

# SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

# MINUTES

**MEETING:** Board of Directors  
**DATE:** March 19, 2009  
**TIME:** 1:00 pm  
**LOCATION:** Resource Centre, Headquarters Conservation Area

**CHAIR:** Doug Freiburger

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** John A. Bell, Gord Campbell, Anne Eadie, Dan Gieruszak, Peter Hambly, Tom Kuglin, Dan Sullivan, Ralph Winslade, Carl Zettel

**DIRECTORS ABSENT, WITH REGRET:** Luke Charbonneau, Iain Forbes, Ron Hewitt, Manley Risk

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Jack Riley

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jim Coffey, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer  
Dave Pybus, Senior Manager, Flood Forecasting & Land Management  
Gary Senior, Senior Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations  
Jim Penner, Manager, Forestry  
Shannon Wood, Manager, Communications  
Al Leach, Manager, Lands  
Laura Molson, Manager, Accounting  
Bonnie Sherman, Executive Secretary  
Ed Moric, Chairman, Saugeen Valley Conservation Foundation  
Jack MacLeod, Director, Saugeen Valley Conservation Foundation  
Willie Schwippl, Director, Saugeen Valley Conservation Foundation  
Dennis Kraemer, BDO Dunwoody LLP

## 1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

### **MOTION #G09-34**

Moved by Tom Kuglin  
Seconded by Anne Eadie  
THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

## 2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – February 12, 2009

An error was noted in this set of minutes. Gord Campbell is shown as voting for the Town of Saugeen Shores on the 2009 Budget motion instead of Luke Charbonneau. It was requested that the Executive Secretary make the necessary correction on the original minutes.

**MOTION #G09-35**

Moved by Ralph Winslade

Seconded by Dan Sullivan

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held on February 12, 2009, be adopted as amended.

**Carried**

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Planning Agreement – Update

The Municipality of West Grey, the Township of Chatsworth and the Town of Hanover are still reviewing the agreement and they hope to have a response to the Authority by the end of March.

The Municipality of Grey Highlands does not wish to collect fees for the Conservation Authority.

**MOTION #G09-36**

Moved by Carl Zettel

Seconded by Anne Eadie

THAT in the Municipality of Grey Highlands, the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority shall collect Plan Review fees in accordance with the Authority's Fee Schedule, and such fees shall be collected by invoicing applicants directly; and further

THAT failure by an applicant to pay the required fee may result in the Authority withholding comments on the application, which could delay a decision being reached by the Planning Approval body regarding the application; and further

THAT this procedure will take effect on March 24, 2009.

**Carried**

PRESENTATION – SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

Ed Moric, Chair of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Foundation, presented a cheque for \$10,500 to Saugeen Conservation's Chair. This cheque represents the amount of funds raised in 2008 by the Foundation to support the Authority.

Mr. Moric invited all the Directors to attend the Maple Syrup Festival being held at the Saugeen Bluffs Conservation Area on March 28 and 29.

PRESENTATION – AUDITOR'S REPORT

Dennis Kraemer, BDO Dunwoody LLP, presented the 2008 Financial Statements.

**MOTION #G09-37**

Moved by Dan Sullivan

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the 2008 Financial Statements, as audited by BDO Dunwoody LLP, be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Rob Messervey, Manager, MNR Peterborough, Water Resources Section – enclosing \$5,000 cheque towards frazil ice management in Durham – noted & filed

David Lynch, Assistant Deputy Minister, MNR Toronto – requesting all partners of the Ministry of Natural Resources to exercise financial constraint – noted & filed

Municipality of Kincardine – offering tree planting assistance through their Environmental Advisory Committee – noted

Municipality of South Bruce – resolution to Conservation Ontario requesting they lobby the Provincial Government to demand fair funding for Ontario's Conservation Authorities – noted & filed

6. REPORTS

Chair & Conservation Ontario

The Chair reported on recent activities of Conservation Ontario including participation in a partnership with Ontario Heritage Trust, called Trails Open, where Conservation Authorities promote their Conservation Areas by urging the public to get active and use the numerous trail systems provided.

