

Minutes of the Full Authority Board Meeting – Special Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Location: Microsoft Teams

Participants: Alan Revill, Township of South Frontenac, Chair

Al Barton, Township of Front of Yonge Al Hanes, Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley

Matt Harper, Town of Gananoque Garry Hewett, City of Brockville Paul McAuley, Loyalist Township

Jim Neill, City of Kingston

Gordon Ohlke, Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands

Gary Oosterhof, City of Kingston Lisa Osanic, City of Kingston

Terry Richardson, Town of Greater Napanee Claire Smith, Township of Rideau Lakes

Ross Sutherland, Township of South Frontenac, Vice Chair

Nathan Townend, Loyalist Township

Non- Leigh Bursey, City of Brockville Participants: Simon Chapelle, City of Kingston

Rhonda Ferguson, Township Athens

Staff Katrina Furlanetto, General Manager

Participants: Tom Beaubiah, Manager, Watershed Planning & Engineering

Donna Campbell, Assistant, Chair & General Manager

Hailey Esdon, Development Officer

Krista Fazackerley, Supervisor, Communication & Education

Kristen Wozniak, Resource Planner

In response to recommendations by the Province of Ontario and public health officials for mitigating and responding to the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) meetings are not held in-person, therefore, this Full Authority Board Special Meeting was convened via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting commenced at 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday, November 25, 2020 - Microsoft Teams

1. Roll Call

There were fourteen (14) members who participated in the Microsoft Teams meeting.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved By: Lisa Osanic Seconded By: Nathan Townend

That the agenda Be Adopted as circulated.

Carried

3. <u>Declaration of Conflict of Interest</u>

There was none.

4. <u>Delegation / Presentation</u>

There were none.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

There were none.

6. Business Arising

There was none.

7. Items for Consideration

7.1 Proposed Changes to the Conservation Authorities Acts (report IR-108-20)

The General Manager provided a presentation (Attachment #1) on the changes to the Conservation Authorities Act proposed through Schedule 6 of Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020 and the impact these proposed amendments would have on governance, science-based decision making, conservation authorities' role in protecting people and property through land use planning, and the ability to fulfill their mandates as watershed stewards.

Resolution: 105-20

Moved By: Claire Smith
Seconded By: Gary Oosterhof

That Report IR-108-20, Proposed Changes to the Conservation Authorities Acts, **Be Received**; and,

That a letter Be Circulated to the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry recommending Schedule 6 be removed from Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020, to allow for consultation with municipalities who are directly affected by the work of Conservation Authorities; and,

That copies of the letter **Be Provided** to the Premier of Ontario and all MPs and MPPS within the Cataraqui Conservation watershed.

Carried

The motion was carried unanimously.

General Manager



Proposed Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act

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Proposed Changes to the CA Act

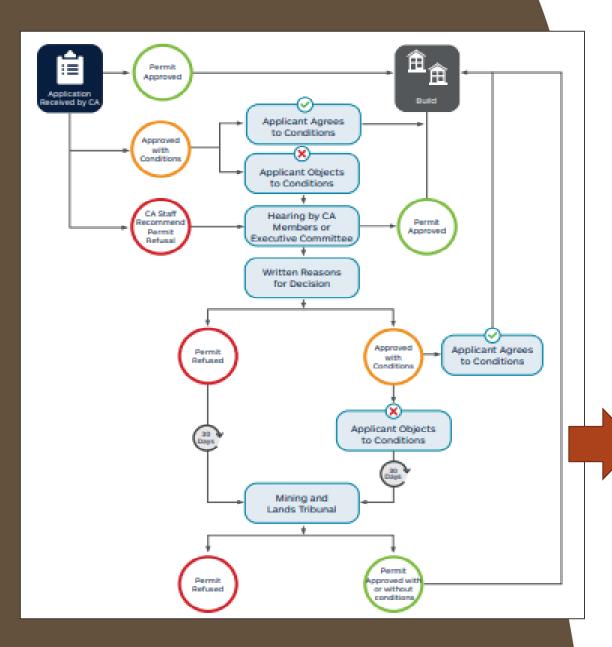
Governance

- Board members must be councillors (no citizen appointments)
- Chairs and Vice-Chairs can only serve 2 years
- Minister may appoint an agricultural representative to CA Boards
- Regulations could require CAs to establish advisory boards and prescribe their composition, function and powers
- Provincial regulations could govern CA fees and municipal levies
- Members are directed to make decisions based on municipal-interests versus watershed-based approach

Section 28 Permits

- Applicants can ask the Minister to review a CA's permit decision (in addition to decisions being appealable to LPAT)
- Minister can issue permits, direct CAs not to issue permits







Proposed Changes to the CA Act

Programs

- <u>Mandatory</u> CAs must deliver programs related to natural hazards, CA lands and drinking water source protection
- Municipal CAs may deliver programs on behalf of municipalities
 - > Regulations could prescribe or limit the types of programs a CA can provide
- Other CAs may deliver other programs related to the "conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources"
 - > Regulations could prescribe or limit the types of programs a CA can provide
 - ➤ Agreements will be required with each municipality for any program support by municipal levy, agreements are to be in place for 2022 budgets



Process & Advocacy

- Bill 229 is not subject to consultation since it's a budget bill
- Second reading started November 17, 2020
- Given the concerns, municipalities are asking for time to <u>review and</u> <u>understand the impact of the proposed changes</u> by removing Schedule 6 from the budget bill

- Conservation Ontario / conservation authority messaging
- Educating all political parties
- Environmental partners and stakeholder groups
- Municipalities



Impact / What's Next?

Process	CA Action Items
Proposed legislation amendments to CA Act	Review, discussion, engagement, advocacy
2 nd Reading (underway)	Education of potential impacts
Approval / Proclamation	Review of immediate impacts
Draft regulation review	Review and develop comments
Proclamation of regulations	Inventory and prioritize programs / services Review current funding model Negotiate municipal agreements Develop transition plan Engage Municipal Councils

 Concern: staff capacity and service delivery of programs through transition period



Questions / Discussion



