



Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

Minutes

Full Authority Board of Directors

Wednesday, April 9th, 2014 – 1:15 p.m.

The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting was held at the Conservation Authority Administration Centre located on Inglis Falls Road.

1. Call to Order

Chair Dick Hibma called the meeting to order.

Directors Present

Dick Hibma, Dave Clarke, Judy Gay, Jan Chamberlain, Bob Lennox, Terry McKay, Michael Martin, Harley Greenfield, Paul McKenzie, and Mike Poetker

Director Absent – Paul Eagleson

Staff Present – John Cottrill, Doreen Robinson, Alison Armstrong, Andy Sorensen, Gloria Dangerfield, John Bittorf, Anne Lennox, Tim Lanthier, and Chris Hachey

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Bob Lennox
FA-14-032	Seconded by:	Terry McKay

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of April 9th, 2014, with the addition of Item 8 a) Water Management – 1) Flood Watch;

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

The Directors were reminded to disclose any pecuniary interest that may arise during the course of the meeting. No disclosures of pecuniary interest were expressed at this time.

4. Approval of Minutes

a) Full Authority – February 12th, 2014

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Dave Clarke
FA-14-033	Seconded by:	Mike Poetker

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of February 12th, 2014.

Carried

5. Delegation – Traci Smith, BDO, 2013 Audit Report

Traci Smith, Partner, BDO & Company LLP, made a presentation on the results of BDO's audit on the financial statements of the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority for the year ended December 31st, 2013. Certain aspects of the audit were reviewed with the Board of Directors.

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Judy Gay
FA-13-034	Seconded by:	Mike Poetker

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Board of Directors receive for information the Draft Year End Audit Report for the Authority for the year ended December 31st, 2013, as prepared by BDO & Company LLP;
AND FURTHER, THAT staff investigate best practices for reserve funds with a view to developing a policy for investments of the reserves.**

Carried

6. Business out of Minutes

1) 2014 Supplementary Funding

A report was presented that illustrated past success in finding supplementary sources of funding needed to offset some of the program costs of the Authority. The report also outlines new initiatives that are under consideration for 2014 and beyond.

While some of these new initiatives are attractive, care must be taken to ensure we have both staff capacity and the technical capacity to undertake the work. We will analyze each proposal carefully to ensure that each project will be of “net benefit” to the Authority.

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Terry McKay
FA-14-035	Seconded by:	Dave Clarke

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors direct Authority staff to continue to seek alternative sources of funding to offset program costs;
AND FURTHER, THAT individual potential projects be brought forward for Board approval on a regular basis, and that any revenues and costs associated with these potential projects be clearly identified to the Board.

Carried

2) Partnership with Stop the Drop and Grey Sauble Conservation – Lake Levels

Local municipalities and shoreline residents have concerns regarding recent low water levels. The GSCA was approached by Colin Dobell (Great Lakes – Our Waters – GLOW) to enter into an agreement to undertake a project to “pilot” an adaptive planning approach related to water levels in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. While the specific project has a focus on shoreline within the jurisdiction of the GSCA, the

issue relates directly to the ongoing work of the Southern Georgian Bay Shoreline Initiative.

Judy Gay – last year, south of Nottawasaga Bay, there was a survey which was carried out on lake levels and they were anticipating doing the same around the Owen Sound area. It sounds costly and needs pre-planned. Long term adaptive planning?

Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR), for capturing depth and ground elevations, was flown for Nottawasaga Bay last year but there are gaps that need in-filled. This agreement would provide a system for GSC to acquire LIDAR along its shoreline and allow us to use software to model changing water levels and would not need an extreme commitment. Cost to Grey Sauble is staff time and internal costs. Capital costs out of pocket is from fundraising by Mr. Dobell.

Paul McKenzie – We don't want this to come back on us and the Authority footing costs. The issue is the water not the land under the water. They can't predict water levels.

