

GANARASKA REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE FULL AUTHORITY

April 21, 2011

FA 02/11

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The Chair called the Full Authority meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Raymond Bennis, Chair - Township of Alnwick/Haldimand
Mark Lovshin, Vice-Chair – Township of Hamilton
John Fallis - Township of Cavan Monaghan
Miriam Mutton – Town of Cobourg
Forrest Rowden – Town of Cobourg
Donna Cole – Township of Hamilton
Greg Burns – Municipality of Port Hope
Mary Lou Ellis - Municipality of Port Hope
Wendy Partner – Municipality of Clarington

ALSO PRESENT: Linda Laliberte, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
Mark Peacock, Director, Watershed Services
Greg Wells, Manager, Planning and Regulations
Pam Lancaster, Stewardship Technician
Steve McMullen, Forest Recreation Technician
Don Pearson, General Manager, Conservation Ontario
Members of the Public

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Willie Woo – Municipality of Clarington

ALSO ABSENT: Heather Stauble – City of Kawartha Lakes

A moment of silence was held for the men and women in service who have given the supreme sacrifice.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

FA 06/11

MOVED BY: Mary Lou Ellis

SECONDED BY: Forrest Rowden

THAT the Full Authority approve the minutes of the March 17, 2011 meeting.

CARRIED.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

The Chair stated that there was one additional piece of correspondence.

FA 07/11

MOVED BY: Greg Burns
SECONDED BY: Mark Lovshin

THAT the Full Authority adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED.

5. Delegations

Carmela Marshall, Lakeridge Citizens for Clean Water, made a presentation to the Full Authority in regards to large fill operations. She has been reviewing large fill operations since June 2010. A copy of her presentation has been placed in the minute book at the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. Forrest asked about a site alteration by-law in place. Carmela stated that by-laws vary between Municipalities. He further asked about the MOE regulations on the fill that is being removed and then in turn filled in the area. Miriam asked about cross jurisdictional aspects between provincial and federal responsibilities. Carmela stated that there are loop holes in the jurisdiction. She further asked with respect to source water protection, who has the onus of proof as to the cleanliness of the fill that could potentially contaminate a neighbour's land or well. She further asked if "fill" is listed as a provincial drinking water threat. John Fallis asked if the presentation is directed to the specific permit and if there was contaminated fill on the site of the permit.

FA 08/11

MOVED BY: Wendy Partner
SECONDED BY: Donna Cole

THAT the Full Authority receives the presentation for information.

CARRIED.

6. Presentations:

a) Conservation Ontario - General Manager

Don Pearson, General Manager, Conservation Ontario (CO) made a presentation to the Board on the mandate, background, and objectives of CO as well as challenges such as disappearing habitat, rapid growth, and flooding and erosion that Conservation Authorities face. He spoke about the business functions of CO: government relations, policy and planning development, building and maintaining partnerships, corporate communications, research and information, evaluation and reporting and education and training. He spoke on the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan and the look for the future. Miriam asked about burials in waterways and how that impacts Conservation Authorities. Forrest asked about lobbying the provincial government for more control large fill operations. Donna thanked Don for coming. She asked how to answer questions of people who felt that Conservation Ontario is the big corporation running organizations. Don stated that they became incorporated to handle the grants from MOE. He stated CO works for the 36 Conservation Authorities and is an association to help express the collective will of all Conservation Authorities. Mark Lovshin asked if we have done enough. Don answered that there is still more to be done but we have come a long way.

John Fallis asked about the size of Conservation Authorities and amalgamations. Wendy asked about Conservation Authorities tightening up regulations too much that landowners cannot do anything. Don agreed and Conservation Authorities must be very judicious when making planning and regulation decisions.

FA 09/11**MOVED BY:** Mark Lovshin**SECONDED BY:** John Fallis

THAT the Full Authority receives the Conservation Ontario presentation for information.
CARRIED.

7. Business Arising from Minutes:

None

8. Chair and CAO/Secretary-Treasurer Remarks

The Chair reported on the Conservation Dinner and thanked the Committee for their hard work. The Chair complimented Mayor Mark Lovshin on the handling of the train derailment that happened in Hamilton Township.

The CAO/Secretary-Treasurer reported that she and the Chair had attended the Annual Meeting for Conservation Ontario on Monday. The Chair is Dick Hibma from Grey Sauble Conservation Authority and Vice Chairs are Mark Burnham from Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority and Walter Benotto from Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority.

She also reported that she and Mark had visited Port Hope Council and Hamilton Township Council to provide an overview of the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. She will schedule a visit to the other municipal councils over the next couple of months. The CAO/Secretary-Treasurer reported that the Conservation Dinner was a big success. She reported attendance of 328 and gross revenues of just over \$50,000.00 and net revenue back to the Forest Centre of around \$28,000.00. A reminder that next year's dinner will be April 14, 2012.

