

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dave Frayne, Paul Hodgins, Lorie Scott, Bill Siemon, Don Shipway, Ute Stumpf, Mike Tam, Janisse Zimmerman

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Jim Ginn

OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Montgomery, CKNX

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Cathie Brown, Geoff Cade, Brian Horner, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Tom Prout, Alec Scott

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Frayne called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 40/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the April 26, 2012 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 41/12****Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 15, 2012 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTESLambton County Doors Open Tour Update

General Manager Tom Prout advised that the Doors Open committee had been notified regarding last month's request for waiving the gate fees at Rock Glen Conservation Area during the Lambton County Open Doors two day tour. The ABCA was hesitant in approving the request because the Arkona Lions Club will be hosting the Classic Car Show at Rock Glen CA two weeks earlier with free admission for participants. The local Doors Open committee recognize the potential lost revenue and have withdrawn their request. They will advertise the conservation area as a point of interest during the Doors Open tour in the Arkona area.

PROGRAM REPORTS1. 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 four *Applications for Permission* and five *Minor Works Permits*.

1. b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade reported a new violation and indicated more information will be brought to a future meeting.

1. c) Status of Appeal to OMB

Geoff Cade advised the OMB hearing in the Municipality of Bluewater was held over seven days with a decision still to be made.

MOTION #BD 42/12**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Lorie Scott**

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

Carried.

2. Section 29 Conservation Authorities Act Activities Update

Kate Monk, Stewardship & Conservation Lands Supervisor provided an update on off-road vehicle patrols on ABCA lands in Hay Swamp, Ausable Gorge and Parkhill Conservation Area. During the March Break there were seven individuals charged at Parkhill CA under the *Trespass to Property Act* and three adults charged in Hay Swamp for riding ATVs on ABCA lands. The Strathroy OPP Detachment indicated assistance in patrol ABCA lands with their ATVs. It is also hoped that with the repealing of the North Middlesex municipal bylaw allowing ATVs on municipal roads, will decrease unauthorized ATV activity in Parkhill CA and Kime Tract.

Permits to conduct research continue to be requested by wind energy companies conducting terrestrial surveys on ABCA properties. The information contributes to background reports for wind energy projects within the watershed.

MOTION #BD 43/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the update on enforcement of Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act be received as presented.”

Carried.

3. Crediton Conservation Area

Kate Monk explained that in 1975, the ABCA purchased 4.5 acres of land in Stephen Township on the southeast corner of Crediton Road and the Ausable River. The local municipality has maintained the property since 1978 for use of local residents and visitors for picnics and public access to the river. South Huron municipal staff have approached ABCA staff about the possibility of changing the management of the property by planting trees, reducing grass cutting and establishing a fenced dog park.

MOTION #BD 44/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Janisse Zimmerman**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority and Municipality of South Huron enter into a new agreement for the management of the Crediton Conservation Area.”

Carried.

4. Phragmites Control Strategy

Kate Monk advised there is significant community interest in Port Franks to control phragmites which has become quite prevalent in the area and on ABCA lands. It will have a significant impact on native species and ecosystem biodiversity if not controlled. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is taking the lead on working to identify research priorities and to determine the best methods for best management practices in controlling phragmites. Control techniques include mechanical excavation, flooding, pesticide application and prescribed burning. The principles for development and implementation of an ABCA phragmites control strategy include geographic focus; on-the-ground phragmites control; funding and outreach/education.

MOTION #BD 45/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority adopt this ABCA Phragmites Control Strategy.”

Carried.

5. Flood Emergency Planning Meeting

Alec Scott, Water & Planning Manager reported the 2012 annual flood emergency planning meeting was held on March 8, 2012 with 20 attendees representing eight member municipalities as well as staff or Emergency Management Coordinators from all four counties. Guest presenter at the meeting was Geoff Coulson from Environment Canada presenting on severe weather and emergency planning. Bill Siemon inquired if this meeting needed to be held every year. Alec Scott advised that the participants are asked this question every year, and the response is always affirmative.

6. 1st Quarter Financial Statement

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor presented the quarterly financial statement to March 31, 2012 for the director’s information, with comparison to the 2011 actuals and 2012 budget.

PRESENTATION

Tom Prout introduced Steve Boles, President of Kuzuka who was consulted to do a project on carbon storage and ABCA land stewardship initiatives. A summary of the report *An assessment of Carbon Sequestration and Future funding opportunities* was presented to the directors. The goal of this project was to provide ABCA and its landowners with the information required to take advantage of emerging opportunities that pertain to the reduction of atmospheric greenhouse gases. The study quantified carbon storage of existing forests and vegetative cover; looked at ways to communicate the carbon storage message to the public; identified opportunities within the private sector for options to offset carbon activities and suggested next steps.

Some examples of communicating to the public the number of trees to plant for carbon storage to offset a specific action are:

annual household energy use	21 trees
annual car usage	11 trees
round trip cross country flight	3 trees
round trip international flight	5 trees

Promoting awareness of social responsibility and encouraging corporate sponsorship opportunities were also discussed in the report. Innovative partnerships between the private sector and land stewardship organizations in generating carbon offset credits within the emerging carbon trading market in Ontario is a future opportunity.