Conservation Ontario has forwarded a letter to the Ministry of Natural Resources expressing concerns about the financial burden that will be imposed on Conservation Authorities by the proposed Accessibility to Information Act.

Conservation Authorities are the largest outdoor educator in Ontario, working with 50 of the 72 provincial school boards. \$150M has been committed to experiential education. However, these funds go directly to the school boards. Conservation Ontario is endeavouring to obtain access to these funds for Conservation Authorities.

A presentation was made to Conservation Ontario regarding Bill 150, The Green Energy Act. This Act is deemed to be very dangerous for municipalities, as well as Conservation Authorities, as it will trump Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and supersede any official plans and zoning by-laws when it comes to the development of any green energy facility, including wind turbines.

Finance Report

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

**MOTION #G09-38**

Moved by Peter Hambly

Seconded by John Bell

THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$319,926.51 for December 2008, January and February 2009 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 #G09-39**

Moved by Tom Kuglin

Seconded by Gord Campbell

THAT the Program Report be approved as presented, and further

THAT the Permits as identified in Report #6b be approved by the Board of Directors.

**Carried**

Foundation Report

A copy of Report #6c, entitled Saugeen Valley Conservation Foundation, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2009

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

**MOTION #G09-40**

Moved by Dan Gieruszak

Seconded by Dan Sullivan

THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting, held on February 12, 2009, be received.

Joint Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2009

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

**MOTION #G09-41**

Moved by Ralph Winslade

Seconded by Anne Eadie

THAT the minutes of the Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting, held on February 18, 2009, be received.

**Carried**

7. NEW BUSINESS

2008 Annual Report

**MOTION #G09-42**

Moved by Gord Campbell

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the 2008 Annual Report be accepted as presented and authorized for distribution.

**Carried**

Pasture Farm Tender Report

A copy of Report #7a, entitled 2009 Pasture Farm Tender Results, is appended to the office copy of these minutes. The awarding of the tender for the Bluffs B farm may be impacted by the possible sale of the property which is presently under negotiation and therefore the tender may not proceed.

**MOTION #G09-43**

Moved by Dan Sullivan

Seconded by John Bell

THAT, due to the pending sale of the Bluffs “A” pasture farm lands, the tender for the Saugeen Bluffs “A” Pasture Farm be cancelled, and further

THAT the tender for the Saugeen Bluffs “B” Pasture Farm be awarded to Keith Thomson, in the amount of \$9,510.00, in accordance with the tender submission opened February 27, 2009, and further

THAT the tender for the McBeath Pasture Farm be awarded to Keith Thomson, in the amount of \$6,900.00, in accordance with the tender submission opened February 27, 2009.

**Carried**

Information Accessibility Implications

A copy of Report #7b, entitled Information Accessibility Implications, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

This legislation is causing grave concern among Conservation Authorities. No one can argue against the principle of the legislation, however, the majority agrees the implementation will be costly and cumbersome. The Authority Directors expressed their concerns and noted it was important to send comments to the Province regarding this legislation. They also stressed the importance of encouraging municipalities to forward their comments to the Province as well.

**MOTION #G09-44**

Moved by Carl Zettel

Seconded by Tom Kuglin

THAT the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority hereby endorses the Conservation Ontario report regarding the proposed Accessible Information and Communications Standard, dated March 2, 2009.

**Carried**

Green Energy Act Implications

A copy of Report #7c, entitled Green Energy Act Implications, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

Directors expressed their grave concern regarding the implications this legislation will have on Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act. The Green Energy Act will impact on the authority the Conservation Authority has under its Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Waterways Regulations and will supersede any municipal Official Plan or Zoning By-Law. It was noted that “Green energy should not harm the environment”.

The following motion was introduced and carried:

**MOTION #G09-45**

Moved by Dan Sullivan

Seconded by Gord Campbell

THAT the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority hereby endorses the Conservation Ontario staff report regarding Bill 150, “The Green Energy and Green Economy Act 2009”, dated March 2, 2009.

