



## MINUTES

Via Zoom and In Person      Annual General Board of Directors Meeting      February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

J. Atkinson, Chair  
J. Mason, Vice-Chair  
D. Comley  
C. Curry  
G. Gower (remote)  
B. Holmes  
R. Huetl  
J. Karau  
P. Kehoe  
C. Kelly  
C. Kelsey  
A. Kendrick  
R. Kidd  
S. Lewis (remote)  
T. Popkie  
M. Souter  
H. Yanch

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

A. Vereyken

### **STAFF PRESENT**

S. McIntyre, General Manager  
S. Millard, Treasurer  
J. Cunderlik, Director of Engineering  
J. North, Engineering Technologist  
M. Craig, Manager of Planning and Regulations  
A. Broadbent, Manager of Information and Communications  
Technology  
R. Clouthier, Recording Secretary

J. Atkinson called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

### Welcome and Land Acknowledgment

J. Atkinson gave MVCA staff and Board members a welcome and land acknowledgment speech recognizing First Nations history and communities and the ties to MVCA's work. See attached.

### Long Service Awards Ceremony

J. Atkinson, S. McIntyre and current Board members thanked and congratulated Phil Sweetnam, John Karau and Eli El-Chantiry for their years of service on MVCA's Board of Directors.

### Declarations of Interest (written)

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.

### Agenda Review

Board members had no comments on the agenda for the February 22, 2023 meeting.

#### **B23/02/22 - 1**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**  
**SECONDED BY: B. Holmes**

**Resolved, That the agenda for the February 22, 2023 Board of Directors Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented.**

**"CARRIED"**

### **MAIN BUSINESS**

1. Approval of Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting on December 7, 2022 and Budget Briefing on February 6, 2023

S. McIntyre noted addition to page 6 to clarify that J. Karau is concerned about the carrying capacity of the Mississippi River in the face of ongoing and future development.

#### **B23/02/22 - 2**

**MOVED BY: B. Holmes**  
**SECONDED BY: R. Kidd**

**Resolved, That the minutes of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors Meeting held on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and meeting notes from the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 budget briefing and training session be received and approved as amended.**

**"CARRIED"**

## 2. Watershed Conditions, Report 3276/23

J. North presented a Watershed Conditions Report highlighting that we had a wet start to Winter and that are uniquely high water-equivalent measurements in the snow--conditions that have not been seen in the last 40 years. There is potential for an early freshet with a risk of a higher spring peak than normal. Rain and air temperatures will be the deciding factor in this year's freshet.

J. Karau asked how historical data is helping with flood forecasting and warning given that the numbers are so unusual and uncertain. How do you make decisions when you don't have that kind of historical record? J. North replied that she believes a full-scale watershed model would be highly beneficial to determine if current operating plans will suffice for future scenarios. A model would give us to consider more options and approaches. It is difficult using past historical data to operate the system at this time.

J. Mason asked J. North about the model pertaining to the Ottawa River, and current freshet projections. J. North there is a meeting in March during which numbers for the Ottawa River will be shared, and she will report back at the next meeting.

J. North clarified that denser snow does melt faster than fluffy snow and when the density of the snow is over approximately 50% you will start to see some snowmelt.

S. McIntyre reiterated from J. North's presentation that we do predicative analysis and operate the systems to the best of our abilities but emergency preparedness is left up the municipalities and the province. It is important that municipalities are prepared with sandbags and response plans. We will be sending out notifications to ensure that municipalities have time to prepare and have plans to be prepared in the event of flooding.

C. Curry asked about replying on historical data and watershed models – who is going to do that and what can we do with that. S. McIntyre a model is used for predictive analysis and considers the natural systems. We can use the model to create scenarios with different stressors to see how the system as a whole will react.

J. Cunderlik confirmed that the model has been created and we are currently calibrating and validating the model so it is still a work in progress. We will be able to make predictions for up to 15 days and we should be able to utilize the model next year. We can also create a probabilistic model and run it to depict probabilities of different scenarios.

C. Curry said that from her experience, engineers told her that numbers are outdated and engineers in Kanata are having a hard time signing off on plans. S. McIntyre replied that work is being done at many levels to review regulations for flooding. The 1:100-year flood regulations for MVCA's jurisdiction hasn't changed, but the City paid us to do a 1:350-year analysis. The rational there is that all new infrastructure and emergency response infrastructure should be located outside of that area.

3. 2022 Draft Financial Statement and Independent Auditor's Report, Report 3277/23

S. Millard confirmed that there were no issues with MVCA's audit and point out where members could find the Auditor's Letter. No questions were raised by members.