Recommended next steps were:

- ▶ initiate dialogue with other Ontario conservation organizations for future partnerships in delivering services to the carbon offset industry.

- ▶ engage and educate ABCA staff about forest-based carbon offsets
- ▶ encourage feedback from watershed landowners about participating in carbon offset programs
- ▶ develop formal communication and outreach strategy tailored for local corporate sponsorship and benefits of land stewardship initiatives using carbon based themes
- ▶ provide continued support to the ABCA's conservation partners (Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation and Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy) to include carbon offsets as one of the tools to secure donations for conservation lands in the watershed.
- ▶ establish a goal/target for ABCA watershed forest cover

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION #BD 46/12

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held February 29, 2012 and the motions therein be approved as presented.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Municipality of Bluewater
File: F.6
Brief: Resolution from the Municipality of Bluewater requesting that the capital levy amount be removed from the 2012 ABCA budget and any monies collected in 2011 for capital levy be sent back to the municipalities. Janisse Zimmerman, representative for Bluewater spoke to the resolution and provided some background.

MOTION #BD 47/12

Moved by Janisse Zimmerman

“RESOLVED, THAT the ABCA Board of Directors comply with the request from the Municipality of Bluewater regarding the capital levy.”

No seconder.

- b) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Brief: A note of thanks from Klaus and Marilyn Keunecke for the technical assistance given by Kate Monk with the Lambton County trails project.

- c) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1.
Reference: A note of thanks from Joseph Palmer, for the assistance of Ian Jean, ABCA Forestry and Land Stewardship Specialist has given with tree planting projects to protect a stream on his property.
- d) Reference: Thank you
File: A.5.1
Reference: A donation towards the Woodland Reflection Shelter was received from the Lioness Club of Exeter in appreciation of using the Morrison Dam CA and workshop when hosting the annual Easter in the Park egg hunt.
- e) Reference: Conservation in Action Tour 2012
File: A.5.1
Reference: An invitation to attend a conservation tour in the Mississippi Delta on May 30-31, 2012.
- f) Reference: Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation
File: A.9.1
Reference: A letter of resignation was received from John Walsh, director on the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation effective immediately.

MOTION #BD 48/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors accept with regrets, the resignation of John Walsh from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation effective immediately, and

FURTHER, THAT Mr. Walsh be thanked for his years of volunteer service to the Foundation.”

Carried.

- g) Reference: Fiduciary Responsibility
File: A.24.1
Reference: Invitation to attend a one day workshop for directors on fiduciary and other responsibilities hosted by the Rural Ontario Institute.
- h) Reference: Arkona Lions Club
File: R.11.1
Reference: Request from Wayne McLellan of the Arkona Lions Club to host a Beef BBQ at Rock Glen CA on August 11th with free admission for participants. The Lions Club will make a donation to the ABCA in lieu of reduced gate fee revenue.

MOTION #BD 49/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Ute Stumpf**

“RESOLVED, THAT the gate fees at Rock Glen CA be waived for participants in the Arkona Lions Club Community Beef BBQ on August 11, 2012.”

Carried.

- i) Reference: Gully Creek Restoration Project
File: W.11.14.1
Reference: Notice of approval and the agreement was received from Ministry of Transportation for funding towards the Gully Creek Restoration Project.
- j) Reference: WECI Program Update
File: W.3.16.1
Reference: Update was received that the Parkhill Dam outlet restoration project will not be receiving the WECI provincial grant through Ministry of Natural Resources this year. Alec Scott will bring a follow-up report to the May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Cathie Brown, DWSP Project Manager advised that following the consultation period, the Source Protection Authority will receive a copy of the final draft of the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan for review and approval. The document must then be forwarded to the Minister of Environment by August 20, 2012. Highlights from the SPP can be presented at the July Board of Directors meeting for information. Since the Board of Directors do not meet in the month of August it was suggested to hold a vote by electronic mail for approval.

MOTION #BD 50/12

**Moved by Lorie Scott
Seconded by Bill Siemon**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Source Protection Authority be allowed to vote by electronic mail on approval of the final draft of the Ausable Bayfield Drinking Water Source Protection Plan so that the document can be forwarded to the Minister of Environment prior to August 20, 2012.”

Carried.

2. Paul Hodgins extended a notice of motion for the next board meeting, to establish a general/project levy target for preparing the 2013 budget.

MOTION #BD 51/12

**Moved by Paul Hodgins
Seconded by Don Shipway**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors be prepared to establish a target for general and project levy as guidance for staff in preparing the 2013 budget.”

Carried.

3. Don Shipway advised there was a sewage leak in Ailsa Craig over the long weekend in April and a permit was required from the ABCA for boring under the river. Tom Prout explained the procedure for these types of emergency situations.
4. Dave Frayne and Kate Monk commented that a successful spring cleanup was done along the South Huron Trail, thanks to the Friends of South Huron Trail volunteers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Dave Frayne
Chair

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