**Carried**

Trails Open Campaign

A copy of Report #7d, entitled 2009 Trails Open Proposal, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

**MOTION #G09-46**

Moved by Ralph Winslade

Seconded by Anne Eadie

THAT the staff report on the 2009 Trails Open proposal, in partnership with Ontario Heritage Trust and Conservation Ontario, be received for information by the Board of Directors.

**Carried**

Draft SVCA Administrative Resolutions

A copy of Report #7e, entitled Draft SVCA Administrative Resolutions, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

It was suggested that “Read Receipt” be used when emailing the agenda package to the Directors, to ensure that all Directors actually receive their package.

The Executive Secretary requested the Directors review the draft document in detail and provide any further comments and/or suggestions to her prior to the next Board of Directors meeting, when the document will be presented for final approval.

Draft Terms of Reference – Strategic Plan

A copy of Report #7f, entitled Draft Terms of Reference – Strategic Plan, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

Considerable discussion arose concerning the need to engage a professional consultant to develop the Plan, with input from staff, Directors, municipalities and the general public. Also stressed was the importance of getting the information out electronically.

**MOTION #G09-47**

Moved by Peter Hambly

Seconded by John Bell

THAT the Draft Terms of Reference for the Strategic Plan be approved as presented.

**Carried**

Firewood Ban Implementation

A copy of Report #7e, entitled Firewood Ban Implementation, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

The Manager of Lands outlined the process staff will be following to try to control the import of firewood into its parks this summer, stressing that there will be opposition and that some flexibility may need to be exercised. Flyers have been sent out to all seasonal campers informing them of this change in policy.

Directors agreed that staff should do whatever they can to control the situation.

**MOTION #G09-48**

Moved by Dan Gieruszak

Seconded by Tom Kuglin

THAT the staff report on the implementation of a firewood importation ban for the 2009 camping season be received for information.

**Carried**

Children's Safety Village

A copy of Report #7f, entitled Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village (SVCSV) Proposal, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

In general, the Board of Directors felt this was a good idea but expressed their concern that the facility not become a cash or management drag on the Conservation Authority. The Directors were informed that the Village is run by its own Board of Directors, with operations and maintenance done through fundraising. Nothing would proceed until all the monies needed were in place.

**MOTION #G09-49**

Moved by Peter Hambly

Seconded by John Bell

THAT the staff report on the SVCSV be received, and further

THAT the Board of Directors supports the proposal for the creation of a Children's Safety Village on Conservation Authority property at the Headquarters Conservation Area, and further

THAT staff be directed to continue to work with the proponents from Bruce Power on this proposal and provide regular reports to the Board of Directors.

**Carried**

Group Camping – Definition/Clarification

A copy of Report #7g, entitled Group Camping Definitions and Fees, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

**MOTION #G09-50**

Moved by Carl Zettel

Seconded by Dan Sullivan

THAT the Board of Directors approves the recommendations for group camping fees for 2009, as presented, and further

THAT the revisions be included as part of the 2009 Authority User Fee Schedule.

**Carried**

Memorandum of Understanding re Low Water Response

A letter and Memorandum of Understanding was received from the Ministry of Natural Resources asking the Authority to undertake, for the Low Water Response Program for the Province, an extensive and comprehensive report for a cost of \$3,500. Authority staff has advised the MNR that they do not have the time or the staff nor can the report be completed for \$3,500. The work could not physically be done in the timeframe allotted. Low water issues are not as significant a concern this year in the Saugeen Watershed. Due to timing and lack of human resources, the Saugeen Authority has turned down the request.



**MOTION #G09-51**

Moved by Anne Eadie

Seconded by John Bell

THAT the Board of Directors hereby endorses the actions of staff with respect to the decision to not participate in the Low Water Response Initiative.

**Carried**

Forest Festival

A copy of Report #7j, entitled Forest Festival, is appended to the office copy of these minutes.

**MOTION #G09-52**

Moved by Ralph Winslade

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the SVCA heartily endorses the concept of the Forest Festival and requests further updates as organizational details are formalized.

**Carried**

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05pm on motion of Tom Kuglin.

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Doug Freiburger  
Chair

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Bonnie Sherman  
Executive Secretary