



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McLachlan called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Kate Monk, Alec Scott, Judith Parker

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Bolen, Exeter Times Advocate

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 108/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the November 12, 2009 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 109/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on October 15, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

1. 2010 Proposed Project & General Levy

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor provided revisions to the project and general levy as suggested by the Directors at the October 15th meeting. Three scenarios were presented to the directors for discussion. Scenario 1 was the proposed budget as presented at the October 15th meeting with a blended project and general levy at 21.27%. Scenario 2 was all mid and low priority projects removed from the budget along with the reallocation of any wages for existing staff that were associated to these projects. Also eliminated was hiring future contract and casual staff in 2010 and deferring some expenses for projects that carry forward to a March 31st fiscal year end. This scenario indicated a blended levy of 5.17%. The 3rd scenario included the details as expressed in scenario 2 with the addition of implementing a 10% addition for amortization of capital assets as per PSAB 3150. The blended levy would be an 8.23% increase with scenario 3.

The directors discussed which scenarios would be most accepted by the municipalities they represent. George Irvin felt there would be more information on how the municipalities are dealing with PSAB 3150 at the Budget Information Session on December 3rd for municipal clerks and treasurers. Bill Siemon questioned using a 0.5% CPI wage increase for 2010 and what effect this decision would have on future budgets as far as catching up.

MOTION #BD 110/09

Moved by Paul Hodgins

Seconded by Dave Frayne

“RESOLVED, THAT the proposed 2010 Budget be recommended by the Board of Directors for approval, and

FURTHER, THAT the member municipalities be advised of the 2010 proposed project levy, general levy and budget and provided with the supplementary information for review as the weighted vote will be held at the December 17, 2009 Board of Directors meeting.”

Carried.

2. Bendway Weir

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager updated the Board on the issue of cost sharing for maintenance of the Bendway Weir project. Tom Prout and Alec Scott attended a Lambton Shores council meeting to discuss cost sharing for Lot 26, Plan 427. The ABCA has been invoiced for \$24,471.64 which is the total assessed amount of \$27,638.91 less Lambton Shores contribution of \$3,167.27. At the start of the Bendway Weir project it was thought that Lambton Shores owned Lot 26. Before the project was completed, it was determined that the ABCA actually owned it. After completion of the project, it was found that the municipality had deemed Lot 26 to not be a

lot in 1958. Given this history, the ABCA recommends that the outstanding balance for Lot 26 be shared with the municipality. Mark Simpson advised that council will be reviewing the cost sharing issue of Lot 26 at their next Council meeting.

MOTION #BD 111/09

**Moved by Dave Frayne
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors recommend the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority and Municipality of Lambton Shores equally share the assessed maintenance costs for the Bendway Weir erosion control project on Lot 26, Plan 427.”

Carried.

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 six *Applications for Permission* and two *Minor Works* application.

MOTION #BD 112/09

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

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

Carried.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning advised that the staff are working to resolve a number of issues:

- i) Staff are working with a landowner in the Municipality of Bluewater in the matter of installing a retaining wall along the lakebank. The matter should be resolved in the near future.
- ii) The Thames Valley District School Board appealed to the Mining & Lands Commissioner, the Board's decision in denying their application to waive installation of a culvert at the new elementary school in Lucan. Subsequent to filing of the appeal, staff have been informally advised that the School Board withdrew the appeal and the culvert is to be installed.
- iii) the court date has been set for November 26th for the violation in Lambton Shores where the proponent restored a site after clearing a dune.

MOTION #BD 113/09

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

“RESOLVED, THAT the update on violations and appeals pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06 be received as presented.”

Carried.

2. Plan 41 Erosion Control Extension

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager provided the results of the tender opening for the Plan 41 erosion control extension project in Port Franks. Two tenders were received and the engineer has reviewed the low tender submitted by Dan Higgs Excavating Ltd to ensure it fulfills the terms of the project. The engineer did receive a complaint from the other bidder, raising the point there was an anomaly in the low bidder's addendum form. According to the tender instructions, the Board of Directors have the final decision if there is anything unusual in completing the tender documents. The engineer advised that in his opinion the tender is complete.

