

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY MEETING

Thursday, September 29, 2016 10:00 am

PLEASE NOTE START TIME OF MEETING

A G E N D A

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest
3. Approval of Minutes of Authority Meeting (Special) – August 23, 2016 – **attached**
4. Matters arising from the Minutes
5. Correspondence – **attached**
6. Presentations (Time allotted to 2:00pm)
 - a. 2017 Budget Review – Wayne Brohman & Managers
 - b. 2017 User Fee Schedule – Wayne Brohman
7. Reports
 - a. Planning & Regulations Action Items – Wayne Brohman – **attached**
 - b. Drinking Water Source Protection & Risk Management office report – **attached**
8. New Business
 - a. Bruce Power proposed partnership initiative – Wayne Brohman
9. Other Business
 - a. Planning & Regulations Customer Service Survey update – Wayne Brohman
 - b. News Articles – **attached**

Adjournment

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Conservation through Cooperation

MEETING: Authority – Special
DATE: Tuesday, August 23, 2016
TIME: 1:00 pm
LOCATION: Administration Office, Formosa

CHAIR: Luke Charbonneau

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Bell, Robert Buckle, Maureen Couture, Barbara Dobreen, Kevin Eccles, Brian Gamble, Wilf Gamble, Stewart Halliday, Dan Kerr, Steve McCabe, Sue Paterson, Mike Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH REGRET: Dan Gieruszak, Andrew White

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Brohman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Karen Wiancki, Director of Practice, Planning Solutions Inc.
Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations
Candace Hamm, Environmental Planning Coordinator
Janice Hagan, Recording Secretary
Guests, Member of the Press

Chair Luke Charbonneau called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION #G16-69

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

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 – July 21, 2016

MOTION #G16-70

Moved by Robert Buckle

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT the minutes of the Authority meeting, held on July 21, 2016 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. New Business

a. Draft Environmental Planning & Regulations Policies Manual

Wayne Brohman introduced Karen Wianecki, Director of Practice from Planning Solutions Inc. Karen thanked the Authority for the invitation and the opportunity to review the draft Environmental Planning & Regulation Policies Manual. Historically, SVCA has not had a written policy manual and staff have been applying provincial policies as outlined in the Planning Act and the Conservation Authorities Act. This manual is intended to ensure that SVCA staff, municipal partners and the public have an understanding of planning and regulatory decisions made by SVCA. The Authority members discussed whether this manual could be presented to the public as it was written. Karen told the members that the purpose of the manual was for SVCA staff reference and that a manual for public use would need to be written as another simplified layer in the process.

A coffee break was called at 2:50pm.

The meeting was called back to order at 3:12pm.

After discussion on the purpose of the manual and its content, the following motion was proposed:

MOTION #G16-71

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the draft Planning & Regulations Policies Manual be used as a reference guide; and further

That it be reviewed by the Authority with the intent to eventually developing an approved policy document, and further;

That necessary consultation take place as part of this review.

Carried

The Authority members would like Motion #G16-71 to be circulated by email.

The Chair told the Members that it would be the responsibility of the Authority as a whole to review the document with Erik Downing and the Environmental Planning & Regulations Department, and to finalize all policies therein, especially those contained in chapters 3 & 4. Karen Wianecki will be completing the appendices with respect to the EIS and Terra Probe components as this is part of her contract with SVCA.

Karen Wianecki and Candace Hamm left the meeting at 3:36pm.

b. Saugeen Bluffs: No hunting designation

The GM/S-T presented a map of the Saugeen Bluffs Conservation Area to the Authority and explained that currently part of the property has been designated “no hunting” but that hunting has been allowed in the northern region. Since the horse trails have been created, SVCA staff were concerned about hunting in areas where people could potentially be riding. After discussion the following motion was passed:

MOTION #G16-72

Moved by John Bell

Seconded by Maureen Couture

THAT the entire Saugeen Bluffs property be designated as a no hunting area; and further

THAT SVCA staff place appropriate signage on the property.

