

CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE FULL AUTHORITY BOARD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019

CRCA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BOARDROOM

Present: Alan Revill (Chair), Alan Barton, Leigh Bursey, Al Hanes, Matt Harper, Bert Herfst, Garry Hewett, Wayne Hill, Robert Kiley, Paul McAuley, Gordon Ohlke, Lisa Osanic, Terry Richardson

Regrets: Rhonda Ferguson, Claire Gunnewiek, Gary Oosterhof, Ross Sutherland (Vice Chair)

Staff Present: Katrina Furlanetto, Manager, Watershed Planning & Engineering/Acting General Manager; Tom Beaubiah, Manager, Conservation Lands; Donna Campbell, Assistant, Chair & General Manager; Rick Knapton, Coordinator, Forestry; Rob McRae, Manager, Corporate Services

Guests: Andrew Girouard, Manager of Environmental Compliance, Greater Napanee

The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL

There were thirteen (13) members present.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was noted that the Presentation on Asset Management for Conservation Authorities would be deferred to a future meeting.

Moved by: Bert Herfst
Seconded by: Al Barton

THAT the agenda BE ADOPTED, as AMENDED.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were none.

4. DELEGATION / PRESENTATION

4.1. Rob McRae, Manager, Corporate Services

- Presentation – Recent Announcements by the Government of Ontario: Considerations for the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority ([Attachment #1](#))

Leigh Burseley arrived at 6:50 P.M. during the presentation.

Resolution: 047-19
Moved by: Leigh Burseley
Seconded by: Gordon Ohlke

THAT the presentation by Rob McRae, Manager, Corporate Services, on Recent Announcements by the Government of Ontario: Considerations for the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1. Minutes of April 24, 2019

Moved by: Leigh Bursey

Seconded by: Al Hanes

THAT the minutes of the April 24, 2019 meeting of the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING

There was none.

7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

7.1. Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority Comments on Environmental Registry Postings 013-4992 and 013-5018 (report IR-037-19)

Resolution: 048-19
Moved by: Bert Herfst
Seconded by: Lisa Osanic

THAT Report IR-037-19, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority Comments on Environmental Registry Postings 013-4992 and 013-5018, BE RECEIVED;

THAT the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority comments to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry on Environmental Registry Posting 013-4992: Focusing Conservation Authority Development Permits on the Protection of People and Property, dated May 17, 2019, BE ENDORSED;

THAT the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority comments to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on Environmental Registry Posting 013-5018: Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations – Conservation Authorities Act, dated May 17, 2019, BE ENDORSED; and,

THAT copies of the letters be provided to municipalities in the Cataraqui Region.

CARRIED

7.2. Meeting Provincial Priorities for Reducing Regulatory Burden – Development Review (report IR-038-19)

Resolution: 049-19
Moved by: Al Hanes
Seconded by: Paul McAuley

THAT Report IR-038-19, Meeting Provincial Priorities for Reducing Regulatory Burden – Development Review, BE RECEIVED;

THAT the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority Board ENDORSE the three key recommendations of the Conservation Ontario working group regarding development review services: to improve client service and accountability; to increase speed of approvals; and, to reduce regulatory burden;

THAT staff BE DIRECTED to implement these recommendations; and,

THAT staff BE DIRECTED to work with Conservation Ontario and clients of the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority to identify additional improvements.

CARRIED

7.3. Cataraqui Trail Governance Update (report IR-039-19)

Resolution: 050-19
Moved by: Leigh Bursey
Seconded by: Terry Richardson

THAT Report IR-039-19, Cataraqui Trail Governance Update, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

8. MINUTES

8.1. Friends of Lemoine Point

Resolution: 051-19
Moved by: Al Barton
Seconded by: Lisa Osanic

THAT Friends of Lemoine Point minutes of April 1, 2019, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were none.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS OR INQUIRIES/INFORMATION

10.1. Report on Communications (report IR-040-19)

Resolution: 052-19
Moved by: Al Hanes
Seconded by: Wayne Hill

THAT the Report on Communications (IR-040-19), BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

11. MOTIONS / NOTICES OF MOTIONS

There were none.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 P.M. on a motion by Al Hanes, seconded by Lisa Osanic.