MOTION #BD 114/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the tender submitted by Dan Higgs Excavating Limited at a price of \$76,515.60 be approved, subject to the commitment of the affected private landowners for their share of the project costs.”

Carried.

3. Conifer Thinning

Ian Jean, Forestry & Stewardship Specialist provided an update on the 80 acre conifer thinning completed at four Hay Swamp Tracts. The total volume of material removed was 640 cords of sawlogs.

4. 2009 Fall Tree Planting

Ian Jean reported that staff planted 400 balled and burlap trees for six watershed landowners during the fall tree program. Landowners purchased and planted an additional 1,121 trees. There were also 125 oak and maple trees planted at the Linfield Wildlife Area to establish roadside windbreaks on this recently donated property.

5. Terrestrial Species at Risk Inventory

Ian Jean gave a presentation on the terrestrial inventory of ABCA owned properties in two known species at risk 'hot spots' – the Ausable River provincial Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), the Port Franks area properties within or near the Port Franks Forested Dunes and Wetlands ANSI and the Pinery Provincial Park ANSI. There are 600 species at risk in Canada and 300 of these species occur in the ABCA watershed. The information gathered will be used in making property management decisions. Additional funding to carry out the inventory work was provided by Carolinian Canada and University of Waterloo Student Internship and Co-op programs, MNR Species at Risk Stewardship fund and the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation.

6. Protecting People and Property - Flood Prevention

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager highlighted the executive summary of the report *Protecting People and Property - A Business Case for Investing in Flood Prevention & Control*, prepared for Conservation Ontario. The MNR and municipalities are mandated to manage and respond to flooding. Conservation authorities and MNR district offices are responsible at the local level to integrate programs into provincial emergency management and address hazards. Flood management and regulating of flood plains has proven to effectively reduce property damage and loss of life from flooding.

The report has identified some fiscal shortfalls in carrying out flood prevention programs. The flood and erosion control structures do require ongoing maintenance to be effective and safe. A target of \$27 million is needed annually for infrastructure which is three times higher than the current funding. Eighty percent of the current flood plain mapping, which is on average 22 years old, needs updating at a projected cost of \$78 million over 10 years. Ongoing flood management programs including monitoring, regulation and facility operations and studies to plan for climate change will require \$16.5 million annually.

The full report can be viewed at www.conservationontario.ca/news/Flood_Bulletin_Oct_09.htm

7. OMERS/Group Savings Plan

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor advised the Board of Directors that a representative of OMERS had visited the office recently and made a presentation asking staff to consider switching from the Group RRSP to their pension plan. The current Group RRSP provider was also invited to make a presentation and answer questions. Staff will be discussing the options at the next staff meeting.

8. Budget Information Session

Brian Horner reminded the directors that a Budget Information Session with municipal treasurers, CAOs and Councillors is planned for December 3rd at 9:30 a.m. at the ABCA Administration Centre.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arkona Lions Musuem Management Committee

MOTION #BD 115/09

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by George Irvin**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee meeting held on October 29, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

Clinton Conservation Area Management Committee**MOTION #BD 116/09****Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Clinton Conservation Area Management Committee meeting held on October 20, 2009 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.Source Protection Committee**MOTION #BD 117/09****Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held on August 26, 2009 be received as presented.”

Carried.CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: A note of appreciation and donation from Rev. Doug Watson for use of the South Huron Trail Mobile and the volunteer driver at a recent church function.

NEW BUSINESS

1. George Irvin asked that staff bring information to the next meeting on the ABCA's work with the Bluewater Shoreline Ratepayers Association.
2. The December 17th Board of Directors meeting will be moved from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to coordinate with attending the evening Christmas Dinner at Ironwood Golf Clubhouse.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**MOTION #BD 118/09****Moved by David Bolton
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors move into Committee of the Whole at 12 noon to discuss a property matter with Alec Scott, Brian Horner and Judith Parker remaining in attendance.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 119/09

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“RESOLVED, THAT the directors rise and report at 12:05 p.m.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 120/09

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

“RESOLVED, THAT staff proceed with the real estate negotiations as discussed.”

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Lawrence McLachlan
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