**B23/02/22 - 3**

**MOVED BY: J. Karau**

**SECONDED BY: T. Popkie**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors receive and approve the 2022 Audited Financial Statements; and direct that they be posted and distributed in accordance with Section 38 of the Conservation Authorities Act.**

**"CARRIED"**

4. Appointment of the Auditor, Report 3278/23

**B23/02/22 - 4**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**

**SECONDED BY: H. Yanch**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors defer Appointment of an Auditor for the year 2023 to allow time to procure a new auditor.**

**"CARRIED"**

5. Election of 2023 Officers, Report 3279/23

S. McIntyre summarized election requirements and explained rationale for potential deferral to the May 2023 Board of Directors.

A. Kendrick asked the seasoned Board members for their advice and what the historical wisdom was for this situation. J. Atkinson confirmed that this is a new situation due to the changes in the Conservation Authorities Act. The new term limits and a high turn over led to this unique situation. J. Mason added that the Chair used to hold the position for 4 years but now the Act imposes a 2-year term limit. She expressed a preference to defer the election.

R. Kidd said we should defer and not have the election now but maybe in June 2023. S. McIntyre advised that June 2023 will be the Board's Watershed Tour so it would not be ideal to hold the election before then.

P. Kehoe indicated that when the time comes, he is interested in the Vice Chair position.

**B23/02/22 - 5**

**MOVED BY: R. Kidd**

**SECONDED BY: P. Kehoe**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors defer the election of the Chair and Vice Chair until the May 2023 Board Meeting.**

**“CARRIED”**

6. 2023 Committee and Other Appointments, Report 3280/23

R. Kidd, J. Atkinson and A. Kendrick volunteered to sit on the Regulations Committee.

**B23/02/22 - 6**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**

**SECONDED BY: R. Huetl**

**Resolved,**

- 1. That the Board of Directors:**
  - a. Appoint the Board members listed in Table 1, as amended, to the Regulations Committee to hear applications pursuant to *Ontario Regulation 153/06* and MVCA’s *Administrative By-law*; and**
  - b. Direct members of the Regulations Committee to deliberate on the evidence presented at a hearing, and grant or deny such permission on behalf of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority and provide the applicant with reasons, in writing, thereof.**
- 2. That the Board of Directors appoint Bev Holmes as Board Representative on the Mill of Kintail Museum Advisory Committee.**
- 3. That the Board of Directors appoint Janet Mason as Board Representative on the Mississippi Valley Conservation Foundation.**
- 4. That the Board of Directors appoint John Karau as Board Representative on the Mississippi River Watershed Plan Implementation Public Advisory Committee.**

Board Chair	Jeff Atkinson, Committee Chair
Board Vice Chair	Janet Mason Committee Vice Chair
Paul Kehoe	Drummond/North Elmsley
Richard Kidd	Beckwith
Andrew Kendrick	Tay Valley
Jeff Atkinson*	Carleton Place

\*Once he resigns from Chair position

**“CARRIED”**

7. Appointment to Conservation Ontario Council, Report 3281/23

**B23/02/22 - 7**

**MOVED BY: D. Comley**

**SECONDED BY: C. Kelsey**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors appoint the following to Conservation Ontario Council for 2023.**

- **The 2023 Board Chair as Voting Delegate**
- **The 2023 Board Vice Chair as First Alternate**
- **The General Manager as Second Alternate**

**“CARRIED”**

8. Final 2023 Budget, Report 3282/23

P. Kehoe asked that since most municipalities have not yet passed their own budgets yet, how do we know if they will approve MVCA’s budget; and what would happen if any municipality did not approve the budget. S. McIntyre has in writing from City of Ottawa that they do not foresee any issues passing their contributions to MVCA’s budget. If any municipality objected and did not approve the levy, the matter would come back to the Board for consideration.

J. Karau asked if there have been any objections to the 2023 Draft Budget. S. McIntyre replied there have been no objections.

S. McIntyre presented an overview of the draft budget.

C. Curry asked on behalf of G. Gower if any of the grants are secured or are some still a work in progress. S. McIntyre replied that the engineering department has secured multiple grants. The Mill of Kintail washroom repair and onboarding summer students is still a work in progress. Depending upon the project, it may not proceed if funding is not received.

