

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, September 15, 2022  
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom  
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

### IN PERSON/VIDEO CONFERENCE

#### DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

#### DIRECTORS ABSENT

George Irvin

#### STAFF PRESENT

Geoff Cade, Tina Crown, Abbie Gutteridge, Brian Horner, Denise Iszczuk, Daniel King, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Tracey McPherson, Kate Monk, Nathan Schoelier, Angela Van Niekerk, Mari Veliz

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Jewitt called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and welcomed everyone in attendance, both in person and virtually.

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Chair Jewitt read the Land Acknowledgement Statement, acknowledging the original stewards of this land, the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe.

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### **MOTION #BD 77/22**

**Moved Ray Chartrand**  
**Seconded by Marissa Vaughan**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the September 15, 2022 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

Chair Jewitt noted that this meeting was being recorded on Zoom for temporary posting online, and is not an official record. The official record of this meeting will be the approved minutes.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**MOTION #BD 78/22**

**Moved by Adrian Cornelissen  
Seconded by Alex Westman**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on July 14, 2022 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”**

**Carried.**

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Daniel King, 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 17 *Applications for Permission* and 19 *Minor Works Applications*.

(b) Violations/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Water and Planning Manager, noted that there were no updates to provide on the ongoing violations.

**MOTION #BD 79/22**

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

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors affirm the approval of applications as presented in Program Report # 1 – a) Development Review, and receive b) Violations and Appeals update as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**2. Conservation Authorities Act Update**

Kate Monk, Projects Coordinator, provided an update on the ongoing implementation of the *Conservation Authorities Act Update*. She noted that staff have been meeting with municipal staff with regard to the draft agreement for planning services. In addition, the following topics are being discussed with municipal staff: transition plan progress, the current inventory and future programs and services, programs and services that ABCA can provide on a contract or fee-for-service basis, and financial implications for budgets beyond 2023. Municipal staff are also reviewing a draft of the Cost Apportioning Agreement for the Category 3 programs that require levy funding. A draft of the Cost Apportioning Agreement was provided to Directors.

Conservation Authorities were also informed that through new Orders-In-Council made pursuant to the *Executive Council Act*, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has been designated as the Ministry responsible for administering the *Conservation Authorities Act*; however, the administration of the source protection programs under the *Clean Water Act, 2006* remains with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

**MOTION #BD 80/22**

**Moved by Doug Cook**

**Seconded by Mike Tam**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors receive the update on the *Conservation Authorities Act* as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**3. Conservation Lands Strategy**

Kate Monk, Projects Coordinator, reported that there are new requirements for conservation authority properties under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. This includes a conservation lands strategy and inventory of properties, which are to be completed by December 31, 2024. ABCA has decided to work on this strategy in 2023, which includes all parcels of conservation authority owned land. The document will be overarching all properties with sections for our various properties. While there are some regulations for the document, there is flexibility in how the requirements are achieved.

As such, staff have developed a framework and a draft table of contents. This document will aim to fulfill the requirements of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, integrate existing studies, establish clear corporate priorities regarding the future management of ABCA lands,

recommend changes to programs and services in response to research and input received, and develop an implementation plan to balance the needs of the community with protecting the environment. Public input is also required by the legislation, and the ABCA plans to use social media and the website as the principle platform for communication.

**MOTION #BD 81/22****Moved by Marissa Vaughan****Seconded by Bob Harvey**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors receive the report as presented and approve recommendation that the Conservation Lands Strategy be developed using the framework as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**4. Stewardship Project Review**

Angela Van Niekerk, Wetland Specialist, provided an update of stewardship projects through various funding sources. Through the Canada Nature Fund two wetlands, one erosion control project, eight fragile land retirement projects, and nine cover crop projects were funded in both the Ausable and Bayfield watersheds. Two wetlands were funded through Environment and Climate Change Canada, three wetlands were funded through Eco Action, and eight wetlands and one fragile land retirement project were funded through the Habitat Stewardship Project.

**MOTION #BD 82/22****Moved by Ray Chartrand****Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA Board of Directors receive stewardship project update as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**5. Enforcement Services Contract**

Nathan Schoelier, Stewardship and Conservation Lands Manager, presented a contract for enforcement services on ABCA properties. ABCA relies on contracted enforcement companies to complete pro-active patrol, as well as respond to complaints received regarding unauthorized use on ABCA owned or managed properties. For several years, ABCA has contracted Municipal Enforcement Unit (MEU) for these services, but was informed that they will be ceasing operations due to unforeseen circumstances.

ABCA staff investigated two enforcement companies to replace MEU services. One of the companies was not interested in pursuing a contract, so staff met with Tenet Security Group

to discuss enforcement needs. This company is based in Lucan, Ontario and is used by several municipalities in Perth County. ABCA and Tenet Security Group were able to agree on services provided and compensation. A copy of the draft contract was provided to Directors.

