



## MINUTES

Via Zoom and In Person

Board of Directors Meeting

March 13, 2023

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

J. Atkinson, Chair  
J. Mason, Vice-Chair  
D. Comley (remote)  
B. Holmes  
J. Karau  
P. Kehoe  
C. Kelly (remote)  
R. Kidd  
S. Lewis (remote)  
M. Souter  
H. Yanch  
A. Vereyken

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

C. Curry  
G. Gower  
R. Huetl  
C. Kelsey  
A. Kendrick  
T. Popkie

### **STAFF PRESENT**

S. McIntyre, General Manager  
J. Cunderlik, Director of Engineering  
J. North, Engineering Technologist  
S. Lawryk, Property manager  
A. Broadbent, Manager of Information, Communications and  
Technology  
R. Clouthier, Recording Secretary

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

1. 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.

2. Agenda Review

Board members had no comments on the agenda for the March 13, 2023 meeting.

**B23/03/13-1**

**MOVED BY: B. Holmes**

**SECONDED BY: H. Yanch**

**Resolved, That the agenda for the March 13, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting be adopted as presented.**

**“CARRIED”**

**MAIN BUSINESS**

1. Approval of Minutes: Annual General Board of Directors Meeting on February 22, 2023

**B23/03/13-2**

**MOVED BY: J. Karau**

**SECONDED BY: P. Kehoe**

**Resolved, That the minutes of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Annual General Board of Directors Meeting held on February 22, 2023 be received and approved as printed.**

**“CARRIED”**

2. Watershed Conditions, Report 3291/23

J. North presented current conditions and spring outlook for the watershed. Current snow conditions are sitting above normal for most of the winter season. The provincial Water Conditions Flood Outlook report was published on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be updated on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Local messages will be posted as needed. We are expecting above average conditions for the spring but will continuously monitor the system so we are in a good position for the upcoming spring freshet.

J. Cunderlik added that there are over 40 water control structures within the watershed. Only 12 are identified in the Water Management Plan and, of those, only 6 have water storage capacity. The structures were designed and built for flow augmentation, largely for logging or recreation; not for flood control. Winter dam operations need to be done very carefully as ice

conditions can become unsafe and ice breakup can potentially lead to property damage. Though recent conditions and flow rates are considered unusual they may normalize.

R. Kidd asked how frost affects flooding. J. North responded that it is not a significant factor at present. Frost can limit infiltration, but is not present this year. However, there was significant rainfall late in the season and the ground is considered saturated and beyond the point of absorbing more runoff. If water does not infiltrate, more runoff and can contribute to flooding.

J. Atkinson asked about the long-term climate forecast, and what solutions we should be looking at. J. Cunderlik responded that finding more capacity is one potential solution; and that we need to revisit winter targets and consider storing more water in the winter to alleviate drought in the summer.

3. Contract Award - Kashwakamak Lake Dam Class Environmental Assessment, Report 3292/23

**B23/03/13-3**

**MOVED BY: H. Yanch**

**SECONDED BY: B. Holmes**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors award the Kashwakamak Lake Dam Class Environmental Assessment Project to McIntosh Perry in the amount of \$101,410.00 plus HST.**

**“CARRIED”**

P. Kehoe asked if McIntosh Perry has experience with working on dams. J. Cunderlik answered that they do have experience with dams owned by MNRF and have very strong Class Environmental Assessments experience, which is the focus of this contract.

4. Contract Award – Mill of Kintail Roof Replacement, Report 3293/23

**B23/03/13-4**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**

**SECONDED BY: M. Souter**

**Resolved, That the Board of Directors endorse the award of the Mill of Kintail Roof Replacement Project to Remember Me Roofing in the amount of \$36,019.50 plus HST; and authorize an \$8,000.00 contingency fund to deal with unexpected expenses that may be incurred.**

**“CARRIED”**

S. Lawryk outlined why MVCA would like to install composite shingles in lieu of a steel roof, and stated that the contingency amount is for remedial work that may be required once existing materials are exposed during work on the eavestroughs.

J. Mason asked what the fire protection is of the composite shingles. S. Lawryk responded that the composite shingles seem to be engineered to be a part of new fire regulations and believes them to be the best option.

B. Holmes asked about the roofing company's experience and how long the composite shingles have been around. S. Lawryk stated that the roofing company came recommended from a trusted contractor and has an established track record. Their proposal was thorough and their quote within our budget. The composite shingles are becoming more popular and both companies that provided quotes recommended the composite shingles.

