

CROWE VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

FULL AUTHORITY

24 September 2015

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Taylor	Limerick Township
Jim O'Shea	North Kawartha
Catherine Redden	Municipality of Trent Hills
Irene Martin	Tudor & Cashel Township
Bob Ireland	Wollaston Township
Sandy Fraser	Municipality of Marmora and Lake
Edgar Storms	Stirling-Rawdon Township
Suzanne Partridge	Municipality of Highlands East

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Emma Kearns	Faraday Township
Ron Gerow	Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Townships

ALSO PRESENT:

Tim Pidduck, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, CVCA
Amanda Donald, Recording Secretary, CVCA
Sharlene Richardson, Regulations Officer, CVCA
Margriet Kitchen, Centre Hastings News, Freelance Reporter
Matt Dejong, Chief Building Inspector, Municipality of Marmora and Lake

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair, Suzanne Partridge, called the meeting to order at 9:05am.

WELCOME:

The Chair, Suzanne Partridge, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Suzanne welcomed Edgar Storms to the Board. Edgar will be the new representative from Township of Stirling-Rawdon.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Suzanne Partridge added correspondence to the agenda.

Catherine Redden arrived at 9:07am.

FA Motion G 56/15

Moved by: Sandy Fraser

Seconded by: John Taylor

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

There were no conflicts declared.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

FA Motion G 57/15

Moved by: Irene Martin

Seconded by: Bob Ireland

That the minutes and motions of the Full Authority meeting, 18 June 2015, be approved as circulated.

Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The letters from The Municipality of Marmora and Lake and the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen were discussed at length during the next agenda item.

MARMORA & LAKE RECOMMENDATION/QUINTE PROPOSAL

The Chair, Suzanne Partridge, expresses her surprise and disappointment with regards to the letters received from Marmora and Lake and Havelock-Belmont-Methuen. Suzanne pointed out, that according to section 1.2 of the Code of Conduct in The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority Governance and Administrative Policies – Board of Directors, the Board members should have brought the issue to the CVCA Board before going to municipal council.

A lengthy discussion ensued, surrounding the reasons the Quinte proposal was turned down in 2014 and the chronology of events. Sandy Fraser informed the Board Marmora and Lake Council would like to arrange a meeting between the councils of Marmora and Lake, Havelock-Belmont-Methuen and the Board members to discuss the Quinte proposal. The municipality of Marmora and Lake thinks Quinte will provide excellent services and has the tools that CVCA does not have. Sandy feels CVCA will never have the money to provide the services as well as Quinte Conservation. There were many questions asked about providing evidence that the current Long Range Plan is not working.

Tim Pidduck, General Manager, gave a brief presentation to the Board, addressing the financial problems of CVCA. The province has not increased its transfer payment for many years and feels the root problem is the funding model of the provincial transfer payments. Tim informed the Board the *Conservation Authorities Act* is currently under review and is accepting comments from public. This would be an excellent opportunity to make comments to the province voicing the concerns of CVCA and its member municipalities.

Jim O'Shea arrived at 9:45am.

Tim feels confident the *Conservation Authorities Act* will change to benefit smaller Conservation Authorities. Suzanne asked Tim to draft comments and distribute them to the Board and to the Municipalities for their comments.

FA Motion G 58/15

Moved By: Bob Ireland

Seconded By: Irene Martin

That the General Manager prepares comments to be sent to Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) regarding the *Conservation Authorities Act* review and circulate the comments to the Board members and member municipalities for comments before submitting to the MNR.

Carried.

FA Motion G 59/15

Moved By: Catherine Redden

Seconded By: John Taylor

That the Chair writes a letter thanking the municipalities of Marmora and Lake and Havelock-Belmont-Methuen for their letters, informing them the CVCA Board understands and shares their financial concerns. The letter will inform the municipalities that CVCA will be submitting comments to the MNR with regards to the discussion paper on the *Conservation Authorities Act* and these comments will be circulated to all member municipalities for their comments prior to being submitted to the MNR.

Carried.

Sandy Fraser informed the Board the letter will not change the mind of Marmora and Lake and he would like to see the Board try to set up a joint meeting as stated in the letter. There was discussion on having a joint meeting to further discuss the Quinte proposal. It was decided the meeting would be premature at this time and the Board needs to see how the comments made to the MNR impact changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the resulting financial situations of fiscally challenged conservation authorities like the CVCA.

MOTION TO MOVE INCAMERA

Sandy Fraser requested to read a statement from Marmora and Lake. Suzanne informed him the Board would decide during the closed session whether or not he would be able to read the statement. Matt Dejong, Chief Building Inspector of Marmora and Lake, interrupted the meeting to speak with Sandy Fraser. Chair Partridge asked him to stop interrupting the meeting repeatedly.

