

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mississippi Valley Conservation Centre
Carleton Place

MINUTES

March 20, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Mason, Chair;
J. Hall, Vice-Chair;
J. Atkinson;
F. Campbell;
R. Darling;
E. El-Chantiry;
T. Fritz;
G. Gower;
B. Holmes;
J. Inglis;
J. Karau;
P. Kehoe;
C. Lowry;
G. McEvoy;
P. Sweetnam;
K. Thompson.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

E. Burke.

STAFF PRESENT:

S. McIntyre, General Manager;
J. Sargeant, Secretary-Treasurer;
A. Broadbent, Information Technology Supervisor;
M. Craig, Manager, Planning and Regulations;
E. Deyo, Environmental Technician;
R. Fergusson, Operations Supervisor;
S. Gutoskie, Community Relations Coordinator;
G. Mountenay, Water Management Supervisor;
J. Price, Director, Water Resource Engineering;
K. Stiles, Biologist;
E. Levi, Recording Secretary.

VISITORS PRESENT:

M. Livingston, Project Manager, Mississippi-Rideau
Source Protection.

J. Mason called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

B03/20/19-1

MOVED BY: F. Campbell

SECONDED BY: J. Hall

Resolved, That the agenda for the March 20, 2019 meeting of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors be adopted as presented.

“CARRIED”

BUSINESS:

1. Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting – 51st Annual Meeting – February 20, 2019

B03/20/19-2

MOVED BY: E. El-Chantiry

SECONDED BY: K. Thompson

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting held on February 20, 2019 be received and approved as printed.

“CARRIED”

2. Conservation Ontario Alternates

S. McIntyre reviewed Staff Report # 2993/19. She noted that the Chair, J. Mason, was the Voting Delegate for the MVCA at Conservation Ontario and appointment of up to two alternate delegates to Conservation Ontario were required. She noted an email was sent to Board members on March 6, 2019 with a request for nominations by March 12, 2019. Only one member expressed interest, that being Jeff Atkinson. Paul Kehoe declined a nomination by Eli El-Chantiry.

B03/20/19-3

MOVED BY: T. Fritz

SECONDED BY: J. Karau

Resolved, That Jeff Atkinson, Board Member from Carleton Place serve as the First Alternate, and Sally McIntyre, General Manager serve as the Second Alternate to the Voting Delegate to Conservation Ontario.

“CARRIED”

J. Karau congratulated the new Conservation Ontario members. He noted it would be beneficial to be updated regularly at Board meetings from the members attending Conservation Ontario meetings.

3. Update re: Treasurer Position

S. McIntyre updated the Board on the status of recruitment for the Treasurer position and explained how the Secretary/Treasurer position prescribed by legislation will be addressed going forward.

As outlined in Staff Report #2994/19, she noted that the *Conservation Authorities Act R.S.O. 1990, Chapter C.27* directs Conservation Authorities (CAs) to “appoint a secretary-treasurer and may appoint such other employees as it considers necessary who shall hold office during the pleasure of the authority...” Over time, CAs found that having both their General Manager and Secretary/Treasurer reporting to the Board caused confusion in leadership and authority. Accordingly, current practice is for CAs to appoint their GM to serve this legislative function and thus provide one point-of-contact between staff and the Board. The GM, in turn, can delegate these functions to other staff as needed. MVCA by-laws allow the GM to also serve as Secretary Treasurer, but requires other modifications to address the Treasurer’s role. These matters are being referred to the Policy & Priorities Committee with the intent that, going forward, the GM will advise the Chairs of the MVCA Board of Directors and Standing Committees regarding implementation of corporate procedures, and will lead secretariat functions.

In response to a question from Councillor El-Chantiry, it was explained that as the current Secretary/Treasurer Joan Sargeant is still with the Authority that the corporation remains in compliance with both its by-laws and provincial laws and regulations.

S. McIntyre advised that the new Job Description and Employment Opportunity for Treasurer was posted on January 7, 2019 and closed on February 1, 2019. She noted that subsequent to the interviews and testing, Angela Millar was offered the position and accepted. She noted Ms. Millar will start in the Treasurer position March 25, 2019.

4. Update re: Watershed Conditions

S. Gutoskie advised that a series of videos were being published demonstrating the work of MVCA during the spring freshet. She noted the videos were available via YouTube and the MVCA website.

