

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Board of Directors' Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-06-23

Friday, June 23, 2023

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present

Regional Chairman W. Emmerson (Chair), Councillor P. Ferragine (Vice Chair), Councillor S. Bell, Councillor A. Eek, Regional Councillor B. Garrod, Mayor R. Greenlaw, Mayor V. Hackson, Mayor I. Lovatt, Councillor C. Pettingill, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor C. Riepma, Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor T. Vegh

Board Members Absent

Councillor F. Drodge, Councillor B. Hamilton, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Councillor D. Le Roy, Councillor M. Thompson, Councillor E. Yeo

Staff Present

S. Auger, R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, A. Brown, M. Critch, A. Cullen, P. Davies, C. Eves, D. Goodyear, D. Lembcke, G. MacMillan, S. McKinnon, G Peat, K. Read, C. Taylor, K. Yemm, K. Zeppieri

Visitors Present

R. Gilliland

I. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Emmerson acknowledged the Lake Simcoe watershed as traditional Indigenous territory and thanked all generations of Indigenous peoples for their enduring and unwavering care for this land and water.

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

None noted for the meeting.

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: C. Riepma

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-085-23 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the June 23, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as circulated. **Carried**

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors' Meeting

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-086-23 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-05-23, held on Friday, May 26, 2023 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

b) Conservation Ontario Council Meeting

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-087-23 **Resolved That** the minutes of Conservation Ontario's Council meeting held on Monday, April 3, 2023 be received for information. **Carried**

V. Announcements

Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Executive Director, Cheryl Taylor, updated the Board on some recent fundraising news:

- a) The 34th Annual Conservation Dinner was held on June 14th. This sold-out event, attended by over 350 guests, generously supported the Foundation by raising over \$250,000! A big thanks to everyone for making it such a success.
- b) The Bradford West Gwillimbury Mayor & Council's Golf Classic was held on June 16th. This year's charity of choice was the new Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area. The tournament donated \$100,000, and we can't thank the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council and staff enough for this generous donation.
- c) The Connect Campaign has received its largest private donation. Mr. Paul Sadlon has donated \$850,000 to help build the new Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area, and we are so honoured to receive this generous donation.
- d) The next planned event is the 5th Annual Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Golf Invitational being held on Monday, August 21st at Oakdale Golf and Country Club. This event is sold out, but anyone interested in sponsoring or volunteering may contact Lee Hanson @ l.hanson@lsrca.on.ca

VI. Presentations

a) 2024 Budget Assumptions

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, provided an overview of the 2024 proposed budget assumptions, first noting that the annual budget process begins mid

year of the previous year with the Board's approval of budget assumptions. This sets a clear direction for budget targets, enables staff to work with municipal funding partners to secure preliminary budget approvals, and allows staff to build the 2024 budget while providing for Board of Directors' influence on the general direction of the budget, thereby strengthening the advocacy role of Board members at municipal budget presentations. He noted the principles guiding the recommendations include inflation and cost-of-living allowance in line with local comparators, adjusting for municipal funding challenges, use municipal targets to guide budget development where feasible, recommended investment in the Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan [Transformation 2022-2024](#) up to 1.5% increase, and long term funding for asset management to be addressed in a financial strategy being tabled in the fall with a small placeholder to be included in the 2024 budget. GM Critch advised that changes to funding guidelines in Bill 229 will replace General Levy/Special Capital/Special Operating with:

- Category 1 (Mandatory: Core & Lake Simcoe Protection Plan), using CVA apportionment;
- Category 2 (requested by municipality), MOU required; and
- Category 3 (requested by Authority), MOU required.

Governance rules will require multiple budget votes, including new areas to vote on Lake Simcoe Protection Plan budget, and new rules on what is core will require budget changes to correct funding irregularities, resulting in increases for some funders and decreases for others.

The summary of budget recommendations for Board of Directors' approval included:

1. Inflation: up to 2.00%, only for applicable expenditures (2023: 4.0%);
2. Cost of Living Allowance: up to 2.00% (2023: 2.00%) plus applicable step increases;
3. Infrastructure levy for Asset Management: up to 0.50% (2023: 0.50% capital levy only);
4. Investment in Strategic Priorities: 1.50% (2023: 0.00%);
5. No new FTEs in 2024, unless fully funded from grants and/or fees, and salary review to be covered within funding envelopes; and
6. Mandatory expenditures: Up to 2.00% (2023 - Levy: 1.83%).

Once approval of the budget assumptions, staff will develop the 2024 budget and continue to look for efficiencies and cost savings. To learn more or to view this presentation, please click this link: [2024 Budget Assumptions Presentation](#)

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-088-23 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, regarding the proposed 2024 Budget Assumptions be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 31-23-BOD regarding the proposed 2024 Budget Assumptions.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-089-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 31-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's recommended budget assumptions for the 2024 fiscal year be approved.

Carried

b) The Conservation Authority's Role in Stormwater Management

General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Don Goodyear, and General Manager, Development, Engineering and Restoration, Glenn MacMillan, provided an overview of the Conservation Authority's role in Stormwater Management, noting that stormwater is defined as excess or runoff water generated when it rains. Often seen as a waste product, stormwater should be viewed as a resource to manage. The Conservation Authority has a team of professionals (engineers, scientists, hydrologists, to name a few), who actively collaborate to manage stormwater runoff in the Lake Simcoe watershed through policy and research, exploring innovative technologies, and through urban restoration projects. Managing stormwater runoff is essential in protecting against flooding, and understanding it is a key component in supporting municipal partners to assess flood risk. It is also worth noting there's a difference between riverine flooding and urban flooding, and the drivers and opportunities for remediation and risk may differ.

