



LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION

714 Murray Street, R.R. 1, Trenton, Ontario K8V 0N1

■ Tel: 613-394-4829 ■ Fax: 613-394-5226 ■ Website: www.ltc.on.ca ■ Email: information@ltc.on.ca

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 # 2026-02

DATE: March 12, 2026

TIME: 12:59 PM

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT/REGRETS: None

STAFF: Rhonda Bateman, Chitra Gowda, Scott Robertson, Anne Anderson, Corinne Ross

GUESTS: Dan Coleman, Welch LLP

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hamilton at 12:59 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: G23/26

Moved by: Bobbi Wright

Seconded by: Lynda Reid

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 at this meeting.

7. Adoption of the Minutes:

RES: G24/26

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the Annual General Meeting minutes of February 12, 2026 be adopted.

Carried

8. Business arising from these minutes

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

9. Correspondence

RES: G25/26

Moved by: Bob Mullin

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the correspondence as provided in the agenda package be received as information.

Carried

2025 BUSINESS

10. Management of Cheques - January 2026

Director Alyea noted that Canada Post mailboxes could be vandalised and asked if the cheques were dropped off to a mailbox. Chitra Gowda, Manager Corporate Services and Water Resources, responded that staff had hand delivered the cheques to a staff person at the Canada Post outlet in Shoppers Drug Mart, Trenton. Director Mullin asked if the cleaning company had completed extra cleaning. Chitra Gowda and Rhonda Bateman, CAO, responded that the replacement cheque consolidated multiple payments.

RES: G26/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Gene Brahaney

THAT the Management of Cheques - January 2026 staff report be received as information.

11. List of Monthly Payments Issued

RES: G27/26

Moved by: Bobbi Wright

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the list of payments issued in the total amount of \$230,299.56 for the month of February 2026 be received as information.

Carried

12. Audit Report to the Board for Year Ending December 31, 2025

Dan Coleman (Welch LLP) presented the draft audited financial statement and report for the year ending December 31, 2025. Director Ainsworth asked about the adjusting entry for OMERS. Dan Coleman and Rhonda Bateman responded that the first biweekly payroll of 2026 spanned December 2025 into just a few days of January 2026 and is allocated to employees based on their salaries.

RES: G28/26

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Mike Ainsworth

THAT the Audit Report to the Board, including the Draft Lower Trent Conservation Financial Statements for the period ended December 31, 2025 as prepared and presented by Welch LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants be adopted and circulated.

Carried

13. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Update

RES: G29/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Rick English

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

Carried

14. Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Program

RES: G30/26

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Bob Mullin

THAT the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Newsletter for February 2026 be received as information.

Carried

15. CAO's Report

Rhonda Bateman summarized the letter received from the Minister directing that fees remain frozen at 2022 levels. She also provided an update on the ALTO high speed train proposal related meetings and discussions: she attended the Peterborough roundtable discussion, open house in Madoc, and is planning to attend another open house in Stirling in two weeks. LTC has started to receive phone calls from the public about the proposed high speed train. LTC will send environmental data and information to ALTO including LTC properties, provincially significant wetlands (PSW), wetlands, areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSI), karst, etc. Multiple LTC properties would be affected by the proposed south route. The board members discussed the matter in great detail and amended the resolution to reflect the consensus.

Rhonda Bateman also updated the members about the proposed consolidation information from the recent press release and a separate information session that was attended by Chair Hamilton and herself. The number of regions proposed is 9 (previously was 7). The proposed eastern Lake Ontario region now includes Cataraqui and excludes CLOCA. Transition committees will be established comprised of existing CA GMs/CAOs and a board member. The consolidation will be in effect from February 2027 at which time the committees will cease to exist. The Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) received \$20 million start up funds, and will receive \$3 million per year to help conservation authorities transition. Lower tier municipalities will no longer be participating municipalities. Rhonda Bateman added that the LTC capital asset management plan charts a path for the responsible use of funds towards capital assets. The members amended the resolution to support the participation of Chair Hamilton alongside CAO Rhonda Bateman on the proposed transition committee. Chair Hamilton indicated that she appreciated the support of the Board.

RES: G31/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Rick English

THAT Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) staff circulate correspondence to ALTO indicating that the LTC Board of Directors does not support the proposed southern route for the high-speed train, in consideration for the potential of negative impacts to agricultural lands, environmentally sensitive lands, roads, and emergency services;

AND THAT ALTO consider the existing railway corridor for the proposed high-speed train, if it is demonstrated to be financially viable;

AND THAT LTC staff share environmental data and information to ALTO.

Carried

RES: G32/26 Moved by: Rick English Seconded by: Bobbi Wright
THAT the CAO's Report be received as information;

AND THAT Chair Sherry Hamiton be appointed as a member on the Transition Committee.

Carried

16. Closed Session

RES: G33/26 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Lynda Reid
THAT the Board go in to Closed Session under Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act, 2001 regarding Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including (municipal) employees.

Carried

Time: 2:31 p.m.

RES: G34/26 Moved by: Lynda Reid Seconded by: Jim Alyea
THAT the Lower Trent Conservation Board of Directors return to the regular meeting session.

Carried

Time: 2:47 p.m.

RES: G35/26 Moved by: Eric Sandford Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon
THAT the Lower Trent Conservation Board of Directors receive the report and direct staff to implement it immediately.

Carried

17. Members Inquiries/Other Business

Director Wheeldon raised awareness about Bill 60, with respect to water and wastewater public corporations providing water and sewage services on behalf of some lower-tier municipalities.

Rhonda Bateman shared the good news that the Section 36 amendment to the Source Protection Plan was approved by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. A Source Protection Authority meeting will be held in April 2026.

18. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

RES: G36/26

Moved by: Rick English


Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Time: 2:48 p.m.


Sherry Hamilton, Chair


Rhonda Bateman, CAO/ST