**MOTION #BD 83/22**

**Moved by Alex Westman  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority enter into an agreement with Tenet Security Group until December 31, 2023, and**

**“FURTHER, THAT the Board of Directors designate Tenet Security Group as responsible for regular enforcement duties associated with the *Conservation Authorities Act* and *Trespass to Property Act*, with respect to Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority properties and Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy properties.”**

**Carried.**

**6. Parkhill Scenic Lookout Agreement**

Nathan Schoelier, Stewardship and Conservation Lands Manager, noted that the Parkhill Area Horticultural Society (PAHS) is interested in working with the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority to renovate and maintain two of the raised garden beds at the Parkhill Scenic Lookout. The Parkhill Lions’ Club continues to maintain the garden bed below the Lions arch. As part of the contract the PAHS would be responsible for providing ABCA staff with a plan for approval, as well as be responsible for the costs associated with the renovation and maintenance of the beds. The Parkhill Lions’ Club was consulted during the preparation of the agreement and are in support of the PAHS assuming responsibility for the raised garden beds. The agreement would be in place for five years.

Adrian Cornelissen, Director representing North Middlesex, informed staff that the PAHS is funded by the Municipality of North Middlesex, and as such believes that the municipality should be made aware of the potential agreement, as it may have budgeting implications.

**MOTION #BD 84/22**

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

**“RESOLVED, THAT further discussion on the agreement with the Parkhill Area Horticultural Society be deferred until March 2023, pending municipal budget discussions.”**

**Carried.**

### 7. Vehicle Tender Results

Nathan Schoelier presented results from a vehicle tender. At the Board of Directors meeting on February 17, 2022 the purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 from Huron Motor Products in Exeter was approved. However, ABCA staff were informed that General Motors Canada ended production of this truck prior to building the truck that had been ordered. On August 18, staff sent requests for quotations to watershed vehicle dealers with a closing date of September 6. The low tender was again from Huron Motor Products with a price of \$55,135.00, plus taxes and fees, for a 2023 Silverado 2500. The 2022 ABCA budget included \$44,000.00 for the capital purchase of a four-wheel-drive pick-up truck to replace the 2010 Ford F-150. The budget also included an anticipated \$3000 under Product Sales for the sale of the 2010 Ford F-150; however, given the current market a greater return may be realized, reducing the budget implications of the Vehicle & Motor pool. The five year forecast does not anticipate further vehicle replacement until 2025, allowing opportunity for cost-recovery to the motor pool budget.

**MOTION #BD 85/22**

**Moved by Ray Chartrand**

**Seconded by Alex Westman**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority accept the low tender of \$55,135.00 plus taxes for the purchase of a 2023 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 from Huron Motor Products, Exeter.”**

**Carried.**

### 8. Flood Hazard Identification & Mapping Program

Geoff Cade made the Board of Directors aware of a federal cost sharing program called the Flood Hazard Identification & Mapping Program (FHIMP). This is a Canada wide program, for which both municipalities and conservation authorities are eligible to apply. The deadline for applications is September 16, 2022, and the grant is intended for projects including data acquisition, flood plain mapping, flood hazard assessment and research and data dissemination. Some of ABCA’s mapping is more than thirty years old, and this could be an opportunity to seek updates. ABCA received some inquiries from local municipalities about the program, and so reached out to initiate further discussions; however, these discussions have not taken place, so no application will be submitted at this time.

**MOTION #BD 86/22**

**Moved by Doug Cook**

**Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors receive the report on the Flood Hazard Identification & Mapping Program as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**9. Education Update**

Denise Iszczuk, Conservation Educator, presented a summary of education programming throughout the summer months of 2022. In total, ABCA education staff saw almost four hundred your over twenty-seven days of programming, including ABCA Nature Day Camps and in-person programs to community groups. Day Camps required the hiring of one contract staff for four weeks to ensure camper to leader ratios met programming standards. Staff were also able to try day camps at Clinton Conservation Area and Rock Glen Conservation Area.

Education programming for Fall 2022 includes delivering more programs at conservation areas and at schools as requested, developing and delivering four virtual programs, delivering ten sponsored wetland programs and ten sponsored species-at-risk programs, offering Oaks and Acorns programming for ages 18 months to 6 years of age, and several in-person events, including Owl Prowl.

**MOTION #BD 87/22**

**Moved by Bob Harvey**

**Seconded by Alex Westman**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the update on education programing be received as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MOTION #BD 88/22**

**Moved by Doug Cook**

**Seconded by Marissa Vaughan**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Source Protection Committee held on July 27, 2022 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”**

**Carried.**

**CORRESPONDANCE**

a) Reference: Notice from Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

File: A.5.3

Brief: An email from Jennifer Keyes, Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch notifying Conservation Authorities that through new Orders-In-Council made pursuant to the *Executive Council Act* that were approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has been designated as the Ministry responsible for administering the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

b) Reference: Thank you to ABCA Board and Staff

File: A.5.1

Brief: A note of thanks from Alex Westman to those who donated to plant a tree in Donna Westman's memory.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Doug Cook thanked staff who were involved in the phragmites information night in Port Franks, and noted that it was a good success.

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

None

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

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Dave Jewitt  
Chair

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Abigail Gutteridge  
Corporate Services Coordinator

*Copies of program reports are available upon request.  
Contact Abigail Gutteridge, Corporate Services Coordinator*