



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 - DRAFT MEETING # 2024-10

DATE: December 12, 2024

TIME: 1:00 PM

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT/REGRETS: None

STAFF: Rhonda Bateman, Gage Comeau, Keith Taylor, Chitra Gowda, Anne Anderson, Chris McLeod, Kim Stephens

GUESTS: None

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mullin at 1:00 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 declared.

4. Approval of the Agenda as amended

RES: G142/24

Moved by: Sherry Hamilton

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the agenda be approved as amended for a revised resolution under Item 7.b.

Carried

5. Delegations

There were no delegations received for this meeting.

6. Public Input (3 minutes per speaker)

There was no public input at this meeting.

7. Adoption of the Minutes:

a. Board Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2024

b. Hearing Board Minutes of November 20, 2024

RES: G143/24

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2024 and the revised Hearing Board Minutes of November 20, 2024 be adopted.

Carried

8. Business arising from these minutes

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

9. Correspondence

None received

STAFF REPORTS

10. Monthly Payments Issued

RES: G144/24

Moved by: Bobbi Wright

Seconded by: Rick English

THAT the list of payments issued in the amount of \$273,874.43 for the month of November 2024 be received as information.

Carried

11. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Reports

Chair Bob Mullin asked if the Low Water Condition was still in effect. Gage Comeau confirmed the Level 1 status of water level condition in the watershed is based primarily on precipitation data. Director Alyea noted the low water levels at Weller's Bay.

Director Wheeldon thanked staff for managing large increases in inquiries; however, raised the matter of staff time being spent without cost recovery for the same.

Director Sandford asked for an update on court cases. Gage Comeau confirmed that there are no open files in the court system at present.

RES: G145/24

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Mike Ainsworth

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

Carried

12. Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Program

RES: G146/24 Moved by: Sherry Hamilton Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Newsletter for November 2024 be received as information.

Carried

13. 2025 Draft Business Plan

Director Wheeldon and Director Sandford thanked staff for the look and content of the Business Plan. Rhonda Bateman noted that a professional service provider would be retained to safely remove the bat guano at Kings Mill.

RES: G147/24 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the 2025 Draft Business Plan be accepted as information; and
THAT upon the approval of the 2025 Budget, the Business Plan will be updated with the financial information and distributed to our municipal partners.

Carried

14. Flood and Erosion Control Structures Report

Director English asked when the tree removal at Warkworth Dam would be done. Gage Comeau responded that the inspections report was recently completed in October and staff would work with the municipalities to begin implementing the actions needed. Director English noted public concerns about trees and sediment build up and possible ice jams in Trout Creek in Campbellford as well. Gage Comeau responded that dredging is needed and that a permit is required from the Ministry of Natural Resources to carry out dredging. He added that LTC would assist the municipality with preparing the permit application, and that ideally the dredging is done every five years. The infrastructure inspections are completed annually.

RES: G148/24 Moved by: Bobbi Wright Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the 2024 Flood and Erosion Control Structures Inspection report be accepted as information; and

THAT the Board approve the circulation of the report to Municipal staff.

15. 2025 Budget

Rhonda Bateman noted that Quinte West Council sought a reduction in the municipal apportionment increase. Director Alyea said that he and Director Reid were directed by Quinte West Council to not support the proposed 2025 levy increase. Director Alyea recommended that the budget in the future be presented to show a breakdown of operating budget and percent increase due to assessment increase. Rhonda Bateman noted that assessment numbers were presented to Quinte West Council.

Director English noted that Trent Hills Council passed a resolution requesting that the LTC budget apportionment increase be no more than 8%. He added that it is understood by Council that the apportionment vote was at the discretion of himself and Director Brahaney.

Director Wheeldon said that the single-digit percent increase being discussed was an arbitrary number that did not reflect the needs of LTC. Director Alyea noted that other organizations had lower levy increases for Quinte West. Director Wheeldon responded that the comparisons being made were not equitable comparisons. He noted that LTC needs were not funded in the past and it is time to catch up on the funding of those needs, including items left unrepaired. Director Wheeldon noted that an additional 3% cut has impacts and is unreasonable when staff are working overtime to meet demands and requirements.

Director Alyea and Director Reid noted that the provincial government had not provided adequate funding. Director English asked for the apportionment increase percent, by municipality. Chitra Gowda responded with: 12.5% for Alnwick/Haldimand, 13% for Cramahe, 11.9% for Brighton, 12.2% for Stirling-Rawdon, 11.4% for Trent Hills, 11.9% for Centre Hastings, and 11.5% for Quinte West. A recorded vote was held on the 2025 municipal apportionment amounts. The vote was weighted based on the Municipal Assessment values provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources for the LTC watershed.

RES: G149/24 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Eric Sandford
 THAT the 2025 Municipal Apportionment operations and capital amount of \$1,758,039 be approved.

MUNICIPALITY	DIRECTOR	VOTE YES	VOTE NO	Apportionment % (Weighting) for 2025
Township of Alnwick/Haldimand	Mike Ainsworth	✓		10.4787
Municipality of Brighton	Bobbi Wright	✓		8.0141
Municipality of Brighton	Jeff Wheeldon	✓		8.0141
Municipality of Centre Hastings	Eric Sandford	✓		2.2709
Township of Cramahe	Sherry Hamilton	✓		8.3733
City of Quinte West	Lynda Reid		✓	21.3762
City of Quinte West	Jim Alyea		✓	21.3762
Township of Stirling-Rawdon	Bob Mullin	✓		3.7753
Municipality of Trent Hills	Gene Brahaney	✓		8.1606
Municipality of Trent Hills	Rick English	✓		8.1606
	TOTALS	8	2	100%

Apportionment present at the meeting **100%**
 Apportionment voting in favour of the motion **57.2476%**
 Apportionment voting against the motion **42.7524%**
 Apportionment absent from the Meeting **0%**

Carried

RES: G150/24 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton
 THAT the 2025 Lower Trent Conservation total Budget in the amount of \$2,988,106 be approved.

Carried

16. CAO's Report

RES: G151/24 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton
 THAT the CAO's Report be received as information.

Carried

OTHER BUSINESS

17. Members Inquiries/Other Business

Rhonda Bateman updated the Board about Trent Hill's decision to rescind the LTC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Risk Management Official (RMO) services and Source Protection education and outreach services, which would be effective June 30, 2025. Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) may potentially be the recipient of the RMO services agreement. LTC may come back with a counter offer. Rhonda Bateman added that an LTC Management Team meeting was being held the day after the Board meeting to discuss strategies.

Director Sandford and Director Alyea wished the Board and staff a Merry Christmas, happy holidays and a Happy New Year. Rhonda Bateman reminded the Board that there is no regular Board meeting in January 2025; but there could be a Hearing Board meeting.

18. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

RES: G152/24

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Mike Ainsworth

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Bob Mullin, Chair

Rhonda Bateman, CAO/ST