

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Conservation through Cooperation

MEETING: Authority Meeting
DATE: Tuesday, July 16, 2019
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Administration Office, Formosa

CHAIR: Dan Gieruszak

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Allen, Maureen Couture, Mark Davis, Barbara Dobreen, Mark Goetz, Cheryl Grace, Tom Hutchinson, Don Murray, Mike Myatt, Sue Paterson, Diana Rae, Christine Robinson, Bill Stewart

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Steve McCabe

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Brohman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations
Laura Molson, Manager, Accounting
Jo-Anne Harbinson, Manager, Water Resources and Stewardship Services
Shannon Wood, Manager, Communications
Jim Leask, Assistant Superintendent, Saugeen Bluffs Campground
Janice Hagan, Administrative Assistant

Chair Dan Gieruszak, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Christine Robinson requested that the order of the agenda be switched and that items 7 and 8 follow item 3. This was to accommodate her requirement to leave the meeting early if necessary:

1. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION #G19-48

Moved by Christine Robinson

Seconded by Mark Goetz

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No persons declared a pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the Authority Meeting – May 7, 2019

MOTION #G19-49

Moved by Cheryl Grace

Seconded by Tom Hutchinson

THAT the Minutes of the Authority meeting, held on May 7, 2019 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. New Business

a. Personnel Policy Review

The GM/S-T informed the Members that the Personnel Policy had last been reviewed in 2014 and that there are items that require updating. He discussed the proposed changes as per his submitted report. The Members discussed the importance of having the policy be reviewed by human resources experts in order to ensure compliance with current legal requirements. During the discussion regarding Salary Grid CPI Increases (section 24.05) the following motion was defeated:

MOTION #G19-50

Moved by Christine Robinson

Seconded by Tom Hutchinson

THAT SVCA consult with Grey and Bruce Counties regarding human resources salary increase policies.

DEFEATED

After further discussion on the same topic the following motion was carried:

MOTION #G19-51

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Don Murray

THAT the annual salary increase be based on the CPI from July to July each year.

CARRIED

After further discussion on the proposed changes the following motion was carried:

MOTION #G19-52

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Don Murray

THAT a draft Personnel Policy manual be presented at the November Authority meeting, encompassing the changes as directed by the Authority July 16, 2019.

CARRIED

b. Streamlining and Focus on Development Permits

The GM/S-T reviewed the report submitted. He told the Members that Conservation Ontario has implemented training courses and that SVCA staff have been in attendance. He highlighted the proposal to exempt low risk development activities from requiring permits. This may reduce staff workload, but the Policies Manual would need to be updated. This report was for information only.

c. Bill 108, More Homes, More Choices Act

The GM/S-T discussed the submitted report. He discussed the necessity to have clarity on which programs are mandatory and that Conservation Authorities are lobbying the Provincial Government to have other programs listed as mandatory. Any non-mandatory programs would require a memorandum of understanding with the municipalities and may be complicated to administer.

d. 2020 Budget

The GM/S-T asked the Members for direction regarding the preparation of the 2020 budget. The Provincial Government has reduced the provincial grant funding by 50% and the Members agreed that there should be an assumption of further cuts in 2020 when preparing the budget. They requested that the budget be prepared with various scenarios and submitted on a spreadsheet to compare the financial impacts.

5. Closed Session – Personnel Matters

MOTION #G19-53

Moved by Mike Myatt

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the Authority move to Closed Session, In Camera, to discuss personnel matters; and further THAT Wayne Brohman and Laura Molson remain in the meeting.

CARRIED

MOTION #G19-56

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Diana Rae

THAT the Authority adjourn from Closed Session, In Camera, and rise and report.

CARRIED

There were no actions to report from the Closed Session, In Camera.

Bill Stewart left the meeting at 3:58 pm

6. Bruce County Draft Memorandum of Agreement

The GM/S-T summarized the submitted report. All of the main changes to the agreement have been included in the report. He told the members that Bruce County desired to have one agreement applicable to all three CA's and that it was more financially feasible to have SVCA provide natural heritage commenting than to hire outside consultants. He noted that MVCA no longer provides natural heritage commenting and has requested SVCA to provide this service to Bruce County in the MVCA watershed jurisdiction.

After further discussion, the following motion was carried:

MOTION #G19-57

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Diana Rae

WHEREAS the SVCA Members have directed staff to refresh Memorandums of Agreement for Planning services to municipalities;

THAT the Authority approve the general direction of the draft agreement developed between Bruce County, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority and Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority; and further

THAT the Authority empowers the Chair and GM/S-T to finalize and sign the agreement.

CARRIED

7. Consent Agenda

MOTION #G19-58

Moved by Christine Robinson

Seconded by Mike Myatt

THAT the reports, Minutes, and information contained in the Consent Agenda, [items 6a-f], along with their respective recommended motions be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

- a. Program Report
- b. Accounts Payable Report
THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$467,979.72 be approved as distributed.
- c. Finance Report
THAT the Finance Report to May 31, 2019 be accepted as distributed.
- d. Section 28 Hearing draft minutes for the Town of Brockton – April 12, 2019
- e. Correspondence for Members' information
- f. News Articles for Members' information

8. Presentation

a. Parks and Campgrounds Orientation

The GM/S-T gave a slide show presentation on SVCA campgrounds and parks. Jim Leask, Assistant Superintendent, Bluffs Campground gave a slide show presentation which focused on the Horse Camping component of the Bluffs. He discussed the development of a group of volunteers called the Horse Friends of Saugeen Bluffs and their various accomplishments such as trail upgrades. He reviewed current priorities and possible future projects such as additional corrals, wash stalls, bridge replacements, and pull through sites.

Maureen Couture left the meeting at 4:28 pm.

9. Other Business

Christine Robinson requested that there be more communication with the Members regarding upcoming events.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m. on motion of Christine Robinson.

Dan Gieruszak
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary