

## Board Meeting Highlights

April 26, 2024

### Announcements

- a) CAO Rob Baldwin provided an update on a meeting with the City of Orillia, noting topics of discussion included an overview of Bill 229 and *Conservation Authorities Act* changes affecting Orillia. He noted it was a productive meeting and that the conversation is ongoing through a follow-up email from City staff with additional questions.
- b) CAO Rob Baldwin updated on Conservation Ontario's Annual meeting and results of the yearly election, noting the Chair is Chris White, Grand River Conservation Authority; Vice Chairs are Jonathan Scott, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and Pat Warren, Kawartha Conservation; and Directors are Brad McNevin of Quinte Conservation Authority, Chandra Sharma of Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, and Rob Baldwin.
- c) CAO Rob Baldwin was pleased to advise he attended a meeting between conservation authorities and Minister Graydon Smith, noting it was a great opportunity to meet and engage with the Minister. The meeting focused mainly on the new hazard regulation, and participants were able to provide feedback. Other areas for opportunity were also discussed. CAO Baldwin looks forward to continued dialogue with the Minister and his staff.
- d) CAO Rob Baldwin reminded Board members that nominations for this year's conservation awards open May 1<sup>st</sup> and close June 5<sup>th</sup>. He urged everyone to get their nominations in.

### Presentations:

#### a) 2023 Draft Audited Financial Statements

BDO Canada LLP Partner, Adam Delle Cese, provided an overview of the audit of the Conservation Authority's 2023 draft financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2023. He noted that in BDO's opinion, the financial statements represent fairly the financial position of the Conservation Authority. He advised a clean audit was held and a standard audit report provided.

He reviewed the responsibilities of management and the auditors, as well as the financial statements, year-over-year changes in financial assets, and statements of cashflows.

#### b) 2023 Restoration Program Accomplishments

Manager, Restoration Services, Christa Sharp, shared a presentation on the Restoration Program's 2023 accomplishments, noting that 108 projects were completed across the watershed, including stormwater retrofits, low impact development features, community

action, wetland habitat creation and agricultural projects, all making critical, on-the-ground improvements to the watershed. These projects accomplished over 35 hectares of land being restored, over 3,400 metres of streambank being planted/stabilized, and 65 increases in biodiversity and enhanced pollinator habitat. Over 85 projects for 2024 are well underway, and the Beaverton low impact development project in the Township of Brock and the Vivian Creek wetland and drainage improvements project in the Town of East Gwillimbury for part of her presentation. To view this presentation, please click this link: [2023 Restoration Program Accomplishments](#)

## **Correspondence and Staff Reports:**

### **2023 Audited Financial Statements**

The Board received Staff Report No. 24-24-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2023 Draft Audited Financial Statements. The Board approved the 2023 Draft Audited Financial Statements, as well as the Appropriations to and from Reserves as outlined in Schedule 8 – Statement of Continuity of Reserves of the 2023 Draft Audited Financial Statements. The approved 2023 Audited Financial Statements are to be distributed to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Conservation Authority's banker, and be made available on the Conservation Authority's website.

### **2023 Restoration Program Accomplishments**

The Board received Staff Report No. 25-24-BOD regarding an update on the Conservation Authority's Restoration Program and projects.

### **Summary of 2024 Provincial and Municipal Funding Agreements**

The Board received Staff Report No. 26-24-BOD regarding recently secured Provincial and municipal funding.

### **2024 Budget Companion Document**

The Board received Staff Report No. 27-24-BOD regarding the 2024 Budget Companion Document.

### **Confidential Land Matter**

The Board received the presentation regarding a Confidential land matter and approved the recommendations contained within Staff Report No. 28-24-BOD.

For more information or to see the full agenda package, visit [LSRCA's Board of Directors' webpage](#).