

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom  
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

### DIRECTORS PRESENT

Doug Cook, Adrian Cornelissen, Bob Harvey, Dave Jewitt, Mike Tam, Marissa Vaughan

### DIRECTORS ABSENT

Ray Chartrand, George Irvin, Alex Westman

### STAFF PRESENT

Bev Brown, Geoff Cade, Abbie Gutteridge, Davin Heinbuck, Brian Horner, Daniel King, Megan Leedham, Judith Parker, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk

### OTHER PRESENT

Grant Inglis, Solicitor  
Jeremy Giles, MacNeill Edmundson Professional Corporation

### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Doug Cook called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### **MOTION #BD 16/19**

**Moved by Mike Tam  
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the March 21, 2019 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Annual Meeting be approved.”**

**Carried.**

### DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

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DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO RECORD PROCEEDINGS

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**MOTION #BD 17/19**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt  
Seconded by Marissa Vaughan**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors Annual Meeting held on February 21, 2019 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”**

**Carried.**

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

2018 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Brian Horner introduced Jeremy Giles of MacNeill Edmundson, Professional Corporation. The 2018 audited financial statement was presented to the Board for their review.

**MOTION #BD 18/19**

**Moved by Adrian Cornelissen  
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the 2018 audited financial statement be approved as presented.”**

**Carried.**

PRESENTATION

Grant Inglis, Solicitor with Little, Inglis, Price & Ewer LLP provided an outline of the roles and responsibilities of representatives to the Board appointed by their municipality. A director must wear three hats: (1) a representative of the municipality; (2) a director on a conservation authority Board; (3) a quasi-judicial member of a Hearing Committee pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06. A director must always act in the best interest of the conservation authority by being knowledgeable of the organization; acting honestly and in good faith with loyalty to the corporation; complying with legislation; and avoiding conflict of interest. When meeting as a Hearing Committee, the director sits as a judge and should act in the best interest of the conservation authority without viewing or discussing evidence pertaining to any potential Hearing.

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Meghan Tydd-Hyrnyk, Planning & Regulations Officer 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 7 *Applications for Permission* and 8 *Minor Works Permit*.

#### 1. (b) Violation/Appeals Update

Staff attended court in regards to the violation on Chicken Island in Lambton Shores where the landowner undertook works in a regulated floodplain area. The file has been deferred until a later court date.

**MOTION #BD 19/19**

**Moved by Bob Harvey**

**Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

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

**Carried.**

#### 2. Flood Emergency Planning Meeting

Davin Heinbuck, Water Resources Coordinator provided an synopsis of the Flood Emergency Planning Meeting held on February 19, 2019. There were 30 attendees representing 7 watershed municipalities as well as CEMC staff from 4 counties. The OPP were represented by officers from 2 counties and there were attendees from 2 media outlets and 1 neighbouring conservation authority. Roles and responsibilities for the conservation authority during a flooding event were reviewed. Gerald Cheng, Warning Preparedness Meteorologist with Environment and Climate Change Canada was the guest speaker.

#### PRESENTATION

Megan Leedham, Wetlands Specialist provided an update on wetland cover assessments and different policy perspectives and gaps that may leave wetlands vulnerable to loss. The project focused on wetland protection in the Nairn Creek subwatershed within the Municipality of North Middlesex. Environment Canada suggests a landscape should contain 6 % wetlands. In the Ausable Bayfield watershed there is an average of 2% wetland cover and in Nairn Creek sub watershed there is 0.85%. Benefits of wetlands is to improve water quality, reduce flooding, replenish groundwater, absorb carbon and for recreation and wildlife habitat.

Policies protecting and recognizing wetlands include: Provincial Policy Statement, Species at Risk Act; Middlesex Woodland Conservation Bylaw, Middlesex Natural Heritage Strategy; local Middlesex municipal bylaws; Official Plans and Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority regulations. In the Nairn Creek subwatershed there were 69 wetland polygons identified in aerial photography (64 areas met four or more of the criteria categories overall). Between 2006-2015 there had been 4 acres (2%) of wetlands removed. This may seem insignificant but in an area that has 0.85% coverage it is substantial. An additional 11 acres of land was removed that showed signs of being wet and may have been classified as a wetland if assessed further. In conclusion, a combination of 6 policies did not protect all of the wetlands or the wet areas that may have been wetlands in the past.

There have been stewardship efforts to create wetlands in a portion of Nairn Creek subwatershed. The average amount of restored wetlands in one year was 22 acres. Scaling to the section of Nairn Creek over 10 years is 9 acres. When that is offset against the 15 acres removed - there is a net loss.

Some tools for communicating the value of wetlands would be education and stewardship outreach such as landowner wetland walks; bioblitz; landowner newsletter; brochure. Another idea is measuring the hydrological effects of wetlands and the financial benefits of protecting them. The Board suggested the information presented should be provided to municipal councils and staff.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Reference: Shoreline Management Plan  
File: W.4.11  
Brief: A note of appreciation from Leslie Meyers on behalf of the Beach of Pines Association for the time and effort spent over the past 2 years in revising the Shoreline Management Plan.
- b) Reference: Thank you  
File: A.5.1  
Brief: A note of thanks to the ABCA conservation education staff for providing a program at the Lucan Public Library.

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

##### **MOTION #BD 20/19**

**Moved by Mike Tam  
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors go into Committee of the Whole at 3:53 p.m. to discuss property, legal and personal matters with Brian Horner, Judith Parker, Geoff Cade and Abbie Gutteridge remaining in attendance.”**

**Carried.**

##### **MOTION #BD 21/19**

**Moved by Bob Harvey  
Seconded by Mike Tam**

**“RESOLVED, THAT Committee of the Whole rise and report at 4:20 p.m.”**

**Carried.**

**MOTION #BD 22/19**

**Moved by Adrian Cornelissen  
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the information on the property, legal and personal matters be received as presented.”**

**Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

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George Irvin  
Chair

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Judith Parker  
Corporate Services Coordinator

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