



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
No. BOD-05-20 – Friday, April 24, 2020

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

LSRCA Board Members Present:

Regional Chairman W. Emmerson, Chair
Councillor P. Ferragine, Vice Chair
Councillor K. Aylwin
Mayor D. Barton
Mayor D. Bath-Hadden
Mayor B. Drew
Councillor A. Eek
Councillor K. Ferdinands
Councillor W. Gaertner
Councillor R. Greenlaw
Mayor V. Hackson
Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre
Mayor M. Quirk
Councillor C. Riepma
Regional Councillor T. Vegh
Councillor A. Waters
Councillor E. Yeo

Regrets:

Township of Ramara

LSRCA Staff Present:

M. Walters, Chief Administrative Officer
R. Baldwin, GM Planning & Development
M. Critch, GM, Corporate and Financial Services
B. Kemp, GM, Conservation Lands
B. Longstaff, GM, Integrated Watershed Management
K. Christensen, Manager Human Resources
C. Taylor, Executive Director, LSCF
K. Yemm, Manager, Communications
T. Barnett, Coordinator, BOD/CAO
M. Bessey, Director, Planning
A. Brown, Acting Director, Regulations
M. Brown, Compliance Officer
P. Davis, Manager, Forestry and Greenspace Services
L. Grzywniak, Land Management Technician
N. Hamley, Manager, Education
S. Jagminas, Senior Communications Advisor
B. Patel, Engineer, Watershed Restoration Services
G. Peat, Manager, Director, Information Services & Technology
M. Rosato, Communications Specialist
D. Ruggle, Planner II
C. Sharp, Restoration Program Coordinator
K. Toffan, Manager, Finance

I. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None noted for this meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: V. Hackson

BOD-052-20 **RESOLVED THAT the content of the Agenda for the April 24, 2020 meeting of the LSRCA Board of Directors be approved as circulated. CARRIED**

III. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

a) Board of Directors' Meetings – April 3, 2020

Moved by: C. Riepma

Seconded by: W. Gaertner

BOD-053-20 RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meetings No. BOD-03-20 and BOD-04-20, both held on Friday, April 3, 2020 be approved as circulated. CARRIED

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) CAO Walters was pleased to advise that the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation received a grant from the RBC Nature Grant for the Nature Centre operation of education programs in the amount of \$210,000 over 3 years, as well as a TD Friends of the Environment grant of \$4,500 for the Therapy in the Woods Program;
- b) CAO Walters advised that the Annual Conservation dinner scheduled for June 10th has been rescheduled to September 23rd;
- c) CAO Walters advised that the Dalt Hicks Invitational Golf Tournament is currently scheduled for July 15th; this date is being held as we monitor the situation and may change to early September.

V. PRESENTATIONS

- a) LSRCA 2019 Audited Financial Statements

Mr. Adam Delle Cese of BDO Canada LLP provided the Board with a high-level overview of LSRCA's draft 2019 audited financial statements and the audit process and findings, noting that for the year ended December 31, 2019 the statement of operations and statement of financial position present fairly and are both in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. He noted it was a clean audit and no issues were identified under internal controls. He referenced a new note for this year related to COVID-19, which is consistent for all financial statements being issued since the pandemic was declared.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: D. Barton

BOD-054-20 RESOLVED THAT the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, regarding LSRCA's Fourth Quarter 2019 Financial Report and 2020 Proposed Budget be received for information. CARRIED

The Board approved Staff Report No. 20-20-BOD regarding the 2019 Audited Financial Statements.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: D. Barton

BOD-055-20 RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 20-20-BOD regarding LSRCA's 2019 Draft Audited Financial Statements be received; and

FURTHER THAT the 2019 Draft Audited Financial Statements be approved; and

FURTHER THAT the Appropriations to and from Reserves as outlined in Schedule 8 of the 2019 Draft Audited Financial Statements be approved; and

FURTHER THAT the pending 2019 Audited Financial Statements be distributed to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and LSRCA's banker. CARRIED

a) Alcona Flood Relief Project - Preferred Solution

Watershed Restoration Services Engineer, Bhavika Patel, prepared a presentation on the Alcona Flood Relief Project. Due to technical difficulties, CAO Walters delivered the presentation, noting this project was a partnership between LSRCA and the Town of Innisfil, with funding through the Province of Ontario through the National Disaster Mitigation Program, and Greenland Consultants also contributed towards the project. The project objective was to develop an engineering design solution to reduce flooding by maximizing green infrastructure to enhance water quality and infiltration before discharge to the lake. The final solution is to enhance an existing wetland. As part of the environmental assessment, three areas for flood reduction were looked at, including natural environmental impacts, social/cultural impacts and economic impacts. The area in question is quite low with no defined outlet to the lake, causing flooding in the springtime. Two viable options found were i) a conveyance option to upgrade the Belle Aire Creek channel and culverts and ii) the storage and bypass option, where more water can be stored by putting up a berm outside the wetland facility, whereby water could be stored for a longer period of time. The preferred solution is a combination of these two options plus land cost for a total cost of \$10M solution, which would alleviate flowing the in Alcona area. This project provides an excellent opportunity for the use of green infrastructure.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [South Alcona Flood Relief Project](#)

Moved by: A. Waters

Seconded by: K. Aylwin

BOD-056-20 **RESOLVED THAT the presentation by Watershed Restoration Services Engineer, Bhavika Patel, (delivered by CAO Mike Walters) on the Alcona Flood Relief Project be received for information. CARRIED**

VI. HEARINGS

There were no hearings at this meeting.

