



MINUTES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Adrian Debruyne, Jim Ginn, Paul Hodgins, George Irvin, Lawrence McLachlan, Bob Norris, Bill Siemon, Bill Weber

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dave Frayne

OTHERS PRESENT

Nina Lieshout, Exeter TA

STAFF PRESENT

Geoff Cade, Kate Monk, Judith Parker, Tom Prout,

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lawrence McLachlan called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 52/08

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the May 15, 2008 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting be approved.”

Carried.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**MOTION #BD 53/08**

**Moved by Bill Weber
Seconded by Paul Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the ABCA Board of Directors Meeting held on April 10, 2008 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

PROGRAM REPORTS1. Development Review

Andrew Bicknell, 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 two *Applications for Permission* and five *Minor Works Permits*.

MOTION #BD 54/08

**Moved by Bill Weber
Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Development Review (O.Reg 147/06) program report be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

2. ABCA Audit Process

Tom Prout, General Manager advised that the audit has been conducted and the draft financial statement is being compiled for the Board of Director’s review. The draft will be circulated to the directors for discussion at the June Board meeting. The auditor has also requested that a questionnaire be completed regarding the various internal control systems in place. The specific areas requiring documentation are General Business Environment; Information Technology; Financial Statement Preparation; Revenue; Receivables and Receipts; Purchases; Payables and Payments; and Payroll. A completed copy of the questionnaire will be circulated to the directors for their review.

3. Ontario Municipal Board Hearing

Geoff Cade, Supervisor of Water & Planning advised that the ABCA is being called on behalf of the Municipality of Lambton Shores as a principal witness before the Ontario Municipal Board. The Hearing is in response to an appellant who is seeking to limit development of the Armstrong West area at Port Franks due to Natural Hazard and Natural Heritage concerns. It is recommended that a resolution be adopted authorizing staff to represent the ABCA.

MOTION #BD 55/08

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority authorize Geoffrey Cade, Supervisor of Water and Planning, to represent the Authority as a witness at Ontario Municipal Board case number PL050631.”

Carried.

4. Quarterly Financial Statement

Tom Prout presented the quarterly financial statement to March 31, 2008 on behalf of Cathie Brown, Financial Services Supervisor.

MOTION #BD 56/08

**Moved by Bill Weber
Seconded by Adrian Debruyn**

“RESOLVED, THAT the financial statement to March 31, 2008 be received as presented.”

Carried.

5. Conifer Plantation & Hardwood Harvest

Kate Monk reported on behalf of Ian Jean, Forestry and Stewardship Specialist. Conifer stands that received first thinning treatments in the late 1990s along with stands that have yet to be thinned are now at or nearing a stocking level that makes them candidates for mechanical thinning. Staff estimate that over the next three to five years, approximately 100-200 acres will require thinning annually. Tree marking was completed for three stands totalling approximately 75 acres in Hay Swamp. Bidding closed on April 25, 2008 and only one bid was received at \$5 per cord which was not accepted.

MOTION #BD 57/08

**Moved by Bill Siemon
Seconded by Bob Norris**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board permit staff to negotiate a timber harvest contract with a County or CA recommended plantation thinning contractor for a minimum of \$15 per cord for marked pine and spruce sawlogs.”

Carried.

The Ratz Tract in South Huron has been marked for an improvement cut with the tender closing on May 16, 2008. The total marked area is 40 acres with 525 hardwood trees marked for removal.

MOTION #BD 58/08

**Moved by Bill Weber
Seconded by Jim Ginn**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Board permit staff to accept the highest bid

- b) Reference: DFO Annual Report
File: L.9.51.1
Brief: Copy of the 2006-2007 *Ontario-Great Lakes Area Status Report* detailing the activities of the Fish Habitat Management, Conservation and Protection Programs of Fisheries & Oceans.
- c) Reference: Conservation Ontario
File: A.7.1
Brief: Copy of *Conservation Ontario 2007 Annual Report* was received for circulation.
- d) Reference: MNR Flood Status Webpage
File: A.7.1
Brief: Compliments from Conservation Ontario to Hon. Donna Cansfield, Minister of Natural Resources on the initiative in establishing the new flood status webpage. Ontario residents now have immediate access to current information on flood and high water conditions across the province.
- e) Reference: Cosmetic Ban of Pesticides
File: A.5.1
Brief: Conservation Ontario is coordinating a submission in response to Bill 64. Managers of invasive species are requesting an exemption from the legislation.
- f) Reference: Environmental Farm Plan
File: A.5.1
Brief: Notice of the next round of Environmental Farm Plan funding for April 1, to December 15, 2008.
- g) Reference: Huron Clean Water Project
File: S.64.1
Brief: Notice of renewal of Huron Clean Water Project funding for 2008. There is a new grant category for decommissioning manure storage.
- h) Reference: Thank you
File: W.7.17.1
Brief: Note of thanks from Pat Morden Chair of the Grand Bend Community Foundation Environmental Committee to Mari Veliz, ABCA Healthy Watersheds Coordinator, for attending and contributing to the success of their environmental forum.
- i) Reference: Thank you
File: W.7.24.1
Brief: Note of appreciation and congratulations from David Bannister, Grand Bend Community Foundation, to Kari Killins, ABCA Aquatic Biologist for coordinating and authoring the *Old Ausable Channel Management Plan* report.

- j) Reference: Drainage Superintendents of Ontario
File: L.2.13
Brief: Request from Waterloo-Oxford Chapter of the Drainage Superintendents of Ontario for Davin Heinbuck to represent the ABCA at their chapter meetings. There will be 2-3 meetings a year and it is merit that the ABCA be involved.
- k) Reference: American Fisheries Society
File: W.7.24.1
Brief: Notice from American Fisheries Society that Kari Killins has been accepted to do a poster presentation in Ottawa at the August 17-21 conference.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Tom Prout circulated a listing of the summer student and contract staff that will be working for the ABCA during the coming months.
2. Chair McLachlan suggested the idea of providing loans for septic system installation similar to the tile loan process. Tom Prout advised that a number of years ago, the Municipality of Bluewater had pushed this initiative at a provincial level but it never received government support.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Lawrence McLachlan
Chairman

Judith Parker
Corporate Services Coordinator

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

