

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, July 28, 2016

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Doug Cook, Wayne Hall, Bob Harvey, George Irvin, Don Shipway, Mike Tam

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dave Frayne, Burkhard Metzger

STAFF PRESENT

Jenna Allain, Andrew Bicknell, Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Tim Cumming, Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Alec Scott, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk

OTHERS PRESENT

Jackie Rombouts, Township of Warwick

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Tam called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 43/16

Moved by Ray Chartrand

Seconded by Don Shipway

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the July 28, 2016 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.

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO RECORD PROCEEDINGS

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**MOTION #BD 44/16**

**Moved by Wayne Hall
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on June 16, 2016 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTESShoreline Management Plan Risk Assessment Study

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager reported that ABCA staff attended the municipalities of Bluewater and Central Huron Council meetings to discuss undertaking a risk assessment study. The consultants are concerned there are over 400 dwellings located on the lake bank within the unstable slope area and want to determine the safety risk. Neither municipal council was interested in participating in a risk assessment study. The Shoreline Management Plan Steering Committee prepared a factsheet regarding best management practices for shoreline property owners along the shoreline. Signs are being produced advising landowners that a geotechnical consulting engineer should be contacted for advice. Staff are preparing a correspondence template that can be used to advise the landowner and municipality in cases where ABCA staff become aware of situations of imminent risk of slope failure occurring. The Steering Committee is concerned that the municipalities are not moving forward with the risk assessment study because it is a public safety issue and may recommend the ABCA include the study in the 2017 budget.

MOTION #45/16

**Moved by Doug Cook
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT without the support of the municipalities of Bluewater and Central Huron, the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority should not proceed with a Detailed Risk Assessment for Slope Stability Concerns along the bluff areas of the Lake Huron Shoreline at the present time.”

Carried.

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning reported that the draft Shoreline Management Plan 2016 report has been received from the consultants and reviewed with the Steering Committee at a meeting on July 26, 2016. On September 1, 2016, the draft report will be posted on the ABCA website for a 90 day public comment period. Events for further public engagement and implementation will be scheduled for 2017. Staff have been invited to attend the Bluewater Shoreline Residents' Association annual meeting to provide information on the draft Shoreline Management Plan 2016 Consultant Recommendation Report

PROGRAM REPORTS

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 8 *Applications for Permission* and 13 *Minor Works Permits* to construct works within regulated areas.

(b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water and Planning provided an update on violations and appeals.

- a) The violation charge has been withdrawn for the landowner who removed the structure on the lake bank in Municipality of Bluewater.
- b) Staff will be working with the landowners in Municipality of Lambton Shores who plowed the sand dunes into the lake from in front of their residences.

MOTION #BD 46/16

**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by George Irvin**

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

Carried.

2. Results of Parkhill & Morrison Dam Safety Review

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager presented a summary of the safety reviews completed for Morrison and Parkhill Dams by consulting engineers of Exp Services Inc. The estimated values for the repairs and deficiencies, plus staff and engineering costs, will be added to the 5 year forecast over the upcoming years.

MOTION #BD 47/16

**Moved by Bob Harvey
Seconded by Doug Cook**

“RESOLVED, THAT the report on the Parkhill and Morrison Dam Safety Review results be received as presented.”

Carried.

3. Crisis Communications Plan

Tim Cumming, Communications Specialist presented the proposed Crisis Communications Plan as recommended by the ABCA Communications Plan approved in 2015. This accompanying document will define the steps to be taken should an out-of-the ordinary event occur that impacts the ABCA.

MOTION #BD 48/16

**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by George Irvin**

“RESOLVED, THAT the proposed Crisis Communications Plan for Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority be approved as presented.”

Carried.

4. Proposed Five-Year Forecast

Brian Horner, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer presented the 5 year forecast for covering the period from 2017-2021. A summary of the estimated revenue and expenses for operations, capital costs, reserves and proposed projects indicated an average combined levy increase of 2 percent.

MOTION #BD 49/16

**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Wayne Hall**

“RESOLVED, THAT the five-year forecast for 2017-2021 be approved as presented.”

