



LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION

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Registered Charitable Organization No. 107646598RR0001

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors refers to the General Membership as set out in the Lower Trent Conservation Administrative By-Law No. 2023-01

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING # 2023-03

DATE: April 13, 2023

TIME: 1:12 PM

LOCATION: Administration Office, 714 Murray Street, Trenton / Virtually

PRESENT:

REMOTE SITE (R)	ON SITE	
Lynda Reid	Gene Brahaney (Vice-Chair)	Eric Sandford
	Mike Ainsworth	Sherry Hamilton
	Jeff Wheeldon	Jim Alyea
	Bobbi Wright	Rick English

REGRETS: Bob Mullin (Chair), Mark DeJong

STAFF: Rhonda Bateman, Gage Comeau, Chris McLeod, Anne Anderson, Kelly Vandette

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Brahaney at 1:12 p.m.

2. First Nations Acknowledgement

"This land is located on the traditional territories of the Anishnabek, Huron-Wendat, and Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) peoples. We acknowledge our shared responsibilities and obligations to preserve and protect the land, air and water. We are grateful to have the privilege to meet, explore, and connect here on these shared lands. In the spirit of friendship, peace and respect, we extend our thanks to all the generations that came before us and cared for these lands - for time immemorial."

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interests

There were no pecuniary interests disclosed at this meeting.

4. Approval of the Agenda

RES: G47/23

Moved by: Sherry Hamilton

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

5. Delegations

There were no delegations received for this meeting.

6. Public Input (3 minutes per speaker)

There was no Public Input or participation at this meeting.

7. Adoption of the Minutes:

a. Board Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2023

RES: G48/23

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the Regular and In-camera Session Board Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

8. Business arising from these minutes

There was no business arising from these minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

9. Correspondence

a. 2023-03-28 Fourth Quarter Report - O. Reg. 687/21

RES: G49/23

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Lynda Reid

THAT the correspondence to the province re Fourth Quarterly Report – O. Reg. 687/21 dated March 28, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

STAFF REPORTS

10. Monthly Payments Issued

RES: G50/23

Moved by: Mike Ainsworth

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the list of payments issued in the total amount of \$255,731.58 for the month of March 2023 be received as information.

Carried

11. Quarterly Financial Status - March 31, 2023

RES: G51/23

Moved by: Mike Ainsworth

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the Quarterly Financial Status staff report for period ending March 31, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

12. 2022 Surplus Allocation

Directors English and Alyea asked for elaboration regarding the reserve accounts. Rhonda Bateman, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer responded providing the definitions of the reserve categories and shared the history of recent land deposition and restrictions to which conservation land reserves are subject.

RES: G52/23

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the 2022 surplus be allocated to the following expenses and reserves:

\$20,000 to Legal Fees Reserve; and

\$25,000 to the IT Infrastructure Reserve be approved.

Carried

13. Program and Service Inventory – Update

RES: G53/23

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Lynda Reid

THAT the updates to the Program and Service Inventory be received as information.

Carried

14. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Report

Gage Comeau, Manager, Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations spoke to the staff report as provided in the agenda package and highlighted the status of legal cases.

Director Reid asked if fines come back to LTC or municipalities and Gage Comeau responded that the fines are not given to the Conservation Authority but to the Province.

Gage Comeau spoke to the current flood watches and provided water level updates. He advised that Trent River flows will be dependent on the northern watershed storage capacity and snowmelt. Updates will be shared through Flood Statements and Watches if necessary.

RES: G54/23

Moved by: Bobbi Wright

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Update be received as information.

Carried

15. Wetland Offsetting Policy

Gage Comeau spoke to the staff report as provided in the agenda package.

Director Ainsworth asked why we would permit destroying a wetland. Gage Comeau responded that Ministers Zoning Order (MZO) lie with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and with changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*, CA Boards are limited to providing conditions related to an MZO and cannot deny an MZO permit.

Rhonda Bateman explained the rationale for requiring the policy as it gives grounds to the development of Board approved conditions under the MZO process.

Director English asked for clarification that this policy would be used for Hearing cases where wetlands were proposed to be destroyed. Gage Comeau confirmed and responded that this policy would support a consistent approach and decision making for the staff and Board.

Director Hamilton asked for clarification of interpretation of the new policy as a result of changes to the Act and MZOs for developers. Staff outlined the process for LTC to address wetland protection concerns with the offsetting policy.

Director Sandford thanked staff for creating the policy and the support it will provide in dealing with the changes in the Act.

RES: G55/23

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the Wetland Offsetting Policy be approved and adopted.

Carried

16. Flood Hazard Identification Mapping Program Projects – Sole Source Contract Services

RES: G56/23

Moved by: Bobbi Wright

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT LTC enter into an agreement with JKN Consulting to complete project management services for the Flood Hazard Identification Mapping Program projects at an upset limit of \$20,000.

Carried

17. Conservation Lands Report - March 31, 2023

Director Hamilton thanked Rhonda Bateman for attending Cramahe Council meeting and asked for confirmation that the Province has asked all CAs to identify conservation lands property suitable for development and if LTC lands meet the Ministry's requirements. Rhonda Bateman confirmed that all CAs are to comply by the end of 2024 within the Conservation Lands Strategy and from LTC's perspective, most LTC lands would not be suitable for development.