Rob McRae, MCIP, RPP
Manager, Corporate Services

Alan Reville
Chair

Recent Announcements by the Government of Ontario: Considerations for CRCA

CRCA Board Meeting
May 22, 2019



CATARAQUI REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Provincial Announcements - Spring 2019

- Watershed Management Transfer Payments to CAs
- 50 Million Tree Program
- Ontario's Housing Action Plan:
 - Development Permit Regulation
 - Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations / Bill 108



Gananoque, St. Lawrence River (May 2017)

Watershed Management Transfer Payments to CAs

Announcement:

- Reduction for CRCA from \$109,834 to \$56,701 in 2019
- Amount had not changed since mid-1990s
- Funding for natural hazard management programs (e.g. flood forecasting & warning)

Considerations for CRCA:

- CRCA will manage variance in 2019 via spending reductions across all operations
- Future transfer payments are uncertain
- Budget stressor for 2020 and thereafter

Forests Ontario - 50 Million Tree Program

Announcement:

- Termination of program after 2019
- Successful program:
 - Technical support and subsidies for landowners
 - 27 Million trees planted to-date in southern Ontario

Considerations for CRCA:

- Primary funding source for CRCA Forestry Program
- CRCA planted 1.5 Million trees over the past decade
- Planting is ongoing in spring 2019

Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan (May 2019)

- Goal: “Cut red tape to make it easier to build the right types of housing in the right places”
- Implementation via proposed legislation (Bill 108: More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019)
- Related postings on the Environmental Registry of Ontario



Announcement:

Proposed mandatory programs for all conservation authorities:

- 1) Natural hazards
- 2) Conservation lands
- 3) Drinking water source protection
- 4) Other legislated duties (as prescribed by regulation)

Modernizing CA Operations (ERO Posting 013-5018 / Bill 108)

Other proposed amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act:

- New funding model for non-mandatory programs: agreements with individual municipalities
- Provision for Minister to audit CA operations
- Board member duty: “act honestly and in good faith with a view to furthering the objects of the authority”

CRCA comments submitted May 17th

- Highlighted value of watershed-based approach
- Proposed additional mandatory program: “Conserving Natural Resources”
- Requested CA representation on Provincial flooding task force
- Identified need for continued Provincial funding and technical support
- Raised concerns with proposed funding model for non-mandatory programs

Development Permit Regulation (ERO Posting 013-4992)

Announcement:

- Proposed new consolidated regulation to govern how conservation authorities permit development in areas subject to flooding and erosion
- Focus on natural hazards
- Exemptions for low-risk activities
- Customer service tools (e.g. policies, timelines)
- Enactment of Conservation Authorities Act provisions (2017) that enable enforcement

CRCA comments submitted May 17th

- Indicated support in-principle for proposed approach
- Requested clarifications, opportunities for input on the draft regulation and extent of regulated areas
- Raised question regarding the conservation of wetlands
- Noted CRCA exemptions for selected low-risk activities, existing customer service tools
- Indicated support for enforcement provisions

Anticipated Provincial Announcements

- Low Water Response Program: drought-related activities (\$4,000 in 2018)
- Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program: capital projects at water control structures
 - CRCA 2019 applications total \$21,700 for four projects



Sydenham Water Control Structure

Provincial Survey on Flooding (responses invited by June 14th)

“We want to help Ontarians better prepare for floods and respond to them when they happen. Share your thoughts on how we can make our communities more resilient to flooding”

<https://www.ontario.ca/form/survey-improving-provinces-resilience-flooding>

Provincial Announcements - Key Themes

- 1) Intent for consistency among conservation authorities
- 2) Focus on natural hazards (flooding, erosion)
- 3) Streamlined development approvals
- 4) Continued shift from Provincial to municipal funding

Overall Considerations for CRCA

- Ontario benefits from a watershed-based approach to managing natural resources
- CRCA provides quality services that are valued by local communities
- In a future with limited Provincial funding, CRCA will continue to find efficiencies and engage in creative partnerships
- 2020 Budget development will reflect announcements

Thank you! - Rob McRae, MCIP, RPP, Manager, Corporate Services



Staff Report IR-037-19 Recommendation

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