

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

MINUTES

MEETING: WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATE: Wednesday February 3, 2021
TIME: 3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Electronic

CHAIR: Tom Hutchinson

MEMBERS PRESENT: Maureen Couture, Dan Gieruszak, Cheryl Grace, Christine Robinson

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Stephens, GM / S-T,
Jo-Anne Harbinson, Manager, Water Resources
Janice Hagan, Executive Assistant

1. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Maureen Couture nominated Tom Hutchinson for the position of Chair of the Water Resources Committee. There were no other nominations.

MOTION # WRC21-01

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT Tom Hutchinson be appointed to fill the position of Chair of the Water Resources Committee for 2021.

CARRIED

Dan Gieruszak nominated Cheryl Grace to the position of Vice Chair of the Water Resources Committee for 2021.

MOTION # WRC21-02

Moved by Dan Gieruszak

Seconded by Christine Robinson

THAT Cheryl Grace be appointed to fill the position of Vice Chair of the Water Resources Committee for 2021.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION # WRC21-03

Moved by Cheryl Grace

Seconded by Maureen Couture

THAT the agenda for the Water Resources Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of pecuniary interest

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

4. New Business

a. Terms of Reference

Jennifer Stephens presented the draft Water Resources Committee Terms of Reference. She noted that the term Water Resources would be all encompassing to include water and erosion control infrastructure, water quality and quantity monitoring and flood forecasting programs, and as well as the Drinking Water Source Protection program. The committee members reviewed the Terms of Reference as presented and requested several amendments. The Terms of Reference should be reviewed after 1 year and then every 3 years thereafter.

The members requested that an orientation binder be prepared that includes reference documents, legislation, policies, and processes relevant to the scope of the committee.

MOTION # WRC21-04

Moved by Cheryl Grace

Seconded by Maureen Couture

THAT the Water Resources Committee recommends to the full Authority that the draft Terms of Reference be approved as amended.

CARRIED

b. Review of Water Erosion and Control Infrastructure Maintenance Activities

Jo-Anne Harbinson provided a brief overview of the Water Resources staff work related to the Flood and Erosion Control Structures in the SVCA Watershed. It was identified that the main flood risk areas of the watershed are Durham, Walkerton, and Paisley. In addition, Inverhuron and Neustadt have flood control projects that are inspected.

- Durham - SVCA owns and operates the Upper and Lower dams and operates the Middle dam per a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).
- Walkerton - The dyke system was established in the 1950's and constructed over a number of years. Pinkerton has a small dyke that the SVCA constructed in the late 1960's.

- Paisley has a large dyke system constructed in late 1980's to protect the majority of the village with dykes along the Teeswater, Willow Creek and the main Saugeen River.
- Inverhuron has a flood control project, constructed in the 1990's that protects residents from overland flooding from above the bluff.
- Kincardine has several erosion control projects that were built over the years, as does Southampton that is upstream and downstream of Hwy #21 bridge.
- SVCA Flood and Erosion control projects were built with MNRF funding of up to 85%, no new structures have been built since 1997. The Kincardine Penetangore Slope Stability and Erosion control project was the last structure built in 1997.

MOTION # WRC21-05

Moved by Dan Gieruszak

Seconded by Cheryl Grace

THAT the presentation from Jo-Anne Harbinson, Manager, Water Resources be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the contents be included in the Water Resources Committee Orientation Binder.

CARRIED

c. Public Safety Assessment and Plan - Durham Upper Dam Walkway Gates

Jennifer presented the Durham Dam and Public Safety report. She noted that SVCA is responsible for public safety around dams owned by the Authority and that implementation of physical public safety measures should be carried out by a qualified engineer. Staff recommend that a managed system approach to address hazards be adopted involving planning, implementing, checking, revising and reporting. SVCA is responsible to undertake a formal Public Safety Assessment (PSA) of each owned dam infrastructure to determine if a Public Safety Plan (PSP) is required.

Jennifer presented 3 options regarding the closure of the Durham upper dam gates. Staff recommend that the gates continue to be closed until a PSA to determine public safety hazards is completed. If hazards are indicated, then a PSP is to be developed.

MOTION # WRC21-06

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the Durham Dam and Public Safety report presented by Jennifer Stephens, GM/S-T, be received.

CARRIED

MOTION # WRC21-07

Moved by Cheryl Grace

Seconded by Christine Robinson

THAT the Water Resources Committee recommends to the Full Authority that until a public safety assessment is conducted at the Durham Upper Dam (McGowan Falls Dam) walkway gates continue to be closed pending public safety assessment recommendations;
AND FURTHER, THAT a communications plan be prepared;
AND FURTHER, THAT Authority staff place appropriate signage at the dam.

CARRIED

5. Other Business

Jennifer noted that the discussion will be summarized into a report to be brought to the Board of Directors and would recommend a consultant to perform the PSA and the estimated costs.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday March 3, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m. on motion of Dan Gieruszak and Cheryl Grace.

Tom Hutchinson
Chair

Janice Hagan
Executive Secretary

[NOTE: The March 3rd, 2021 Meeting was cancelled as its purpose was to review the results of the Public Safety Assessment. The Public Safety Assessment was not received in DRAFT format until May 2021.]