VII. DEPUTATIONS

There were no depositions at this meeting.

VIII. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

Items No. 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

IX. ADOPTION OF ITEMS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

Items No. 1 and 7 were identified as items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: B. Drew

BOD-057-20 **RESOLVED THAT the following recommendations respecting the matters listed as “Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion” be adopted as submitted to the Board, and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same. CARRIED**

1. Correspondence

BOD-058-20 **RESOLVED THAT correspondence listed in the agenda as Items 1a) be received for information. CARRIED**

7. Update regarding the Alcona NDMP Flood Relief Class EA

BOD-059-20 **RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 26-20-BOD regarding the update on the Alcona NDMP Flood Relief Class EA be received for information. CARRIED**

X. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

2. COVID-19 Updates

Councillor Aylwin asked if it is known at this time if any in-person programming, such as Therapy in the Woods, will be going ahead this year, and if staff are aware of how far in advance such programs may be cancelled if needed. CAO Walters noted that there are many unknowns at this time, staff are monitoring the situation and hopeful that some programs will be able to go ahead. Cancelling events will be done when it is deemed necessary to ensure the safety of the public and staff.

Mayor Bath-Hadden noted that Kawartha Conservation is going ahead with staff layoffs and enquired about the status of LSRCA staff, specifically if any have been laid off. CAO Walters was pleased to report that currently all staff are working from home and coming up with innovative and creative ways to perform their duties. He also advised that should the state of emergency continue for an extended length of time management would be taking some actions and would advise the Board at a future meeting. Vice Chair Ferragine noted that apparently NVCA was offsetting wages by 10% and looking at the wage subsidy. GM, Corporate and Financial Services, Mark Critch, noted that LSRCA is unlikely to meet criteria of 30% reduction in total revenue required to qualify for wage subsidies.

Questions and comments concerning the opening of conservation areas were deferred to Item XII, Other Business.

Moved by: K. Aylwin

Seconded by: D. Bath-Hadden

BOD-060-20 **RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 21-20-BOD regarding the update in LSRCA's business continuity and operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic be received for information. CARRIED**

3. Appointment of Enforcement Officer(s) under the Conservation Authorities Act

General Manager, Planning & Development, Rob Baldwin, introduced Acting Director, Regulations Ashlea Brown and Environmental Compliance Officer Matthew Brown, noting that Ashlea is a long-term LSRCA employee and Matthew is a new employee replacing a staff member who had previously resigned.

Moved by: K. Ferdinands

Seconded by: V. Hackson

BOD-061-20 **RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 22-20-BOD regarding the appointment of Mr. Matthew Brown and Mrs. Ashlea Brown as Enforcement Officers for the Lake Simcoe Region**

FURTHER THAT the Management Plan and associated Business Plan be approved; and

FURTHER THAT staff continue to pursue funding and in-kind support to implement the recommendations of the Management Plan. CARRIED

XI. CLOSED SESSION

There were no Closed Session items for this meeting.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

- a) CAO Walters noted that staff are developing plans to re-open LSRCA conservation areas and consider the work that must be done before conservation areas can be opened. GM Kemp noted that closing LSRCA properties was not an easy decision; however, LSRCA wants to do its part in flattening the curve by taking away opportunities for people to gather. Staff have been working hard to see what opening looks like during the pandemic as well as post pandemic. There are many considerations, and an assessment of properties has been completed, which showed is potential for some openings in coordination with municipal partners and police services. Lookouts and other gathering areas would need to remain closed.

A discussion ensued where some Board members expressed interest in having the trails in their respective municipalities opened back up, while others felt strongly against opening trails until the state of emergency has been lifted by the Province. In conclusion, LSRCA staff were directed to work with individual municipalities to determine which trails can be safely opened at this time.

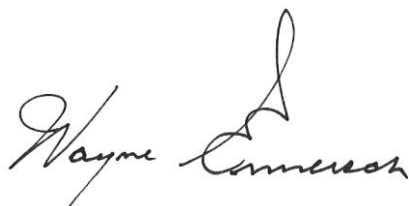
- b) Mayor Quirk enquired about the Pefferlaw dam issues and the stop logs not being put in this year. She asked about communication to the residents and wondered if there might be an opportunity amid the pandemic for a virtual meeting for the community to understand the issues and the plan. CAO Walters noted that a letter to affected residents was prepared outlining why LSRCA cannot put stop logs in this spring due to the safety concerns with the dam structure. He noted that if significant work is needed, an environmental assessment would have to be completed, which would involve municipal and community consultation and determining the best approach for addressing the dam.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

Seconded by: P. Ferragine

BOD-065-20 **RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned @ 11:03 a.m. CARRIED**



Regional Chairman W. Emmerson
Chair



Michael Walters
Chief Administrative Officer