As stormwater travels across the landscape, making its way to streams and rivers, and, ultimately Lake Simcoe, it picks up contaminants along the way; such as, sediments, phosphorus, other nutrients, chemicals, oils, greases, etc. Urban stormwater runoff represents an estimated 28% of the phosphorus entering Lake Simcoe, and accordingly managing it is an area of focus for phosphorus load reduction and water quality maintenance in the lake. All urban areas across the watershed contribute to the stormwater phosphorus load.

Pre the 1980s, in historical urban areas, stormwater was generally piped to watercourses without quantity or quality controls. From the 1980s to approximately 2010, stormwater management typically relied on stormwater ponds for quantity and quality control to meet design objectives such as peak flow reduction, total suspended solids, and associated phosphorus removal.

The Lake Simcoe Protection Plan developed by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and released in 2008 introduced water quality policies that encourage a treatment train approach for stormwater management. This approach promotes Low Impact Development features that mimic the natural hydrologic cycle, moving away from reliance on

stormwater management ponds alone. Since 2010, there has been an evolution from ponds to a treatment-train approach to manage stormwater.

The Conservation Authority has been providing leadership and expertise to promote environmentally sustainable development practices for stormwater management for almost two decades. To learn more, please click this link to view the presentation: [Stormwater Management Presentation](#)

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: S. Bell

BOD-090-23 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Don Goodyear, and General Manager, Development, Engineering and Restoration, Glenn MacMillan, regarding an overview of the Conservation Authority's role in Stormwater Management be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 32-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's role in stormwater management.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: S. Bell

BOD-091-23 **Resolved That** the Staff Report No. 32-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's role in stormwater management be received for information. **Carried**

VII. Hearings

There were no Hearings at this meeting.

VIII. Deputations

There were no Deputations at this meeting.

IX. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

X. Adoption of Items not Requiring Separate Discussion

Items No. 1 - 4 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: B. Garrod

Seconded by: P. Ferragine

BOD-092-23 **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-093-23 **Resolved That** no Correspondence Items be received. **Carried**

2. *Conservation Authorities Act* Transition - Quarterly Progress Report No. 5 for June 2023

BOD-094-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 33-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress Report No. 5 be received; and

Further that the June 2023 Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress No. 5 be approved for submission to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. **Carried**

3. Updates to Ontario Regulation 179/06 Implementation Guidelines

BOD-095-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 34-23-BOD regarding the updates to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Ontario Regulation 179/06 Implementation Guidelines and the revised document 'Attachment A' be received; and

Further That the revised 'Ontario Regulation 179/06 Implementation Guidelines' be approved for implementation effective July 1, 2023. **Carried**

4. Procurement results for Nature Centre Development Project: Owner's Representative Consultant

BOD-096-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 35-23-BOD regarding the results of Request for Proposal 2021-CL-0003 Owner's Representative Services for the Scanlon Creek Nature Centre Project be received; and

Further that staff's recommendation to award the contract to CBRE be endorsed; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to finalize a contract to retain the services of CBRE. **Carried**

XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items required separate discussion.

XII. Closed Session

The Board moved to Closed Session to deal with confidential human resources matters.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-097-23 **Resolved That** the Board move to Closed Session to deal with confidential human resources matters; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Event and Marketing Specialist remain in the meeting for the discussion on Item a);

Further that the Director, Human Resources and the Chief of Staff remain in the meeting for the discussion on Item b);

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief of Staff remain in the meeting for the discussion on Item c). **Carried**

The Board rose from Closed Session to report findings.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: S. Bell

BOD-098-23 **Resolved That** the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings. **Carried**

a) 2023 Conservation Awards Recipients

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: I. Lovatt

BOD-099-23 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 36-23-BOD regarding the 2023 Conservation Awards Recipients be received; and

Further that the Board's selection of the George R. Richardson Award recipient be approved. **Carried**

b) Confidential Human Resources Matter

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: I. Lovatt

BOD-100-23 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 37-23-BOD regarding a confidential human resources matter be received; and

Further that the recommendations contained within the report be approved. **Carried**

c) Confidential Human Resources Matter

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: I. Lovatt

BOD-101-23 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 38-23-BOD regarding a confidential human resources matter be received; and

Further that the recommendations contained within the report be approved. **Carried**

XIII. Other Business

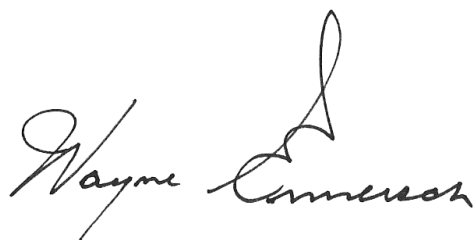
- a) Chair Emmerson noted that the next meeting will be held on Friday, July 28, 2023 at 9:00a. This meeting will be held in person at the Newmarket Administrative Offices.
- b) Regional Councillor Garrod was pleased to advise that the Township of Uxbridge received a grant of close to \$49,000 from the Conservation Authority for their South Balsam Street Pond Retrofit project to install catch basin seals. Key performance indicators and milestones for the project are to reduce 1.365 kg/year of additional phosphorus, to reduce Phosphorus inputs to Uxbridge Brook, and to install 65 catch basin shields.

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by: C. Riepma

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-102-23 Resolved That the meeting be adjourned at 11:10 a.m. **Carried**



Wayne Emmerson
Chair



Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer