



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, September 16, 2010

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dave Frayne

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Jenni Boles, Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Tony Drinkwalter, Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Tom Prout, Alec Scott, Julie Stellingwerff,

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Bolen - Exeter TA

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ginn called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 74/10

Moved by David Bolton

Seconded by Mark Simpson

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the September 16, 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 75/10

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on July 15, 2010 and the motions therein be approved as amended.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

PROGRAM REPORTS1. (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 eight *Applications for Permission* and five *Minor Works* application.

MOTION #BD 76/10

**Moved by Bob Norris
Seconded by Lawrence McLachlan**

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

Carried.

1. (b) Violations Update

Andrew Bicknell provided an update for the directors on recent violations under Ontario Regulation 147/06. On Crest Beach Road there has been significant works on the lake bank. Permit documentation has been sent to the landowner asking for a geotechnical review. The expectation is to issue a permit for restoration work following the next court appearance.

North of Bayfield at Elliots Grove there is an existing cottage on top of the lakebank that has constructed an addition. The landowner is cooperating in reducing the oversize deck to meet the conditions of the regulation.

Staff have sent a violation notice and are continuing investigation of a property south of Bayfield where a retaining wall has been constructed.

2. Disposition of Surplus Equipment

Tony Drinkwalter of Field Services, presented the list of surplus equipment used for field service operations that is recommended to be disposed of.

MOTION #BD 77/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the surplus field services equipment recommended for disposal be approved as presented.”

Carried.

3. Climate Change - Green Classroom Workshops

Jenni Boles, Environmental Education Assistant provided an update on the recent teacher workshops and school presentations held across the watershed. In April 2010, the ABCA received a grant from the Go Green Fund through the Ministry of Education. The first goal of the project was to educate teachers through hands-on workshops and encourage them to incorporate activities and lesson plans around climate change. The second goal is to make presentations at the 24 watershed schools about climate change. A tree will be planted at each school to promote greenhouse gas reduction. Students will be empowered to make sound environmental choices.

4. Watershed Monitoring

Tom Prout, General Manager provided a list of watershed monitoring programs carried out by the ABCA for its funding partners and watershed residents. This monitoring is vital to the overall long term management of the watersheds natural resources and their state of wellness. Monitoring programs include water quality, lakeshore erosion, water quantity, aquatic and terrestrial species at risk, riverine baseflow, flood control structures, erosion control structures, stewardship projects, health & safety on ABCA properties and of the equipment, provincial threats to drinking water sources.

5. FIT Project Solar

Brian Horner provided an update on retaining an evaluation of the structural feasibility of adding solar panels to the existing workshop roof. The ABCA is registered for the FIT solar program. Following inspections of the current roof structure, it was determined that it would need to be reinforced by doubling trusses. An analysis of potential costs and payback was presented for the solar project. Mark Simpson expressed a concern that the payback was “potential” and not firm profits, with the additional need to alter the building. Lawrence McLachlan was concerned with participating at this time in a new solar initiative. Paul Hodgins agreed that the Board should wait and see the positives and negatives of the solar systems. Chair Ginn suggested that the ABCA could look at other conservation measures instead of the current solar energy program being offered. It was the consensus of the Board to wait and see how the solar energy FIT program evolves over the next year.

6. Drinking Water Stewardship Program Early Response Program

Since 2007, conservation authorities have been delivering the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program Early Actions Program to provide grants for voluntary stewardship projects to landowners in Intake Protection Zones and municipal well heads. Staff are now preparing an application for funding the next stewardship program: Drinking Water Stewardship Program - Early Response for the period of 2011-2012. This fund will provide funding for landowner projects, education, outreach and program delivery. ABCA and MVCA staff should be

congratulated for the culture of stewardship that has been created in the watersheds through uptake in eligible projects within the early response program.

MOTION #BD 78/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the information in program reports 3 through 6 be received as presented.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Tim Cumming, Communications Specialist prepared and presented a report on the issue of online social media communication, how it is evolving with our peers and who is participating. The presentation touched on the implications on staffing, policy, budget as well as the benefits in developing relationships with our stakeholders. A strategy for introducing online social media tools and services was presented for discussion. It was decided that the integration of social media communication be introduced on a project by project basis before creating an organization-wide policy. The first pilot will be the Conservation Strategy project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation

MOTION #BD 79/10

**Moved by Lawrence McLachlan
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Ausable Bayfeild Conservation Foundation meeting held on July 8, 2010 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

Source Protection Committee

MOTION #BD 80/10

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held on June 30, 2010 be received as circulated.”

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: Wind Turbine
File: A.5.1
Brief: Notice of a public meeting to discuss wind turbines at the REACH Centre on September 16th.
- b) Reference: Mandatory Septic Inspection
File: A.5.1
Brief: Preliminary correspondence regarding the passing of Regulation 315/10 to the Ontario Building code effective January 1, 2011. The regulation requires mandatory inspection of septic tanks identified as a significant drinking water threat in vulnerable areas.
- c) Reference: DWSP Information Session
File: L.9.57
Brief: Invitation to attend information meeting on October 14th in Listowel, hosted by Drinking Water Source Protection Planning on environmental management and green investments in business operations. Guest speaker is Dr. Robert Klassen, Professor of Operations Management at the Richard Ivy School of Business.
- d) Reference: Provincial Policy Statement 5 Year Review
File: L.2.17
Brief: Invitation to attend a regional workshop hosted by Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to assess the need for revisions to the Provincial Policy Statement, 2005.
- e) Reference: Renewable Energy Approval Requirements for off-shore Wind Facilities
File: A.7.2.25
Brief: Copy of correspondence from Conservation Ontario to Ministry of the Environment regarding renewable energy approval requirements for off-shore wind facilities discussion paper posted on the Environmental Registry (EBR #011-0089)
- f) Reference: L Lake Management Area
File: R.15.9
Brief: Thank you from Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for the cooperation of the ABCA in allowing a right of way over L Lake Management Area to access NCC property for various stewardship activities.
- g) Reference: Source Protection Climate Change Plan
File: L.9.57
Brief: Memorandum from Ministry of the Environment regarding the establishment of Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative programs to provide tools and data needed for decision making in preparing for climate change. Consideration of climate change effects in communities was part of the Source Protection Committee's discussions and was a requirement in the Assessment Report.

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- h) Reference: Linfield Wildlife Area
File: R.15.16
Brief: Thank you from Amelia Lloyd in appreciation of the new trail at Linfield Wildlife Area.
- i) Reference: Bannockburn Conservation Area
File: R.3.1
Brief: Thank you from Patrick Capper in appreciation of the improvements to the boardwalk at Bannockburn Conservation Area as well as the new loop.
- j) Reference: Dredging of Wetland
File: A.5.2
Brief: Correspondence from Department of Fisheries and Oceans with results of Ontario Court of Appeal between Lakehead Region Conservation Authority v. DeMichele. The court upheld a permanent injunction preventing a developer from further dredging and filling in a wetland, without a permit. DeMichele had a history of developing land without a permit and argued that the authority cannot enforce its regulations against him because it failed to do so in the past.
- k) Reference: Donation
File: A.9.4
Brief: A memorial donation was received from a member of the late Frank Wight's family in support of upgrading the barrier free trails at Rock Glen Conservation Area and education programs to area students. For many years Mr. Wight was involved with the Camp Sylvan program as a presenter on native artifacts and local history. He loved nature and encouraged others to appreciate the natural habitats of animals and birds.
- l) Reference: Sinkhole Water Quality Sampling Program
File: W.7.18
Brief: Resolution from Municipality of West Perth and Municipality of Huron East advising that their councils are not prepared to accept additional costs of \$1,350 each for the sinkhole water quality sampling program.
- m) Reference: Potential Hazards of Dams to Public Safety
File: A.5.3
Brief: Notice from Ministry of Natural Resources of a recently launched webpage to raise awareness of the potential hazards dams may pose to public safety. The website is: http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Water/2ColumnSubPage/STDPROD_067106.html
- n) Reference: Lead Shot
File: L.18.2
Brief: Correspondence from Shooting Sports Association advising that the use of lead shot on shooting ranges is considered to be non-migratory in nature as a contaminant to the environment.
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NEW BUSINESS

1. A schedule for 2011 budget deliberations was discussed. The first Budget Committee meeting will be held on October 14th at 9:30 a.m. until noon, followed by further discussions at the October 21st regular Board of Directors meeting at 10:00 a.m.
2. Jim Ginn extended an invitation for directors to attend a tour on the farm of Jim and Brenda Ginn on September 18th at 9:30 to celebrate 25 years of stewardship.
3. The date for the next Property Management Committee was set for October 14th following the Budget Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Jim Ginn
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

