



**MINUTES**

Via Zoom and In Person

Board of Directors

September 21, 2022

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

J. Atkinson, Chair  
J. Mason, Vice-Chair  
R. Darling  
B. Holmes  
J. Karau  
P. Kehoe  
P. Sweetnam  
C. Rigelhof  
S. Lewis  
C. Lowry  
A. Tennant  
K. Thompson  
F. Campbell  
J. Inglis  
C. Kelsey  
B. King

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

E. El-Chantiry  
G. Gower

**STAFF PRESENT**

S. McIntyre, General Manager  
S. Millard, Treasurer  
J. North, Water Resources Technologist  
J. Cunderlik, Water Resources Engineer  
M. Craig, Manager of Planning and Regulations  
P. Tapley, Recording Secretary  
A. Broadbent, Information & Communications Technology  
Manager

J. Atkinson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Members were asked to declare any conflicts of interest and informed that they may declare a conflict at any time during the session. No declarations were received.

**B09/21/22-1**

**MOVED BY: J. Inglis**

**SECONDED BY: P. Kehoe**

**Resolved, That the agenda for the September 21, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting be adopted as presented.**

**“CARRIED”**

**MAIN BUSINESS**

1. Approval of Minutes: Board of Directors, 2022

**B09/21/22-2**

**MOVED BY: S. Lewis**

**SECONDED BY: C. Rigelhof**

**Resolved, That the Minutes of the Mississippi Valley Board of Directors Meeting held on July 20, 2022 be received and approved as printed.**

**“CARRIED”**

2. Watershed Conditions., Report 3236/22

J. North presented the Watershed Conditions Report. Slightly above-average rainfall for this time of year was noted. Upper lakes are stable due to the amount of rain and the majority of lakes are sitting above normal levels.

Crotch lake is above average (just over 30 cm) due to amount of water in the system. Levels on Dalhousie and Mississippi lakes are above normal.

Fall draw downs have started at Shabomeka and Pine Lakes and it is expected Kashwakamak, Mississagagon and Big gull will commence after Thanksgiving weekend. The long range forecast for fall is normal temperatures with a slightly drier forecast, which will assist in getting access water out of system before winter.

P. Sweetnam enquired if the overflow bypass was repaired at Mazinaw Lake. J. North reported it had been completed in 2019.

3. Carleton Place Dam Safety Review Project Award, Report 3237/22

J. Cunderlik identified this award as a priority in capital plan. The project scope includes study and design of a new safety boom. An RFP was issued to 3 firms, with 2 proposals received. The Project will be awarded to D.M. Will Associates.

The project has an estimated value of \$100,000 and MVCA will receive 50% funding from province under the WECl program.

J. Inglis inquired if there was a possibility of a safety review leading to rebuilding of that dam and if so, who would pay for it.

J. Cunderlik stated inspections occur yearly, the structure is in descent state (15 years old) with a few minor deficiencies. Safety concerns mainly relate to the railings and the public accessing the structure. No major issues are expected.

#### 4. Appointment of PAC Members., Report 3238/22

S. McIntyre reported that in May 2022, the Board approved the establishment of a Public Advisory Committee (PAC) to support MVCA in Mississippi River Watershed Plan. A Promotional campaign in the summer reached out to various sectors. Applications were not received from all targeted sectors. However, good quality candidates representing a good cross section in terms of geography applied. They previous PAC were a dedicated group, knowledgeable in watershed and water management issues and were a good sounding board.

E. Giffin no longer lives within the watershed but has been long time serving on many boards including the previous PAC and would be an asset to this committee.

P. Sweetman asked what number of committee members was hoped for. S. McIntyre indicated that the terms of reference for the committee indicated up to 10 candidates and we have 6.

B. Holmes asked if late applicants would be accepted if anyone is interested in joining. S. McIntyre referred to the Board with no objection.

J. Karau commented that he believes the Committee has good members; and that it would desirable for experts from other sectors to be invited to attend PAC meetings where appropriate.

P. Sweetnam had concerns regarding Advisory Committees making decisions for the Board. S. McIntyre commented that J. Karau is co-chair and on the committee with vast experience. As the PAC is not a decision-making body, all decisions would be put forth to the Board for approval. PAC members role is helping in the decision making and implementation process and to promote awareness.

J. Inglis is pleased and proud that 3 of the 6 new PAC members are North Frontenac.

P. Sweetnam asked if there was success in representation from Indigenous people and could we invite people to fill that role. S. McIntyre will further discuss in Agenda Item # 7 under the subject of the Indigenous Engagement Plan. Indigenous Communities are overwhelmed to provide feedback and at this time MCVA is looking to follow their lead for engagement.

**B/21/22-3**

**MOVED BY: C. Lowry**

**SECONDED BY: P. Sweetman**

**Resolved, That Board of Directors appoint members of the Mississippi River Watershed Plan Public Advisory Committee as settled in this report.**

**“CARRIED”**

5. **Budget Control., Report 3239/22**

The Chair welcomed Stacy Mallard as new treasurer and Pam Tapley as new Researcher-Clerk.

