

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, November 14, 2019

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Doug Cook, Adrian Cornelissen, Bob Harvey, George Irvin, Dave Jewitt, Mike Tam, Marissa Vaughan, Alex Westman

STAFF PRESENT

Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Abbie Gutteridge, Davin Heinbuck, Brian Horner, Ian Jean, Daniel King, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk, Ross Wilson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair George Irvin called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 86/19

**Moved Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Mike Tam**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the November 14, 2019 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

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**MOTION #BD 87/19****Moved by Doug Cook
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on October 17, 2019 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES2020 Fee Schedule and Pay Grid

General Manager Brian Horner advised that changes to the fee schedule and the pay grid increase of 1.5% were incorporated into preparing the proposed budget for 2020.

MOTION #BD 88/19**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2020 fee schedule and pay grid be approved as presented.”

Carried.

Consultation Meeting with Minister Yurek

Brian Horner reported that he and Kate Monk, Stewardship, Lands and Education Manager attended the meeting arranged by Minister Yurek’s staff on October 24, 2019 in Toronto. In attendance were Liam O’Brien-Deputy Chief of Staff (MECP); Holly Fullager-Policy Advisor and Public Appointments Manager (ECP); Rebecca Teare and Jessica Isaac (MECP); Carolyn O’Neill, Manager Great Lakes Office (MECO) and Kyle Nietvelt, Policy Advisor and Office Manager Minister’s Office (MNR). Members of staff for local MPPs Lisa Thompson and Monte McNaughton were also in attendance. Presentation and questions centred around what was unique about ABCA; amount of conservation lands owned and managed; environmental monitoring and education programs; number of permits processed; community partnerships and flood messages issued. Consultations are being scheduled with all conservation authorities and Minister Yurek is to speak at the Conservation Ontario Council meeting on December 9, 2019.

PRESENTATION:

Adam Skillen, of Skillen Investment Management presented an update on the investment income since April. The portfolio has done well over the past 5 years. The directors decided not to consider any changes to the 35% equities 65% bonds balance in the portfolio at this time.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk, Planning & 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 6 *Applications for Permission* and 1 *Minor Works Application*.

(b) Violations/Appeals Update

Staff advised there were no updates.

MOTION #BD 89/19

**Moved by Alex Westman
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

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

Carried.

2. Permit Renewal

Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk advised that an extension is requested for a permit issued on October 31, 2018 to renovate an existing cottage at Port Franks. The work has not been started and the applicant would like one more year added to their application. The proposed work now falls under the new Shoreline Management Plan Development Guidelines but does not increase habitable living space.

MOTION #BD 90/19

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors approve the one year renewal of Application for Permission #2018-91A pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06.”

Carried.

3. Splash Sport Park Proposal

Kate Monk presented a proposal from Mr. Juan Castro, owner of Splash Watersports who would like to install an inflatable water park feature on the Parkhill Reservoir as a for-profit business. The 25 metres x 25 metres water feature would be anchored to the bottom of the reservoir and customers would swim to the activity area. Staff have evaluated the proposal as it relates to ABCA achieving its mandate and not having any negative impacts.

MOTION #BD 91/19

**Moved by Doug Cook
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

“RESOLVED, THAT based on the information provided by the proponent and the mandate of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, the ABCA not pursue a business agreement to establish a Splash Sport Park at the Parkhill Conservation Area reservoir.”

Carried.

4. Stewardship Program Project Review

Ian Jean, Forestry & Land Stewardship Specialist presented 12 project applications eligible for funding assistance through the Habitat Stewardship Program to prevent or minimize nutrient and sediment threats to aquatic species at risk in the Ausable River watershed. There was one project eligible for EcoAction funding to improve urban and rural stormwater for Lake Huron. One project was funded through Canada Nature Fund to improve aquatic habitat in the Ausable River for freshwater mussels and fish that are species at risk.

MOTION #BD 92/19

Moved by Alex Westman

Seconded by Bob Harvey

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors approve the projects eligible for stewardship program funding as presented.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Davin Heinbuck, Water Resources Coordinator introduced the presentation on Lake Huron Shoreline and High Lake Levels. Data has been kept since 1918 on water levels for the Great Lakes. The highest level for Lake Huron was in 1986 and the record low was in December - January 2012-13. Levels were at a high point in June 2019 but have come down a bit. The expectation is that winter levels may meet or exceed the records. There are no controls of outflow to adjust lake levels for Lake Michigan or Lake Huron, so it is important to look at the Great Lakes Basin as a whole. Impacts from heavier snow or rain events that drain into Lake Michigan will contribute to higher levels in Lake Huron basin.

Ross Wilson, Water & Soil Resources Coordinator gave an overview of how lake levels, wave height and precipitation are evaluated when issuing flood messaging to lakeshore municipalities.

Daniel King, Regulations Coordinator spoke about understanding risk for property and persons due to hazards, vulnerability and exposure to high lake levels. Photos were shown of the effects on lake banks where stairs and shore protection were destroyed during wind events. A cottage on the lakeshore in 2014 was abandoned by the landowner and had to be removed by the municipality in 2019 before falling over the bank. The energy of a wind event across the lake undermines the toe of a bluff or shore protection and creates an unstable bank. It was commented that Mother Nature doesn't negotiate on structure removal.

The directors asked that this information session be shared with municipalities and lakeshore residents. Brian Horner responded that as part of the Shoreline Management Plan process there would be continual outreach and education opportunities for residents and stakeholders living and working along the shoreline. An information meeting/workshop event is being planned for 2020.

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 93/19

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the DWSP Joint Management Committee meeting held September 19, 2019; Source Protection Committee meeting held on September 25, 2019 and the Friends of South Huron Trail Committee meeting held on November 1, 2019 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Bill 108
File: A.7.1
Brief: Copy of letter from Municipality of Lambton Shores to Randy Pettapiece MPP conveying their support for a resolution from South Huron regarding conservation authority fees.
- b) Reference: Bill 108
File: A.7.1
Brief: Copy of correspondence from Town of Ingersoll Council to Hon. Doug Ford, Premier conveying their support for continuing mandatory and non-mandatory programs of the Upper Thames River CA for their municipality, as well as all conservation authorities.
- c) Reference: Bill 108
File: A.7.1
Brief: Copy of Correspondence from Township of Springwater to Nottawasaga Valley CA advising of their support that conservation authorities only deliver core mandated programs.
- d) Reference: Bill 108
File: A.7.1
Brief: Copy of correspondence from Township of Ramara to Hon. Jeff Yurek advising of its support for a review of conservation authority programs and that an exit clause be provided in any new Conservation Authorities Act.
- e) Reference: Thank You
File: A.5.1
Brief: Thank you from Patti Down for assistance from ABCA staff in helping with the recent Jessica's House residential hospice fundraiser.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

George Irvin
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

*Copies of program reports are available upon request.
Contact Judith Parker, Corporate Services Coordinator*