



POLICY AND PRIORITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Via Zoom

MINUTES

November 13, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Atkinson, Chair
K. Thompson, Vice-Chair
F. Campbell
G. Gower
B. Holmes
J. Inglis
J. Karau
J. Mason

MEMBERS ABSENT:

R. Darling

STAFF PRESENT:

S. McIntyre, General Manager
A. Broadbent, IT Supervisor
M. Craig, Manager of Planning and Regulations
J. Cunderlik, Director, Water Resource Engineering
R. Fergusson, Operations Supervisor
S. Gutoskie, Community Relations Coordinator
A. Millar, Treasurer
E. Levi, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

J. Atkinson called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

PPAC11/13/20-1

MOVED BY: F. Campbell

SECONDED BY: B. Holmes

Resolved, That the Agenda for the Policy and Priorities Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

“CARRIED”

BUSINESS:

1. **Minutes – Policy & Priorities Advisory Committee Meeting – October 2, 2020**

J. Mason commented that the minutes presented may have been a draft copy not the final one as there were a number of editorial edits which were not to the standard minutes are published.

PPAC11/13/20-2

MOVED BY: J. Karau

SECONDED BY: B. Holmes

Resolved, That the minutes of the Mississippi Valley Policy & Priorities Advisory Committee meeting held on October 2, 2020 be received and approved as printed.

“CARRIED”

2. **Interim Financial Plan and Update to the 10-year Capital Plan**

J. Atkinson reminded the committee their role is priority setting and determining the policy approach to this plan, not to assess financial impacts or affordability.

S. McIntyre reviewed charts and the priorities outlined in Staff Report 3092/20, attached.

J. Mason asked whether all the priorities listed in the report were included in the budget? A. Millar advised the priorities were included if they affected the budget over the next 10 years. J. Mason suggested adding another check mark in the priority chart to indicate which ones are not included in 10-year capital plan.

J. Karau inquired as to what additional pressures would be created with increased administration requirements under Bill 229. S. McIntyre advised that appeal processes will be much more onerous for CAs, municipalities and land owners. She noted there will be an increase in staff time, at minimum.

J. Mason asked the committee members whether the process of reviewing priorities has achieved the desired outcome and whether the committee had contributed what they needed to. F. Campbell expressed that the summary of priorities was informative and that all members have had the opportunity to review and comment. J. Inglis noted comprehensive information was provided and emphasizes how big an organization the CA really is.

J. Karau commented that the approach is complicated but the process is helpful and it provides members with a sense of what categories the priorities fall under. He suggested back casting to look at trends of what has been status quo for years and look at new assessments to determine where changes are being made.

J. Mason suggested it might be useful to provide graphs breaking out priority spending for the upcoming finance committee meeting.

PPAC11/13/20-3

MOVED BY: K. Thompson

SECONDED BY: F. Campbell

Resolved, That the Committee recommend that the Board of Directors approve the priorities set out in the attached draft Interim Financial Plan and updated 10-year Capital.

“CARRIED”

3. K&P Bridge

S. McIntyre reviewed Staff Report 3093/20, attached. She advised that the report was received from the engineers indicating the structure is out of compliance and significant investment is needed, specifically the railing and deck. Repairs would have significant impacts on recreational snowmobiling and MVCA would like to work with the snowmobile association to identify a mutually acceptable temporary solution, including gating the area with the association having responsibility over that function. She noted in the absence of partnership with regards to a potential gate, the Authority will have to look at placing concrete barriers to prohibit traffic.

Additionally, given recent announcements regarding stimulus funding, that the Counties of Lanark and Frontenac along with snowmobile and ATV associations could be contacted regarding submitting a joint application for repair of the bridge.

S. McIntyre commented that repairs would make a potential transfer of this asset easier and obtain fair market value. There is a current need to perform interim repairs to mitigate risk to the authority.

J. Karau commented that given risks involved he would favor others stepping up to plate both insurance and finance wise. If funds and other partners aren't there, then the Authority may need to consider closing off access.

PPAC11/13/20-4

MOVED BY: F. Campbell

SECONDED BY: K. Thompson

Resolved, That the Policy and Priorities Committee approve:

- 1. Installation of temporary safety measures this fall in partnership with the local snowmobile club to mitigate safety risks.**
- 2. Working with the County of Lanark and County of Frontenac to secure stimulus funding to allow for timely repair of the bridge.**

“CARRIED”

4. Watershed Plan – Public Advisory Committee

S. McIntyre summarized Staff Report 3094/20 regarding a potential role for the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) following completion of the Watershed Plan.

J. Karau noted it would be an interesting and valuable feature to offer another or further opportunity to receive comments, perspective and views from the community on watershed matters.

J. Mason suggested if the conservation authority's role is reduced, it would it make sense to put together a Mississippi River Keeper organization or Friends of the Mississippi River. It could be something for PAC to consider in terms of replacing that lost role.

J. Atkinson expressed his support of the idea. He noted the importance of people in the community supporting implementation of the conservation authority's initiatives and programming as it provides more credibility to those areas.

PPAC11/13/20-5

MOVED BY: J. Mason
SECONDED BY: K. Thompson

Resolved, That the Committee recommend that the Board of Directors direct staff to:

- 1. consult with the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) regarding its potential involvement during implementation of the Watershed Plan; and**
- 2. report back to the Board with recommendations.**

"CARRIED"

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

PPAC11/13/20-6

MOVED BY: F. Campbell
SECONDED BY: K. Thompson
Resolved, That the meeting be adjourned.

"CARRIED"

"E. Levi, Recording Secretary

J. Atkinson, Chair"