



Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

74th Annual General Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-01-25

Friday, January 24, 2025

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Councillor A. Courser, Councillor F. Drodge, Councillor A. Eek, Mayor R. Greenlaw, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Chairman E. Jolliffe, Councillor C. Pettingill, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor C. Riepma, Councillor Roy-DiClemente, Councillor M. Thompson, Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor T. Vegh, Councillor E. Yeo

Members Absent

Councillor P. Ferragine, Regional Councillor B. Garrod, Councillor J. Gough, Councillor D. Le Roy, Mayor I. Lovatt, and City of Orillia

Staff Present

R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, A. Brown, M. Critch, A. Cullen, P. Davies, G. Peat, N. Hamley, C. Sharp, C. Taylor, K. Toffan, K. Yemm

Guests in Attendance

L. Bigioni, M. Rabeau, A. Tromanhauser

I. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

Chair Riepma 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. Chair's Welcome

Chair Riepma welcomed everyone to the 74th Annual General meeting of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

Chair Riepma welcomed new Board member from the Regional Municipality of York, Chairman and CEO Eric Jolliffe, who has been appointed in place of Chairman Wayne Emmerson, who retired at the end of November 2024.

Roll Call – 2024 Board Members

The 2024 Board Members introduced themselves and advised which municipality they represent. Chair Riepma mentioned members who were not in attendance.

III. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None noted for the meeting.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: M. Thompson

Seconded: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-001-25 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's 74th Annual General Meeting held on Friday, January 24, 2025 be approved as presented. **Carried**

V. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors

Moved by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-002-25 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting No. BOD-10-24 held on Friday, December 20, 2024 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

VI. 2024 Year-end Presentations

a) 2024 Year in Review

Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Baldwin, congratulated staff on their many accomplishments of 2024, noting that staff are the reason for our success and what a privilege and honour it is to lead such a talented team. CAO Baldwin shared a video that captures the many highlights and accomplishments from 2024. To view the video, please click this link: [2024 Year in Review Video](#)

These highlights and accomplishments are also captured in the [2024 Annual Report Infographic](#)

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-003-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Baldwin, on the Conservation Authority's 2024 highlights and accomplishments be received for information. **Carried**

b) 2024 Restoration Accomplishments

Manager, Restoration, Christa Sharp, provided an overview of the Restoration Department's 2024 accomplishments, noting that the Conservation Authority funded over 100 restoration projects in 2024. A variety of critical on-the-ground projects were completed, including stormwater retrofits, low impact development features, community action projects, wetland habitat creation and agricultural projects. Projects are tracked for Key Performance Indicators, and these accomplishments include over 33 hectares of land being restored, over 3,960 metres of streambank being planted/stabilized, and 75% increased biodiversity and enhanced pollinator habitat.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [2024 Restoration Accomplishments Presentation](#)

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: M. Thompson

BOD-004-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by Manager, Restoration, Christa Sharp, regarding the Restoration Department's 2024 accomplishments be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 01-25-BOD regarding the Restoration Department's 2024 accomplishments was included in the agenda.

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: M. Thompson

BOD-005-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 01-25-BOD regarding the Restoration Department's 2024 accomplishments be received for information. **Carried**

VII. 2024 Business is Concluded

Chair Riepma concluded the business of 2024 and declared the Chair vacant.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-006-25 **Resolved That** the Board of Directors conclude the business of 2024; and **Further That** the Chair be declared vacant. **Carried**

VIII. 2025 Business

The 2025 Business portion of the meeting was called to order by the Conservation Authority's Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Baldwin.

Roll Call – 2025 Board Members

The 2025 Board Members introduced themselves and advised which municipality they represent. CAO Baldwin mentioned members who were not in attendance.

IX. Election of Officers

CAO Baldwin conducted the election of officers. He outlined the general rules, noted that positions are required for Chair and Vice Chair for 2025, and only appointed members of the Board of Directors may be nominated.

X. Election of Officers – 2025

A. Appointment of Scrutineers

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-007-25 **Resolved That** in the event of a vote by ballot, Mr. Mike Rabeau and Mr. Andrew Tromanhauser will act as scrutineers; and

Further that all ballots be destroyed following the election. **Carried**

B. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2025

i. Chair of the Authority

Councillor Clare Riepma was nominated for the position of Chair by Councillor Pettingill. Nominations were called for three times. No further nominations were put forward.

Moved by: R. Greenlaw

Seconded by: F. Drodge

BOD-008-25 **Resolved that** the nominations for the position of Chair be closed. **Carried**

Councillor Riepma accepted the nomination for the position of Chair, and CAO Baldwin offered congratulations to Councillor Riepma as the 2025 Chair.

ii. Vice Chair of the Authority

Mayor Randy Greenlaw was nominated for the position of Vice Chair by Councillor Yeo. Nominations were called for three times, and no further nominations were put forward.

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: A. Eek

BOD-009-25 **Resolved that** the nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed. **Carried**

Mayor Greenlaw accepted the nomination for the position of Vice Chair, and CAO Baldwin congratulated Mayor Greenlaw as the 2025 Vice Chair.

