

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Geoff Cade, Tina Crown, Tim Cumming, Abbie Gutteridge, Brian Horner, Daniel King, Tracey McPherson, Nathan Schoelier, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marissa Vaughan called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., welcomed everyone in attendance, and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 67/23

**Moved Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the July 20, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting be approved,”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest at this meeting or from the previous meeting.

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO RECORD

Tim Cumming, Communications Specialist, noted that he intended to record the report of the Watershed Management Strategy Update for promotional purposes.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION #BD 68/23

**Moved by Wayne Shipley
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on June 15, 2023 be adopted.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

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 4 *Applications for Permission* and 16 *Minor Works Applications*.

(b) Violations/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Water and Planning Manager, noted that there were no updates on current violations.

MOTION #BD 69/23

Moved by Steve Herold

Seconded by Dave Jewitt

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

Carried.

Andrew Bicknell left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

2. Conservation Authorities Act and Watershed Management Strategy Update

Kate Monk, Projects Coordinator, reported on the progress of the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy, which is a requirement of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. This overarching document will update past watershed strategies and integrate new information to guide and direct the ABCA within a rural lens. The ABCA mission and vision were developed through the development of the Conservation Strategy and will remain the same.

Four strategic priorities are laid out in the document including: protecting life and minimizing property damage during flooding and erosion; improving the health of the watersheds; managing land holdings in a responsible and sustainable way; and protecting sources of drinking water for current and future generations. In addition, it establishes ten guiding principles to provide context for the objectives and to inform the delivery of ABCA program and services. Objectives are also laid out to help the ABCA achieve its mandate and provide the context for programs and services. Both the guiding principles and objectives can be found in the attached report.

MOTION #BD 70/23**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT the report on the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Update be received as presented, and

“FURTHER, THAT the draft ABCA vision, mission, strategic priorities, guiding principles and objectives be approved for circulation for public consultation.”

Carried.

Brian Horner, General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer, provided a brief update on the Conservation Authorities Act. To date, six of twelve Cost Apportioning Agreements with Member Municipalities have been signed, and five more are going to council later in the summer. At present, the Municipality of Bluewater has decided not to sign at present. Brian asked Greg Lamport to provide an update regarding this decision. Greg noted that some of the reluctance to sign is on account of current budgeting cuts within the Municipality, as well as some misunderstanding regarding ABCA reserve funds. The Council elected to not approve the Cost Apportioning Agreement at present and requested further information for clarification. Greg reported that he has had several conversations with ABCA staff and will take more information back to the Bluewater Council.

Tim Cumming and Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk left the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

3. Profit and Loss Statement

Brian Horner provided the profit and loss statement to June 30, 2023, including a projection for the remaining six months of 2023. Of note, there is \$100,000 in accessibility funding that will need to be used in the next year and a half.

MOTION #BD 71/23**Moved by Dave Marsh
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT 2nd Quarter Profit and Loss Statement for the period ending June 30, 2023 be received as presented.”

Carried.

4. Five-Year Forecast

Brian Horner presented the proposed five-year forecast for 2024-2028, using a wage increase of 2.5 per cent. The overall increase for the Operating Levy – Category 1 is 4.20 per cent, and 9.69 for the Operating Levy – Category 3.

MOTION #BD 72/23

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the Five-Year Forecast be received for information as presented.

Carried.

5. Clinton Conservation Area Disc Golf Course

The Disc Golf Course was created in 2016 by the Lions Club at the Clinton Conservation Area, which the Lions Club managed for several years. It was approved by the ABCA Board of Directors with conditions, one of which included a provision for if the Lions Club Agreement with the ABCA to manage the property ceased to exist, the Club would have the option to remove the course or the equipment would become property of the ABCA, and the ABCA would have no obligation to maintain the course. When the Clinton Lions Club dissolved, the maintenance of the property returned to the ABCA and staff became aware of the challenges at the conservation area with respect to the course. There were several concerns with the safety of the course.

Kevin Farley, from Fluent Disc Sport, completed an assessment of the course in 2023, and on the scale of A to F, it scored an E. The assessment noted several safety issues. FDS provided ABCA with several recommendations, two of which were noted as preferred options. One was to reduce the size of the course, which would require a full redesign of the course, and the second was to expand the course into the natural areas for which further consultation would be required. Another option is to remove the course. Staff considered all recommendations, and considering safety concerns, the limited use that the course receives, and staff time required to manage the current course, the preferred course of action is to remove the course.

MOTION #BD 72/23

**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Greg Lamport**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the removal of the disc golf course at the Clinton Conservation Area.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Daniel King, Regulations Coordinator, Water Resources Coordinator presented to the Board regarding Managing Risk through the ABCA Planning and Regulations. The presentation focused on defining risk through vulnerability, hazards, and exposure, as well as how to manage risk through study, policies, and procedures.

MOTION #BD 73/23

**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Wayne Shipley**

“RESOLVED, THAT the presentation *ABCA Hazard Land regulations – Managing the Risks* be received for information as presented.”

Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

CORRESPONDANCE

- a) Reference: Thank you letter from Avon Maitland District School Board
File: A.5
Brief: A thank you note from Katie Padfield-Jackson to Mari, Nathan, Nina and ABCA Staff for hosting an outdoor education PA Day at Morrison Dam CA.

- b) Reference: Letters from Shadeview Cottage Owners
File: W.6.2.3
Brief: Two letters from Shadeview cottage owners, Paul Kellenberger and Michael Lauckner expressing concern over possible future repairs to the groynes located in Lake Huron in the Cedar Bank Subdivision.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Adrian Cornelissen asked how Tenet Security was working for the ABCA. Nathan noted that the need to use them ebbs and flows through the year, but in general they are working well.

- 2. Abbie Gutteridge reminded Board Directors about the watershed tour being planned for August 24, 2023.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION #BD 74/23

**Moved by Jaden Hodgins
Seconded by Dave Marsh**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 12:08 p.m. to discuss a property matter with Nathan Schoelier, Brian Horner and Abbie Gutteridge remaining in attendance.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 75/23

**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report at 12:19 p.m.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 76/23

**Moved by Wayne Shipley
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

“RESOLVED, THAT the information on the property matter be received as presented.”

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Marissa Vaughan
Chair

Abigail Gutteridge
Corporate Services Coordinator

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