

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

18 November 2021

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
Jan O’Neill	Municipality of Marmora and Lake
Edgar Storms	Stirling-Rawdon Township
Ronald Carrol	Tudor & Cashel Township
Dan Bujas	Faraday Township
Jan MacKillican	Limerick Township
Jeff Swartman	Wollaston Township

MEMBERS ABSENT

None.

ALSO PRESENT

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

WELCOME

The Chair, Catherine Redden, welcomed the Board and visitors to the meeting which was being held electronically by Google Meet. Catherine reviewed protocols for online meetings.

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Catherine Redden, called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

Jan O'Neill and Jeff Swartman both had some additions to the agenda. Catherine Redden informed them to bring their issues up during other business section of the meeting.

Tim Pidduck read a land acknowledgement thanking generations of people who have taken care of the land for thousands of years before us.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

FA Motion G 83/21

Moved by: Jeff Swartman

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

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 84/21

Moved by: Jan O'Neill

Seconded by: Suzanne Partridge

That the minutes and motions of the Full Authority, 16 September 2021, be approved as circulated.

Carried.

FA Motion G 85/21

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

That the minutes and motions of the Watershed Advisory Board Hearing, 16 September 2021, be approved as circulated.

Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jan O'Neill echoed Tim Pidduck's remarks in thanking Mark Forget and other volunteers for all their efforts at Callaghan's Rapids Conservation Area. There was some discussion regarding volunteer recognition.

FA Motion G 86/21

Moved by: Jan O'Neill

Seconded by: Jeff Swartman

That the correspondence be received as circulated.

- a) S. Fedorka Letter, 14 October 2021
- b) M. Forget Letter, 9 November 2021

Carried.

REGULATIONS AND PLANNING REPORT

Tim Pidduck introduce Beth Lowe to the Board. He explained Beth is CVCA's newest Regulations Officer.

Beth Lowe reviewed the regulations report with the Board explaining there were 76 permits completed in this time period. Most of the permits have been cottage re-builds and septic installations. The turnaround time has been reduced to 18.3 days and there are currently only four completed applications in the queue. Beth informed the Board there were 36 planning files and 40 property inquiries completed since the previous Board meeting.

FA Motion G 87/21

Moved by: Edgar Storms

Seconded by: Jeff Swartman

To accept the Regulations and Planning reports.

Carried.

APPROVAL OF 2022 FEES

Tim Pidduck reminded the Board the Regulation and Planning fees have not been increased in the last few years, therefore a 5% increase has been proposed for the 2022 fee schedules. Property Inquiry fees were \$50 per PIF and staff are proposing that fee be increased to \$100 after an informal review of neighboring Conservation Authority fees for this service. Tim explained hunting rates would remain the same as 2021 and a slight increase to cottage rentals has been proposed. There was a lengthy discussion on cottage rental fees and if the proposed increase is enough. The Board asked staff to bring a report on cottage expenses and revenues at the next Board meeting for discussion.

FA Motion G 88/21

Moved by: Jim Martin

Seconded by: Jan MacKillican

That all the CVCA's 2022 fee schedules be approved and the cottage rates be further discussed at the next Board meeting.

Carried.

TRANSITION PLAN

Tim Pidduck reviewed the deadline of 31 December 2021 for the transition plan with the Board. The transition plan is a statement to let the MECP and member municipalities know we are aware of the work that needs to be completed and are prepared to meet the proposed deadlines. Tim informed the Board the transition plan has been kept simple and to the point and is similar to neighboring CAs plans.

There was some discussion regarding if Tim would be available to attend council meetings to discuss the plan should member municipalities make the request. Tim informed the Board he is available to attend municipal council meetings to discuss the plan. He also informed the Board the bulk of the work will be involved with compiling the inventory of CVCA's programs and services, negotiating potential funding agreements (MOUs) and subsequent quarterly reporting, management plans for lands, and water management plans.

FA Motion G 89/21

Moved by: Suzanne Partridge

Seconded by: Jim O'Shea

That the CVCA Board approve the proposed CVCA Transition Plan as submitted and circulate it to the CVCA's member municipalities and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks by 31 December 2021.

Carried.

2022 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Tim Pidduck reviewed the draft 2022 budget highlighting some additions to the operations budget and reviewed proposed projects in the capital budget for 2022. The proposed capital budget included repairs to concrete at the Marmora Dam and upgrades to the flood forecast and warning system. Tim discussed potential funding avenues to help offset the municipal levy with the Board including borrowing from the bank while interest rates are at an all-time low, borrowing from CVCA reserves and creating a payment plan to replenish over time, and using municipal levy to pay for the projects. All members of the Board see the importance of completing the projects proposed for 2022.

There was some discussion on the items not included in 2022 budget which includes a new or used vehicle to replace the Santa Fe and to start saving for EOS base station equipment to spread the cost out over a couple of years. Tim explained to the Board that the EOS base station is a tool for Regulations staff to use to give accurate GPS measurements while in the field.

FA Motion G 90/21

Moved by: Suzanne Partridge

Seconded by: Jeff Swartman

To circulate the draft 2022 operations and capital budgets to member municipalities for 30 review period and to circulate a document outlining potential funding options and list of items not included in 2022 draft budget.

Carried.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

There was no discussion and no additional information provided.

Motion G 91/21

Moved by: Jeff Swartman

Seconded by: Jim Martin

To receive the General Managers report as circulated.

Carried.

APPROVAL OF 2022 MEETING DATES

FA Motion G 92/21

Moved by: Jeff Swartman

Seconded by: Jim O'Shea

To approve the 2022 meeting dates as circulated.

Carried.

CHRISTMAS CLOSING 2021

FA Motion G 93/21

Moved by: Jan O'Neill

Seconded by: Suzanne Partridge

To approve the 2021 Christmas Closing as circulated.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jan O'Neill informed the Board of a presentation recently made to Marmora and Lake Council from the Nature Conservancy Canada (NCC) regarding a large donation of land. Jan referred to an individual who recently purchased 67,000 acres in CVCA's watershed that has had a negative impact on many hunting camps and individuals who previously used that land. During the presentation there were some misleading facts presented including trail usage and development and protection of drinking water sources. This large purchase of land encompasses parts of Tudor and Cashel, Limerick, and Marmora and Lake. The new land owner has intent to develop parts of the land into a campground and is charging people high user fees to use the land. Cathy asked Tim to prepare some information with the help of Jan MacKillican and Jan O'Neill and report to the Board at the next meeting.

Jeff Swartman asked Tim about some clarification regarding a report for the Nelly Lund park located in Wollaston Township. Jeff will be in contact with Tim for more information. Jeff also asked Tim for an update on the Gut road. Tim informed him he has asked CVCA's solicitor to look further into ownership of the road and an update should be provided at the next Board meeting.

MEDIA SESSION

None.

Catherine Redden reminded the Board to fill out the circulated forms for performance review for the General Manager. The forms will be discussed by the Executive Committee.

Jeff Swartman and Ronald Carroll left the meeting at 12:14pm.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Full Authority Board will be 20 January 2022 at 10:00am.

ADJOURNMENT

FA Motion G 94/21

Moved by: Jan O'Neill

That the Full Authority Board Meeting be adjourned at 12:16pm.

Carried.

Amanda Donald
Recording Secretary

Catherine Redden
Chair