

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, April 18, 2024

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Adrian Cornelissen, Steve Herold, Jaden Hodgins, Dave Jewitt, Dave Marsh, Wayne Shipley, Marissa Vaughan

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Greg Lamport

STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Bicknell, Geoff Cade, Donna Clarkson, Tina Crown, Abbie Gutteridge, Davin Heinbuck, Brian Horner, Mari Veliz

OTHERS PRESENT

Rick Kootstra, Adam Skillen – *Skillen Investment Management*

CALL TO ORDER

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) Chair Marissa Vaughan called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., welcomed everyone in attendance and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #BD 33/24

**Moved Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Steve Herold**

“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the April 18, 2024 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

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**MOTION #BD 34/24**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 21, 2024 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

PRESENTATION

Adam Skillen, Skillen investment Management, presented an update on the investment portfolio, which is at an all-time high, despite a significant downturn in 2022 and 2023. He noted that equities have continued to increase, causing them to deviate further from the target of 35% of the portfolio. He also noted that the fund portion of the portfolio has increased almost 70 % in a ten-year period. This year, Adam provided a new chart that shows the portfolio gain in dollar amounts rather than percentages, which was appreciated by the Directors. Adam noted that, as always, they will continue to shift the portfolio back toward the original targets for bonds and equities.

MOTION #BD 35/24

**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the investments update from Skillen Investment Management be received for information as presented.”

Carried.

PROGRAM REPORTS1. (a) 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 12 *Applications for Permission* and 8 *Minor Works Applications*.

(b) Violation/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade reported that there was no update on the current violations.

MOTION #BD 36/24**Moved by Wayne Shipley
Seconded by Dave Marsh**

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

Carried.

2. Capital Asset Management Plan

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor, presented the draft Capital Asset Management Plan (CAMP). The development of this plan is a requirement of the Conservation Authorities Act, which must be in place by December 31, 2024. It was also a recommendation of the Accounting Policies and Procedures with Respect to Tangible Capital Assets Policy, which was approved by the ABCA Board and came into effect in 2009. This plan will guide the purchase, use, maintenance, and disposal of each ABCA asset needed to conduct business. The CAMP was developed with input from all departments of the Authority, regarding their applicable assets. The overall current replacement value of ABCA assets is approximately \$8,367,000, which does not include Erosion and Flood Control Structures, as they are assessed yearly and maintained as needed. The average annual capital requirement is approximately \$200,500. The CAMP would eliminate the ABCA’s infrastructure deficit based on a 10-year plan.

Directors expressed some concern about excluding the replacement costs of larger Erosion and Flood Control Structures in the CAMP. Staff reported that it could be costly to assess all of these structures and reminded Directors that staff regularly look for ways to fund any major maintenance, such as funding from the Province through the Water Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Program. Directors asked staff to investigate other ways of assessing the value of these structures for the CAMP.

MOTION #BD 37/24**Moved by Dave Jewitt
Seconded by Wayne Shipley**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the Draft Capital Asset Management Plan report as presented and accept it in principle, and

“FURTHER, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors authorize staff to evaluate the cost to assess the replacement costs of the Erosion and Flood Control Structures to add to the Capital Asset Management Plan.”

Carried.

3. 1st Quarter Profit and Loss Statement

Brian Horner, Financial Services Supervisor, presented the financial statement for January through March 2024 with comparables to the 2024 budget.

MOTION #BD 38/24

**Moved by Dave Marsh
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

“RESOLVED, THAT the 1st Quarter Profit and Loss Statement be received as presented.”

Carried.

4. Ontario Regulation 41/24 Mapping Updates

Tracey McPherson, GIS/IT Coordinator updated the Board of Directors on changes to ABCA mapping as a result of the new *Ontario Regulation 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits*. Staff outlined regulatory changes at the March 21, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting, which included some changes to where ABCA will regulate. Regulation mapping must be available to the public, and watershed residents can access ABCA mapping through the CAMaps website. In addition, ABCA provides regulation mapping to our four counties. One of the key changes includes the regulated area around a Provincially Significant Wetland being reduced to 30 m from 120 m. This change reduces ABCA regulated areas by 11.5 km². Additionally, the change to the definition of watercourse is also likely to reduce regulated area. There should be very few changes, if any, to the dynamic beach area along the Lake Huron shoreline; however, the bluff area is still under review.

MOTION #BD 39/24

**Moved by Jaden Hodgins
Seconded by Steve Herold**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the report outlining Ontario Regulation 41/24 Mapping Updates, and

“FURTHER, THAT the relation mapping updates currently in progress (watercourses) are to continue and be distributed upon completion.”

Carried.

PRESENTATION

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Manager, and local landowner Rick Kootstra presented an update on the Huronview Demonstration Farm near Clinton, ON. This co-operative project between the ABCA, Huron Soil and Crop Improvement Association, and Huron County showcases different farming practices, as well as the effect of different types of tile drainage on water quality. Further to the research that is already being completed at this site, the University of Guelph will be studying groundwater effects on the tile drainage.

MOTION #BD 40/24

**Moved by Wayne Shipley
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the presentation on Huronview Demonstration Farm for information as presented.”

Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION #BD 41/24

**Moved by Ray Chartrand
Seconded by Jaden Hodgins**

“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held on March 27, 2024 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”

Carried.

CORRESPONDANCE

a) Reference: Notice of Resignation

File: A.5.1

Brief: A letter from Mary Lynn MacDonald, noting her intention to retire from the ABCA at the end of May, and thanking staff and the Board of Directors for their support over the course of her career at ABCA.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Davin Heinbuck reported that the Request for Quote from BMO was received just prior to the meeting today, and that staff will bring it to the Board of Directors in April.
2. Davin Heinbuck reported that the Cost Apportioning Agreement for Perth South has now been signed. Agreements with all ABCA Member Municipalities are now in place.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Marissa Vaughan
Chair

Abigail Gutteridge
Secretary

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