

**Full Authority**  
**17 April 2025**  
**Agenda Item: 13**

**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*

- The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority issued a Flood Watch on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2025.
- Two weeks later, the CVCA issued a Flood Warning on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 after the ice storm deposited approximately 50mm of precipitation during this 24 hour event. This precipitation coupled with the melting snowpack and already rising water levels resulted in the necessity to issue the Flood Warning for the entire CVCA watershed.
- Water levels and flows quickly escalated to levels similar to floods in 2014 and 2019.
- Flooding has occurred at many points throughout the watershed. High levels and flows have been recorded at most major lakes and on North River, Beaver Creek and the Crowe River. The lower lakes in the watershed have been hit the hardest, including Round Lake, Cordova Lake, Belmont Lake and Crowe Lake.
- Flood levels and flows have peaked on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 and have slowly started to recede.
- During the Flood Warning, the CVCA staff have kept the office open 24/7 for the public's benefit and opportunity to obtain essential information regarding 1) current water levels and flows, 2) analysis of forecasted conditions and how it would impact the local watershed, and 3) where to direct the public to the appropriate authorities in the event of an emergency or where to obtain resources to fight flooding.

*Anticipated Conditions*

- Staff anticipate water levels and flows to slowly begin to recede with a downward trend gaining momentum as each day passes as long as current conditions persist.

- The seven day forecast includes small amounts of precipitation which will not result in changing the declining levels and flows throughout the watershed.
- Remnants of a snowpack still exist in the north west corner of the watershed with approximately 20 to 48 mm of water content. This should be released slowly as most days remain below seasonal for the next seven day period.
- Although flood conditions are improving, staff are fully aware there is still three to four weeks of unpredictable precipitation where the wrong amount of rain at the wrong time could easily send the watershed back into a flood warning scenario again this spring.

### *Dam Operations – General*

- Staff will be monitoring lake levels closely to ensure stoplogs are replaced in dams to capture enough water to begin the summer recreational season.
- Due to rainfall between now and the start of the summer, the transition to summer recreational levels will likely have periods of water level “swings” until the weather conditions have stabilized, usually in early to mid-June.

### **Conservation Areas Update**

No updates at this time.

### **Regulations and Planning**

- CVCA staff held a Regulations and Planning Lunch and Learn for the northern townships on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March at the McGeachie cottage. The session was well attended by municipal staff. All staff believed the session was well received and beneficial for increasing the knowledge base to be used in the upcoming building season.

### **Administration**

#### *General*

Liam Bailey-McDade is currently taking the Provincial Offenses Officer training course to obtain certification. This will enable Liam to write permits for the *Ontario 41/24* regulation applications.

Beth Lowe is currently taking the Risk Management Official (RMO) course. When completed, this will give the CVCA a backup RMO for the Municipality of Highlands East.

***Staff Recommendation***

***That the CVCA Board receive the General Manager's report as presented.***

**Board Discussion**  
**TP**