**B23/02/22 - 8**

**MOVED BY: J. Mason**

**SECONDED BY: B. Holmes**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors approve:**

- a) Expenditures set out in the 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets as contained in this report.**
- b) Issuance of a Notice of Apportionment to member municipalities for the 2023 Operating Levy, 2023 Capital Levy, and 2023 Special Levy set out in this report.**

**“CARRIED”**

9. Wetland Offsetting Policy and Reserve, Report 3283/23

M. Craig gave a presentation on the changes to the Planning Act and the importance of a Wetland Reserve Fund and how it can be beneficial. Updated policies are needed to adapt to the new and incoming changes. S. Millard overviewed Administrative By-law requirements, and the need for a new Reserve Fund to be established.

**B23/02/22 - 9**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**

**SECONDED BY: H. Yanch**

**Resolved, That Board of Directors approve the Wetland Compensation Reserve Policy and Fund be established as outlined in this report;**

**“CARRIED”**

10. Contract Award – Clyde River Floodplain Mapping, Report 3284/23

**B23/02/22 - 10**

**MOVED BY: D. Comley**

**SECONDED BY: H. Yanch**

**Resolved, That the Board endorse award of the Clyde River Floodplain Mapping Project to AECOM Canada Ltd. in the amount of \$61,284.00 plus HST.**

**“CARRIED”**

J. Cunderlik overviewed the Clyde River Flood Plain Mapping Project and detailed the RFP results.

11. Appointment of Regulations Officers, Report 3285/23

M. Craig overviewed the importance of the position of Regulation Officer and detailed why Alexis and Brittany are being appointed. Alexis will be taking over the position of Regulations Officer while Brittany will be assisting with compliance.

**B23/02/22 - 11**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**

**SECONDED BY: J. Karau**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors appoint Alexis Perrin and Brittany Moy to enforce Ontario Regulation 153/06 and Ontario Regulation 120/90 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.**

**“CARRIED”**

12. 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule, Report 3286/23

**B23/02/22 - 12**

**MOVED BY: D. Comley**

**SECONDED BY: T. Popkie**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors approve the proposed 2023 meeting schedule set out in this report.**

**“CARRIED”**

13. Update on Strategic Plan Implementation, Report 3287/23

S. McIntyre overviewed the Update on the Strategic Implementation Plan Report and highlighted the three projects that will not proceed or are at risk: the Carp Sub-Watershed Plan, the Open Data Plan, and the Indigenous Engagement Plan. Staff will continue to report back and update the Board on the status of these initiatives.

14. Permit Activity Under O. Reg. 153/06, Report 3288/23

M. Craig presented MVCA’s permit activity for 2022. This reporting used to be required from the province and it has stopped but we still continue to do this for Board members as it gives a level of transparency to the public. Reporting indicates that pre-flood and pre-construction boom levels have since stabilized.

15. Permit Timelines Performance, Report 3289/23

M. Craig overviewed MVCA’s permit timeline performance and presented results to the Board.

16. GM Update, Report 3290/23

S. McIntyre reminded Board members that their municipalities still need to circulate plans to MVCA, as we still have to fulfill regulatory requirements; and that the pre-consultation step will assist applicants to avoid issues later in the approval process.

J. Mason asked to clarify that since the province added ice monitoring to the requirements, have they increased their contributions to the Conservation Authority with the additional requirement. S. McIntyre responded no, the province has not.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 pm.



**B23/02/22 - 13**

**MOVED BY: H. Yanch**

**SECONDED BY: R. Huetl**

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

**“CARRIED”**

R. Clouthier, Recording Secretary

J. Atkinson, Chair

## **Attachment 1 – Welcome and Land Acknowledgment, (J. Atkinson)**

Today marks the start of another year of work for our Board of Directors. I want to begin with a few words about that work.

I want to respectfully acknowledge that the Board of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority meets on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people and is charged by the Crown with the conservation of the watersheds of the Mississippi and Carp rivers, both of which flow through that land, as well as the traditional territories of the Huron-Wendat and Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg.

We offer our gratitude to the first peoples for their care for and teachings about our earth and our relations. As we move together along the path of reconciliation, may we relearn and once again honour those teachings and bring them into the work that we do here.

As we meet today, and I reflect on the meaning of that word – reconciliation – I observe that voices are missing from our table.

That lands of cultural significance are not included among the lands we are charged to protect and conserve by the Crown.

That vital and traditional species have and continue to be put at risk by the work that we do despite the Crown's instruction that we now look away and remain silent when this happens.

And that waterways named to recognize the first people who lived on them at the time of settlement still do not bear their true names.

As the descendant of people who settled and prospered on the lands of many First Nations I, like so many others, was raised without knowing the history of the land and the people who have cared for it since the beginning. My own path toward learning that history and the truth of my people's relationship with that land and the people we displaced remains long. But I commit to making that journey. And I know that I will not be alone.

Thank you and Miigwech.