

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mississippi Valley Conservation Centre
Carleton Place

MINUTES

July 20, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Karau, Chair;
D. Abbott, Vice-Chair;
M. Burnham;
F. Campbell;
G. Code;
B. Doucett;
E. El-Chantiry;
J. Flynn;
B. MacDonald;
G. McEvoy;
G. Martin;
J. Mason;
P. Sweetnam;
K. Thompson;
M. Wilkinson.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

A. Gillis;
J. Hall.

INVITED MEMBER ABSENT:

L. Antonakos.

STAFF PRESENT:

P. Lehman, P. Eng., General Manager;
M. Craig, Manager of Planning and Regulations;
R. Fergusson, Operations Supervisor;
S. Gutoskie, Community Relations Coordinator;
J. North, Water Resource Technologist;
A. Playfair, Recording Secretary.

BUSINESS:

1. Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting – May 18, 2016

Mr. Sweetnam mentioned that on page 3 of the minutes the funds of the sale from Glen Cairn were to be directed towards infrastructure and hopes that funds would be available for high priority water projects such as dams, as well as Poole Creek and Carp River projects.

Mr. Lehman noted the submission to MNRF indicated that proceeds would be held in reserve for high priority water management projects and that the scheduled closing of the Glen Cairn property is Friday.

B07/20/16-1

MOVED BY: P. Sweetnam

SECONDED BY: M. Wilkinson

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting held on May 18, 2016 be received and approved as printed.

“CARRIED”

2. Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting – June 15, 2016

B07/20/16-2

MOVED BY: B. Doucett

SECONDED BY: M. Burnham

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting held on June 15, 2016 be received and approved as printed.

“CARRIED”

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Mr. Lehman updated the members that the application for the Hardwood Creek Mapping Study had been submitted and staff is waiting on a response.

In response to a question Mr. Lehman noted that if the grant application is successful, the money will be applied to either the Ottawa flood mapping project or to a new project area.

Mr. Lehman gave an update on the audio equipment. A draft Request for Proposal (RFP) has been completed and staff is having difficulty finding suppliers to submit quotes. Staff is consulting with other municipalities with similar systems to find suppliers.

4. Conservation Authorities Act Review

Mr. Lehman commented on staff report #2868/16. He noted on May 13, 2016, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) posted a second paper, *Conserving Our Future - Proposed Priorities for Renewal on the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR)*. This paper identifies suggested priorities for renewal of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. In addition to collecting comments through the EBR process, the MNRF held a series of five engagement sessions across the province to collect feedback from various stakeholders including conservation authorities, municipalities, farmers, environmental non-government organizations, landowners, developers and municipalities.

The authority had a number of opportunities to discuss the second paper including in Ottawa, at the Conservation Ontario Council and at the Eastern Region Conservation Authority Chair/GM meeting. He noted that a board meeting is not scheduled until after the September 9th deadline for submitting comments. The attached comments have been prepared for consideration and endorsement.

Mr. Karau noted that Conservation Ontario is asking that all authorities comment individually.

Mr. Burnham mentioned that Conservation Ontario also suggested that individual board members submit in writing their own comments.

Mr. MacDonald suggested the authority submit a draft letter of support with the comments to the municipalities before the submission deadline and have councils endorse it. This was agreed to.

Mrs. Wilkinson asked that the three Conservation Authorities for the city of Ottawa partner in one letter to bring to council so there are not conflicting comments. Staff clarified that they will continue to ensure coordinated responses with the three local Conservation Authorities.

B07/20/16-3

MOVED BY: E. El-Chantiry

SECONDED BY: M. Burnham

**Resolved, That Staff Report #2868/16 be received; and furthermore,
Resolved, That the draft comments on the Conserving Our Future - Proposed Priorities for
Renewal Discussion Paper be endorsed for submission.**

“CARRIED”

5. Mississippi River Watershed Plan

Mr. Lehman presented on staff report # 2869/16, Mississippi River Watershed Plan. He outlines components of an integrated watershed management plan and asked Board members to comment on the scope of issues, management instruments, public and stakeholder engagement and potential barriers to implementation.

Based on this initial feedback, staff will prepare terms of reference and proceed with forming a watershed advisory committee. In addition, a consultation plan will be developed.

6. Wetland Regulation

Mr. Craig commented on staff report #2870/16 and presented on the status of Wetland Updates.

Ms. Gutoskie updated on how the authority notified the public on the wetland updates. The authority had two open houses, one at the Carleton Place office and one in Sharbot Lake. She noted press releases were issued and posted on the website and on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. She also noted that a half page advertisement as was featured in the EMC papers.

It was suggested that a box mailing be done to notify landowners as well as more open houses, one in the City of Ottawa and another in North Frontenac. Staff will explore a box mailing option and consider more open houses based on expressed interest.

Ms Mason asked for clarification on the status of the MVCA Wetland Policy. Mr. Karau responded that the feedback from the public and the pending Provincial Wetland Conservation Strategy are intended to assist the Board make a final decision on implementing the updated MVCA Wetland Policy.

Mr Abbott suggested that the Board should establish a timeline for taking a final policy decision as we can't wait indefinitely for the Province to respond. Mr. Karau suggested that we wait until the end of the year for a provincial response and if there is no response we should proceed with a final wetland policy decision.

In response to a question Mr. Craig stated that if any municipalities would like a presentation to their council it can be accommodated.

Mr. Craig noted that screening maps have been available for a year for all municipalities. These maps are also located on the MVCA website.

Mrs. Code requested a copy of the Wetlands Update presentation. Mr. Craig asked that the presentation be attached to the minutes.

B07/20/16-4

MOVED BY: D. Abbott

SECONDED BY: J. Flynn

Resolved, That Staff Report #2870/16 regarding the proposed implementation of the wetland regulations be received for information.

“CARRIED”

7. 2016 Budget Report

Mr. Lehman circulated the budget report outlining revenue and expenditure up to July 8, 2016.

8. Capital Project Levy Policy Update

Mr. Lehman informed the board that a draft analysis report had been completed and he would like some additional feedback from the contributors before presenting to the board. Mr. Lehman will present it at a future meeting.

9. Ontario Regulation 155/06 Permits

Ontario Regulations 153/06 Permits issued and activity report up to July 12, 2016 were reviewed and discussed.

10. Watershed Conditions Report

Mrs. North advised that the Low Water Committee declared a Level 1/ minor drought on June 20th quickly followed by a Level 2/ moderate drought declaration on June 30th. After a meeting on July 14th the Low Water Committee decided to maintain the Level 2 declaration and will be meeting again in early August to look at conditions.

11. Other Business

Mr. Lehman reported on a discussion MVCA has had with the City of Ottawa and other interested groups regarding an opportunity to profile the Carp River Restoration Project and the Carp River watershed. Once the Restoration project has been completed and a series of trails have been constructed, the area would provide an exceptional opportunity for interpretation, education and research of stream and habitat restoration in an urban setting. Staff have agreed to prepare an initial concept proposal and hold further discussions with the interested groups and report back to the Board at a future meeting.

In response to an earlier question Mr. Lehman displayed a map identifying the location of Hardwood Creek.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20p.m.

B07/20/16-5

MOVED BY: M. Burnham

SECONDED BY: G. Code

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

“CARRIED”

“A. Playfair, Recording Secretary

J. Karau, Chairman”