

CROWE VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

**FULL AUTHORITY MEETING
Held at CVCA Administrative Office**

9 December 2010

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Suzanne Partridge	Municipality of Highlands East
Jim Martin	Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Townships
Dan Boyd	North Kawartha
Bob Ireland	Wollaston Township
Bonnie Danes	Municipality of Marmora and Lake
Gerald Phillips	Tudor & Cashel Township
Bob Wilson	Faraday Township
Robert Stiles	Stirling-Rawdon Township

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bill White	Municipality of Trent Hills
Brian Cofell	Limerick Township

ALSO PRESENT:

Judy Backus, Marmora Herald
Mark Holt, Community Press
Tim Pidduck, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, CVCA
Amanda Donald, Recording Secretary, CVCA
Shannon McCracken, Generic Regulations Officer, CVCA

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair, Suzanne Partridge, called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

FA Motion G 51/10

Moved by: Bonnie Danes

Seconded by: Bob Ireland

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

There were no conflicts declared.

WELCOME:

The Chair, Suzanne Partridge, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Suzanne thanked everyone for their efforts over the past four years, as there will be a number of people who will not be returning to the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority's Board for the next term.

FA Motion G 52/10

Moved by: Bob Wilson

Seconded by: Gerald Phillips

To thank staff for preparing the wonderful Christmas dinner for the Board Members.

Carried.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

FA Motion G 53/10

Moved by: Bob Ireland

Seconded by: Dan Boyd

That the minutes and motions of the Full Authority meeting, 4 November 2010, be approved as circulated.

Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

None.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS AND BUDGET:

The Committee reviewed the accounts as presented.

FA Motion G 54/10

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Dan Boyd

That the accounts in the amount of eighty eight thousand two hundred eighty six dollars and seventy-eight cents (\$88,286.78) representing cheques 2631 to 2705 be approved as presented.

Carried.

GENERIC REGULATIONS:

Shannon McCracken gave the Board a brief update. She stated that there are still some pending permits to complete. She thanked the municipalities for their support over the past few weeks that she has been off due to her knee surgery. Bob Ireland asked Shannon if she feels that the permits issued in 2010 are a fair representation as to what is really happening throughout the watershed. Shannon stated that she does not feel that the permits issued are a fair representation. She believes there are a significant number of development activities occurring without permits throughout the watershed.

FA Motion G 55/10

Moved by: Bob Ireland

Seconded by: Gerald Phillips

To approve the Section 28 permits issued between 4 November and 9 December 2010 as circulated.

Carried.

2011 BUDGET:

Jim Martin asked Tim if the Municipality of Trent Hills will be covering the taxes for Crowe Bridge Conservation Area (CBCA) as outlined in the lease agreement. Tim apologized to the Board for including the taxes for Crowe Bridge in the 2011 budget, but Trent Hills have not paid for the taxes for Crowe Bridge for 2010 yet. Tim asked the Board if they would like him to remove the Crowe Bridge taxes from the budget. Suzanne feels that the Crowe Bridge taxes should be left in the budget in case there is not a lease agreement signed again this year for Crowe Bridge. Jim Martin stated that if the taxes are paid for by the municipality, he would like to see the extra \$1,800 go towards new signs for The Gut Conservation Area, as they are in very poor condition and are not legible.

Gerald Phillips informed the Board that the Township of Tudor and Cashel doesn't feel that they can afford an increase this year and asked them to try to lower the 4.9% increase for the 2011 budget.

Jim Martin mentioned that Reeve Gerow stated that Havelock-Belmont-Methuen will be sharpening their pencils in the years to come and will be examining all expenditures. Jim also feels that if the grant for the administrative building does not get approved, that we may have to consider changing locations for the administrative building.

There was a brief conversation regarding Conservation Ontario and the possibility of getting more funding out of the province. Tim informed the Board that Conservation Ontario has been trying and has had conversations with the Minister of Natural Resources, but the Minister keeps on telling them that there are no new funds available. Jim feels that we should be inviting the MPs to future meetings so they can understand working conditions and "state of affairs" at the CVCA.

FA Motion G 56/10

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Gerald Phillips

That the Authority approve the 2011 budget in principle and proceed to present the budget to the Board members' respective councils for their 30 day review period.