Carried

5. Other Business

a. Low Water Advisory Committee

The GM/S-T informed the Authority members that the Low Water Advisory committee had two vacant positions:

- 1) A Member of the Authority
- 2) A Member of a rural municipality.

MOTION #G16-73

Moved by Kevin Eccles

Seconded by Stewart Halliday

THAT the Chair of the Authority takes a seat on the Low Water Advisory Team; and further

THAT Barbara Dobrean be appointed as the Rural Municipality Representative.

Carried

6. Closed Session: Violation Matter

MOTION #G16-74

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the Authority Members move to Closed Session, In Camera, to discuss a legal matter; and further

THAT Wayne Brohman, Erik Downing, Michelle Gallant and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting.

Carried

MOTION #G16-76

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the Authority adjourn from closed Session, In camera, and rise and report.

Carried

Only those items identified on the agenda were discussed in Closed Session. There were no actions to report from the Closed Session, In Camera.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm on motion of Barbara Dobreen.

Luke Charbonneau
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary

Ministre de l'Environnement et
du Changement climatique



Minister of Environment
and Climate Change

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

AUG 25 2016

SAUGEEN CONSERVATION

AUG 30 2016

RECEIVED

Mr. Luke Charbonneau
Chair
Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
P.O. Box 150
Formosa ON N0G 1W0

Dear Mr. Charbonneau:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 27, 2015, concerning the European common reed (*Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*). I regret the delay in responding.

As Minister of Environment and Climate Change, I recognize that invasive alien species such as the European common reed pose a risk to the Canadian economy and environment. The responsibilities for managing invasive alien species are shared among all levels of government. As stated in *An Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada*, co-operation is a key principle in the fight against them. The role of the federal government focuses on preventing new introductions of these pests and their establishment. The provinces and territories, as well as municipalities, have broad responsibilities for the management (eradication, containment and control) of established and spreading invaders. I am pleased to report that, in 2015, federal and provincial/territorial ministers responsible for conservation, wildlife and biodiversity agreed to establish a representative task force to support future collaborative efforts to fight against invasive alien species.

Environment and Climate Change Canada recognizes the importance of healthy wetlands and supports the efforts of many groups currently involved in addressing the spread of the invasive European common reed, including the efforts of the Ontario Phragmites Working Group. For more information on the departmental funding programs that may support projects to address invasive alien species, please visit www.ec.gc.ca/financement-funding.

Regarding control options, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, the federal agency responsible for pesticide registration, is aware of the European common reed problem in Ontario. Pesticides are stringently regulated in Canada to ensure that they do not pose unacceptable risks to human health and the environment. Therefore, I am forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable Dr. Jane Philpott, Minister of Health, for consideration.

.../2

- 2 -

I appreciate the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority's ongoing efforts in the management of the European common reed and in the conservation of biodiversity. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C McKenna', written on a light-colored rectangular background.

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Dr. Jane Philpott, P.C., M.P.

Planning & Regulations Department Review

Action Items

Authority Approved - July 23, 2015

Updated September 2016

Action Item	Description	Actions Taken	Status
High Priority:			
1. Planning & Regulations Policy Document	Prepare a draft Policy document for Board review	Policy from another CA has been reviewed and edited to shape it to SVCA needs. First draft presented at January 2016 Authority Meeting. Plan presented to Executive Committee March 22, 2016. RFP for preparation of Policy document & public consultation went out April 29 with May 19 response deadline. Planning Solutions selected as consultant. Authority meeting Oct 4th and 18th for detailed review.	On going
2. File Tracking System	A robust accurate tracking system accessible to numerous users	P&R Mgr & IT Mgr continue to work on design and development. A preliminary template for file data input has been developed & tested. Data base design is almost complete. Work on dashboard is in progress. Presentation at Feb & May Authority meetings. Transition from legacy database has been completed. Dashboard still in progress.	On going
Short Term:			
3. Printer and file cabinets	Obtain a printer for the main floor. Provide cabinets for individual work stations	Printer was installed in Sept. File cabinets are in place.	Completed
4. Mapping Working Group	Comprised of SVCA staff & municipal representatives; goal to improve mapping in priority areas of the watershed	Meetings held Aug 25, Sept 29, Nov 3 and Dec 15. Seeking info on mapping costs, potential trial areas and funding opportunities. Teeswater mapping project is expected to act as an example for other municipalities with respect to cost & timing. Will convene next meeting once Teeswater project is completed.	On going

