

SAUGEEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

MINUTES

MEETING: Board of Directors
DATE: Friday, November 25, 2011
TIME: 9:30am
LOCATION: Administration Office, Formosa

CHAIR: Bill Scriven

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Luke Charbonneau, Ron Coristine, John Eccles, Doug Gowanlock, Peter Hambly, Dan Kerr, Mark MacKenzie, Carl Zettel

DIRECTORS ABSENT, WITH REGRET: Brian Gamble, Glen Irwin, David Kell

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Roland Anstett, Jim Hanna, Mike Leggett

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Coffey, Chief Administrative Officer
Dave Pybus, Sr. Manager, Flood Forecasting & Land Management
Gary Senior, Sr. Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations
Jo-Anne Harbinson, Manager, Water Programs & Stewardship Services
Jim Penner, Manager, Forestry
Laura Molson, Manager, Accounting
Bonnie Sherman, Executive Secretary
Members of the Press

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #G11-76

Moved by Luke Charbonneau
Seconded by Dan Kerr
THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS – JULY 14 & SEPT. 29, 2011

MOTION #G11-77

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Peter Hambly

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held on July 14, 2011, be adopted as circulated, and further

THAT the minutes of the Budget Review meeting, held on September 29, 2011, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

West Grey Agreements – Durham Day Use Area

A copy of Report #4a, entitled Municipality of West Grey – Durham Day Use Area: Washroom/Storage Facility Lease Agreement and Swimming Program Agreement, is appended to the office copy of these minutes. Carl Zettel commended the staff who were involved in the development of these agreements for a job well done.

MOTION #G11-78

Moved by Ron Coristine

Seconded by Carl Zettel

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Washroom/Storage Facility Lease Agreement and the appropriate officers on behalf of the Conservation Authority sign the Agreement, and further

THAT the Agreement be forwarded to the Municipality of West Grey for appropriate signatures.

Carried

MOTION #G11-79

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Peter Hambly

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Swimming Program Agreement and the appropriate officers on behalf of the Conservation Authority sign the Agreement, and further

THAT the Agreement be forwarded to the Municipality of West Grey for appropriate signatures.

Carried

2012 Proposed Fee Schedule

A copy of Report #4b, entitled 2012 Fee Schedule, is appended to the office copy of these minutes. Considerable discussion arose regarding the proposed increases to various Planning & Regulation fees. It was the general feeling of the Board that any project that will generate revenue should not be supported by the taxpayers through General Levy, i.e. the applicant should be charged the full cost of the permit. Staff was requested to investigate this cost recovery aspect in future fee increase considerations.

MOTION #G11-80

Moved by Peter Hambly

Seconded by Luke Charbonneau

THAT the changes to the SVCA Fee Schedule for the “Regulation 169/06 Permit Applications and Related Fees”, as outlined in the staff report dated November 25, 2011, be approved, and further THAT the complete 2012 revised Fee Schedule be approved, effective January 1, 2012.

Carried

2012 Draft Budget

A copy of Report #4c, entitled Draft 2012 Budget, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

Considerable discussion arose over a number of issues, including a cost of living increase, use of reserves to offset General Levy, upkeep and maintenance of revenue producing and non-revenue producing conservation areas, capital development and the need for a business plan for parks development.

MOTION #G11-81

Moved by Mark MacKenzie

Seconded by Peter Hambly

THAT the Board of Directors move to Closed Session, In Camera, to discuss salary matters.

Peter Hambly withdrew as seconder of this motion and no other Director volunteered to second the motion. The motion was therefore **defeated**.

MOTION #G11-82

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Carl Zettel

Whereas the funding from the Province of Ontario is insufficient to meet the needs of the Authority in 2012,

Therefore be it resolved that the portion of the maintenance costs of projects that is charged to the special benefiting municipalities shall be 60 percent.

Carried

The timing to change the grant rate, prior to a request for a budget increase was raised as an issue.

The Chair was requested to forward a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources expressing the Board of Director's concern regarding the continued lack of funding and the need to increase the grant rate.

After extensive discussions, the Board of Directors instructed staff to rework the budget with a General Levy increase of 9%, of which 3% is to be allocated to salary and cost of living adjustments, and to forward the draft budget to municipalities for their 30-day review.

MOTION #G11-83

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Peter Hambly

THAT the November 25, 2011 version of the 2012 Draft Budget be approved in principle as amended, and further

THAT staff be authorized to forward the Draft Budget to its watershed municipalities for a 30-day review period.

Carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE

B.M. Ross & Associates – thanking Authority staff for their assistance with the Township of Huron-Kinloss Water Stewardship event held on July 16, 2011 – noted & filed

Mike Traynor, Chair, Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee – re Source Protection Plan Pre-Consultation – Preliminary Source Protection Plan Policies – noted & filed

Email from Peter & Kelly Pennings – thanking Authority for their great camping experience at Durham Conservation Area – noted & filed

Formosa Homecoming 2011 – thanking Authority for their use of the SVCA's Administration Centre vault and event signage – noted & filed

Newspaper article relaying PC leader Tim Hudak's comments regarding stripping the conservation authorities of their power – Conservation Ontario responded to Mr. Hudak's comments (see next correspondence)

Conservation Ontario – response to Mr. Hudak’s comments in recent newspaper article

Tim Hudak, Ontario PC Leader – response to Conservation Ontario’s letter indicating the PC Party would support conservation efforts

6. REPORTS

Chair & Conservation Ontario

The Chair attended several functions and meetings since the last Board meeting, including the Bruce Grey Forest Festival, several Biennial Tour Committee meetings, a Forestry Committee meeting, the tender opening for the sale of forest products as well as the tender opening for repairs to the Walkerton Dykes, and a meeting with the Bluewater District Chief Building Officials.

