

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Mississippi Valley Conservation Centre  
Carleton Place

MINUTES

April 16, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Karau, Chair;  
D. Abbott, Vice-Chair;  
M. Burnham;  
D. Black;  
G. Code;  
E. El-Chantiry;  
A. Gillis;  
A. Jones;  
G. Martin;  
G. McEvoy;  
W. Millar;  
B. Sutcliffe;  
P. Sweetnam;  
H. Yanch.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

R. Kidd.

INVITED MEMBERS ABSENT:

L. Antonakos.

STAFF PRESENT:

P. Lehman, P. Eng., General Manager;  
J. Sargeant, Secretary-Treasurer;  
A. Broadbent, Information Technology Supervisor;  
A. Boivin, Planning Assistant;  
C. Craig, Project Manager;  
M. Craig, Manager, Planning & Regulatory  
Services;  
C. Cunningham, Environmental Planner;  
R. Fergusson, Operations Supervisor;  
A. Hewitt, GIS Specialist;  
S. McFarlane, Community Relations Coordinator;  
G. Mountenay, Water Management Supervisor;  
J. North, Water Resource Technologist;  
K. Stiles, Biologist.

OTHERS PRESENT:

L. Hudson, Lanark County Trails Corporation;  
R. Kilborn, Lanark County Trails Corporation;  
B. Smirle, South Nation Conservation;  
E. Fytche, Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists;  
F. Blacquiere, Resident, Glen Cairn;  
J. Toppari, MVCA Reserve Member, City of  
Ottawa.

**BUSINESS:**

1. Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting – February 19, 2014

**B04/16/14-1**

**MOVED BY: A. Jones**

**SECONDED BY: G. Martin**

**Resolved, That the Minutes of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting held on February 19, 2014 be received and approved as printed.**

**“CARRIED”**

2. Business Arising From the Minutes

In response to a question regarding reimbursement from Enbridge in the form of a cheque as opposed to a credit note, Mr. Lehman advised that a meeting is being planned with Enbridge to discuss a revised timeline for gas to the new office site.

Mr. Black advised that the application for a debenture through the Town of Carleton Place was approved at council on April 15, 2014.

3. Mississippi Lake Flood Risk Mapping

Mr. Craig commented on Staff Report #2765/14 regarding a hazard mapping study of Mississippi Lake and the Mississippi River from the Highway 7 Bridge to the Carleton Place Dam. Mr. Craig advised that the mapping was available at the February meeting of the Board of Directors. Since that time, an open house was held on March 27, 2014 at the Conservation Authority office to show the draft maps to the public. The technical steps involved in the mapping process were explained and use of the maps by the Conservation Authority and the municipalities was also discussed. Mr. Craig advised that 37 members of the public attended the open house. A separate consultation was held for municipal staff. No major issues were identified at the Open House. Mr. Craig advised that the final maps are available for the Board to review and endorse.

Mr. Craig pointed out that the notable change is that the flood fringe elevation of the lake has increased from 135.6 m to 135.73 m. The change is consistent with the highest recorded elevation on the lake, recorded as 135.73 m. during the spring of 1998. As a result of the increase, some additional properties will be subject to the flood fringe policies. Mr. Craig noted that once the maps and final report are endorsed by the Board of Directors, they will be put on the MVCA website.

**B04/16/14-2**

**MOVED BY: A. Jones**

**SECONDED BY: G. McEvoy**

**Resolved, That Staff Report # 2765/14 be received; and furthermore,  
Resolved, That the flood flow estimates and flood risk limits used to delineate areas along Mississippi Lake and Mississippi River that are susceptible to flooding**

**during the regional flood standard as defined in Schedule 1 to Ontario Regulation 153/06 and described in this report are suitable estimates for flood mapping purposes for Mississippi Lake and Mississippi River; and furthermore, Resolved, That the report and associated maps be published on the MVCA web site for agency and public reference.**

**“CARRIED”**

4. New Office Project Update

Mr. Lehman advised that a conditional offer has been received on the Lanark property with the final closing date set for mid-June to allow enough time for staff to obtain Ministers Approval for the sale.

