

CROWE VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

FULL AUTHORITY

17 September 2020

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Suzanne Partridge	Municipality of Highlands East
Jim O'Shea	North Kawartha
Catherine Redden	Municipality of Trent Hills
Jim Martin	Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Townships
Tim Conlin	Wollaston Township
Jan O'Neil	Municipality of Marmora and Lake
Jan MacKillican	Limerick Township
Dan Bujas	Faraday Township

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Edgar Storms	Stirling-Rawdon Township
Ronald Carrol	Tudor & Cashel Township

ALSO PRESENT:

Tim Pidduck, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, CVCA
Amanda Donald, Recording Secretary, CVCA
Andrew McIntyre, Regulations Officer, CVCA

WELCOME:

The Chair, Catherine Redden, welcomed everyone to the meeting which was being held at the Marmora community Centre. Tim Pidduck requested some changes to the order of the agenda.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair, Catherine Redden, called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

FA Motion G 43/20

Moved by: Dan Bujas

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

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 44/20

Moved by: Jan O'Neill

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

That the minutes and motions of the Full Authority, 20 February 2020, be approved as circulated.

Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

None.

REGULATIONS AND PLANNING REPORT

Andrew McIntyre reviewed the regulations and planning reports with the Board. A total of 81 permits and 96 Property Inquiry Forms and 44 planning files had been completed for this reporting period.

The Board asked about permit numbers compared to previous years. Andrew informed the Board the permit numbers are around the same number compared to this time last year, but the property inquiries are quite a bit higher than last year's total.

FA Motion G 45/20

Moved by: Dan Bujas

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To receive the regulations and planning reports as circulated and presented.

Carried.

There was some discussion on reporting for violations and the possibility of having municipal building officials review CVCA issued permits while they are doing their own inspections and having the building officials notify CVCA of any potential problems or issues. There needs to be a further investigation into this possibility.

Tim Pidduck brought up an issue about permits that have expired and there is an applicant now asking for an extension. CVCA permits are valid for 2 years and according to the regulation extensions are not permitted. However, in some situations that are beyond the control of the applicant CVCA may consider issuing a new permit number and charge the applicant a lower fee. There was some Board discussion on the issue.

FA Motion G 46/20

Moved by: Dan Bujas

Seconded by: Jan O'Neill

To approve a \$90 resubmission fee for a one time only 1-year permit that is to be applied for prior to the expiry of the original permit and the resubmission fee will be reviewed by the Board in 1 year.

Carried.

Tim Pidduck reminded the Board that Robert Cole is currently on paternity leave and Ben Colgan has been hired on a 6-month contract to fill the position. Ben has quickly learned the regulations program and has been completing the Property Inquiry Forms (PIFs). Tim would like to have Ben Colgan appointed as a Regulations Officer. This appointment would allow Ben to write permits and this will help alleviate some of the backlog created by an unusual set of circumstances at the CVCA this year.

FA Motion G 47/20

Moved by: Jan MacKillican

Seconded by: Jan O'Neill

That Bennett Colgan be designated as a Regulations Officer for the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority.

Carried.

BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

There was some discussion on email voting on motions.

FA Motion G 48/20

Moved by: Jan MacKillican

Seconded by: Jim O'Shea

That the proposed by-law amendments #1 and #2 be adopted by the CVCA Board and replace Section 10 of the 2018 CVCA By-Law in its entirety.

Carried.

Suzanne Partridge joined the meeting via conference call at 2:05pm.

MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA

FA Motion G 49/20

Moved by: Tim Conlin

Seconded by: Dan Bujas

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

Carried.

FA Motion G 50/20

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Dan Bujas

That the Full Authority Board move into open session.

Carried.

The Board took a break and the meeting was called back to order at 2:57pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

Catherine Redden informed the Board there will be a discussion on the use of Conservation Area lands later in the meeting and it would give the opportunity to have a discussion on this correspondence.

FA Motion G 51/20

Moved by: Jim O'Shea

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To receive letter from Crowe River Group dated 29 July 2020.

