

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, November 21, 2013

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dave Frayne, Paul Hodgins, Burkhard Metzger, Don Shipway, Joe Steffler, Lorie Scott, Ute Stumpf, Mike Tam, Janisse Zimmerman

OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Montgomery, CKNX News

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Julie Stellingwerff,

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Frayne called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m., welcomed all those in attendance and announced Kate Monk is Acting General Manager for the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 107/13

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the November 21, 2013 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting be approved.”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest declared at this meeting or from the previous meeting.

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO AUDIO/VIDEO RECORD MEETING

There were no disclosures.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**MOTION #BD 108/13**

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on October 17, 2013 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF MINUTES1. 2014 Proposed Budget

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor presented the second draft of the proposed 2014 budget. Based on the Board’s discussions, staff recommend the following: removal of the Watershed Hydrology Study project, internally funding of the DWSP education and outreach project and wage reallocations.

These adjustments reduced the combined general and project levy from \$1,240,693 to \$1,209,343. Burkhard Metzger, representative of Central Huron and Dave Frayne of South Huron advised that their respective Councils turned down the request for special benefitting levy status on the Bluewater Area Sampling (BRS) project. Staff have not received a response from Huron East and Bluewater. If not approved, the BRS adjustment will reduce the combined levies by another \$2,370 at a 2.77% increase. Janisse Zimmerman commented that the increase is still not at 2%. Brian Horner said this would mean finding an additional \$9000.

MOTION #BD 109/13

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff be directed to further review the proposed 2014 budget and reduce to a 2% increase, and

FURTHER, THAT the member municipalities then be advised of the 2014 proposed project levy, general levy and budget and provided with the supplementary information for their information, as the weighted vote will be held in the new year at the Board of Directors meeting.”

Carried.

2. Proposed 2014 Pay Grid and Fee Schedule

Brian Horner requested the Board discuss and approve the 2014 pay grid and fee schedule at this time. The proposed budget was prepared with the pay grid at a 2% increase.

MOTION #BD 110/13

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2014 pay grid be set at a 1% increase.”

Defeated.

MOTION #BD 111/13

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2014 pay grid be set at a 1.5% increase.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 112 /13

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Joe Steffler**

“RESOLVED, THAT the proposed fee schedule for 2014 be approved as presented.”

Carried.

4. Wind Turbines and Tundra Swan Migration

In response to correspondence received from Andrea Walden at the last meeting, the directors reviewed the information for discussion at this meeting. The ABCA is limited in scope of having any regulatory powers to address the issue Ms. Walden is bringing forth to the ABCA. Her concern is with the concentration of wind turbines interfering with the tundra swan migration in the Thedford Bog. The ABCA is reviewing the location of wind turbine development, access roads, watercourse crossings and collection lines in relation to floodplain regulations but is unable to address environmental impact on wildlife because of the *Green Energy Act*. The Board suggests she submit her concerns to the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Natural Resources.

PROGRAM REPORT

1. 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 two *Applications for Permission* and three *Minor Works Permits* and 32 *Applications for Permission* to construct works within areas regulated by the ABCA specific to Industrial Wind generation.

1. b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning advised there are no updates at this time, but staff are anticipating three hearings in the near future under Ontario Regulation 147/06.

MOTION #BD 113/13**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

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

Carried.

2. Farm Rental Tender Results

Kate Monk, Stewardship & Conservation Lands Supervisor presented the results of the farm rental tender results for the 63 acres of agriculture land at the Linfield Wildlife Area. There were four tenders received and it was recommended to accept the highest bid.

MOTION #BD 114/13**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Mike Tam**

“RESOLVED, THAT the tender of \$317.00 per acre (plus HST) be accepted for rental of the 63 acres of agriculture land at Part Lot 15, Concession 11, Municipality of Bluewater, Stanley Ward for five years commencing in 2014.”

Carried.

3. Fall Tree Program

Ian Jean, Forestry & Land Stewardship Specialist presented an update on the fall tree program. ABCA staff planted 786 balled and burlap conifers and potted hardwood trees at 5 project sites and 38 landowners purchased and planted an additional 1336 trees for planting on their properties. Township of Lucan Biddulph is commended for purchasing 194 trees to give to landowners as replacements for dead or safety hazard trees that had been removed by the municipality. Funding for planting trees is available from the Huron Clean Water Project in Huron County. There was \$1.6M of incentive funding granted to landowners for eligible stewardship projects which leverages to a \$5.8M value to the economy.

4. A Tale of Two Counties

Ian Jean referenced an article written by Dave Pullen on forest conservation and protection of agriculture and water in Huron County. The article was published in “Our Forest”, a newsletter of the Ontario Forestry Association (Summer/Fall 2013 edition). Mr. Pullen is a professional agronomist and is Forest Conservation Officer for Huron County and owns a consulting company, Enviro-Ag Solutions Ltd.

5. Quarterly Statement

For the Board’s information, Brian Horner presented the profit and loss statement to September 30, 2013 with comparisons of the budget to actuals.

5. Conservation Education Update

Julie Stellingwerff, Conservation Education Specialist gave an update on the school nature programs, springwater awareness program, summer day programs and community events held over the year. She also gave an overview of the Camp Sylvan Conservation Program. This program is the longest running residential outdoor-education program in Ontario. Grade 6 and 7 students learn orienteering, forestry, water quality, wilderness survival, night hikes and the animal survival game. The three year Weston Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow program at Camp Sylvan is in its second year and targets urban schools to bring Grade 6 students for a 2 ½ day visit to experience nature hands-on. In total 23 classes have attended Camp Sylvan and many have booked their camp visit for 2014. A video produced by students of one of the urban schools was shown. The presentation was very powerful in showing how the students' experience at Camp Sylvan has opened their lives up to the natural world.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Tom Prout had provided a written report with a brief update on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming meetings, events or activities throughout the previous month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION #BD 115/13

Moved by Joe Steffler

Seconded by Don Shipway

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Clinton CA Management Committee meeting held on October 15, 2013, the Human Resources Committee meeting held on November 8, 2013, the Source Protection Committee meeting held September 25, 2013, the South Huron Friends of the Trail meeting held November 1, 2013 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: ReGreen Rock Glen
File: R.11.1

Brief: Kate Monk commented on the reGreen Rock Glen campaign to raise funds for replacing ash trees that have been removed because of the Emerald Ash Borer. The public is asked to donate \$40 towards planting a one 2 metre tall tree in 2014. The target is to plant 50 new trees. To date there has been \$1,720 raised towards the \$2000 goal.

- b) Reference: Nearshore Framework Project Partners.
File: W.

Brief: Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Specialist has been invited to make a presentation at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters to the Nearshore Framework project partners which include key federal and provincial government staff as well as representatives from Conservation Ontario and the Great Lakes Cities Initiative. This is an opportunity to showcase how conservation authorities can take a more regional approach.

