



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, April 8, 2010

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dave Frayne, Jim Ginn, George Irvin, Bob Norris, Bill Siemon, Mark Simpson

DIRECTORS ABSENT

David Bolton, Paul Hodgins, Lawrence McLachlan

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Tom Prout

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ginn called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 24/10

**Moved by Bob Norris
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the April 8, 2010 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority 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.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION #BD 25/10

**Moved by Mark Simpson
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 18, 2010 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Andrew Bicknell, Regulations Coordinator prepared 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 one *Application for Permission* and one *Minor Works* application.

MOTION #BD 26 /10

**Moved by Mark Simpson
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

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

Carried.

1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

None

2. HST Amendments to 2010 Fee Schedule

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor provided an amended 2010 Fee Schedule that would address the introduction of HST on July 1, 2010. Some of the program delivery areas taxable under HST are Rock Glen CA gate fees, hunting passes, pavilion rentals, environmental education program fees, tree planting and forest management fees, mapping products.

MOTION #BD 27/10

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Mark Simpson**

“RESOLVED, THAT the 2010 Fee Schedule be adjusted to the nearest dollar for products and services affected by the Harmonized Sales Tax.”

Defeated.

George Irvin suggested that the consumer should be able to identify the areas where the introduction of Harmonized Sales Tax affects their purchases. Subsequently, individuals can send a message of their dissatisfaction to the provincial government.

MOTION # BD 28/10

**Moved by George Irvin
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT effective July 1, 2010, the ABCA Fee Schedule be amended to the actual dollar and cents amount for products and services affected by the Harmonized Sales Tax.”

Carried.

3. OMERS vs. Group Savings Plan

Tom Prout, General Manager provided an update on the discussions with staff about changing the current ABCA Group Retirement Savings Plan with Sun Life to the OMERS Pension Plan. Staff heard a presentation from an OMERS representative last fall. The current provider from Sun Life also gave a presentation on the group savings plan. Staff reviewed the options and held a vote on February 26, 2010 as to joining the OMERS plan or remaining with the Sun Life plan. The results were 2 voted Yes to change to OMERS and 28 voted No to remain with the current plan.

4. Presentation

Tom Prout reviewed the *Roles and Responsibilities of an ABCA Director* as a followup to the decision made at a recent Hearing under O. Reg 147/06. After discussions with the ABCA lawyer and insurance broker, the key points Mr. Prout addressed in the presentation were:

- ▶ the General Manager’s role as an advisor to the Board of Directors
- ▶ the purpose of the Hearing Board as a quasi judicial appeal mechanism
- ▶ identifying precedent setting implications that affect future appeals and increase liability to the ABCA and personal liability
- ▶ Board members should represent the best interest of the organization they are representing
- ▶ decisions should be based on what an informed reasonably prudent person would make

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning brought back information on two files asked about at the March 18, 2010 Hearing under O.Reg 147/06 - #2009-61. George Irvin, representative from the Municipality of Bluewater, had inquired about two properties on Bayfield Terrace that received ABCA permission to construct residences. Geoff Cade reported that the files date back to 2002 and 2005. Both cases would not have been supported by current Authority policies, but were supported by geotechnical assessments and permitted by the policies and procedures applicable at that time.

Jim Ginn commented that municipal councillors receive applications for minor variances and wondered if there was an equivalent to this scenario in the Ontario Regulation 147/06 Policies & Procedures. Geoff Cade responded that the policies and procedures do provide latitude in allowing activity but there are limits as to investment and potential loss of property or harm to persons.

Jim Ginn thanked the General Manager for his presentation and the directors asked that the roles and responsibilities for conservation authority Board members be given annually.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Tom Prout provided a written report with a brief update on the progress of various projects, staff training and development, upcoming events and general activities over the previous month.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: OFA Ag Land Drainage Task Team
File: L.2.13
Brief: Recognition at the OFA Ag Land Drainage Task Team meeting of the positive input Davin Heinbuck, ABCA Land & Water Technologist has contributed to the provincial land drainage committees DAWG and DART.
- b) Reference: Funding for Wetland Projects
File: S.72.1
Brief: Correspondence from Ducks Unlimited Canada confirming funding assistance for landowners undertaking local wetland projects, up to 25% to a maximum contribution of \$5,000.
- c) Reference: Strathroy Sno Blizzards
File: L.9.44
Brief: Invitation to attend the annual landowner appreciation breakfast on April 11, 2010.
- d) Reference: Canada Ontario Agreement
File: A.7.2
Brief: Correspondence from Conservation Ontario advising that the extension period for the Canada Ontario Agreement has been extended to March 2011 providing continued funding, partnership and community engagement in implementing water quality improvements.
- e) Reference: Huron County Sustainable Community Plan
File: A.5.5
Brief: The County of Huron has received funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund to hire a consultant to develop a detailed Sustainable Community Plan and begin implementation. Kate Monk, Stewardship and Conservation Lands Supervisor will be a representative on the steering committee to provide input on natural resources. Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning will be the alternate.
- f) Reference: Port Blake Park
File: A.5.3
Brief: Request from Roy Hardy, CAO for Municipality of South Huron that the ABCA provide a letter of support in regards to seeking funding to conduct a feasibility study and business plan for the Port Blake Day Park.

MOTION #BD 29/10

**Moved by Mark Simpson
Seconded by George Irvin**

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA Board of Directors agree to provide the Municipality of South Huron with a letter of support in their application to the Green Municipal Fund for a feasibility study of Port Blake Park.”

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Dave Frayne suggested that the ABCA provide notice to the member municipalities when selling any vehicles.
2. Dave Frayne, ABCA Director and Councillor for South Huron advised that he is having a windbreak planted on his property for Earth Day and the media will be attending.
3. George Irvin expressed appreciation to staff for the preparation involved and presentations at the ABCA Annual Awards Night.
4. Jim Ginn advised that the Municipality of Central Huron hosted a meeting recently on the Natural Heritage Study. Jeff Brick from Upper Thames River CA was the speaker and the information was very well presented.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Jim Ginn
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

*Copies of Program Reports are available upon request.
Contact Judith Parker, Corporate Services Coordinator.*

