

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, February 16, 2023

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Adrian Cornelissen, Jim Ginn, Steve Herold, Jaden Hodgins, Greg Lamport, Dave Marsh, Wayne Shipley, Marissa Vaughan

STAFF PRESENT

Geoff Cade, Tina Crown, Brian Horner, Daniel King, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Tracey McPherson, Kate Monk, Nathan Schoelier, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk

OTHERS PRESENT

Angela Coleman, Conservation Ontario; Trudy Mauth, Authority Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) Vice-Chair Marissa Vaughan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed everyone in attendance, invited members to introduce themselves and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 01/23

Moved Jim Ginn

Seconded by Ray Chartrand

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the February 16, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting be approved, as amended.”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest at this meeting or from the previous meeting. Jaden Hodgins stated he will speak to the Integrity Commissioner to ensure that there is no conflict of interest regarding his employment at the Municipality of North Middlesex and being an ABCA Board Member.

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO RECORD

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION #BD 02/23

**Moved by Adrian Cornelissen
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on December 15, 2022, and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

ELECTIONS

Meeting Chair Marissa Vaughan asked for a motion to appoint a chairperson for the elections.

MOTION #BD 03/23

**Moved by Wayne Shipley
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT Brian Horner be appointed as chairperson for the election proceedings.”

Carried.

Brian Horner outlined the procedures prior to conducting the elections.

Appointment of Scrutineers

MOTION #BD 04/23

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT Nathan Schoelier and Geoff Cade be appointed as scrutineers.”

Carried.

The positions of Chair and Vice Chair were declared vacant.

Election of Chair

Nominations were called for the position of Chair for 2023.

Ray Chartrand nominated Marissa Vaughan.

Brian Horner called for nominations two more times.

MOTION #BD 05/23

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Wayne Shipley**

“RESOLVED, THAT nominations for the position of Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority be closed.”

Carried.

Marissa Vaughan accepted her nomination with thanks, and Brian Horner declared Ms. Vaughan, representative for the Municipality of South Huron and Township of Perth South, as the Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for 2023.

Election of Vice Chair

Nominations were called for the position of Vice Chair for 2023. Adrian Cornelissen nominated Ray Chartrand for Vice Chair.

Mr. Horner called for nominations two more times.

MOTION #BD 06/23

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

“RESOLVED, THAT nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority be closed.”

Carried.

Ray Chartrand accepted his nomination and Mr. Horner declared Mr. Chartrand, representative for the Municipality of Huron East, as Vice Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for 2023.

Marissa Vaughan thanked the directors for their support and assumed the Chair.

APPOINTMENTS

MOTION #BD 07/23

**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Steve Herold**

“RESOLVED, THAT Seebach and Company Chartered Accountants, Clinton be appointed as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority auditors for 2023.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 08/23**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Jim**

“RESOLVED, THAT the firms of Little, Masson & Reid, Exeter; Raymond & McLean, Exeter; Trudy Mauth, Woodstock; and Grant Inglis of Scott Petrie LLP of London be appointed as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority solicitors for 2023.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 09/23**Moved by Wayne Shipley
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

“RESOLVED, THAT Bank of Montreal, Exeter and Raymond James, Skillen Investments, Exeter be appointed as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority financial institutions for 2023.”

Carried.

CONSERVATION ONTARIO PRESENTATION

Angela Coleman, Conservation Ontario General Manager, provided an overview of the role and initiatives of Conservation Ontario.

PROGRAM REPORTS**1. (a) Development Review**

Daniel King, Regulations Coordinator, presented the Development Review report pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06 *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses*. Through the application process, proposed developments within regulated areas are protected from flooding and erosion hazards. Staff granted permission for 25 *Applications for Permission* and 3 *Minor Works Applications*.

MOTION #BD 10/23**Moved by Jim Ginn
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors affirm the approval of applications as presented in Program Report # 1 – a) Development Review.”

Carried.

(b) Violation/Appeals Update

This report will be presented during Committee of the Whole.

2. CA Act Update

Brian Horner provided an update on the Conservation Authorities Act implementation. Staff submitted the quarterly progress report to the province in December. The Draft Cost Apportioning Agreement for Category 3 programs and services has been sent to municipalities, with board members copied. Staff will be attending council meetings to discuss the agreements. The Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy and Conservation Areas Strategy projects have been initiated. Both are requirements of the CA Act update.