Mr. Craig advised that blinds for the atrium, boardroom and numerous offices have been ordered along with acoustical panels for the boardroom. He noted that staff, the mechanical engineer and the architect continue to work on the rooftop heating and air conditioning units in an attempt to reduce noise in the atrium.

Mr. Craig advised that meetings have been held with the lawyer for MVC to discuss the problems with Enbridge Gas. The lawyer has written a letter to Enbridge Gas advising them that full reimbursement for additional costs incurred during the winter is expected by the Authority along with confirmation that gas connection will occur. The lawyer has requested agreement from Enbridge to pay the additional costs and provide service to the building or face other options including legal action.

Mr. Craig advised that a meeting has been scheduled with the Town of Carleton Place to draft agreements for the public washrooms and the trail network. He noted that the draft agreements will be brought back to the Board of Directors in the next few months.

In response to a question about acceptance of the Offer on the Lanark Property, Mr. Burnham pointed out that the Office Building Committee was given authorization to accept an Offer if it was within a range set by the Board.

5. MVCA Draft Monitoring Strategy – Executive Summary

The MVCA Monitoring Strategy – Executive Summary was reviewed and Matt Craig, Kelly Stiles and Jennifer North provided presentations on the MVCA Environmental Monitoring Programs, City Stream Watch Program, the Water Management Monitoring Network and Monitoring Strategy and Reporting.

Mr. Lehman pointed out that the Monitoring Strategy is intended to map out a number of different program areas that the Authority has been involved with for the collection of data, network/storage analysis of the data and using the data to guide daily decision making. He noted that further details will be included and a final strategy developed and brought back to the Board.

Mr. Sweetnam questioned whether additional electronic stream gauge equipment would reduce staff time and make data collection easier. Mr. Mountenay noted that insufficient funds prevent the Authority from having electronic gauges at every location throughout the watershed. He also noted that there is always a need for staff to be out in the watershed inspecting the gauge sites and water levels on a regular basis. As a result, additional electronic gauges would not reduce staff travel time.

In response to a request from Mr. Martin, Mr. Lehman confirmed that staff would be happy to provide a presentation to his council on the MVCA Monitoring program.

6. City of Ottawa Water Environment Strategy

Mr. Lehman commented on Staff Report #2766/14 regarding the City of Ottawa – Water Environment Strategy – Phase 1 developed in cooperation with MVCA, the Rideau Valley and South Nation River Conservation Authorities. On March 24, 2014 the City of Ottawa Environment Committee accepted Phase 1 of the Strategy as part of the Ottawa River Action Plan (ORAP) approved in February 2010. The Strategy was to establish a comprehensive and integrated plan in cooperation with other agencies for the management of water environment issues in Ottawa. It was noted that the Water Environment Strategy builds on earlier studies and reports, including the Lower Rideau Watershed Strategy (2005), Water Quality in Ottawa's Rivers and Streams (2007), Ottawa River Action Plan (2010), Pinecrest/Westboro Stormwater Retrofit Plan (2010), Characterization of Ottawa's Watersheds (2011), and subwatershed and catchment reports.

Mr. Lehman pointed out that the Water Environment Strategy will be developed in two phases. Phase 1 provides City Council and the residents of Ottawa with a background on the issues facing Ottawa's watersheds, and a road map for moving forward to develop a long-term strategy. Phase 2, which will include a strategic framework with long term goals, objectives and guiding principles; a City of Ottawa action plan for the 2014-2018 Term of Council; recommended City investments and a proposed inter-agency coordination strategy.

Mr. Karau noted that the Water Environment Strategy is a key document that will allow for partnering between the three conservation authorities and the City of Ottawa for the management of water environment issues in the City of Ottawa. It was noted that Phase 2 will be brought back to the Board of Directors when it is available.