Planning & Regulations Department Review

Action Items

Authority Approved - July 23, 2015

Updated September 2016

5. Customer Feedback Survey	Prepare an anonymous customer survey for Board approval	Survey commenced November 2. Updates given at each Authority meeting.	Completed
6. Zoning Comments	Cease providing zoning comments in correspondence to applicants	Zoning comments were eliminated by July 31, 2015	Completed
7. Bruce County Memorandum of Agreement	Work with Bruce County to arrive at a new updated MoA	Draft Agreement prepared by County is under review. Planning Act review involvement is under discussion. Completion of this item is delayed until P&R Policy document is completed.	On going
8. Appeal process to be better communicated to applicants	Make applicants aware of the appeal process should they be dissatisfied with a decision of the P&R Dept.	Customer survey asks if customer was advised of the appeal process. Updated P&R Information sheet advises applicants that there is an appeal process.	On going
9. Staff Promotion	Where warranted staff to be promoted up the salary grid steps in their respective job range	Review completed by GM and P&R Mgr for budget.	Completed

Longer Term:

10. Customer relations & communications training	Continue staff training in CSR & communications	Most recent training date was Dec 2, 2014	Not yet started
11. Conversion of paper files to digital form	Data storage & retrieval needs improvement; old paper files and data to be converted to digital form	Part time scanning position started January 2016. A second part time position started in May.	Ongoing
12. Continue Staff training	Ensure job relevant training continues	3 staff attended training at Latornell in November; Gary S. provided training session in November, December, and January. Regulations officer attended a one week course in March. Risk Management Training held May 5. Drainage training for two staff in June. Two staff attended Coastal training. Provincial offenses training scheduled for November.	On going

REPORT

TO: AUTHORITY MEMBERS, SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

SUBJECT: DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION & RISK MANAGEMENT OFFICE REPORT

Administration:

From April 1st to July 31st, 2016, the Drinking Water Source Protection Program has spent a total of \$67,000 of the allocated \$297,140 (budget on target). The GIS Specialist position (Alex Milanetti) recently accepted a full-time employment opportunity in Toronto. This position will remain vacant for the remainder of the year and workload requirements will be managed by the current staffing compliment.

Consulting Services:

Through a competitive bidding process, a contract has been awarded for \$25,000 (plus HST) to Matrix Solutions Inc. to conduct a technical study for a new municipal drinking water well in the community of Ripley located in the Township of Huron-Kinloss.

Source Protection Program Update:

The amended Source Protection Plan was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change on July 15th, 2016. All policies within the Plan are now in effect and Staff is working on education and outreach to support implementation.

Staff has also participated in the following meetings to support implementation:

Regional Project Managers Meeting at Upper Thames River Conservation	June 13, 2016
Municipal Workshop – RMO-in-a-Box	July 12, 2016
Community Outreach Event – Point Clark	July 23, 2016
Meeting with Saugeen Shores staff	August 8, 2016
Attended Saugeen Conservation Cover Crop Event - Walkerton	August 18, 2016
Held training session with Real Estate Agents group	August 25, 2016

Staff is currently working with agricultural sector partners to plan an upcoming workshop on November 8th, 2016 targeted towards crop advisors/consultants. This workshop will help to share program information and address questions related to potential source water program implications for farmers.