Chair Riepma chaired the remainder of the meeting.

C. Appointment of the Regulations Sub-committee for 2025

In the event of a Hearing by the Board of Directors under Ontario Regulation 41/24, a Regulations Sub-Committee is formed to review the circumstances and report to the Board.

Moved by: E. Jolliffe

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-010-25 **Resolved that** the Chair and Vice Chair, along with the Member representing the local municipality in which the application under Ontario Regulation 41/24 is received shall be members of the sub-committee to review applications and report to the Board of Directors. **Carried**

D. Appointment to Conservation Ontario for 2025

The Chair, or his/her designate, and the Chief Administrative Officer represent the Conservation Authority on Conservation Ontario's Council. Chair Riepma agreed to represent the Conservation Authority for 2025.

Moved by: M. Thompson

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-011-25 **Resolved that** the 2025 Chair, Councillor Clare Riepma, be appointed as the Conservation Authority's voting delegate to Conservation Ontario; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer be the alternate delegate. **Carried**

E. Appointment to the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Board of Directors for 2025

Chair Riepma advised that the Chair and Vice Chair or their designates are appointed to the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Board of Directors.

Moved by: T. Roy-DiClemente

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-012-25 **Resolved that** Chair Riepma and Vice Chair Greenlaw be appointed to the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Board of Directors for 2025. **Carried**

F. Appointment of Solicitors for 2025

The Conservation Authority utilizes the services of five (5) legal firms; namely, Stiver Vale for general administrative advice and land management; Hicks Morley for employment and labour related matters; HHL Law Firm (formerly Hill Hunter Losell) for floodplain regulation advice;

Barriston LLP for general administrative and regulations advice; and Beard Winter for floodplain regulation advice, litigation and real estate.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: F. Drodge

BOD-013-25 **Resolved that** Stiver Vale, Hicks Morley, HHL Law Firm, Barriston Law and Beard Winter be appointed as Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's legal firms for 2025. **Carried**

G. Signing Officers for 2025

Each year the Conservation Authority appoints four signing officers: namely, the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO.

Moved by: M. Thompson

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-014-25 **Resolved that** an account in the name of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (hereinafter called the "Organization") be kept at the Bank of Nova Scotia (hereinafter called the "Bank"; and

Further that the Authority's Chair, Vice Chair, the Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer, and the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, or any two of them are hereby authorized to sign, make, draw, accept, endorse and deliver cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, orders for the payment of money and such agreements and instruments as may be necessary or useful in connection with the operation of the said account; and

Further that any one of the above-mentioned officers is hereby authorized for and in the name of the Organization to endorse and transfer to the Bank for deposit or discount with or collection by the Bank (but for the credit of the Organization only) cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, orders for the payment of money and other instruments, to arrange, settle, balance and certify all books and accounts with the Bank and to sign receipts for vouchers. **Carried**

H. Borrowing Resolution

The borrowing resolution authorizes the Conservation Authority to borrow an amount up to \$500,000.

Moved by: E. Jolliffe

Seconded by: A. Courser

BOD-015-25 **Resolved that** signing officers for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority be empowered to borrow up to \$500,000 on an Operating Loan Agreement, as required, for administration and/or capital expenditures. **Carried**

X. Year 2025 Presentations

a) 2025 Capital and Operating Budget

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, provided an update on the 2025 Proposed Capital and Operating Budget, reminding Board members that in December 2024, they had approved the 2025 proposed Capital and Operating Budget for circulation to all participating and specified municipalities. Following which, the proposed budget was circulated to all participating and specified municipalities and was posted on the Conservation Authority's website for the required 30-day review period.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [2025 Capital and Operating Budget Presentation](#)

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-016-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, regarding an overview of the 2025 Draft Capital and Operating Budget be received for information.

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 02-25-BOD regarding the 2025 Draft Capital and Operating Budget in accordance with Ontario Regulation 402/22. **Carried**

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-017-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 02-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2025 Capital and Operating Budget be received; and

Further that the 2025 Capital and Operating Budget and all projects therein be adopted: and

Further that staff be authorized to enter into agreements and/or execute documents with private sector organizations, non-governmental organizations or governments and their agencies for the undertaking of projects for the benefit of the Conservation Authority and funded by the sponsoring organization or agency, including projects that have not been provided for in the approved budget; and

Further that as required by O.Reg 402/22: Budget and Apportionment this recommendation and the accompanying budget documents, including the schedule of Category 1 Mandatory levies, be approved by weighted votes. **Carried**

Ontario Regulation 402/22: Budget and Apportionment, requires that the budget be approved through the following three separate weighted votes:

1. Category 1 Mandatory Levy for delivery of Lake Simcoe Protection Act and Plan;
2. Other Category 1 Core Mandatory Levy; and
3. Overall 2025 Budget.

