists, expense accounts and procurement. The Bill would also amend the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* to extend coverage to hospitals. At this time we are waiting for interpretation as to whether the Bill applies to conservation authorities.
- d) Reference: Accessibility Standards for Customer Service Regulation (O.Reg429/07)
File: A.8.28
Brief: Reminder received from Conservation Ontario that conservation authorities must comply with the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service Regulation by January 1, 2012.
- e) Reference: Claybird Gun Club
File: L.18.2
Brief: Acknowledgement received from Municipality of Bluewater that the letter from Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority regarding the Claybird Gun Club and the access lane on Ausable Line will be presented to Council for review and discussion.
- f) Reference: The Sweetwater Sea Final Report
File: A.5.1
Brief: *The Sweetwater Sea: An International Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Lake Huron* technical report was received. This final report was an international initiative of the Lake Huron Biodiversity conservation Strategy, designed to identify what actions are needed to protect and conserve the native biodiversity of Lake Huron.
- g) Reference: Middlesex County Agricultural Hall of Fame
File: C.18.5.9
Brief: Invitation to submit a nomination to the Middlesex County Agricultural Hall of Fame was received.
- h) Reference: Arkona Eco-tourism Committee
File: R.11.1
Brief: Thank you to the ABCA Board of Directors from the Arkona Eco-Tourism Committee for waiving the gate fees to participants in the Arkona Colour Tour on October 16, 2010. There were 39 hikers and 82 cyclists enjoy the day.

- i) Reference: Claybird Gun Club
File: L.18.2
Brief: Correspondence from Jody Mosurinjohn, President of Claybird Gun Club expressing interest in purchasing the property known as Part Lot 3, Concession 5 Hay Ward, Municipality of Bluewater. The matter was referred to the Property Management Committee
- j) Reference: Climate Change
File: A.5.1
Brief: Article from the Journal of Commerce quoting Paul Kovacs, executive director for the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction that the country is facing an infrastructure spending shortfall of \$400 billion. A portion of this shortfall will be coping with the ever-increasing disasters linked to climate change risks. Stormwater management will become a bigger factor in engineering studies and re-examining policies that allow building on floodplains.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Municipal Information Sessions

Tom Prout announced that ABCA staff want to host an information session for new board members, municipal councillors and staff. The agenda would include a tour of the office and presentations from each department on what the conservation authorities does as well as the sources of funding. The tentative dates are January 12 or January 19 with more details to follow.

2. Next Meeting

A reminder that the next board meeting will be December 16 in the afternoon prior to the Christmas gathering for the Board, Foundation and Staff members.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION #BD 101/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 12:03 p.m. to discuss property matters with Alec Scott, Kate Monk, Brian Horner and Tom Prout remaining in attendance.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 102/10

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

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

Carried.

MOTION #BD 103/10

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

“RESOLVED, THAT the decision regarding the capital expenditure as per Section 26 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* for acquisition and funding of the residential property adjacent to the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Administration Centre, be approved as discussed and that staff proceed with the necessary steps to complete the transaction.”

Carried.

PROPOSED 2011 BUDGET

Discussion continued on the proposed 2011 budget. George Irvin suggested that there will be a turnover of board members following the municipal election. Chairman Ginn responded that this Board needs to deal with the 2011 budget. The board directed staff to revise the proposed budget with removal of the medium and low priority projects and the \$50,000 for land securement reserve.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Jim Ginn
Chairman

Sharon Pavkeje
Office Services Assistant

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

