

**CROWE VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**FULL AUTHORITY – Virtual Meeting via Google Meet**

**7 December 2022**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jim Martin	Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Townships
Jan O’Neill	Municipality of Marmora and Lake
John O’Donnell	Faraday Township
Suzanne Partridge	Municipality of Highlands East
Catherine Redden	Municipality of Trent Hills
Colin McLellan	North Kawartha
Jeff Swartman	Wollaston Township
Jan MacKillican	Limerick Township

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jeff Swartman	Wollaston Township
Dean Graff	Stirling-Rawdon Township
Ronald Carrol	Tudor & Cashel Township

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Tim Pidduck, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, CVCA  
Amanda Donald, Recording Secretary, CVCA  
Beth Lowe, Regulations Officer, CVCA

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Chair, Jan O’Neill, called the meeting to order at 11:00am.

## **WELCOME**

Jan O'Neill welcomed the Board to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. She reminded the Board this meeting has been postponed since 17 November 2022 Board meeting. Jan O'Neill welcomed Colin McLellan and John O'Donnell to the meeting and explained there will be new Board members in attendance at the January 2023 meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **FA Motion G 081/22**

Moved by: Jim Marin

Seconded by: Catherine Redden

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried.

## **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:**

There were no conflicts declared.

## **REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

### **FA Motion G 082/22**

Moved by: Catherine Redden

Seconded by: Jim Martin

That the minutes and motions of the Full Authority and the Watershed Advisory Board Hearing, 15 September 2022, be approved as circulated.

Carried.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

None.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **FA Motion G 083/22**

Moved by: Jan O'Neill

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

To receive the letter from North Kawartha dated 20 September 2022 and defer discussion to the closed session due to legal opinions and identifiable individuals.

Carried.

## **REGULATIONS AND PLANNING REPORT**

Beth Lowe informed the Board during this reporting period 15 PIFs, 27 planning files and 34 permits were completed. There were no changes to the subdivision report.

The Board asked if the number of files coming into the office has decreased compared to the peak of the building season. Beth informed the Board we have seen a slight decrease in the number of files being submitted. This could be due to the rising interest rates or due to the changing seasons.

### **FA Motion G 084/22**

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

To receive the regulations and planning reports as circulated.

Carried.

## FEE POLICY & FEE SCHEDULES

The Board asked about increases to the McGeachie cottage rental rates. Tim Pidduck reminded the Board, the cottage rates have been discussed a number of times in the past and the increases to the rates have always been minimal to prevent losing repeat renters. Tim informed the Board the cottage is currently at cost-recovery unless capital improvements are necessary.

The Board asked Tim for rationale for the increase to the regulations and planning fees. Tim informed the Board it is being driven by Bill 23 which will freeze Conservation Authority fees for an unknown period of time. Most if not all of the neighboring Conservation Authorities are also raising fees prior to 1 January 2023.

There was discussion on fees remaining comparable to neighboring Conservation Authorities, not rushing into fee increases due to Provincial deadlines, the effect on municipal levy if fees are not increased and complaints received regarding CVCA fees. Tim provided examples of neighboring Conservation Authority fees as a comparison to CVCA fees pointing out CVCA fees are higher in some areas and considerably lower in others.

### **FA Motion G 085/22**

**Moved by:** Catherine Redden

**Seconded by:** Jim Martin

That the CVCA Fee Policy be adopted as presented in order to be compliant with current legislative requirements and

That the CVCA Fee Schedules be adopted and implemented as of 31 December 2022.

Recorded Vote:

Suzanne Partridge	Yes	Jim Martin	No
Catherine Redden	Yes	Colin McLellan	No
Dean Graff	N/A	Jan MacKillican	Yes
John O'Donnell	No	Jeff Swartman	N/A
Jan O'Neill	Yes	Ronald Carroll	N/A

Carried.

### **FA Motion G 086/22**

**Moved by:** Catherine Redden

**Seconded by:** Jim Martin

To direct staff to provide comparative information for fees at the next Board meeting.

Carried.

## **BILL 23 – MORE HOMES BUILD FASTER ACT 2022**

Tim Piddcuk informed the Board Bill 23 has received royal assent and new regulations will follow in the New Year. Some of the changes could include decreases to the setback around wetlands, no longer regulating for pollution and conservation of lands and identifying Conservation Area lands that can be developed. Until the regulations are released it is business as usual.