Risk Management Office Update:

The Risk Management Office (RMO) has completed invoicing to all twelve participating municipalities for a total budget of approximately \$235,000 for the 2016 calendar year (January 1st to December 31st). Total expenditures as of July 31st were approximately \$60,000. The program is currently under budget due to a slower start in conducting RMO work in the first 4 months of the year.

The Town of Saugeen Shores recently signed an Agreement for delivery of RMO services, which brings the total number of participating municipalities to twelve.

South Bruce	South Bruce Peninsula
West Grey	Arran-Elderslie
Brockton	Blue Mountains
Kincardine	Georgian Bluffs
Grey Highlands	Chatsworth
Saugeen Shores	Meaford

Letters were recently sent to landowners in South Bruce Peninsula and Meaford regarding threats verification work. We are currently working on developing Risk Management Plan templates for fuel storage and agricultural threats.

The Ministry recently sent letters to all Water Treatment Plant (WTP) operators asking them to conduct a self-assessment of fuel storage threats. We are working with municipalities to support this request for information based on the Source Protection Plan policies and best management practices.

Respectfully submitted,



Carl Seider
Project Manager, Drinking Water Source Protection
Risk Management Official

Source Protection Plan is now in effect

After more than eight years of technical studies, public consultation and hard work, the Source Protection Committee is pleased to announce the Approved Source Protection Plan, including recent amendments, is in effect for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region.

“With the effective date for the Source Protection Plan policies, municipalities and implementing bodies can begin implementing the Plan and help to protect our shared drinking water sources,” stated Source Protection Committee Chair Mike Traynor.

This Plan sets out policies that use a variety of approaches to protect drinking water including education and outreach, the development of risk management plans, prohibition, land use planning, and monitoring. These policies will help keep contaminants out of our aquifers, rivers and lakes that are sources of municipal drinking water. The policies in the Approved Plan are effective July 1, 2016, with the amendments for events-based areas and water quantity threats effective on July 15, 2016.

The source protection planning process is directed and funded by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change in conjunction with municipalities.

For more information and to view maps of vulnerable areas where policies apply please visit: www.waterprotection.ca.

Did you know...

This Region is home to more than 160,000 people and covers approximately 8400 square kilometres.

The Source Protection Region contains 38 municipal residential drinking water systems including 29 groundwater sources (aquifers), eight surface water sources, and one combined system.

Mildmay Town Crier, July 21, 2016

Saugeen Conservation reduces screening area around hazard lands

By Don Crosby
FOR THE CONFEDERATE

FORMOSA - Saugeen Conservation is reducing the size of the screening area from 50 metres to 30 metres that requires staff approval in planning applications located next to regulated areas.

The controversial 50 metres buffer zone has long been an irritant causing delays to landowners seeking approval to build next to a water course or wetland. It also required on-site inspection by conservation staff which further delayed approval times.

The arbitrary figure was put into place by SVCA to compensate for out of date land mapping that created uncertainty as to the exact location of regulated areas.

Reducing the screening area to 30 metres allows municipal building and planning officials, who are in some cases more familiar than conservation staff with the local area, more leeway in giving approvals.

"By taking 20 metres off those screening buffers it removes hundreds of acres of rural properties that will not be regulated by conservation staff in our planning and regulations department, which will reduce work load for our staff and hopefully improve the speed at which we can respond to planning and regulations applications," said board chair Luke Charbonneau at the July 21 board

meeting.

"But it also means a lot of people who were once in the screened area won't need to go through that screening process . . . it's one more thing in the litany of things that we are trying to do and accomplishing to speed up our planning processes and reduce the regulatory burden on people in the community."

Andrew White of Kincardine favours reducing the buffer zone to 40 metres but voted against the move to reduce it to 30 metres saying there is still too much of risk for error by reducing the buffer zone by 20 metres.