G. Mountenay reviewed Staff Report #2995/19 regarding current watershed conditions and MVCA's role in monitoring and communicating risks to member municipalities and the public. He noted that there is no immediate threat of flooding. The warm weather forecasted for March 14th and 15th is not expected to cause any significant issue with regard to flooding. The 14-day forecast indicates that day-time highs will be single-digit above zero, and night time lows will be below zero. Very little precipitation is forecast over that timeframe. Nothing in the forecast at this time indicates that flood conditions will begin before the end of March. As we move through the spring freshet, staff will move from mitigating the risk of flooding towards achieving target water levels for fish spawning and recreational use.

J. Karau sought information regarding the role citizen science plays in this area. Specifically, does this assist staff in compiling accurate information, is it a robust network and is it ongoing? G. Mountenay noted that there have been some great volunteers in the past who provided MVCA with information and that the authority is in the process of trying to recruit more volunteers, and are always willing to work with landowners. He advised that MVCA will use as much information provided by volunteers as possible. J. Karau noted he would like to see the continued involvement of volunteers. J. Mason commented that producing a video on Citizen Science may be valuable.

In response to a question, G. Mountenay advised that the Authority was in contact with the City of Ottawa about the Ottawa River's flooding risks through the Spring Freshet Task Force (comprised of City of Ottawa staff, the provincial Office of Emergency Management, staff from MVCA, RVCA and SNCA, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the National Capital Commission). Furthermore, that an automated water level gauge is to be installed at Buckham's Bay adjacent to Constance Bay.

5. Update re: Natural Systems Monitoring

K. Stiles gave a presentation on Staff Report #2996/19 outlining the results of the 2018 monitoring program and plans for 2019. In 2019, field monitoring will focus on the Clyde River subwatershed in the west, and three tributaries to the Carp River in the east, as well as targeted areas within the Constance Creek watershed. Data collection and analysis are carried out with partner organizations, which allows the MVCA to reduce costs to member municipalities and provide informed advice on planning and other matters.

In response to a question, K. Stiles advised that the public can access monitoring data on the MVCA website and that the Authority is working to make more information accessible.

6. Presentation of Annual Report

S. Gutoskie presented members with the MVCA's 2018 Annual Report. She highlighted the following:

- Watershed Report Card - In 2018, MVCA received an overall "A" grade, with forest cover and wetlands health ranging from excellent to fair. This information is available on the MVCA website.
- Carp River Wetland Environmental Area: Official opening took place in June. This new conservation area is located near the Canadian Tire Centre in Kanata and will soon be renamed the Carp River Conservation Area. It will feature a connected trail system, parking and an outdoor education facility. A GIS-enabled mobile app, EcoTrek, is under development to help visitors understand and engage with what they are seeing at the site.
- FCM Asset Management Grant: The MVCA was chosen for an 80% funding grant from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to coordinate development and delivery of asset management awareness raising and training to CAs and municipalities across Eastern Ontario.
- Conservation Areas: More than 50,000 people visited the Mill of Kintail, Purdon and Morris Island Conservation Areas in 2018. MVCA took over the Naismith collection and the Museum is now home to both the R. Tait McKenzie and Dr. James Naismith collections.
- Planning & Regulations: 216 planning applications were reviewed and 206 permits were issued.

7. Q2 Board Draft Agenda

S. McIntyre reviewed draft agenda items for the upcoming quarter of Board meetings as outlined in the following table:

Meeting Date	Topic Item
April 17, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate Change Modeling Results on for the Mississippi Watershed• Asset Management for Conservation Authorities• Budget Control Report• Ontario Regulation 153/06 Permits• Update: Harwood Creek Floodplain Mapping• Watershed Conditions Update• Conservation Ontario Report
May 15, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetlands management by the Conservation Authority• Management of the Ottawa River Basin• Auditor – Board of Director Responsibilities• Watershed Conditions Update• Board – Management Expectations
June 26, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update: Integrated Watershed Management Plan• Watershed Tour – focus on the Integrated Watershed Management

8. Other Business

S. McIntyre reviewed a letter received from Conservation Ontario regarding proposed amendments to Ontario Regulation 267/03 under the *Nutrient Management Act*.

J. Karau noted that agricultural land uses are not solely of concern and that source water protection initiatives are critical to nutrient management. He suggested that other types of considerations could be discussed at a future presentation to the Board.

E. El-Chantiry introduced Glen Gower, elected councilor from the Stittsville Ward, City of Ottawa, as a new member to the Board.

On behalf of the Board, J. Mason presented the retiring Joan Sargeant with a Certificate of Recognition for her 38 Years of Service with the MVCA.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

B03/20/19-4

MOVED BY: G. Gower

SECONDED BY: P. Kehoe

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

“CARRIED”

“E. Levi, Recording Secretary

J. Mason, Chair”