7. Conservation Ontario Report

Staff Report #2767/14 was reviewed and the highlights from the Conservation Ontario Council meeting held on March 31, 2014 were discussed. It was noted that Mark Burnham was elected as Vice-Chair for the third year in a row along with Lin Gibson of the Nickel District Conservation Authority.

John Karau has agreed to work on the Conservation Ontario-Department of Fisheries and Oceans working group to initiate discussions on developing a new

MOU between Conservation Ontario and DFO for consideration by Conservation Ontario council.

There was a discussion on whether the general public could listen in on meetings at Conservation Ontario if they had an interest. Mr. Karau and Mr. Burnham agreed to pursue webinar meetings with Conservation Ontario.

8. K&P Trail Advisory Sub-committee Update

Staff Report #2768/14 regarding the K & P Trail Sub-Committee was reviewed. Mr. Lehman advised that the Conservation Authority has been looking at options to manage the K & P Trail for a number of years. The trail extends from North Frontenac to Lanark Highlands to Greater Madawaska covering three municipalities and three counties. As a result of interest beyond the portion of the Trail owned by the Conservation Authority, staff initiated discussions with the Lanark County Municipal Trail Corporation (LCMTC) along with other interest groups regarding potential partnership opportunities. The LCMTC subsequently struck a K&P Trail Advisory Sub-committee to work with MVCA staff to develop options for the appropriate use and management of the K&P trail for consideration by the Lanark County Community Development Committee, MVCA Board of Directors and other stakeholders. Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee attached to the staff report were reviewed. While the sub-committee is predominately interested in the Lanark County portion of the K&P Trail, it recognizes that the K&P Trail extends into Greater Madawaska (Renfrew County) and North Frontenac (Frontenac County) Townships who would have an interest in the management of the K&P Trail.

Over the past year, the sub-committee has been working on drafting an updated management plan in consultation with external stakeholders including Frontenac and Renfrew Counties and the Townships of North Frontenac and Greater Madawaska. With the assistance of Algonquin College, an intern has been assisting staff in compiling inventories, research and drafting portions of the Management Plan.

Reid Kilburn, Chair of the K&P Trail Advisory Sub-committee along with Lorne Hudson, a member on the Sub-committee were in attendance and provided an update on the work of the Sub-Committee as it relates to trails within Lanark County.

It was the general consensus that the Sub-committee is headed in the right direction with the trail work it is doing. Members thanked the sub-committee members for their dedication to trails in Lanark County.

9. Ontario Regulation 153/06 Permits

Staff Report #2769/14 including the summary of Ontario Regulation 153/06 Permits issued up to April 9, 2014 was reviewed.

10. 2015 Provincial Policy Statement

Mr. Craig updated members with regard to changes in the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement. He

highlighted areas in regard to climate change, natural heritage and natural hazards.

11. Watershed Conditions Report

Mr. Mountenay provided a slide presentation on where water levels sit at the present time across the river system. He noted that water levels will continue to rise on Mississippi Lake but the Clyde River will peak shortly. Mr. Mountenay noted that it has been an effort during the past five years to reach summer levels after the spring freshet. He noted that currently there is plenty of water in the system that needs to be managed at the present time to prevent flooding but also maintained so that target summer levels can be reached.

12. Other Business

Mr. Karau introduced Faith Blacquiere, a resident of Glen Cairn. He commented on emails received from Ms. Blacquiere outlining concerns about some of the changes proposed for the Carp River Restoration Plan and in particular upstream of Richardson Side Road. Mr. Karau confirmed that he will be discussing the plans and impacts of the Carp River Restoration Plan with staff and will bring an update to the Board of Directors at the May meeting. He thanked Ms. Blacquiere for bringing her issues to the attention of the Conservation Authority.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

**B04/16/14-3**

**MOVED BY: M. Burnham**

**SECONDED BY: D. Abbott**

**Resolved, That the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting be adjourned.**

**“CARRIED”**

“J. Sargeant, Recording Secretary

J. Karau, Chairman”