Dan Gieruszak, deputy-mayor of Brockton and vice chair of the SVCA board, who put forward the motion to reduce the size of the screening zone, is confident that municipal building and planning officials are quite capable of making informed decisions with the help of much more up to date mapping at their disposal than is available to the conservation authority.

He noted that Bruce County municipalities have access to up to date Bruce County aerial mapping, something that is not available to the conservation authority yet.

"They have excellent mapping, they know the terrain, they know the areas that they are making decisions on. In many cases they know that 50 metres zone much better than the conservation authority staff who quite often

have to go out and review that land which adds to their screening process," Gieruszak said.

"It would be a step forward to acknowledge the expertise that exists with our chief building official and give him the authority and responsibility as he currently has to make recommendations. Our chief building official would predict that 80 per cent of the properties within that 50 metre zone don't actually need to be a part of that screening process," he added.

Even with the reduction of the screening area, chief building officials still have the responsibility if they know the land within the 50 metres could be a sensitive area to refer an application to the conservation authority for final approval.

Any applications that fall within the 30 metres zone also still require inspection and approval by the conservation authority planning officials.

As the three dimensional mapping program at SVCA comes online, there will be more mapping improvement opportunities and conservation staff will be able to remove the need for this screening process entirely or at least increase the accuracy of the hazard land mapping therefore reducing the need for the large screening area.

The change in screening area to 30 metres is expected to take effect once the authority's update planning and regulations policy is approved later this year.

Saugeen Conservation partners with Maitland Valley on 'Coffee, Crops and Donut' workshops

Saugeen and Maitland Conservation Authorities have been developing some great connections with local farmers through their Coffee, Crops and Donut workshop series.

Over 150 farmers have been out to attend the workshops and learn about various soil conservation measures.

The workshops are taught by farmers, for farmers, with the aim of sharing experiences and methods in implementing best management practices on a variety of farms and on a variety of different levels.

At each session, a featured farmer will speak about their practices and share what they've learned with regard to

soil conservation measures. Everyone is then free to ask questions, etc. It's a great opportunity to learn new things, problem-solve and talk shop with your neighbours over an extended coffee break.

"It's been a great program and helps us to engage the farm community and champion the excellent work they do," said Wayne Brohman, general manager of Saugeen Conservation. "Topics have included topics such as pollinator health, no-till management, high resolution soil sampling, strip till management, cover crops and so much more."

It's a relationship that's been building across the province between farmers,

conservation authorities and the watersheds they share.

"We've been especially pleased to partner Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, our fellow Conservation Authority (MVCA), to the south," said Brohman. "The MVCA has been working with farm communities for many years and it was great to benefit from their years of experience."

The most interesting aspect of the Coffee, Crops and Donut Workshop series is all materials, resources and technical expertise was provided by and shared unreservedly by local farmers, businesses, groups and organizations.

The next Coffee, Crops and Donuts will be held on

Sept. 12, 9-11 a.m. at the farms of Harrison Burgsma and Regan Milian (Maitland Valley Watershed), Lanesville Line between Glens Hill Road and Dungannon Road, Dungannon, featuring cover crops and berms. All Coffee, Crops and Donuts workshops are free of charge and everyone is welcome.

Support for this project was provided through the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association from the GLASI Education and Outreach Component funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through Growing Forward 2.



Submitted

Saugeen and Maitland conservation authorities have seen about 150 farmers out to the Coffee, Crops and Donut workshop series. The next is Sept. 12, 2016 in Dungannon south of Lucknow.

Education, innovation on display at Bruce County Plowing Match

Darryl Coote
Reporter

A couple clicks outside Tiverton, just off Highway 21, Mike Pinkerton's farm was transformed into the epicenter of Bruce County agricultural.

Under blue skies and above untilled earth, some of the county's best plowers battled it out during the 2016 Bruce County Plowing Match on

Sept. 2, 2016, to see who would be top the list.