Carried.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Water Report

Water levels and flows are above normal for this time of the year. It is a good reminder that high water or floods can occur at any given time. Tim informed the Board that a flood advisory was issued on the 30th of November and updated on 2nd of December. This advisory will hopefully be downgraded in the next day or two. Tim let the Board know that the peak flow at Marmora was 97.7cms and compared it to the spring peak flow of 71.6cms. Tim gave other examples of the high water levels and flows throughout the watershed and compared them to the spring levels and flows. Neil McConkey is anticipating the water levels and flows to decrease significantly in the next 7 to 10 days. There have been a number of calls from concerned residents and Tim has had constant communication with municipalities such as Trent Hills and North Kawartha which have key "hot spots" in the watershed. Several flooded roads and a log jam have been the primary areas of concern so far. The hydro plant has been running consistently, however less output is attained as the head differential is minimized during periods of high flows. There is also more debris collected in the trash racks due to the higher flows, which restrict flow to the generators. Tim thanked Neil for coming into the office for a number of days during his vacation to manage the watershed during the freshet, once again showing his dedication to the Authority.

Administration

LouAnne Young has completed 90% of the grant application for the Administrative building and has had a number of different contactors in to complete quotes for the project. Lou has also been pursuing additional grant money through the use of a foundation search engine. This search engine allows the Authority access to a large database of foundations across Canada. There has been a personal donation made to the Authority through the efforts of Lou and the generosity of one of her uncles, Hugh Borgland. He has donated \$10,000 to the Crowe Valley Conservation Foundation for the outdoor education centre at the McGeachie Conservation Area. A big thank you has been sent out to Mr. Borgland and many thanks to Lou for her efforts.

Monitoring Programs

Marnie Guindon will be concluding tests at well sites for the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network before the end of the year. Vicki Woolfrey will be attending a training session in Dorset to upgrade her benthic identification skills. This will allow Vicki to identify to the family level, which will be considerably more detailed and accurate than what the Authority has done to date. This will fit in with the Provincial initiative and standards to ensure the best available methodology are being employed by all CA's. Suzanne would like to invite Vicki to a meeting to explain in more detail the OBBN program to the Board.

Bob Wilson has contacted Tim and invited him to the Faraday council meeting to discuss the budget. Tim stated that he would be happy to attend other council meetings to discuss the 2011 budget. Tim thanked the Board members who are not returning next year for their hard work and efforts.

FA Motion G 57/10

Moved by: Bob Wilson

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To thank Mr. Hugh Borgland for his generous donation to the Crowe Valley Conservation Foundation.

Carried.

CHRISTMAS CLOSING:

FA Motion G 58/10

Moved by: Bonnie Danes

Seconded by: Bob Stiles

That the Authority close the office on the 29th, 30th and the 31st of December 2010 for the Christmas holidays, subject to an appropriate on call and duty forecaster schedule developed by the General Manager to cover the scheduled office closure.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Jim Martin mentioned that on 14 May 2011, there is going to be a celebration held in Havelock and was wondering if the Authority would be interested in setting up a display. Tim stated that the Authority would be willing to do that as the Authority has participated in events throughout the watershed such as Marmora SnowFest and Coe Hill's community event.

Tim distributed the meeting dates for 2011 to the Board members. He also informed them that he has been working on a retention policy for the Authority and circulated what he has completed so far. He would like to bring this up at the February meeting for discussion and approval. Tim will distribute this information to the new Board members in 2011.

Jim Martin mentioned that he knows of a company who will digitize all of your files for a very reasonable rate. He will get the contact information to Tim.

MEDIA SESSION:

Mark Holt of the Community Press asked the name of the person who made the donation to the Foundation. Tim informed him that it was Hugh Borgland.

Judy Backus of the Marmora Herald asked how many MPs there are in the watershed. The Board informed her that there are four MPs throughout the watershed. Judy also asked for Neil's last name and his position as well as the total levy increase for the 2011 budget.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

The next scheduled meeting of the Full Authority Board will be 17 February 2011 at 12:30pm at the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority's office.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Bonnie Danes, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm.

Amanda Donald
Recording Secretary

Suzanne Partridge
Chair