

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, July 15, 2021

**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area**

VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Doug Cook, Adrian Cornelissen, Bob Harvey, Dave Jewitt, Mike Tam, Marissa Vaughan, Alex Westman

DIRECTORS ABSENT

George Irvin

STAFF PRESENT

Geoff Cade, Donna Clarkson Tina Crown, Abbie Gutteridge, Brian Horner, Daniel King, Tracey McPherson, Kate Monk, Sharon Pavkeje, Nathan Schoelier, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk, Mari Veliz

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Doug Cook called the virtual meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 81/21

**Moved Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the July 15, 2021 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

Chair Cook noted that this meeting was being recorded on Zoom for temporary posting online, and is not an official record. The official record of this meeting will be the approved minutes.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**MOTION #BD 82/21**

**Moved by Adrian Cornelissen
Seconded by Marissa Vaughan**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on June 17, 2021 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

PROGRAM REPORTS1. (a) Development Review

Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk, 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 18 *Applications for Permission* and 8 *Minor Works Applications*.

MOTION #BD 83/21

**Moved by Alex Westman
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

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

Carried.

(b) Violations/Appeals Update

Daniel King, Regulations Coordinator, advised that the group of violations in Lambton Shores are beginning to move forward. There are also two new violations in Central Huron, including one on the shoreline and one along the Bayfield River. Staff are optimistic that one can be resolved; however, one may go to the courts for resolution.

MOTION #BD 84/21

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

“RESOLVED, THAT the report on Violations and Appeals be received as presented.”

Carried.

2. Stewardship Funding Project Review

Nathan Schoelier, Stewardship Technician, presented a report on stewardship funding to the Board of Directors. He noted that two wetland projects and one sediment reduction project were approved for

funding through the Canada Nature Fund. In addition, two wetland projects were approved for funding through the EcoAction program.

MOTION #BD 85/21

**Moved by Marissa Vaughan
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

“RESOLVED, THAT the reports on Stewardship project funding be received as presented.”

Carried.

3. Healthy Watersheds – Priority Watershed Work

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Manager, presented a report and presentation on some of the monitoring efforts at Huronview Farm and Gully Creek to better understand the relationship between water, sediment and nutrient runoff, soil health and crop yield. In working with many partners over the past decade, including provincial ministries, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, and the University of Guelph, some connections are being made between field practices and downstream water quality. Some information that local producers continue to be interested in include nutrient reductions, seed drill calibration for efficient application of cover crop seeds, profitability mapping, soil health metrics, assessing the effectiveness of wetlands and contour drainage at Huronview, and cover crops and flow generation.

Appropriate monitoring will show if these practices translate to reduced flow. Open dialogue between all stakeholders will continue to be important so both site and watershed effectiveness of agricultural best management practices are understood.

MOTION #BD 86/21

**Moved by Alex Westman
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

“RESOLVED, THAT the report on the Healthy Watersheds Priority Watershed Work be received as presented.”

Carried.

4. Profit & Loss Statement

Brian Horner, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, provided the profit and loss statement to June 30, 2021 including a projection for the remaining six months of 2021.

MOTION #BD 87/21

**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT the financial statement to June 30, 2021 be received as presented.”

Carried.

5. Draft ABCA Five-Year Forecast

Brian Horner presented the proposed five-year forecast for 2022 – 2026, using a wage increase of 1.5 per cent. The overall increase for the general levy is forecast at 2.26 per cent and the project levy at 9.85 per cent.

MOTION #BD 88/21**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Marissa Vaughan**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Five Year Forecast be approved as presented and distributed to the member municipalities for their information.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Abbie Gutteridge, Corporate Services Coordinator, presented a draft video slide show to the Board of Directors, documenting 75 years of conservation efforts in our watershed. Once completed, this video will be debuted on social media platforms on July 30, 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**MOTION #BD 89/21****Moved by Mike Tam
Seconded by Alex Westman**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held on May 26, 2021 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

MOTION #BD 90/21**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Bob Harvey**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Water Response Team meeting held on June 3, 2021 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDANCE

- a) Reference: Retirement Letter to Huron East CAO
File: A.5.5
Brief: ABCA sent congratulations to Huron East CAO Brad Knight upon his retirement. Congratulations were also passed to Brad McRoberts in his new position as CAO.
- b) Reference: Letter of Thanks to Clinton Lions Club
File: L.9.35
Brief: ABCA sent a letter of thanks to the Clinton Lions Club who have taken care of maintenance at the Clinton Conservation Area for many years. The Club will be disbanding this fall, but will continue to undertake maintenance duties at the conservation area until the end of September 2021.

- c) Reference: Submission to MECP
File: A.5.8
Brief: On behalf of the Board of Directors, ABCA staff provided comments to the MECP through the Environmental Registry of Ontario, regarding the Phase 1 Regulation Changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
- d) Reference: Notification of new Provincial Ministers
File: A.7.2
Brief: Conservation Ontario provided notification to all Conservation Authorities regarding the cabinet shuffle at the Province. New Ministers include David Piccinni for the MECP, Greg Rickford for MNRF, and Lisa Thompson for OMAFRA.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Brian Horner provided a brief update on the Conservation Authorities Act changes, and noted that the regulations were to be out by August. Kate Monk noted that the new MECP Minister attended the working group meeting and had positive remarks. She reported that he is very familiar with Eastern Ontario conservation authorities and with rural landscapes. Once the new regulations are enacted, conservation authorities will have 60 days to present a transition plan and inventory of programs to their member municipalities.
2. Brian Horner reported that the ABCA received approval for three WECI projects, and will be notifying municipalities about involvement.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Doug Cook
Chair

Abigail Gutteridge
Corporate Services Coordinator

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