

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Doug Cook, Dave Frayne, Wayne Hall, Bob Harvey, George Irvin, Brian Ropp, Mike Tam

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Burk Metzger

STAFF PRESENT

Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Kari Jean, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Alec Scott, Meghan Tydd-Hyrnyk

OTHER PRESENT

Sue Haskett, Bluewater Shoreline Residents' Association
Bob Montgomery, CKNX Radio

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair George Irvin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 50/17

**Moved by Wayne Hall
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the June 15, 2017 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 51/17

**Moved by Bob Harvey
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on May 18, 2017 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Meghan Tydd-Hyrnyk, Planning and Regulations Officer, 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 5 *Minor Works Permits*.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning advised that a notice of violation has been issued to a landowner in the Municipality of Lambton Shores. He is removing a berm and working on restoration of the site as requested by staff.

Municipal staff advised the ABCA that a restaurant located by the river and subject to flooding in Lambton Shores, has had three shipping containers installed without permits by the owner, as part of the business operation. A multi-agency meeting has been held on the matter.

MOTION #BD 52/17

**Moved by Brian Ropp
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

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

Carried.

2. Morrison Line Pedestrian Bridge Project

The MacNaughton-Morrison Trail Pedestrian Bridge Project will provide a safe means for users of the South Huron Trail to cross the Ausable River. Currently, trail users must use Morrison Line which is a busy-two-lane paved municipal road with no shoulders. The project includes a

steel bridge, boardwalk to approach the bridge and trails to connect with the current trails. The community has a strong interest in the project and \$136,500 has been raised towards the estimated \$175,000 to \$200,000 project. The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation will be a core partner and a steering committee that includes community members will be established.

MOTION #BD 53/17

**Moved by Dave Frayne
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA initiate the Morrison Line Pedestrian Bridge project in July 2017.”

Carried.

3.Spring Tree Program

Ian Jean, Forestry & Stewardship Specialist provided a summary of the 2017 tree planting program. There were 37,620 trees planted by landowners and the ABCA staff. The trend continues with fewer large acreage planting projects using seedlings and more projects using larger stock for windbreaks and buffers. It was noted that the support for tree planting initiatives by community groups and municipalities is appreciated.

4. Replacement of Telephone System

Alec Scott reported that the current Norstar telephone system was originally installed in 1993 at a cost of \$13,000. The system is now dated and replacement units are not available. Staff met with three telecommunication companies to discuss requirements and options. The recommendation was to move to the Toshiba hybrid system by purchasing the system and components. The hybrid system utilizes the current wiring throughout the two office buildings and workshop.

MOTION #BD 54/17

**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

“RESOLVED, THAT the report recommending purchase of a replacement telephone system from Microage Basics be received as presented.”

Carried.

5. SMP Public Information Open House Debriefing

Geoff Cade provided an overview of the two public information open houses held on June 3 in Zurich and June 17 in Thedford. Staff had information display boards set up around the hall and presentations were made by Dr. Robin Davidson-Arnott and Fiona Duckett. Registrants were able to view shoreline mapping on computer with GIS staff providing aerial photography of their individual properties. A Q & A session followed the presentations with 25 written questions and 2 verbal. Attendees were asked to complete a feedback form and return by July 7. Positive comments were received stating the information open houses were well organized and educational.

MOTION #BD 55/17

**Moved by Mike Tam
Seconded by Wayne Hall**

“RESOLVED, THAT the verbal report on the Shoreline Management Plan Update public information open houses be received as presented.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Kari Jean, Aquatic Biologist gave a presentation on how the ABCA is working with the community to protect biodiversity in the Old Ausable Channel and Port Franks area of Lambton Shores. The ecologically significant features are dune succession, globally rare oak savannah and thousands of species which include rare and at-risk species relying on the unique ecosystem. The Old Ausable Channel is totally groundwater-fed warm water, that is identified federally as critical habitat for three species at risk fishes (grass pickerel, lake chubsucker and pugnose shiner). There is limited habitat in the province for these species and no other locations in Canada.

The ABCA has been involved in turtle monitoring at Port Franks since 2010. There are 8 native turtle species in Ontario and 7 of these species live in the Port Franks area. The community is engaged in reporting turtle sightings or nests. To aid in survival, the eggs are then collected for incubation and released back into the habitat as hatchlings. The turtle exclusion fencing project is completed and was designed to keep turtles from crossing the road to under the road through a culvert.

Ian Jean highlighted the active community groups around the Pinery Park that are engaged in preserving the biodiversity of the area, such as the Lambton Shores Nature Trails Network, Lambton Shores Phragmites Community Group, Habitat Stewardship Group of Huron Woods, Lakeshore Eco Network, Grand Bend Horticultural Society, Southcott Pines Parks Association, Oakwood Park Association and Maple Grove Management Forest Plan.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

Brian Horner provided a written report with a brief update on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming meetings or events and general activities over the previous month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**MOTION #BD 56/17**

**Moved by Wayne Hall
Seconded by Doug Cook**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation meeting on May 30, 2017, the Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee meeting of June 5, 2017 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 60/17

**Moved by Doug Cook
Seconded by Mike Tam**

“RESOLVED, THAT the information presented on the property matter be received.”

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

George Irvin
Vice-Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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