J. Karau asked if solar panels being installed has been discussed and how the composite shingles will affect that. S. Lawryk responded that solar panels have been placed on shingles before but MVCA has not discussed this as the museum would not be an ideal location due to trees and elevation.

H. Yanch agreed with the proposal and has heard of a solar shingle and suggested that MVCA should be looking into solar opportunities. S. McIntyre noted that the museum is not open year-round and wouldn't benefit from solar and suggested the headquarters as a more suitable sites for solar installation for example in the parking lot, which is south facing and could serve EVs in the future.

5. Need Assessment Update, Report 3294/23

S. McIntyre summarized the purpose of the needs assessment and approach used to rate the various projects.

P. Kehoe asked if there is an oversight to ensure consistency on the ranking of the Needs Assessment Update. S. McIntyre confirmed that she has reviewed the document and she is comfortable with the assessment and rankings, citing some examples that may appear insignificant but that are actually important due to health and safety or industry standards.

B. Holmes asked about the Land Conservation Inventory. S. McIntyre noted that it is almost finished and that requirements dealing with land development potential are not expected to affect MVCA.

6. 2023 Work Plan, Report 3295/23

S. McIntyre overviewed the Work Plan Update and noted that the engineering department has evolved over recent years to better address the "asset management" goal of the Strategic Plan.

J. Karau asked for updates on the following projects:

a) The Land Inventory and the Land Use Update and how their data will be used.

S. McIntyre responded that the Land Use Assessment is being done in partnership with RVCA and SNC using LiDAR (elevation) data and DRAPE (photographic) data to updated our existing land use map. It as a critical tool for watershed modelling by the engineering department. Data can also be used for future environmental report cards and support municipal planning.

b) Review of wetlands in growth areas.

S. McIntyre noted that work on the project began last year with funding from the Foundation. The project focused on wetlands under growth pressure, which were identified and mapped. Protection of wetlands upstream of communities is important because of the significant role they play in water storage to mitigate flooding and flow augmentation during droughts. The first round of analysis was completed, and work is now needed to prioritize areas for stewardship and outreach.

c) Utilization of equipment for communications.

S. McIntyre replied that we can do virtual tours of the conservation areas with the drone and are looking at using the drone to support all CA programs and services. Staff are interested in holding another trade show or to participate in Doors Open for the public.

R. Kidd asked if the wetland study was done on zoned wetlands or not-zoned wetlands. S. McIntyre noted that study is on lands defined as wetlands under Section 28 and the regulations. Zoning is at the discretion of municipalities.

R. Kidd asked if Board members can get a copy of the wetland study. S. McIntyre will present the wetland findings at a future Board meeting.

R. Kidd said that all municipal politicians should be invited to the next trade show. M. Souter supported that sentiment and said that inviting more politicians would be very beneficial in terms of outreach.

7. Update on Watershed Plan Activities, Report 3296/23

S. McIntyre provided background on the development and structure of the Mississippi River Watershed Plan, and highlighted key activities carried out since it was approved in 2021.

R. Kidd called attention to the uncertainty of climate change impacts when conducting watershed modelling. S. McIntyre said that MVCA started doing this kind of analysis about 10 years ago. There is always uncertainty with data but with the new data we have provides a better idea of the trends and what direction the future scenarios will direct flows. J. Mason added that uncertainty can be mitigated by modeling multiple scenarios that account for different stressors, and probability analysis used to identify the most likely outcomes.

8. Update on Municipal MOU/CAA Discussions. Report 3297/23

S. McIntyre stated that work on MOUs took a hiatus in the fall due to Bill 23. All municipalities with the exception of N. Frontenac have confirmed they are interested in maintaining current programming and levels of support, assuming the City of Ottawa continues its support. N. Frontenac is to return to council with a recommendation.

S. McIntyre will be engaging with RVCA, SNC and the City to confirm its preferred approach. Staff are also continuing to look into other funding sources.

S. McIntyre will reach out to CAOs and provide financial impact of the City removing funding for one or more programs.

9. 2022 Annual Report, Report 3298/23

S. McIntyre noted highlights from the 2022 Annual Report for Board members, and the Board recognized the tremendous accomplishments of staff during 2022.

10. GM Update, Report 3299/23

J. Atkinson and S. McIntyre congratulated S. Lawryk on obtaining a new vehicle for the fleet and highlighted other MVCA achievements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 pm.

**B23/03/13-5**

**MOVED BY: P. Kehoe**

**SECONDED BY: H. Yanch**

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

**“CARRIED”**

R. Clouthier, Recording Secretary

J. Atkinson, Chair