

# Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

## Board of Directors' Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-09-23

Friday, November 24, 2023

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket

## Meeting Minutes

### Board Members Present

Regional Chairman W. Emmerson (Chair), Councillor S. Bell, Councillor A. Courser, Councillor F. Drodge, Councillor A. Eek, Mayor R. Greenlaw, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Mayor I. Lovatt, Councillor C. Pettingill, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor C. Riepma, Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor T. Vegh, Councillor E. Yeo

### Board Members Absent

Councillor P. Ferragine (Vice Chair), Regional Councillor B. Garrod, Mayor V. Hackson, Councillor D. Le Roy, Councillor M. Thompson

### Staff Present

R. Baldwin, L. Barnes, T. Barnett, A. Brown, K. Cheney, S. Connor, M. Critch, P. Davies, P. Du, D. Goodyear, E. Green, N. Hamley, K. Kennedy, D. Lembcke, G. MacMillan, B. Thompson, K. Toffan, K. Turriff, K. Yemm

### Guests in Attendance

A. Tombia

## 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: S. Harrison-McIntyre

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-136-23 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the November 24, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as circulated. **Carried**

#### **IV. Adoption of Minutes**

##### **a) Board of Directors' Meeting**

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-137-23 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-08-23, held on Friday, September 29, 2023 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

#### **V. Announcements**

- a) Chair Emmerson advised that Mayor Hackson has taken a three-month medical leave, and that her spot on the Board of Directors will remain vacant during this time. Board members and staff wished Mayor Hackson a speedy recovery.
- b) CAO Baldwin advised that he was pleased to attend a provincial announcement in Barrie on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, announced funding of three Lake Simcoe projects, which are to be led by the Conservation Authority.

#### **VI. Presentations**

##### **a) Third Quarter 2023 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast**

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, provided an overview of the third quarter 2023 financial results, noting an operation surplus of \$545K at September 30<sup>th</sup>, with all annual priorities progressing well and within budget. Drivers of the surplus are spread across the Conservation Authority's various service areas. He reviewed the year-end forecasted expenditures for projects, noting that projects aren't typically completed within the calendar year and progress is often determined by schedules and timelines of municipal and landowner partners, making accurately budgeting in-year spending in Offsetting Programs challenging. He reviewed the 2023 year-end forecasted Capital expenditures and reserve activity.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Third Quarter 2023 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast](#)

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: A. Courser

BOD-138-23 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, regarding the Third Quarter 2023 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 55-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's Third Quarter 2023 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: A. Courser

BOD-139-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 55-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's Third Quarter 2023 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast be received for information. **Carried**

#### **b) Chloride in the Lake Simcoe Watershed**

Manager, Environmental Science and Monitoring, David Lembcke, together with Manager, Watershed Plans and Strategies, Bill Thompson, provided an overview of the impacts of chloride on Lake Simcoe and its tributaries, along with efforts to address these impacts. Chloride concentrations in the surface waters of the Lake Simcoe watershed, as well as lakes and streams in much of southern Ontario and the northeastern United States, continue to increase due to the use of winter salt on roads and parking lots. A similar increasing trend is observed at the majority of monitoring stations in urban rivers. An analysis of the biologic data sets and water quality parameters identified chloride as the primary factor affecting the health of the aquatic ecology in urban tributaries of the watershed. Decreasing the amount of winter salt use throughout the watershed is critical to the long-term health of Lake Simcoe but more immediately critical to the ecological health of the urban streams and rivers.

The Conservation Authority has been engaging partners on this challenge of increasing chloride concentrations for a decade and has developed a number of resources, including technical briefs that answer commonly received questions (such as, what are the alternatives to salt and their relative advantages?, is salt or sand a better choice?). Case studies have also been done on the triple bottom line benefits of adoption of better winter maintenance practices, and guidelines for designing parking lots which require less salt in winter maintenance.

The Conservation Authority collaborates with various working groups (the Lake Simcoe Salt Working Group, the Freshwater Roundtable, Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and the Smart About Salt Council), which bring together representatives of all levels of government and source water protection staff, Conservation Ontario, as well as the winter maintenance industry, to discuss the adoption of better winter maintenance practices. Most recently, Conservation Authority staff co-hosted Salt Forum 2023 with Landscape Ontario. This event brought together 100 winter maintenance contractors, provincial staff, municipal staff, and conservation authority staff to discuss the

potential of a regulation to help the industry and help improve water quality throughout Ontario. Broad agreement was found amongst participants that there are significant challenges for both water quality and business sustainability, and that the adoption of the New Hampshire model in Ontario would be a significant step in addressing both of these challenges. The Conservation Authority will continue to work with its partners to promote liability limitation for contractors following winter maintenance best practices, as staff believe this is the single most effective way to hasten the adoption of better practices in the private sector.

Please click this link to view the presentation: [Chloride in the Lake Simcoe Watershed](#)

Moved by: E. Yeo

Seconded by: I. Lovatt

BOD-140-23 **Resolved That** the presentation by Manager, Environmental Science and Monitoring, David Lembcke, and Manager, Watershed Plans and Strategies, Bill Thompson, regarding the impacts of chloride on Lake Simcoe and its tributaries be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 56-23-BOD regarding chloride in the Lake Simcoe watershed.

Moved by: E. Yeo

Seconded by: I. Lovatt

BOD-141-23 **Resolved That** the Staff Report No. 56-23-BOD regarding Chloride in the Lake Simcoe watershed be received for information. **Carried.**

### c) Flood Management Programs

Director, Engineering, Kenneth Cheney, provided an overview of the Conservation Authority's Flood Management Programs, noting that a core mandate of the Conservation Authority is to undertake watershed-based programs to protect people and property from flooding. Conservation Authorities carry out programs that serve provincial and municipal interest, including Flood Forecasting and Warning and Floodplain Mapping, along with Review and Regulation of development activities within flood hazards, in accordance with the provincial governing legislation. The Conservation Authority compiles rainfall data, land-use information (urban, rural, paved surfaces, wooded areas, etc.), topographic information (ground surface elevations to determine high ground and low ground) into computer models to determine flood hazard lands. These models simulate how much flow there will be and where it is expected. This information assists the Conservation Authority in delineating flooding hazards, in accordance with provincial guidelines.

The Conservation Authority also conducts technical reviews, typically of *Conservation Authorities Act* and the *Planning Act* applications, as part of the approvals process.

Within the Lake Simcoe watershed, there are typically three main types of flooding:

- Riverine Flooding: Flooding associated with rivers, streams, watercourses. Conservation Authorities have a lead role associated with riverine flooding.
- Shoreline Flooding: Flooding associated with the shorelines of large water bodies, such as lakes. Conservation Authorities have a lead role associated with riverine flooding.
- Urban Flooding: Flooding in an urban area due to, often related to infrastructure. Municipalities have the lead role when it comes to urban flooding.

Since floods are the most frequent natural hazard in Canada and can happen at any time of year and be caused by various factors, there is a need within the Lake Simcoe watershed, as well as a mandate issued to conservation authorities by the Province of Ontario, to protect people and property from flooding.

Please click this link to view the presentation: [Flood Management Programs](#)

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-142-23 **Resolved That** the presentation by Director, Engineering, Kenneth Cheney, regarding an overview of the Conservation Authority's Flood Management Programs be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 57-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's Flood Management Programs.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-143-23 **Resolved That** the Staff Report No. 57-23-BOD regarding Conservation Authority's Flood Management Programs 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, 2, 3 and 4 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: F. Drodge

Seconded by: S. Bell

BOD-144-23 **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-145-23 **Resolved That** Correspondence Item a) be received for information. **Carried**

### **2. Development Services Fees Update**

BOD-146-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 58-23-BOD regarding the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Development Services Fees Update be received; and

**Further that** a 2% increase to the current Fees as recommended for cost-of-living increase, approved as part of the budget process and supported by the Watson & Associates report, be approved, effective January 1, 2024. **Carried**

### **3. Laser Elevation Data Purchase**

BOD-147-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 59-23-BOD regarding the purchase of laser elevation data for the Lake Simcoe Watershed be received; and

**Further that** staff's recommendation to award the contract to Toronto and Region Conservation Authority as a collective purchase be approved for a purchase over \$100K. **Carried**

### **4. Cyber Security Program Updates**

BOD-148-23 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 60-23-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's cyber security program updates be received for information. **Carried**

## **XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion**

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

## **XII. Closed Session**

The Board moved to Closed Session to deal with a confidential land matter.

Moved by: E. Yeo

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-149-23 **Resolved That** the Board move to Closed Session to deal with a confidential land matter; and

**Further that** the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, the Director, Lands, and the Land Securement Officer remain in the meeting for the discussion. **Carried**

The Board rose from Closed Session to report findings.

Moved by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-150-23 **Resolved That** the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings. **Carried**

**a) Confidential Land Matter**

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-151-23 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 61-23-BOD regarding a confidential land matter be received; and

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

**XIII. Other Business**

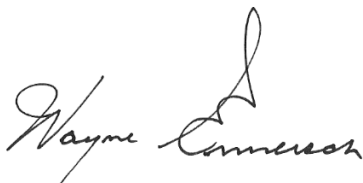
a) Chair Emmerson advised the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 15, 2023. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Moved by: F. Drodge

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-152-23 **Resolved That** the meeting be adjourned at 11:12 a.m. **Carried**



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Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson, Chair



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Rob Baldwin, Chief Administrative Officer