### **FA Motion G 087/22**

Moved by: John O'Donnell

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

To receive Bill 23 staff report for information.

Carried.

## **2023 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

Tim Pidduck reminded the Board at the September Board meeting, the Board requested staff develop a draft 2023 budget to address staff capacity issues in the Regulations program in an effort to decrease turnaround times. Tim informed the Board, neighboring Conservation Authorities are also increasing staff capacity with the hope of reducing permit turnaround times. This draft budget addresses staff capacity but it does not consider the wage review the Board asked Tim to prepare. The wage review will be discussed in closed session. Tim informed the Board the draft budget includes increases to expenses at the current rate of inflation.

### **FA Motion G 088/22**

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Colin McLellan

To defer further discussions on the draft 2023 budget to January 2023 Board meeting and to have an orientation session on the budget at the January meeting.

Carried.

## **GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT**

Tim Pidduck thanked the Board members who are not returning for their service and advice they have provided. He is also looking forward to working with the new Board members and informed the Board CVCA is expecting eight new Board members.

Tim updated the Board on progress made at Callaghan's Rapids. The project costs more than expected, however Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance (EOTA) will be covering the additional costs. Tim is grateful for the partnership with EOTA.

Tim Pidduck thanked Municipality of Trent Hills for their continued support and for providing additional funds to complete a full safety report on Crowe Bridge Conservation Area (CBCA) weir. He is expecting to receive the report by the end of the year.

There has been a spike in water levels due to recent rainfall, however water levels and flow should be returning to normal and approaching winter levels soon.

Tim informed the Board he has a meeting with stakeholder group for the Gut Conservation Area road maintenance next week. He also informed the Board he will be looking for a new auditor for CVCA since Grant Thornton has dropped CVCA as a client.

There were some questions on the progress made for cleanup efforts at McGeachie trails. Tim informed the Board staff and volunteers have been making some progress. He is unsure when they will be completely open at this time as public safety needs to be ensured.

There was some discussion on orientation for new Board members beginning at the January 2023 board meeting.

### **FA Motion G 089/22**

Moved by: Jan MacKillican

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To receive the General Manager's report as circulated and presented.

Carried.

## **APPROVAL OF 2023 MEETING DATES**

The 2023 meeting dates should be reviewed with the new Board in January 2023.

### **FA Motion G 090/21**

Moved by: Colin McLellan

Seconded by: John O'Donnell

To approve the 2023 meeting dates as circulated and to review the dates with the new Board.

Carried.

## **CHRISTMAS CLOSING**

### **FA Motion G 091/22**

Moved by: Catherine Redden

Seconded by: Colin McLellan

To approve the 2022 Christmas Closing as circulated.

Carried.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

## **MEDIA SESSION**

None.

## **MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA**

### **FA Motion G 092/22**

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Catherine Redden

That the Full Authority Board move into an In Camera session to discuss a personnel issue.

Carried.

### **FA Motion G 093/22**

Moved by: Colin McLellan

Seconded by: Jim Martin

That the Full Authority Board move into open session.

Carried.

### **FA Motion G 094/22**

Moved by: Catherine Redden

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To release \$86,786.50 from CVCA reserves and to direct staff to move forward with the funding opportunity for the floodplain mapping project of the southern portion of the Crowe River Watershed.

Carried.

### **FA Motion G 095/22**

Moved by: Catherine Redden

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To release \$62,542.50 from CVCA reserves and to direct staff to move forward with the funding opportunity for floodplain mapping project for Chandos Lake and to follow up with Township of North Kawartha and Chandos Lake Cottage Association to establish a funding partnership for the project.

Carried.

### **FA Motion G 096/22**

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Colin McLellan

To send the discussed response to the letter received from Township of North Kawartha on 20 September 2022.

Carried.



**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Full Authority Board will be 19 January 2023 at 10:00am.

Suzanne Partridge and Catherine Redden thanked Board members and CVCA staff for their hard work and stated it has been a pleasure working with them all.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**FA Motion G 097/22**

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Colin McLellan

That the Full Authority Board Meeting be adjourned at 1:51pm.

Carried.

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Amanda Donald  
Recording Secretary

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Jan O'Neill  
Chair