Carried.

5. Clinton Lions Club Frisbee Golf Proposal

Kate Monk, Stewardship, Lands & Education Manager presented a proposal on behalf of the Clinton Lions Club to create a nine-hole frisbee (disc) golf course at Clinton Conservation Area. The Lions Club has an on-going agreement with the ABCA to maintain a section of Clinton Conservation Area between Highway 4 and the Bayfield River. A number of conditions were presented as recommendations.

MOTION #BD 50/16

**Moved by Don Shipway
Seconded by Doug Cook**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA provide approval for the Clinton Lions Club to install a Frisbee Golf Course at Clinton Conservation Area based on the conditions being met as presented.”

Carried.

6. Second Quarter Financial Statement

Brian Horner presented the profit and loss statement to June 30, 2016 for the Board of Directors review.

7. Wellhead Protection Area Delineation in Varna

Jenna Allain, Program Supervisor for the Drinking Water Source Protection project advised that as a result of the Municipality of Bluewater assuming ownership of the Varna Water System in 2015, delineation of a Wellhead Protection Area was needed. The cost for undertaking this work was included in the annual drinking water source protection funding request. Approval was received from the province and Matrix Solutions Inc. had the lowest bid for the project.

PRESENTATION

Kate Monk gave a presentation on milestones made in the 70 year history of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority. By Order in Council, the ABCA was established on July 30, 1946 under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The watershed model was a grassroots collaboration originating from a resolution of McGillivray Township Council in March 2, 1946:

It is the belief of this council that the ruthless ploughing of flooded grassland together with the controlled cutting of timber is creating a condition which is beyond the power of this and other municipal councils to control. Therefore this council requests the Minister to have a survey made of the Ausable River Watershed to determine the conservation measures necessary to ensure proper land use of this area."

Before and after slides were shown of how the involvement of the ABCA over the years has changed landscapes through partnerships with municipalities, landowners and stakeholders. Examples were school children planting hundreds of trees in Hay Swamp in the 1960s and now the area is a provincially significant wetland. The construction of Morrison Dam and Parkhill Dam projects. Involvement of thousands of students in the outdoor education program and specifically the 2 day residential program at Camp Sylvan since 1964. The development of the flood forecasting and warning program and prevention of development in flood prone areas. More recent programs are delivery of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program following the Walkerton tragedy as well as more research and monitoring of water quality and aquatic species at risk. Technical assistance and land stewardship programs have promoted best management practices in the agriculture sector with advancement in cover crops and tillage methods for soil conservation.

Chair Tam thanked Kate for the presentation and commented that the ABCA should be proud of its accomplishments.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Brian Horner presented the General Manager's report. Highlights were given on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming meetings and activities held over the previous month. This report is distributed to the municipalities for their councillors' information.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Ontario Low Water Response
File: W.8.6.1
Brief: Letter from Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry advising that 2016 funding allocations for the Low Water Response program will be changing to cover expenses for meetings, education and communication, but not include staff time for delivering the program.

- b) Reference: Shoreline Management Risk Assessment Study
File: W.4.11.1
Brief: Resolutions from the Municipality of Bluewater and Municipality of Central Huron advising that Council does not support undertaking a study to determine the level of risk for structures located within the unstable bluff slope along the Lake Huron Shoreline.

- c) Reference: Bluewater Shoreline Resident's Association
File: W.4.11.1
Brief: Letter from Susan Haskett, President of Bluewater Shoreline Resident's Association inviting ABCA staff to attend their Annual Meeting on August 27, 2016 and provide members the opportunity to review the draft Shoreline Management Plan update and learn more about it.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Doug Cook thanked Kate Monk for the presentation she made to the Communities in Bloom judges when they toured Lambton Shores.
- b) Mike Tam inquired on the status of drought conditions for the watershed. Alec Scott responded that the Water Response Team have met and the watershed is in a Level 1 low water condition at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. and the directors joined with staff for a luncheon and cake cutting event in honour of the 70th anniversary for the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority.

Mike Tam
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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