Carried.

SHORT-TERM DISABILITY POLICY AMENDMENT

The Board asked several questions regarding the amendments to the Short-Term Disability Policy. The Board directed staff to make changes and recirculate the changes to the Board.

FA Motion G 52/20

Moved by: Jim O'Shea

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

That staff be directed to make amendments as discussed and to recirculate to the Board.

Carried.

CONSERVATION AREAS REPORT

Tim Pidduck informed the Board of an increase of usage at all of CVCA's Conservation Areas. The Gut Conservation Area has reported up to 70 to 100 people using the facility at one time. The Municipality of Trent Hills initiated the closure of Crowe Bridge Conservation Area early in the summer after it experienced a large number of people being turned away once the park has been filled to capacity. Health and safety reasons for their staff and the public were the prime motivators for the closure. Activity at Callaghan's Rapids has also increased greatly and members of the public are concerned that the property is being damaged due to use of ATVs and vehicles on trails and through the Crowe River itself. Tim Pidduck stressed to the Board that CVCA Conservation Areas do not have the infrastructure to handle large volumes of people. There was some discussion on the hazards of the entrance to the Gut Conservation Area.

Tim Pidduck informed the Board of problems, issues and complaints received about Callaghan's Rapids. Callaghan's has been experiencing problems with garbage, ATVs and illegal camping for the past 30 years. Tim reminded the Board that Callaghan's is considered to be an Area of Natural Significant Interest (ANSI) and if steps are not taken now to protect and preserve the property, there may not be any features left to save. Tim has met with a group of people who are interested in helping CVCA manage the property to prevent further damage. There was some discussion on options that including installation of more signage, possibly installing fencing near the Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance (EOTA) trails for ATVs to park the bikes and walk the trails rather than riding throughout the Conservation Area. The Board discussed establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement between CVCA and the group of volunteers who want to help manage the property.

FA Motion G 53/20

Moved by: Dan Bujas

Seconded by: Jan O'Neill

That the Board direct staff to begin to address the ongoing and growing issues at Callaghan's Rapids Conservation Area by:

- 1) The Board provide the necessary support and resources for first steps to address the illegal activity at Callaghan's Rapids Conservation Area in collaboration with the efforts of the residents group and the OPP,
- 2) Invite other key stakeholders to share resources and expertise,
- 3) Request CVCA staff approach other CAs with same issue and present a case to the Province for additional support,
- 4) Proceed with signage – permanent and otherwise utilizing current resources available from a donation to the CVCA and in conjunction with assistance from the public,
- 5) Fence off ATV parking area- which has placed illegally on the CRCA property utilizing current resources,
- 6) Initiate planning for possible reclamation of property damaged by the illegal trail network.

Carried.

Tim informed the Board the bathrooms have been installed at McGeachie trails and the trails have been refurbished. A new sign and map will be coming soon.

2021 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Catherine Redden reviewed the recommendations from staff and informed the Board if they have any additions for the 2021 budget they should inform staff.

FA Motion G 54/20

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Jan O'Neill

That the Budget to Actuals report be received.

Carried.

FA Motion G 55/20

Moved by: Dan Bujas

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

To receive the 2019 Financial Statements as circulated.

Carried.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

FA Motion G 56/20

Moved by: Jan O'Neill

Seconded by: Jim O'Shea

To receive the General Manager's report.

Carried.

Tim informed the Board a considerable amount of rain was received throughout the watershed in September and he believes the level 1 drought can now be lifted.

FA Motion G 57/20

Moved by: Jim O'Shea

Seconded by: Jim Martin

That the Level 1 drought be terminated effective immediately and confirmed with the remaining Low Water Response Team.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

MEDIA SESSION

None.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

The next scheduled meeting of the Full Authority Board will be 19 November 2020 at 10:00am.

ADJOURNMENT:

FA Motion G 58/20

Moved by: Suzanne Partridge

That the Full Authority Board Meeting be adjourned at 4:10pm.

Carried.

Amanda Donald
Recording Secretary

Catherine Redden
Chair