Over 40 people participated in the competition in 13 different categories that ranged from horse plows to garden tractors.

There were also special competitions for local ambassadors, mayors and media.

A total 12 horse plows and 33 tractor plows were used during the day.

And while the competition is a large part of the event, it's just as much about education, said John Gillespie, secretary treasurer of the Bruce County Plowmen's association.

"It's a chance for the community to come out and learn a little bit about agriculture. It's a chance to promote excellence in farming methods," he said.

The major goal of his asso-

ciation is to promote innovation in agricultural practices, he said, which is why much of the first half of the day was dedicated to demonstration by Tori Waugh from Saugeen Valley Conservation on cover crop and soil health.

"Our major goal of the Ontario plowmen's organization has been to promote innovative and up-and-coming agricultural practices,"

Gillespie said. "At one time plowing was the innovative and the only main agricultural process, but it's evolved from that to some of the cover crops and planning and different types of tiller systems. So it's still part of our role as an organization to promote that excellence and to show it to the public."

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On hand for the event were several local elected officials such as Huron-Bruce MP Ben Lobb, Municipality of Kincardine mayor Anne Eadie, Huron-Kinloss mayor Mitch Twolan and others.

Gillespie said it's good that elected officials attend as it gives them the opportunity to better understand those in the agricultural industry.

Mayor Eadie told Kincardine News that she thought it was "wonderful" the event was being held in Kincardine, as agriculture is an important business in the area.

"It's an opportunity for the agricultural community to show the technology available and its history," Eadie said. "So any time the agricultural community can showcase all the wonderful work they do it's an opportunity for people to learn more about agriculture, which is one of our big industries in Ontario."

The event also functioned as the fundraising kick-off for Tiverton's Tom Evans, who recently won the Canadian Plowing Championship and will be going to Kenya in December 2017 to compete at the World Ploughing Championship.

Gillespie estimates it will cost about \$30,000 to send Evans and his equipment there, so it will be a regional effort.

"So today's kind of our celebration for Tom winning and our kick off for our fundraising drive," he said.

Elmwood native is Bruce County Queen of the Furrow

Krista Young of Elmwood is the 2016 Bruce County Queen of the Furrow. She will represent the county at the 2017 International Plowing Match and Rural Expo in Walton, Ont.

During her speech to the judges Young related her experience in agriculture and how important it was to her as a student in Chesley.

Later at college she found herself having to explain a lifestyle that was little known by many of her fellow students.

"A lot of people didn't understand the ways of life up here and what actually happens here in the fields. It was hard for me to understand how there could be so many misconceptions. People don't actually recognize and see what we do up here," Young said.

Young, 23, studied business management and social services at Conestoga College in Kitchener. She is currently employed at Portage, a youth drug rehabilitation centre in Elora.

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Young wants to change perceptions of rural life

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"This is an amazing experience... I'm truly excited to promote agriculture to people who may not live on a farm... even if I don't live on a farm I can still be a part of this life," she said.

The 2016 match was held Sept. 2 at the farm of Mike Pinkerton and family, east of Tiverton.

A total of 12 horse plowers and 33 tractor plowers took part.

This year's event included a cover crop and soil health demonstration by Tori Waugh of Saugeen Conservation and Jim Boak of Salford Farm Equipment, the keynote speaker.

There were fewer demonstrations this year by large

commercial farm machinery exhibitors.

"We had more of a speaker-focused program on how you can interact with cover crops and the GLASI program; we had an extensive cover crop demonstration area," said John Gillespie, secretary-treasurer of the Bruce County Federation of Agriculture.

GLASI refers to the Great Lakes Agriculture Stewardship Initiative, a farmland health program with a focus on implementing best on-farm management practices.

Gillespie said the plowing conditions on the Pinkerton farm were good considering the long dry summer. "Over all it's been a pretty good event," he said.