

# SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

# MINUTES

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**MEETING:** Authority Meeting  
**DATE:** Tuesday May 16, 2017  
**TIME:** 7:00 pm  
**LOCATION:** Administration Office, Formosa

**CHAIR:** Luke Charbonneau

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Bell, Robert Buckle, Mark Davis, Barbara Dobreen,  
Kevin Eccles, Brian Gamble, Wilf Gamble, Dan Gieruszak, Stewart Halliday,  
Sue Paterson,

**ABSENT WITH REGRET:** Maureen Couture, Steve McCabe, Mike Smith, Andrew White

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Wayne Brohman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer  
Shannon Wood, Manager, Community Relations  
Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations  
Janice Hagan, Recording Secretary

Chair Luke Charbonneau called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

## 1. Adoption of Agenda

### **MOTION #G17-65**

Moved by Stewart Halliday

Seconded by Mark Davis

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

## 2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No persons declared a pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

## 3. Minutes of the Authority Meeting – March 21, 2017

### **MOTION #G17-66**

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the minutes of the Authority meeting, held on March 21, 2017 be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- a. Saugeen Bluffs Hunting Policy: to be presented to Parks Committee

The GM/S-T reminded the Authority that the hunting policy pertaining to the Saugeen Bluffs Campground, is to be presented to the Parks Committee for review.

**5. Correspondence**

- A Notice of No Trespass from Wayne David Couture, Kincardine, written to the Township of Huron-Kinloss, regarding a Trespass Warning on private property described as Lot 52, Concession A, Lake Range, Township of Huron, County of Bruce was **noted and filed**.

**6. Presentation – Sulphur Spring Bird Pens**

Shannon Wood gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Sulphur Spring Conservation Area bird pens which are currently in disrepair. She told the Authority that the Saugeen Valley Foundation had established a committee and has conducted research over the past 2 years to gain knowledge and insight into the best practices of other Authorities and organizations that host animals and specifically birds. Photos from Harrison Park, Mountsberg CA, and Kortright Centre (Toronto & Region Conservation Authority) were presented. She told the members that an option may be to construct a building to house wild birds including public access and with a focus on education. The Authority members encouraged the Foundation to continue to research the options, including available grants, and to present the ideas to the Property & Building Committee.

**7. Reports**

- a. **Finance Report**

The GM/S-T reviewed the Finance Report for March 2017 and highlighted several items. The Planning & Regulations revenue is higher than forecasted, indicating an increase in permits and inquiries. Expenses for Water Management are up slightly due to the frazzle ice monitoring. Campground revenues are on target.

**MOTION #G17-67**

Moved by Mark Davis

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the Financial Report to March 31, 2017 be accepted as distributed and further;

THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$385,887.98 be approved as distributed.

**CARRIED**

**b. Program Report**

The GM/S-T reviewed the program report and added that the Rotary Dam removal was on target, making this the third dam removal in three years in which SVCA Staff have facilitated. He told the members that the Coffee, Crops & Donuts program has been well received by the Agricultural community. He briefed the members on the 15ha land donation by Jim Powers whose father was Chair of Saugeen Conservation from 1970-1976.

**MOTION #G17-68**

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Robert Buckle

THAT the Program report be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**c. Minutes of Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting – December 12, 2016**

**MOTION #G17-69**

Moved by Stewart Halliday

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT the minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting, December 12, 2016 be received as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**d. Planning & Regulations Action Items**

The GM/S-T reviewed the Planning & Regulations Action Items chart and informed the Authority that the services of a consultant had been obtained to assist with linking various SVCA databases. Funding for the consultant was included in the approved 2017 budget. Wayne told the Authority that the Mapping Working Group had met in April to review the Teeswater mapping project. The Chair reminded the members that watershed municipalities should be encouraged to identify areas of interest that are a priority for new regulation mapping. It was noted that some landowners are still unaware of the appeal process for permits and the members would like the Planning & Regulations department to create a checklist of items that the applicant can initial to ensure they are aware of the entire process. Chair Charbonneau informed the Authority that it is his intention to commence discussions with Bruce County and watershed municipalities regarding the memorandum of agreements.

**8. New Business**

Authority Member Dan Gieruszak asked for more information regarding Ontario Bill 86, which would amend the Conservation Authorities Act and would require at least half of the Members of an Authority to have significant training, experience or employment history in an environmental or natural resource field. The Members agreed to postpone any discussion on this bill until further action is taken in the provincial parliament.

**9. Other Business**

**a. Long Term Disability Plan Changes**

The GM/S-T presented a report that reviewed the issues surrounding the employee LTD program. He informed the members that Staff had been surveyed and they all choose option #1 as their first choice and that there was a split vote between Options #3 & #5 for their second choice. It was also pointed out that there were 2013 Personnel Policy changes that negatively impacted Staff. The Chair reminded the members that Staff had been asked to improve operations and efficiency and that Authority costs have been under control. He also requested that a compensation review be scheduled for 2018 to determine equity and fairness practices. After discussing the options as presented in the report, the following motion was passed.

**MOTION #G17-70**

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT, commencing January 1, 2018, the Long Term Disability premium which is part of the Group Benefits Plan, be fully paid by SVCA.

**CARRIED**

Kevin Eccles arrived at 8:24pm.

**b. Draft Planning & Regulations Policies Manual**

Erik Downing summarized the changes to the Draft Planning & Regulations Policies Manual and told the members that Staff had received valuable comments from agencies, municipalities, and interest groups which had been incorporated into the document tracking. The members discussed distribution and it was determined that hard copies would be sent out upon request and as well it would be posted on the website. The Chair congratulated Staff for all their efforts and hard work in completing the document. Next steps include the creation of pamphlets that summarize various topics in order to better communicate SVCA policies to the general public.

**MOTION #G17-71**

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT the draft Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Environmental Planning & Regulations Policies Manual as amended May 16, 2017 be approved; and further

THAT the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority's Environmental Planning & Regulations Department use this completed manual to guide department work and undertakings; and further

THAT the completed manual be distributed to interested parties and posted on the SVCA website; and further

THAT the document be reviewed on an annual basis.

**CARRIED**

c. **Gay Lea update**

Erik told the Members that work has been proceeding quickly at the Gay Lea site in Teeswater and that Staff are continuing to treat all permit applications as top priority.

d. **Planning & Regulations Customer Service Survey**

The GM/S-T reviewed the comments on the customer service survey. It was noted that the question on the appeal process was beginning to balance out which shows improvement on communication practices. The members directed Staff to prepare a checklist as per previous discussion under Planning & Regulations Action Items (see item 7d).

e. **News Articles**

The GM/S-T submitted articles from local newspapers regarding the SVCA for the purpose of keeping the Authority members up to date on current events.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:42pm on motion of Barbara Dobreen.

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Luke Charbonneau  
Chair

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Janice Hagan  
Recording Secretary