Finance Report

A copy of Report #6a, entitled Finance Report, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G11-84

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Peter Hambly

THAT the Financial Report to October 31, 2011 be accepted as distributed, and further
THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$957,325.85 for June, July, August, September and October 2011 be approved for payment.

Carried

Program Report

A copy of Report #6b, entitled Program Report, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G11-85

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Mark MacKenzie

THAT the Program Report be adopted as presented, and further
THAT the Permits as identified in Report #6b and dated November 25, 2011 be approved by the Board of Directors.

Carried

Joint Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

These draft minutes were provided to the Board of Directors for their information.

The Authority has received notice that the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board will be conducting a Work Well Audit early in 2012 and that a consultant, OSG, has been contracted to assist staff in the preparation of the audit.

MOTION #G11-86

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Doug Gowanlock

THAT the minutes of the Joint Health & Safety Committee Meetings, held on July 26 and September 14, 2011, be received.

Carried

Biennial Tour Committee Meeting Minutes

These draft minutes were provided to the Board of Directors for their information.

MOTION #G11-87

Moved by Peter Hambly

Seconded by Carl Zettel

THAT the minutes of the Biennial Tour Committee meetings, held July 12, September 13, and November 2, 2011, be received.

Carried

Saugeen Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

These draft minutes were provided to the Board of Directors for their information.

The Committee is currently awaiting staff to prepare a business plan for the campgrounds and day use parks.

MOTION #G11-88

Moved by Ron Cristine

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT the minutes of the Saugeen Parks Committee Meetings, held on July 26 and September 8, 2011, be received.

Carried

Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes

These draft minutes were provided to the Board of Directors for their information.

MOTION #G11-89

Moved by Doug Gowanlock

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT the minutes of the Forestry Committee Meeting, held on October 13, 2011, be received, and further

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation regarding the tender for sale of forest products.

Carried

7. NEW BUSINESS

A copy of Report #7a, entitled 2012 Meeting Schedule, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

MOTION #G11-90

Moved by Peter Hambly

Seconded by Luke Charbonneau

THAT the 2012 Meeting Schedule be adopted as presented.

Carried

Appointment of Solicitors for 2012

MOTION #G11-91

Moved by John Eccles

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT Ross McLean and/or Peter Loucks be appointed solicitors to the Authority for the year 2012 for general operations, with the option to engage the services of other solicitors as necessary.

Carried

Appointment of Auditors for 2012

MOTION #G11-92

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT BDO in Walkerton be appointed auditors to the Authority for the year 2012.

Defeated

Staff was instructed to request tenders for the appointment of auditors for 2012.

Motion Approving Actions of Executive Committee for 2011

MOTION #G11-93

Moved by Luke Charbonneau

Seconded by Doug Gowanlock

THAT the actions of the Executive Committee for 2011 be verified.

Carried

Property & Building Committee – Meeting Date

The members of the Property & Building Committee were requested to remain after the Board meeting to set a date for an upcoming meeting.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Latornell Conference – Update

Ron Coristine expressed his gratitude to the Board of Directors for allowing him to attend this informative and well organized conference. There were numerous excellent presenters who provided a great deal of worthwhile information.

Carl Zettel also expressed his gratitude to the Board of Directors for his attendance at this worthwhile conference. He updated the Directors on the sessions he had attended, including Source Water Protection and severe weather changes.

Mark MacKenzie thanked the Board of Directors for allowing him to attend this conference and noted he learned a great deal. Protecting natural heritage areas is extremely important for the future of the planet and life as we know it.

Bill Scriven found the sessions he attended at the conference to be very interesting as well, and noted it was a privilege to attend.

Board of Director Minutes

MOTION #G11-94

Moved by Ron Coristine

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT the watershed municipalities be advised that all approved SVCA Board of Directors minutes will now be available on the Authority's website.

Carried

9. FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Eccles – reported that he recently visited the Bell's Lake Management Unit and found this beautiful area to be littered with huge amounts of garbage; he also attended the Foundation's recent fundraising dinner and auction, but did not see many other Authority Directors in attendance.

Ron Coristine – Sustainability planning process is ongoing in Municipality of Kincardine; looking at a trail that would possibly go through Stoney Island C.A. This municipal committee will be contacting Authority staff in the near future.

Luke Charbonneau – good meeting with CBO delegation; working toward a better working relationship with this group

Doug Gowanlock – new product (Neem Oil) out to control a number of invasive insect species; works very well on Dutch Elm beetle; though costly, could be a viable alternative in the future

Mark MacKenzie – pleased to sit on this Board as a Director; would like to see Councils as more of a partner

Carl Zettel – appreciate the work of the staff

MOTION #G11-95

Moved by Doug Gowanlock

Seconded by Ron Coristine

THAT the Board of Directors express their thanks to all the staff for their hard work and dedication.

Carried

Peter Hambly – complements of the season; see you in January

Bill Scriven – It has been a privilege to act as the Chair over the past year; compliment the Directors for their good manners and congeniality; happy to see such a diversity of backgrounds they bring to the Authority.

On behalf of Shannon Wood, Manager of Communications, Jim Penner reminded everyone who was present that the Foundation’s Christmas in the Country event was starting that evening at the Sulphur Spring Conservation Area and encouraged everyone to attend this popular event.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:35pm on motion of Peter Hambly.

Bill Scriven
Chair

Bonnie Sherman
Executive Secretary