MOTION #BD 11/23

Moved by Adrian Cornelissen

Seconded by Jaden Hodgins

“RESOLVED, THAT the report on the Conservation Authorities Act Update be received as presented.”

Carried.

3. Bill 23 Update

Geoff Cade, Water and Planning Manager, presented an update on Bill 23 – *More Homes Built Faster Act* and the impacts to ABCA planning services for natural heritage commenting. On January 1, 2023, through Bill 23 and O. Reg. 596/22, conservation authorities were prohibited from providing advice to their member municipalities on “Non-Category 1’ (including natural heritage) matters when formal proposals are advanced under prescribed acts. This relates to ABCA Plan Review and Comment Powers regarding the following: wetlands (natural heritage related functions), wildlife habitat, threatened/endangered species, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), Environmental Sensitive/Significant Area (ESA), woodlands, natural heritage systems, fish habitat and stormwater (natural heritage related functions).

The ABCA will continue to provide comments on natural hazards.

Mr. Cade presented the following transition plan:

1. For applications received on or after January 1, 2023:

The ABCA will limit its comments as per Bill 23 and O.Reg. 596/22. The ABCA will provide comments as required to ensure file compliance with provincial and ABCA hazard guidelines/policies and Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act. These comments are identified in Table 1 ‘as permitted’ (see report).

The ABCA, where appropriate, will continue to provide full comments as a landowner where it has identified a concern that a proposal will negatively impact the natural hazard and natural heritage characteristics of its own properties.

2. For applications received prior to January 1, 2023:

For all activities listed on Table 1 (see report), the ABCA will provide advice and transition support until March 31, 2023 – only where there is full concurrence from the applicant, the municipality and the ABCA. If there is no concurrence, the ABCA will limit its review

and comments as identified in section 1 above. After March 31, 2023, the ABCA will no longer supply support on those activities listed as 'not permitted' on Table 1. This applies only to applications subject to the 'Prescribed Acts' in O. Reg. 596/22.

3. Files to be considered on a case-by-case basis:
Where the ABCA is a named party (for example, Draft Plan Conditions), further discussions with the municipality will be required.

MOTION #BD 12/23

**Moved by Dave Marsh
Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors approve the proposed transition plan as presented.”

Carried.

4. Stewardship Projects Review

Nathan Schoelier, Stewardship and Conservation Lands Manager presented an update on stewardship efforts and funding. At present, five tree planting projects have been approved for funding from the Canada Nature Fund in the Ausable River watershed. One berm and five tree planting projects have been approved for funding from the Canada Nature Fund in the Bayfield River watershed.

MOTION #BD 13/23

**Moved by Jaden Hodgins
Seconded by Steve Herold**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Stewardship Project Review report be received as presented.”

Carried.

5. Unaudited Profit/Loss Statements - 2022

Brian Horner presented the unaudited statements of profit and loss from January 2022 through December 2022. The audited financial statements are anticipated to be ready in March.

MOTION #BD 15/23

**Moved by Wayne Shipley
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the unaudited profit and loss financial statement for 2022 be received as presented.”

Carried.

“RESOLVED, THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report at 12:12 p.m.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 18/23

Moved by Greg Lamport

Seconded by Wayne Shipley

“RESOLVED, THAT the information on the legal matters be received as presented.”

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment to Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation (ABCF)

The ABCF has a vacancy on its board of directors. Brian Horner brought forth the nomination of Mr. George Irvin of Bluewater for approval

2. Appointments to Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy (HTLTC)

The HTLTC has a vacancy on its board of directors with the resignation of Kim McCabe and Peter Twynstra at the end of 2022. Brian Horner brought forth the nomination of Ms. Jessica Smeekens of Lambton Shores and Mr. Kerry Teskey of Lambton Shores for approval.

MOTION #BD 19/23

Moved by Ray Chartrand

Seconded by Dave Marsh

“RESOLVED, THAT George Irvin be appointed to the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation and further, that Jessica Smeekens and Kerry Teskey be appointed to the Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy.”

Carried.

3. Lucan Biddulph Meeting

Jaden Hodgins brought forth information about a meeting at Lucan Biddulph regarding a draft site alteration bylaw.

4. Conservation Dinner

Kate Monk provided information on the upcoming Conservation Dinner on April 20, 2023. The event is a cooperative project of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation and Exeter Lions Club and raises funds for several projects in the ABCA watershed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Marissa Vaughan
Chair

Kate Monk
Recording Secretary

*Copies of program reports are available upon request.
Contact Abigail Gutteridge, Corporate Services Coordinator*