

# GANARASKA REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 15, 2021 (via Zoom)

**GRCA 02/20**

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### 1. Welcome and Call to Order

The Chair called the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeff Lees, Chair - Municipality of Port Hope  
Mark Lovshin, Vice Chair - Township of Hamilton  
Nicole Beatty - Town of Cobourg  
Tim Belch - Township of Cavan Monaghan  
Brian Darling - Town of Cobourg  
Greg Booth - Township of Alnwick/Haldimand  
Vicki Mink - Municipality of Port Hope  
Joe Neal - Municipality of Clarington  
Tracy Richardson - City of Kawartha Lakes  
Margaret Zwart - Municipality of Clarington

**ALSO PRESENT:** Linda Laliberte, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer  
Cory Harris, Watershed Services Coordinator  
Ken Thajer, Planning and Regulations Coordinator  
Members of the public

**ABSENT WITH  
REGRETS:**

**ALSO ABSENT:**

### 2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

### 3. Minutes of Last Meeting

**GRCA 10/21**

**MOVED BY:** Tracy Richardson

**SECONDED BY:** Mark Lovshin

**THAT** the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority approve the minutes of the March 18, 2021 meeting.

**CARRIED.**

#### 4. Adoption of the Agenda

**GRCA 11/21****MOVED BY:** Nicole Beatty**SECONDED BY:** Brian Darling

**THAT** the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority adopt the agenda.  
**CARRIED.**

#### 5. Delegations

None.

#### 6. Presentations

##### a) Natural Hazards Presentation Series – Part 4: Wetlands

Staff provided an information session on natural hazards regulated under the Conservation Authorities Act and focused this month's talk on wetlands. Ken Thajer, Planning and Regulations Coordinator, provided the definition of wetlands under the Provincial Policy Statement and Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and spoke with regards to restrictions for development in wetland areas. He spoke about the presence of hydrophytic plants and hydric soils in wetlands as well as other indicators as per the Province's wetland evaluation system. The types of wetlands were also described: swamps, marshes, bogs, fens and coastal wetlands. Cory Harris, Watershed Services Coordinator, explained the benefits of wetlands as natural infrastructure and highlighted the important functions that wetlands provide such as ecosystem services and flood mitigation as well as their increasingly important role in assisting communities as they adapt to a changing climate.

Nicole Beatty asked a question with regards to wetlands and West Nile Virus. Staff stated that of the 57 mosquito species occurring in Ontario, only a small number of species are capable of transmitting West Nile Virus and wetlands do not typically provide habitat for these vector species. They are found in more urban environments and typically breed within areas such as old tires, flowerpots, catch basins, uncleaned eavestroughs, etc.

**GRCA 12/21****MOVED BY:** Nicole Beatty**SECONDED BY:** Mark Lovshin

**THAT** the Board of Directors receive the presentation for information.  
**CARRIED.**

#### 7. Business Arising from Minutes

None.

#### 8. Correspondence

a) 03/21 Lynch Rutherford Tozer (confidential)

**GRCA 13/21****MOVED BY:** Brian Darling**SECONDED BY:** Vicki Mink

**THAT** the Board of Directors received for the correspondence for information.  
**CARRIED.**

9. Applications under Ontario Regulation 168/06:

Permits approved by Executive:

**GRCA 14/21**

**MOVED BY:** Greg Booth

**SECONDED BY:** Vicki Mink

**THAT** the Board of Directors receive the permits for information.

**CARRIED.**

Permit Application requiring Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors discussion:

None

10. Committee Reports:

Tracy Richardson, Board of Directors representative on the Ganaraska Forest Recreational Users Committee, presented the minutes of the April 1, 2021 meeting.

There was a brief discussion with regards to the City of Kawartha Lakes Off Road Vehicles Task Force.

**GRCA 15/21**

**MOVED BY:** Nicole Beatty

**SECONDED BY:** Brian Darling

**THAT** the Ganaraska Forest Recreational Users Committee minutes of the April 1, 2021 meeting be received for information.

**CARRIED.**

11. New Business:

None.

12. Other Business

Joe Neal brought forward a concern with regards to the kiosk and purchasing day passes as well as fallen trees in the Ganaraska Forest blocking trails. The CAO/Secretary-Treasurer addressed his concerns with regards to the trees stating that staff are removing dead ash trees and other identified hazard trees in the Conservation Areas. It was further identified that the trees in the forest are also being removed and it was requested if the specific location of the fallen trees is forwarded to staff, these will be addressed. Staff requested further information with regards to the concerns with the kiosk.

13. In Camera

None.

14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. on a motion by Nicole Beatty

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**CHAIR**

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**CAO/SECRETARY-TREASURER**