S. McIntyre provided a comparison between year to date expenditures and revenues and the approved 2022 budget. Revenues overall are slightly below average for this time of the year and expenditures are tracking normally. Insurance premiums were higher than budgeted. We are still waiting for the Section 39 provincial transfer. Planning and permit revenues continue to be strong during this quarter. User fees from contract revenues are higher than projected.

There was not a successful fundraising campaign with Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) which would have allowed up to payback the Operating Reserve next year. It is unlikely a campaign will proceed due to MMLT staff departures and capacity limitations. Further analysis on the impact on operating reserve still needs to be done.

P. Sweetnam asked for a refresh summary of the projects. S. McIntyre stated 3 projects were approved: ALUS (work in progress) , Wetland Restoration Project carp river (could not proceed) and Land Conservation Land Strategy (actively working on).

J. Karau agreed that there are challenges with fundraising and options for private fundraising could be pursued.

C. Lowry emphasized the importance of restoring the Operating Reserve and is interested to see what other options could be implemented.

J. Mason added that fundraising could be revisited next year.

6. **Kashwakamak Lake Dam Replacement Grant Award., Report 3240/22**

**B09/21/22-4**

**MOVED BY: C. Lowry**

**SECONDED BY: K. Thompson**

**Resolved, That the committee move to in-camera session for discussion of the following matter:**

- **Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Authority by Canada, a**

province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them

“CARRIED”

Staff were directed to remain in room and the Zoom recording was stopped.

**B09/10/22-5**

**MOVED BY: B. King**

**SECONDED BY: A. Tennant**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors move out of in-camera discussion.**

“CARRIED”

Indigenous Engagement Plan Update, Report 3241/22

S. McIntyre provided information on the Indigenous Engagement Plan (IEP). The company Cambian Professional Indigenous Services (CIPS) 2019 are assisting MCVA and have prepared annotated Backgrounders and questions to Indigenous communities with an interest in the Mississippi River watershed. As a result of COVID, activities were put on hold until earlier this year. The Plan process has been reinitiated and 3 group meetings have taken place, which have gone very well. The next step is to meet with larger groups from each community, ideally in person. Currently, MVCA is to complete remaining meeting by year end and report back to Board with finds in early 2023.

J. Karau expressed appreciation of the restart of this plan and suggested it may assist the Board. S. McIntyre will share hyperlink to MCVA website for all [IEP documentation](#).

7. Permit Timeline, Report 3242/22

Matt Craig presented a summary of permits issued over the period of March 1-September 7, 2022. The overall timeline performance is positive.

J. Inglis asked if this requirement added significantly to workload?

M. Craig stated that workloads for administrative with tracking were additional.

8. Planning and Regulatory Activity, Report 3243/22

M. Craig presented a report to the Board with a summary of permits issued over March 1-September 7, 2022.

Approximately 150 permits have been received to date (300 last year) and it is predicted that in the order of 200 permits will be issued this year.

It appears applications related to flood damage (from 2019) are coming to an end. There were 760 General inquiries in 2021 and 440 this year (3 months still to go).

P. Sweetnam noted there were applications for work on adjacent lands to a wetland and could this adversely affect wetlands? M. Craig responded that any work within 120 m of a Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) or 30 m of an unevaluated wetland requires permission form MCVA.

9. General Manager Update, Report 3244/22

An overview of key items was made. The Latornell November conference is over-subscribed and MVCA staff are on the waiting list. Board members are to advise Sally if they wish to attend. Several Board members spoke of the value of the conference and encouraged other to use this forum as well as the on-line network and webinars.

Board members were encouraged to share with their municipal planners the Resources for Land Use Planner, Adaptation Resource Pathway for Planners (ARPP) document.

The Mississippi-Rideau Septic System Office will be commencing work in new areas in October. Staffing is complete and will be taking their new positions October 3.

MCVA is working on several polices: Work form Home Policy, Compressed Work week and Cellular Phone.

The federal government has retroactively provided a grant for the LiDAR data acquisition project. South Nation Conservation applied and was successful in obtaining a 45% grant that result in cost savings by all partners. P. Sweetnam asked if it was known where the funding came from? J. Cunderlik indicated there was extra funding at the end of the year.

J. Karau noted that Angela Coleman is new Executive Director for Conservation Ontario which he sees as positive, as she was GM at South Nation and is expected to raise the profile of the organization.

C. Lowry shared that she felt the GM's presentation at the AMO Conference to MPP Yakabuski was excellent; however, the dialogue back was a little disappointing and suggested that the group try to engage again in early 2023.

Members were request to find out when future Board appointments would be made.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 pm

**B07/20/22-6**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**

**SECONDED BY: K. Thompson**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors meeting be adjourned.**

**“CARRIED”**

“P. Tapley, Recording Secretary

J. Atkinson, Chair”