She also reported that the summer students were being hired to work on monitoring, Conservation Area maintenance and the summer day camp.

The CAO also asked the members to look at the SWAP contest (posters and art) entries and vote on the three they felt best depict the message of water safety. This year there were 13 classes that were involved in the free Spring Water Awareness Program offered by GRCA staff. Two classes will get a free day visit to the Forest Centre paid for by our partner in SWAP, Ontario Power Generation.

9. Business from the Board Members

Forrest Rowden thanked those members for attending the dinner and complimented the Committee for a good job. He is glad to be on the committee. Forrest also informed the members that he is on the Waterfront Trail Committee and he is aware that Greg Burns is on the committee as well. He said a walk is being held down Bob Carr Road.

Greg Burns had a good meeting with Linda Givelas at the GFC and has put her in touch with Community College department heads for recreation and leisure services courses. He also spoke of a one week camp in July and August at the Alex Caruthers Memorial Park that will be occurring in partnership with the Conservation Authority and that may utilize the Garden Hill Conservation Area in 2012.

Miriam Mutton enjoyed the dinner. She also wanted to express some concerns around about water quality. She attended an emergency training session and found that one of the biggest threats is nuclear power. She expressed concern that the provincial and federal governments are not addressing this. She believes that we need to hold federal government and its agencies accountable.

John Fallis thanked the Committee on the dinner.

Mark Lovshin thanked the Chair for his remarks. He also stated that it is very fortunate that the railway covers the costs of a clean-up such as what is going on or a municipality would be in great financial hardship. He also thanked the Committee for a good conservation dinner. He suggested that the members and possibly the councils tour the centre.

10. Correspondence:

FA 10/11

MOVED BY: Mary Lou Ellis
SECONDED BY: Mark Lovshin

THAT correspondence item #1 received and filed.
CARRIED.

FA 11/11

MOVED BY: Miriam Mutton
SECONDED BY: Donna Cole

THAT correspondence item #2 be deferred to the next meeting.
CARRIED.

11. Applications under Ontario Regulation 168/06:

The process of issuing and Board approval of permits was reviewed.

Permits approved by Executive:

- a) 168/06-1136-03/11 – Mike Watts (Municipality of Port Hope)-Construction of a single family dwelling and septic system
- b) 168/06-1137-03/11 – Martha Paz (Municipality of Clarington) – Construction of a 37m² addition to an existing dwelling
- c) 168/06-1138-03/11 – David Herd (Town of Cobourg) – Construction of a 30'x40' garage
- d) 168/06-1139-03/11 – Sunspace Sunrooms (Municipality of Clarington) – Construction of a 12'x12' sunroom addition
- e) 168/06-1140-03/11 – Tracy Kluczynski (Municipality of Port Hope) – Construction of an addition to an existing dwelling

FA 12/11**MOVED BY:** Forrest Rowden**SECONDED BY:** Greg Burns

THAT the Full Authority approve permits issued by the Executive.

CARRIED.

Permits requiring Full Authority discussion:

None

12. Committee Reports:**a) Ganaraska Forest Recreation Users Committee minutes, April 7, 2011****FA 13/11****MOVED BY:** Mary Lou Ellis**SECONDED BY:** Forrest Rowden

THAT the Full Authority approve the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders as the new organization representing the off-road motorcycle user group on the Ganaraska Forest Recreational Users Committee.

CARRIED.

Miriam asked for clarification on the changes to the equestrian paddock. Staff explained that this was to provide easier access to the trailhead centre and washrooms.

FA 14/11**MOVED BY:** Mark Lovshin**SECONDED BY:** John Fallis

THAT the Full Authority receives the April 7, 2011 minutes of the Ganaraska Forest Recreational Users Committee for information.

CARRIED.

13. New Business:**FA 15/11****MOVED BY:** Forrest Rowden**SECONDED BY:** Wendy Partner

THAT the Full Authority request Conservation Ontario to lobby the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Natural Resource for stricter restrictions on regulations regarding large fill operations.

DEFERRED.

Miriam Mutton also asked that this request for stronger regulations be forwarded to the watershed municipalities, requesting the municipalities forward the request to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, as well as forwarded to the local MP and MPPs.

FA 16/11

MOVED BY: Forrest Rowden
SECONDED BY: Wendy Partner

THAT the Full Authority direct staff to prepare a staff report on the content of a motion with supporting background information with regards to large commercial fill operations, and **FURTHER THAT** this motion be to be forwarded to various agencies to be named in the motion.

CARRIED.

FA 17/11

MOVED BY: Mark Lovshin
SECONDED BY: John Fallis

THAT the Full Authority request staff to prepare a staff report on the feasibility of paperless agendas for the Conservation Authority.

CARRIED.

14. Other Business

None

15. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. on a motion by Donna Cole.

CHAIR

CAO/SECRETARY-TREASURER