

Full Authority
15 September 2022
Agenda Item: 17

General Manager's Report

Background

The General Manager's report provides a brief update for the Board Members prior to the Board meeting bringing forward additional information and/or progress on initiatives or current issues for the Board members' consideration.

Watershed Management

Current Watershed Conditions

- Water levels and flows have remained consistent and within the summer elevation range for most of the summer. This is a result of enough precipitation at the right time in the watershed.

Anticipated Conditions

- Staff anticipate a continuation of normal water levels and flows heading into the fall season.

Water Erosion Control Infrastructure Status Update

Marmora Dam Repairs

- The CVCA's Marmora Dam Repairs Project is scheduled to start on the 12th of September. Target completion date is 3 weeks after commencement.
- Total project cost is anticipated to be within or below project submission. Should the savings be high enough and the Board is in agreement, staff will propose to the Ministry of Natural Resources the excess funding be utilized to repair the steps at Belmont if the window to complete the work is available.

Crowe Bridge Dam Safety Assessment

- The in water work for the Crowe Bridge Dam Safety Assessment has been completed by EXP since there was a window of low flow to allow the work to proceed.
- The final report is anticipated before the next CVCA Board meeting. Staff will disclose the recommendations of the report with the Board. Staff will share the results with the Municipality of Trent Hills and discussion options moving forward.

Flood Forecasting and Warning System Upgrade

- Andrew McIntyre has been the lead for the upgrade to the Flood Forecasting and Warning System. However, due to the increase in his regulations workload, no advancements have been made with the installation of the new equipment.
- Should the workload decrease enough to allow for the installation to proceed, staff will resume the work later this fall.
- However, this may not occur until next year. Staff will target the installation work to be completed prior to the 2023 spring freshet.

Dam Operations – General

- Staff have been fitting new stop logs to prepare them for use in CVCA owned dams.

Conservation Areas Update

General

Callaghan's Rapids Conservation Area

- One volunteer has worked extensively with a Professor from the University of Toronto to conduct additional site visits this summer to Callaghan's for the plant identification inventory.
- This volunteer will personally fund the project and is requesting the funds for the project flow through the Crowe Valley Conservation Foundation (CVCF). Once the donation is made to the CVCF, it will donate the funds to the CVCA.

- This will allow two outcomes. First, the inventory will become the property of the CVCA rather than staying in the hands of the volunteer. Secondly, it will also enable the CVCF to issue a tax receipt to the volunteer.
- This type of arrangement has been conducted before when work has been completed on other CVCA properties (such as trail work at McGeachie, donations for improvements at The Gut or possibly future work on The Gut Road).

Callaghan's Barrier/Parking Lot

Anticipated start date for the Callaghan's Barrier/Parking Lot Project (III) is the 12th of September.

An Incident Report is also attached for the Board's consideration.

Administration Update

Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP)

- Further to the details in the 16th June General Manager's Report, the following is offered for the Board's information.
- Recently, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry rolled out their Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program where Municipalities, First Nation communities and Conservation Authorities can apply for funding to support local Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping.
- CVCA has been in discussions with our engineering firm to determine an approximate cost for the Chandos Lake Flood Elevation Study and Floodplain Mapping projects. This will be critical for the submission. A meeting has been arranged for the 9th of September.
- Regrettably, there are some strict project requirements to successfully be awarded funding. CVCA staff have been working with Conservation Ontario to overcome any hurdles to help increase the odds of obtaining funding.
- Project submissions are due by the 16th of September.
- Should the CVCA be successful with the Chandos Lake Flood Elevation Study Project Submission, this would be an excellent opportunity for the CVCA to

- partner with other stakeholders to secure funding for Chandos Lake flood plain mapping.
- The funding would be a 50/50 arrangement similar to WECI funding. If North Kawartha and the Chandos Lake Property Owners Association would partner with the CVCA, then a 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 share of the 50% would reduce the cost significantly for the three organizations.

Ministerial Change

- CVCA received notification on the 30th of August 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 (MNRF) has been designated as the Ministry responsible for administering the Conservation Authorities Act (CAA).
- Therefore, moving forward, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) no longer has duties, functions or responsibilities under the CAA.
- Since 2018, MECP led significant legislative and regulatory changes to the CAA to improve the governance, oversight, transparency and accountability of conservation authorities.
- MECP has informed conservation authorities that it will continue to support MNRF during this transition to ensure it is seamless for staff, the public, municipalities, conservation authorities and other partners.

Conservation Ontario

- The Conservation Ontario Manager's position has been filled by Angela Coleman, CAO of the South Nation Conservation Authority

Communications

- Bancroft Times article – 17 August 2022 (see attached).