RES: G57/23

Moved by: Rick English

Seconded by: Jim Alyea

THAT the Conservation Lands Report for the period January 1 – March 31, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

18. Community Outreach, Education and Stewardship Programs Report - March 31, 2023

RES: G58/23

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Lynda Reid

THAT the Community Outreach, Education and Stewardship Programs Report for the period January 1 – March 31, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

19. 2023 Watershed Report Card

Anne Anderson, Manager, Community Outreach and Special Projects spoke to the staff report provided in the agenda package. She highlighted that LTC has been able to grade surface water across the watershed, thanks to the 2018 Board decision to support enhanced surface water data collection and monitoring. The enhanced sampling program encompasses the entire watershed and tests for E.coli, chemical analysis, benthic invertebrates, etc. to complete the suite of water quality information. The results demonstrate a significant step forward regarding surface water.

Director Wheeldon asked how does our watershed grade compare to others. Anne Anderson responded that members are able to view other watershed scores through the Conservation Ontario website.

RES: G59/23

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the Lower Trent Conservation 2023 Watershed Report Card be received as information.

Carried

20. Summary of Risk Management Official Activity Report – March 31, 2023

RES: G60/23

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Jim Alyea

THAT the summary of the Risk Management Official Activity pursuant to Part IV of the *Clean Water Act* for the period of January 1, 2023 thru March 31, 2023 staff report be received as information.

Carried

21. Local Drinking Water Source Protection Report - March 31, 2023

RES: G61/23

Moved by: Sherry Hamilton

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the Local Drinking Water Source Protection Report for the period January 1 – March 31, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

22. Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Newsletter

- a. March 2023 Newsletter
- b. BQRAP Annual Report Year Ending March 31, 2023

Director Hamilton asked for confirmation regarding the length of the BQRAP program's operating term ends and commented on the Prime Minister meeting with US President Biden discussing the International Joint Commission Board for Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River. Rhonda Bateman responded that the BQRAP program is funded to cover to March 31, 2026 from the Federal government and further discussions are taking place to address ongoing support.

Director Reid asked if there are other ways than herbicide to manage the water soldier invasion. Anne Anderson responded that the water soldier has moved into the Bay of Quinte and a series of meetings with stakeholders including the City of Belleville, the City of Quinte West, MNRF and marine groups have been helping to develop plans to deal with the matter. As water soldier has moved into the Bay of Quinte, the Trent-Severn Waterway, Parks Canada will not lead removal efforts outside of the Trent River.

Director Alyea asked about the mechanical harvesting and if BQRAP is looking at private contractors. He also asked who is paying for the activity. Anne Anderson advised that further discussions will happen with MNRF and stakeholders. It is yet to be determined as to what funding and what actions will be done.

Director Wright inquired about the type of herbicide used and impact to environment and other species. Anne Anderson responded with the types of herbicides used and effects on other plants/species but timing is also a consideration and guidelines are in place for the safe use of the herbicides, including notifications.

Anne Anderson encouraged Board members to visit the BQRAP website as it gives a story map of the annual report.

RES: G62/23

Moved by: Rick English

Seconded by: Mike Ainsworth

THAT the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Newsletter for March 2023; and
THAT the BQRAP Annual Report for year ending March 31, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

23. CAO's Report

Director Wheeldon asked if LTC will be replacing staff, Ewa Bednarczuk. Rhonda Bateman responded yes; however, the position has been redeveloped to support stewardship, FFW and monitoring activities.

RES: G63/23

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the CAO's Report be received as information.

Carried

24. Members Inquiries/Other Business

a. Director Alyea inquired into the status of the continuation of the membership for the Agriculture Representative on the LTC Board of Directors. Rhonda Bateman responded that the Agriculture Representative was to be contacted by MNRF to clarify their position and to complete their reporting requirements. MNRF will inform us when any decision has been made.

b. Information Technology and Operations Review – RFP #2023-CS-01

Kelly Vandette, Manager, Corporate Services spoke to the status of the Request for

Proposal #2023-CS-01 and that the selection process resulted in a shorter timeline to complete; therefore, providing the opportunity to approve entering into a contract agreement sooner with the successful service provider, Perry Group Consulting Ltd.

RES: G64/23

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the RFP from Perry Group Consulting Ltd for the Information Technology and Operations Review be accepted and to enter into a contract agreement with at an upset limit of \$25,000 before HST.

Carried

25. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

RES: G65/23

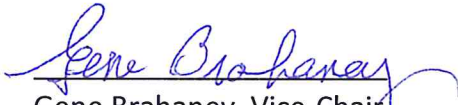
Moved by: Rick English

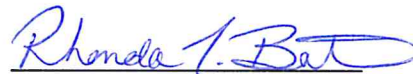
Seconded by: Jim Alyea

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Time 2:15 p.m.


Gene Brahaney, Vice-Chair


Rhonda Bateman, CAO/ST