

CROWE VALLEY WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD HEARING
Virtual Meeting via Google Meet
17 April 2025

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Metcalf	Municipality of Trent Hills
Jim Martin	Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Townships
Ron Derry	Municipality of Marmora and Lake
Colin McLellan	Township of North Kawartha
Paul Ordanis	Wollaston Township
Jerry Chadwick	Tudor & Cashel Township
John O'Donnell	Municipality of Faraday
Jeremy Solmes	Stirling-Rawdon Township

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dave Burton	Municipality of Highlands East
Shawn Pack	Limerick Township

ALSO PRESENT:

Tim Pidduck, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, CVCA
Amanda Donald, Recording Secretary, CVCA
Kelsey Davidson, Regulations Officer, CVCA
John and Rob Bowen, Applicants
Gary Bowen

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Colin McLellan, called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Colin McLellan read a land acknowledgement thanking generations of Indigenous people who have taken care of the land for thousands of years before us.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion H 07/25

Moved by: Paul Ordanis

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To approve the Watershed Advisory Hearing agenda as circulated.

Carried.

WELCOME

Colin McLellan welcomed the Board, staff, applicants and members of the public to the Watershed Advisory Hearing.

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair, Colin McLellan, informed the Watershed Advisory Hearing Board that a Hearing under Section 28.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* will now be held with respect to Mr. John Bowen, Mr. Gary Bowen and Mr. Robert Bowen's application for permission to construct an ATV trail within a wetland greater than 2 hectares and a watercourse.

Chair Colin McLellan gave the opening remarks as outlined in the hearing guidelines with respect to Ontario Regulation 041/24 and reviewed the procedure of the Hearing.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chair McLellan reminded the Board if anyone has intervened for this permit they should declare a conflict. There were no conflicts declared.

STAFF REPORT – KELSEY DAVIDSON

Kelsey Davidson, Regulations Officer, gave a presentation reviewing the location of the property near Cordova Lake and the background of the property. Kelsey informed the Board the property is vacant with no structures or driveways on the land. The existing ATV trail used to access the property is located off of the subject property and is no longer available to use. Kelsey reviewed the timeline and photos of the property with the Board.

The proposed ATV trail will be four metres wide by one hundred thirty metres long and one metre deep with a total footprint of approximately five hundred twenty square metres. The applicant plans to use existing fill from the property and the trail will have an engineered culvert in place. Kelsey reviewed the diagrams of the proposal with the Board and mapping of the location. The construction route to the proposed ATV trail is unknown at this time.

Kelsey informed the Board alternative recommendations were made to the applicants including developing a two metre wide path, purchasing more land or lease agreement, and using the current snowmobile/ATV trails that appear to access the property.

Kelsey reviewed the applicable sections in Ontario Regulations 41/24 which state development activities are prohibited within 30 metres of a wetland. The proposal is within a wetland greater than 2 hectares and a watercourse and does not conform with legislation. The ATV trail does not conform with CVCA policy as it is within the thirty metre setback of a wetland, is within a wetland, is a new access route within a wetland and does not meet the definition of low-intensity use. Therefore, staff recommend the application be denied.

The Board asked various questions including control of flooding, source of fill being used, the length of the existing trail being much shorter than the proposed and use of the existing beaver dam in the proposed trail.

Motion H 08/25

Moved by: Paul Ordanis

Seconded by: Jeremy Solmes

To Receive the CVCA Staff Report presented by Regulations Officer Kelsey Davidson.

Carried.

APPLICANT REPORT – Gary Bowen

Mr. Gary Bowen tried answering some of the Board's questions about the proposed ATV trail. He informed the Board an engineer suggested they use the existing beaver dam as part of the trail. He referred to the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) which states there will be impact down stream of the trail. Mr. Bowen informed the Board the nearest infrastructure to the proposal is a bridge so the proposal would pose no public safety issues.

The Board confirmed the size of the culvert and Mr. Bowen informed the Board any flood waters would just flow over the road. There was discussion on the integrity of the beaver dam and the width of the ATV trail.

Motion H 09/25

Moved by: Jeremy Solmes

Seconded by: John O'Donnell

To receive the report from Mr. Gary Bowen for Permit 085/24.

Carried.

IN CAMERA SESSION

The Board decided an In Camera session was not necessary.

BOARD DELIBERATIONS

The Board discussed the application and the construction route that has not been confirmed by the applicant yet. Tim Pidduck informed the Board, they are able to set conditions on the permit as they see fit and pointed out the construction route should have been included in the original permit. There was some discussion on potential Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) hearing.

Motion H 10/25

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Michael Metcalf

That the Watershed Advisory Board approve permit 085/24 with the condition that the construction route be provided to the satisfaction of CVCA staff prior to development.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion H 11/25

Moved by: Paul Ordanis

Seconded: Jim Martin

That the Watershed & Advisory Board Hearing Meeting be adjourned at 10:04am.

Carried.

Amanda Donald
Recording Secretary

Colin McLellan
Chair