Harley Greenfield – Everyone has concerns about the Great Lakes water levels. The newspaper has articles on this and states the rising costs involved with it. Can we create more revenue should costs arise from signing this agreement? Harley would verbally support this, but not anxious to jump in.

Jan Chamberlain – We were asked to support it. We have been asked to be a partner without a lot of information being provided. Maybe we should have a deputation from Mr. Dobell.

We are looking at the proposed agreement and are willing to move forward with Mr. Dobell continuing to find funding. We would work with him and establish parameters. Mr. Dobell is raising funds. The agreement could be approved in principle.

Dave Clarke – Would support in principle for the Authority to participate. Understand the concerns from other Board of Director Members. Good cause and good potential.

Mike Poetker – Data is important but results are more important. No disadvantage for supporting, but no advantage for work being done.

Paul McKenzie – Agree in principle. Water front property owners don't want change. Want lake levels to be the same as when they first purchased property.

Michael Martin – We should have a conversation with Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority to see if they have an interest as well.

Dick Hibma – If we can do this project we can learn and spread knowledge in the process.

Michael Martin - Is this group incorporated? Some of the organizations start out strong and take decades to complete. Are lake front property owners and boat owners interested? It is a phenomenon of nature. Deal with it by adapting to the situation.

There is no proof that the St. Clair River has anything to do with this at all. Is Mr. Dobell interested in having the Authority as a helping hand?

Grey Sauble's mapping shows that rivers are the problem. Grey Sauble has no authority to tell landowners to take things out.

Judy Gay – Living on the shore you accommodate to the water levels. What is the purpose of the measure? What is high level and low level cycles? We don't even have a complete understanding of the natural processes.

Harley Greenfield – If the Board does support in principle, does it make any difference. Having some trouble with the need for this agreement.

John Cottrill – It is good public relations. Mr. Dobell wants the support and Grey Sauble has the knowledge. It is an educational need. He has met with municipalities.

Paul McKenzie – Agree with Judy. Deal with the waterfront people. Don't want any costs to Grey Sauble. If Mr. Dobell wants to do this, he should carry on on his own. Residents would be asking what advantage this would be to them as property owners.

Dick Hibma – Grey Sauble Conservation would be eligible for money to support this.

Gloria Dangerfield – This data means a lot to the Authority. One of our new initiatives since acquiring softcopy software is to create new high end elevation data which falls directly under our mandate for ON Regulation 151/06 mapping as well as municipal agreements to map natural hazards. It would greatly enhance this elevation data acquisition on the shoreline at a minimal cost to the authority shoreline. LIDAR mapping is very expensive and we would not be able to purchase it on our own.

John Cottrill – Possibly have work done this year and provide it to us. It is good information to have at no cost or low cost. There are other partners. We have tech concerns. We would ask additional partners to participate.

Judy Gay – We need a more specific report. Information today was not sent out prior to this meeting and is inadequate for us to make an intelligible decision today.

Paul McKenzie – Is Mr. Dobell's concern about the water going down and new mapping needed?

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Judy Gay**
FA-14-036 **Seconded by:** **Mike Poetker**

THAT the proposed Extreme Water Levels Adaptive Planning along the Bruce Peninsula Shoreline agreement between Grey Sauble Conservation Authority and Great Lakes – Our Waters (GLOW) be deferred until the May Board of Directors meeting.

Carried

7. Correspondence

- 1) Letter from David Oraziotti, Minister of Natural Resources re: Ontario Ranger and Stewardship Youth Ranger Programs
- 2) Memo from Kim Gavine, General Manager, Conservation Ontario re: Junior Rangers Program

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Bob Lennox**
FA-14-037 **Seconded by:** **Michael Martin**

THAT the letter from David Oraziotti, Minister of Natural Resources re: Ontario Ranger and Stewardship Youth Ranger Programs, and the memo from Kim Gavine, General Manager, Conservation Ontario re: Junior Rangers Program, be received.

Carried

8. Business Items

a) Water Management – Flood Watch

After a long cold winter, the snow has started to melt, creating 8 to 10 inches of water. So far this spring everything has been going good. Flood watch has been issued and is in effect until Friday, April 11th. The situation will be reviewed after that date. Rain and wind add to the concern of flooding.

b) Environmental Planning

1) Section 28 permits – January 4th to March 31st, 2014

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Harley Greenfield
FA-13-038	Seconded by:	Mike Poetker

THAT the list of permits under Ontario Regulation 151/06 – “Development, Interference, with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation”, for the period January 4th to March 31st, 2014, be received by the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors.

Carried

2) Permit Extension Requests

a) Attachment #7 – withdrawn

b) Permit GS12-071 – Towns of Blue Mountains/Collingwood Boundary

Permit GS12-072 for the development in a regulated area to facilitate the installation of a new sanitary sewer was approved August 21st, 2012, and expires August 21st, 2014. The project is located along Grey County Road #21 on the boundary of Town of Blue Mountains and the Town of Collingwood and extends into the NVCA watershed. This project has had a number of delays due to the

number of agencies involved and jurisdictional issues. There have been a few minor revisions since the permit was approved. The proponent contacted the office on March 21st, 2014, to obtain information on an extension to this permit. Our fee schedule currently does not have a specific fee for a 60 month permit. Projects not explicitly defined, qualify for a standard project. However, member municipalities are currently exempt from fees for permits. This application has been applied for by the Town of the Blue Mountains.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Judy Gay**
FA-14-039 **Seconded by:** **Dave Clarke**

THAT the approval of Permit Number GS12-072 be extended to August 21st, 2017, subject to existing conditions reflecting the minor revisions proposed.

Carried

3) Bruce Trail Conservancy (Sydenham Club)

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Terry McKay**
FA-14-040 **Seconded by:** **Paul McKenzie**

THAT the fee be waived for the Bruce Trail Conservancy (Sydenham Club) for a Niagara Escarpment Commission Permit Application for property at Lot 13, Concession 3, Municipality of Meaford, formerly Sydenham Township.

Carried

4) Permit Application Guide

Andy Sorensen presented a Guide to Applying for Permits under Ontario Regulation 151/06 – Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shoreline and Watercourses. Tim Lanthier authored the document with input from staff. A preface to the document was given as a handout to be included in the document. The Board suggested that additional information be added under

the storm water management section to encourage the use of low impact development (LID) measures.

Terry McKay and Paul McKenzie commended staff on a job well done and on the compilation of a great document. A paper copy of the document will be distributed to the building departments of municipalities within the watershed. Andy will send an accompanying letter with the document.

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Terry McKay
FA-14-041	Seconded by:	Harley Greenfield

THAT the document titled “A guide to Applying for Permits Under Ontario Regulation 151/06, March 2014” be posted on the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority website and updated as appropriate.

AND FURTHER, THAT the guide be forwarded to municipal building and roads department for information purposes.

Carried

c) Lands Management

Chris Hachey presented a revised Fee Schedule for 2014 for Conservation Area Fee Collection Stations. Conservation Areas and set fees and existing/new fees were reviewed.

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Terry McKay
FA-14-042	Seconded by:	Bob Lennox

THAT the Conservation Area Fee Schedule be revised according to the chart dated April 9th, 2014, attached to this set of minutes, which reflects Set Fees stations and donation collections stations.

Carried

d) Forestry, Fish, and Wildlife

1) Annual Tree Sale - Saturday, May 3rd, 2014

The 2014 Annual Tree Sale is on Saturday, May 3rd, 2014, from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. All volunteers are welcome.

2) Forest Certification

Scott Davis, Eastern Ontario Model Forest Coordinator was not able to meet yesterday and will meet April 28th or April 29th. Grey Sauble is applying for forest certification.

3) Emerald Ash Borer Workshop held on April 7th, 2014

Last fall, Grey Sauble Conservation sent a letter regarding the Emerald Ash Borer to each upper and lower tier municipality to determine if there is interest in dealing collaboratively with the EAB problem in this area. Many municipalities expressed an interest in pursuing this management approach. Therefore, an EAB working group was formed consisting of technical staff from Bruce County, Grey County, City of Owen Sound, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Saugeen Conservation and Grey Sauble Conservation.

The EAB working group held a workshop for municipal staff on April 7th to discuss EAB management strategies. Speakers discussed EAB biology, EAB detection and sampling methods, and EAB research. An EAB Management Plan for Owen Sound was also presented. Attendees are interested in a collaboration with continued communication. There needs to be a consistent message to the public. (i.e. don't move firewood) There has been emerald ash borers found south of Meaford and in Saugeen Shores. The EAB Working Group would offer training, with roads and parks people involved. If municipalities find the ash borer, GPS information can be put into our GIS System and a map could be produced. If enough municipalities were interested, Grey Sauble Conservation would order traps in bulk. The cost is approximately \$30.00 each and the trap lasts one year. The trap would be put up

in June and checked in July and August. The Grey County Woodlot Association has donated \$500.00 towards monitoring. One municipality suggested sharing a tub grinder to chip trees that have been cut down.

e) Communications/Public Relations

Grey Sauble Conservation's 2013 Annual Report is included in an edition of the Owen Sound Sun Times and Wiarton Echo newspapers.

Social Media - On Twitter and Facebook - there were 6,000 views on a video clip of Inglis Falls.

f) Administration

1) Receipts and Expenses - February and March 2014

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Bob Lennox
FA-14-043	Seconded by:	Harley Greenfield

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the receipts and expenses for February and March 2014.

Carried

9. In-Camera Items

1) Two Property Items - deferred until the next meeting

10. Chairman's Report

Since our February meeting, Chair Hibma has attended AGM's at: Maitland Valley in Wroxeter - February 9th; Lower Thames in Ridgetown - February 20th (a.m.); Catfish Creek in Aylmer - February 20th (p.m.); Long Point Region in Tillsonburg - February 28th (with Peter Middleton as their guest speaker).

The work on the proposal in today's agenda for the partnership with Stop the Drop included the following

- With municipal mayors and CAO's at MPP Walker's office - March 7th to support C. Dobell's proposal to the municipalities. Decision to simplify proposal by working through GSCA instead of 4 municipalities
- Teleconference with C. Dobell evening of March 16th
- With John C, Gloria D, and C. Dobell re: proposal - March 22nd
- at Owen Sound Yacht Club for C. Dobell's presentation - March 22nd
- in Wiarton with John C, Gloria D, Mayor and CAO of Northern Bruce Peninsula, and Chris LaForest & Justin Kraemer of Bruce County Planning, and C. Dobell re: proposal - March 28th

Conservation Ontario related activities in addition to the AGM's previously mentioned include;

- two teleconferences with the Board of Directors
- Performance Review of Conservation Ontario CAO - March 28th
- Attendance at Conservation Ontario AGM, where Dick was re-elected to position of Chair once again on March 31st
- Met with a sub-committee of Conservation Authority General Managers to discuss next steps regarding Conservation Ontario White Paper - April 1st

Also met with Executive Director of Cornerstone Standards Council

- An NGO working to develop a set of standards and guidelines for the Aggregates Industry - on March 31st
- Asked to sit on their Board of Directors - accepted

Drinking Water Source Protection Management Committee - April 3rd

- Funding in place for now through March of 2015

11. Other Business

- a) Foundation Minutes - February 12th, 2014
- b) Foundation Minutes - March 12th, 2014
- c) Report from Drinking Water Source Protection

Above noted three items presented as information.

- d) Summer bbq

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Judy Gay
FA-14-044	Seconded by:	Dave Clarke

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors 2014 summer bbq be held on Wednesday, July 9th, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

Carried


- e) Next Meeting - May 14th, 2014, at 1:15 p.m.

12. Adjournment

On motion by Mike Poetker, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.



Dick Hibma, Chairman



Doreen Robinson
Administrative Assistant