Sandy Fraser left the meeting for the in camera session, due to a conflict of interest.

FA Motion G 60/15

Moved by: Catherine Redden

Seconded by: John Taylor

That the Full Authority Board move into an in camera session to discuss a legal issue.

Carried.

FA Motion G 61/15

Moved By: Bob Ireland

Seconded By: Jim O'Shea

That the Full Authority Board move into open session.

Carried.

The Board took a 10 minute break at 10:50am.

Call back to order at 11:05am

Sandy Fraser was absent – the meeting was delayed to ensure Sandy was aware it had resumed. Sandy Fraser had left the premise and never returned to the meeting. The meeting continued at 11:10am.

FA Motion G 62/15

Moved By: Irene Martin

Seconded By: Edgar Storms

That staff follow the direction given during the in camera session.

Carried.

REGULATIONS & PLANNING REPORT:

Sharlene informed the Board 45 planning files and 72 regulations permits have been processed since the last Board meeting in June. There have been a lot of general inquiries this year that have taken a lot of extra time.

Sharlene informed the Board that Vicki Woolfrey's help with the regulations program this year was crucial to the success of the program.

FA Motion G 63/15

Moved By: John Taylor

Seconded By: Catherine Redden

To receive the regulations and planning report as circulated.

Carried.

REGULATIONS HEARING PROCEDURES PRESENTATION

Sharlene gave a presentation to the Board outlining the procedures for having a regulations hearing. A hearing is completed by the Board at the request of a property owner if they do not agree with the decision made by staff on a regulations application. The Conservation Authority staff will make a presentation to the Board followed by a presentation by the property owner. The Board will then have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the application and eventually make a decision to approve or deny the application. Sharlene informed the Board if the property owner does not agree with the Board's decision, they can appeal the issue to the Mining and Lands Commissioner.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

Tim informed the Board he recently attended the conservation authority biennial tour. It was a great opportunity to network with other Conservation Authorities and see highlights of other watersheds.

There was some discussion on possibly closing the McGeachie cottage for the winter months. The Board requested a report on revenues vs expenses be brought back for the November meeting and the cottage is kept open until the Christmas vacation.

There was some discussion on the vandalism at the Gut Conservation Area.

FA Motion G 64/15

Moved By: Catherine Redden

Seconded By: Irene Martin

To receive the General Manager's report.

Carried.

GENERAL MANAGERS REVIEW

FA Motion G 65/15

Moved By: Catherine Redden

Seconded By: Jim O'Shea

To rely on the experience of a volunteer Board member (Bob Ireland) combined with Conservation Authority staff from Hamilton Conservation Authority to develop the framework for completing the annual General Manager's review.

Carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Suzanne Partridge informed the Board that another Executive Committee member needs to be elected. There was some discussion on the duties of the Executive Committee. The Board asked Tim to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee and circulate to the Board for comments.

Catherine Redden left the meeting at 11:50am.

2016 BUDGET

No discussion.

SOURCE PROTECTION – RMO PROPOSAL

Vicki Woolfrey gave a brief history of the Source Protection program and how her position at the Authority has changed over the years. She informed the Board that Andrea Stillman who was the Risk Management Official (RMO) for Havelock-Belmont-Methuen and Highlands East recently moved on. CVCA has submitted a proposal to Havelock-Belmont-Methuen for completing the RMO duties. CVCA has not heard of a decision made by Havelock-Belmont-Methuen regarding the RMO duties however Havelock-Belmont-Methuen has asked Otonabee Region Conservation Authority for a proposal for the RMO position.

Vicki reviewed some of the duties the RMO would be responsible for and referred to the proposal the Board received with their agenda package.

LAND DONATION

There was some discussion on the land and concern was expressed over the fact there is no access to the property unless using neighbors land. The Board decided to defer the decision until someone has gone to the property to have a look at it and it will be discussed at the November meeting.

Bob Ireland indicated he would like to view the property with the General Manager.

MARMORA DAM ACCIDENT

There was some discussion on the unfortunate accident which occurred on the Marmora Dam. Tim has had a conversation with the gentlemen and he seemed to be more concerned with public safety than anything else.

There were discussions on the inspections of the dam. Tim informed the Board staff does regular inspections of the Marmora dam and the last formal safety inspection was completed in 2008 which is good for 10 years. Tim also informed the Board there will be a risk assessment completed by Marsh Insurance Company in October.

MEDIA SESSION.

None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

The next scheduled meeting of the Full Authority Board will be 19 November 2015 at 10:00am.

ADJOURNMENT:

FA Motion G 66/15

Moved By: Jim O'Shea

That the Full Authority Board Meeting be adjourned at 12:25pm.

Carried.

Amanda Donald
Recording Secretary

Suzanne Partridge
Chair

DRAFT