The three required weighted votes were conducted, and the 2025 Capital and Operating Budget was unanimously approved by those in attendance. The voting results are captured in the following table:

Representative	Category 1 LSPA	Yea/ Nea	Category 1 Other	Yea/ Nea	Overall 2025 Budget	Yea/ Nea
Councillor A. Courser City of Barrie	10.63%	Yea	11.80%	Yea	11.80%	Yea
Councillor F. Drodge Town of Innisfil	5.86%	Yea	6.64%	Yea	6.64%	Yea
Councillor A. Eek York Region (King)	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea
Councillor P. Ferragine Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury	6.45%	Absent	7.54%	Absent	7.54%	Absent
Regional Councillor B. Garrod Durham Region (Uxbridge)	2.51%	Absent	2.76%	Absent	2.76%	Absent
Councillor J. Gough, Township of Ramara	1.11%	Absent	1.31%	Absent	1.31%	Absent
Mayor R. Greenlaw (Vice Chair) Township of Oro-Medonte	1.63%	Yea	1.43%	Yea	1.43%	Yea
Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre Town of New Tecumseth	0.73%	Yea	0.69%	Yea	0.69%	Yea
Chairman E. Jolliffe York Region (at Large)	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea
Councillor D. Le Roy Durham Region (Scugog)	2.51%	Absent	2.767%	Absent	2.76%	Absent
Mayor I. Lovatt York Region (Whitchurch-Stouffville)	7.14%	Absent	7.14%	Absent	7.14%	Absent
Councillor C. Pettingill Durham Region (Brock)	2.51%	Yea	2.76%	Yea	2.76%	Yea
Mayor M. Quirk York Region (Georgina)	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea
Councillor C. Riepma (Chair) City of Barrie	10.63%	Yea	11.80%	Yea	11.80%	Yea
Councillor T. Roy-DiClemente York Region (East Gwillimbury)	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea
Councillor M. Thompson York Region (Aurora)	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea

Representative	Category 1 LSPA	Yea/ Nea	Category 1 Other	Yea/ Nea	Overall 2025 Budget	Yea/ Nea
Dep Mayor/Reg Councillor T. Vegh York Region (Newmarket)	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea	7.14%	Yea
Councillor E. Yeo City of Kawartha Lakes	1.88%	Yea	0.50%	Yea	0.50%	Yea
City of Orillia	3.56%	Absent	Not Applicable		Not Applicable	
	100.00%		100.00%		100.00%	

b) 2025 Annual Priorities

Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Baldwin, provided an overview of the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities, noting that 10 priorities have been identified for 2025. Some are the continuation of multi-year priorities, such as the New Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area, the management of the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve in the Town of Georgina, the continuation of critical lake ecology research, finalization of watershed indicators, and the Conservation Authority's digital strategy. Other priorities, such as developing an indigenous framework, developing a talent management strategy, rebranding, conducting a flood and low water response audit, and a targeted conservation authorities advocacy strategy, are new for 2025 and some will continue into 2026.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [2025 Annual Priorities](#)

Moved by: E. Jolliffe

Seconded by: E. Yeo

BOD-018-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Baldwin, regarding the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 03-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities was included in the agenda.

Moved by: E. Jolliffe

Seconded by: E. Yeo

BOD-019-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 03-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities be received for information. **Carried**

XI. Hearings

There were no Hearings scheduled for this meeting.

XII. Deputations

There were no Deputations scheduled for this meeting.

XIII. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

XIV. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

Items No. 1 and 2 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: A. Eek

BOD-020-25 **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**

a) Monitoring Report – Planning and Development Applications for the Period January 1 through December 31, 2024

BOD-021-25 **Resolved that** Staff Report No. 04-25-BOD regarding the total number of development applications for the period January 1 through December 31, 2024 be received for information. **Carried**

b) Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule 2025

BOD-022-25 **Resolved that** Staff Report No. 05-25-BOD regarding the Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule for 2024 be received; and

Further that the proposed schedule be approved. **Carried**

In accordance with the approved schedule, remaining 2025 meetings will be held March 28th, May 23rd, July 25th, September 26th, November 28th, and December 19th.

XV. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items remained for separate discussion.

XVI. Closed Session

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

Moved by: M. Thompson

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-023-25 **Resolved That** the Board move to Closed Session to deal with a confidential legal matter; and

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

The Board rose from Closed Session to report findings.

Moved by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

Seconded by: F. Drodge

BOD-024-25 **Resolved That** the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings.

a) Confidential Legal Matter

Confidential Staff Report No. 06-25-BOD was sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Moved by: A. Courser

Seconded by: M. Thompson

BOD-025-25 **Resolved That** the Confidential Staff Report No. 06-25-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter be received for information. **Carried**

XVII. Other Business

Vice Chair Greenlaw advised that on January 22, 2025, his Council, the Township of Oro-Medonte, passed a resolution to begin discussions around the amalgamation of their two conservation authorities; namely, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. Questions were raised by Board members regarding the process, and CAO Baldwin explained that there is a provision in the *Conservation Authorities Act* for such an amalgamation, and that it is a member municipality driven process with the passing of the resolution being the first step. CAO Baldwin noted that as more details become available, Board members will be kept informed.

XVIII. Adjournment

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-026-25 **Resolved That** the meeting be adjourned at 11:13 a.m. **Carried**

Councillor Clare Riepma
Chair

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer