



NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: May 20, 2021

TIME: 7:15 pm

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting

AGENDA

MEETING:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEMBERS:

Nicole Beatty, Tim Belch, Brian Darling, Jeff Lees, Greg Booth, Mark Lovshin, Vicki Mink, Joe Neal, Tracy Richardson, Margaret Zwart

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
3. Minutes of Last Meeting – **April 15, 2021 - attached**
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Delegations:
None
6. Presentations:
a) Natural Hazards Presentation Series – Part 5: Hazardous Lands- **staff report attached**
7. Business Arising from Minutes:
None

8. Correspondence:
04/21 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – **note and file**
05/21 CC Fort Erie re: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation – **note and file**
06/21 Minister Jeff Yurek, MECP, Regulatory Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act – **action require – report next meeting**

9. Applications under Ontario Regulation 168/06:
Permits approved by Executive - **schedule attached**

Permit applications requiring Board of Directors discussion:
None

10. Committee Reports:
None

11. New Business:
a) Conservation Ontario Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative – **staff report attached**
a) 2021 Budget – **staff report attached**

12. Other Business:
None

13. In Camera:
None

14. Adjourn

GANARASKA REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 15, 2021 (via Zoom)

GRCA 02/20

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 Alwick/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

CHAIR

CAO/SECRETARY-TREASURER

STAFF REPORT – May 20, 2021

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors

RE: Natural Hazards Presentation Series – Part 5: Hazardous Lands

Cory Harris, Watershed Services Coordinator, and Ken Thajer, Planning and Regulations Coordinator, will be giving a series of PowerPoint presentations to the Members of the Board regarding natural hazards regulated under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Part 5 of this series, presented at the May meeting, will be covering 'Hazardous Lands'.

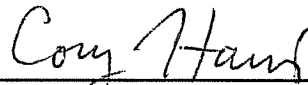
A link to GRCA's regulation is provided below for reference:

[Ontario Regulation 168/06: Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority: Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority receives the presentation regarding natural hazards for information.

Prepared by:



**Cory Harris, P.Eng., CAN-CISEC
Watershed Services Coordinator**

Recommended by:



**Linda J. Laliberte, CPA, CGA
CAO / Secretary-Treasurer**

Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks

Conservation and Source Protection
Branch

14th Floor
40 St. Clair Ave. West
Toronto ON M4V 1M2

Ministère de l'Environnement, de la
Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Direction de la protection de la nature et
des sources

14^e étage
40, avenue St. Clair Ouest
Toronto (Ontario) M4V 1M2



357-2021-1117

April 23, 2021

Jeff Lees
Chair
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority
c/o Linda J. Laliberte, CPA, CGA
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
Email: llaliberte@grca.on.ca

Dear Jeff Lees:

Thank you for your emailed letter to Minister Yurek informing us of how Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority's members are appointed by the participating municipalities.

I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Minister to confirm receipt and would note that we appreciate you providing this information to the ministry.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Sam Lyon

Sam Lyon, Manager
Conservation Authority Office
Conservation and Source Protection Branch

c: David Piccini, MPP, Northumberland—Peterborough South

04/21



Community Services

Legislative Services

April 27, 2021

File #120203

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Honourable and Dear Sir:

Re: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of April 26, 2021 passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed a resolution on October 21st, 2019 identifying that 1,100 private water wells were in operation in the Town of Fort Erie, of which 75% were used for domestic purposes including human and livestock consumption, and

Whereas the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie further identified in that resolution that Council requires the protection of water in the aquifer supplying water to those wells from contamination as the result of any remediation of Pit One owned by the Port Colborne Quarries in the City of Port Colborne, and further

Whereas Report No. PDS-23-2021, approved by Council on March 22, 2021, identified that while the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, The Regional Municipality of Niagara and Local Area Municipalities work together to protect source water, these plans do not generally apply to private servicing, and

Whereas Report No. PDS-23-2021 further identified efforts undertaken by the Town of Fort Erie through available provincial planning policy, regulation and legislation to protect source water within the Town of Fort Erie without any explicit ability to designate source water protection for private services, and

Whereas on July 28, 2010, through Resolution 64/292, the United Nations General Assembly explicitly recognized the human right to water and sanitation and acknowledged that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights, and

.../2

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

05/21

Whereas it would be desirable to ensure that those in our community who rely on wells and other private servicing for clean drinking water are afforded the same source water protection as municipal drinking water systems;

Now therefore it be resolved,

That: The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie recognizes and acknowledges that clean drinking water and sanitation are basic human rights and essential to the realization of all human rights, and further

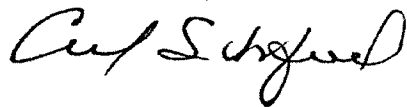
That: The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie requests that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks consider legislative changes that would permit the expansion of source water protection to aquifers and private services, and further

That: This resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Wayne Gates, MPP Niagara Falls, Jeff Burch, MPP Niagara Centre, Jennifer Stevens, MPP St. Catharines and Sam Oosterhoff, MPP Niagara West, and further

That: This resolution be circulated to all Conservation Authorities and Municipalities in Ontario for their endorsement and support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,



Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A.
Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk

cschofield@forterie.ca

CS:dlk

c.c.

The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks jeff.yurekco@pc.ola.org

Jeff Burch, MPP, Niagara Centre jburch-qp@ndp.on.ca

Sam Oosterhoff, MPP, Niagara West sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org

Jennifer Stevens, MPP, St. Catharines JStevens-co@ndp.on.ca

Wayne Gates, MPP, Niagara Falls wgates-co@ndp.on.ca

Ontario Conservation and all Ontario Conservation Authorities: kgavine@conservationontario.ca; bhorner@abca.ca; kfurlanetto@crca.ca; generalmanager@catfishcreek.ca; @cloca.com; mvytyvtyskyy@hrca.on.ca; deb.martindowns@cvc.ca; tim.pidduck@croweallevy.com; tbyrne@erca.org; laliberte@grca.on.ca; karmstrong@grandriver.ca; t.lanthier@greysauble.on.ca; Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca; mmajchrowski@kawarthaconservation.com; elizabeth@kettlecreekconservation.on.ca; cullen@srca.on.ca; tammy@lakeheadca.com; imaxwell@lprca.on.ca; mark.peacock@ltvca.ca; kelly.vandette@ltc.on.ca; beard@mvca.on.ca; David.Vallier@mattagamiregion.ca; smcintyre@mvc.on.ca; csharma@npca.ca; carl.jorgensen@conservationsudbury.ca; brian.taylor@nbmca.ca; dhevenor@nvca.on.ca; dlandry@otonabeeconservation.com; bmcnevin@quinteconservation.ca; richard.pilon@rca.on.ca; sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca; j.stephens@svca.on.ca; cbarrett@ssmrca.ca; acoleman@nation.on.ca; bmcdougall@scrca.on.ca; John.MacKenzie@trca.ca; annett@thamesriver.on.ca

Ontario Municipalities

Ontario Regulation 168/06
Permits approved by Executive:

Date: May 20, 2021

Permit No.	Date	Address	Municipality/ Township	Description of Works
1964-04/21	Apr.8/21	103 Third Street Cobourg Harbour	Cobourg	Maintenance dredging of Cobourg Harbour
1965-04/21	Apr.13/21	513 Lakeshore Road Cobourg	Cobourg	Construction of a garage addition and new driveway entrance.
1967-04/21	Apr.15/21	1269 Ganaraska Road Campbellcroft Pt.LT. 29, Conc.7	Port Hope	Construction of a new dwelling and septic system.
1968-04/21	Apr.15/21	43 The Cove Road Newcastle Pt.Lt. 34, Conc.1	Clarington	Construction of a 3- season sunroom addition.
1970-04/21	Apr.20/21	415 King Street W Cobourg	Cobourg	Construction of a 26 unit apartment building.
1971-04/21	Apr.20/21	990 – 1000 Division Street Cobourg	Cobourg	Construction of a replacement grocery store and retail.
1972-04/21	Apr.23/21	3086 Theatre Road N. Pt.Lt.29, Conc.3	Hamilton	Construction of a 2- storey addition.
1973-05/21	May13/21	V/L Turk Road (Adj. E of #9322) - Baltimore Pt.Lt.7, Conc.6	Hamilton	Construction of a driveway to access property.
1974-04/21	Apr.27/21	8225 The Dell Road – Kendal Pt.Lt.8, Conc.8	Clarington	Construction of a storage shed.
1975-05/21	May13/21	5330 McFarland Road Unit#300 – Gores Landing Pt.Lt.13, Conc.9	Hamilton	Reconstruction of a Boat House.
1976-04/21	Apr.30/21	2083 Brownsville Road Newcastle Pt.Lt.18, Conc.2	Clarington	Installation of an above ground pool.
1977-04/21	Apr.30/21	7506 Langstaff Road – Kendal Pt.Lt.5, Conc.7	Clarington	Construction of an addition to an existing dwelling.
1978-05/21	May7/21	104 Bluffs Road – Newcastle Pt.Lt.35, Conc.1	Clarington	Construction of a 3- season sunroom addition on piers.
1979-04/21	Apr.27/21	77 Cedarmere Ave. Cobourg	Cobourg	Installation of an above ground pool.
1980-05/21	May12/21	Port Hope Outer Harbour Pt.Lt.6, BF Conc.	Port Hope	Dredging sediment from the Outer Harbour.
1981-05/21	May12/21	Jamieson Road Pt.Lt. 4, Conc.6	Port Hope	Constructing a driveway, single family dwelling and septic.
1982-04/21	Apr.30/21	2894 Cochrane Road S. Pt.Lt.17, Conc.3	Hamilton	Construction a driveway, single family dwelling, septic and storage shed.
1984-05/21	May7/21	3463 Somerville Drive – Orono Pt.Lt.29, Conc.4	Clarington	Construction of an addition to an existing dwelling, a new deck and septic.

Ontario Regulation 168/06
Permits approved by Executive:

Date: May 20, 2021

Permit No.	Date	Address	Municipality/ Township	Description of Works
1985-05/21	May7/21	8890 Dale Road Pt.Lt.13, Conc.3	Hamilton	Construction of an addition and placement of fill.
1986-05/21	May12/21	Port Hope Boat Launch Pt.Lt.6, BF Conc.	Port Hope	Dredging of sediment from boat launch area.
1989-05/21	May12/21	9214 Oak Ridges Drive – Gores Landing Pt.Lt.9, Conc.8	Hamilton	Construction of a pre-fab storage building and a pool house.
1990-05/21	May12/21	336 Parkview Hills Drive Cobourg	Cobourg	Construction of a 3-season, unheated sunroom addition.

STAFF REPORT – May 20, 2021

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors

RE: Conservation Ontario Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative

Background

Conservation Ontario (CO) and the conservation authorities share the Provincial government's commitment to governance accountability and transparency (GAT). By the end December 2018, all conservation authorities had approved new Administrative By-Laws in compliance with the December 2017 amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Despite these efforts, the Province continues to emphasize the importance of GAT and amendments were made to the *Conservation Authorities Act* through Schedule 6 of Bill 229 which received Royal Assent on December 8, 2020.

On February 2, 2021 a number of these clauses related to Conservation Authority governance were proclaimed. Conservation Ontario and the conservation authorities, discussed how best to address the suggestion that the organizations are not accountable or transparent. It was decided to form a committee for the development of a Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative. An 8-person committee, of which I am a member, met in March and provided a report to Conservation Ontario Council at the April meeting.

Current Status

The Steering Committee has drafted a proposed CO Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative that includes the following three actions to demonstrate CA commitment to Governance Accountability and Transparency:

- a) Updates to CA Administrative By-laws
- b) Proactive Reporting on GAT Priorities
- c) Promotion/Demonstration of Results

Working with Conservation Ontario, conservation authorities have identified 3 key actions that demonstrate their commitment to governance accountability and transparency including:

a) Updates to CA Administrative By-Laws

Ensure CA Administrative By-Laws are updated in fulfillment of legislative amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* being proclaimed over the course of 2021. Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority has updated the Administrative By-Laws since the February 2nd proclamations. All CA's updated status will be tracked by CO.

b) Proactive Reporting on Governance Accountability and Transparency Priorities

Ensure proactive reporting on GAT priorities as initially identified as the governance-related clauses in the *Conservation Authorities Act* that were proclaimed on February 2, 2021. As well, CO will implement a tracking system to enable easy reporting on the actions taken and report back to CO Council bi-annually.

c) Promotion/Demonstration of Results

Evidence of governance accountability and transparency results will be promoted and demonstrated through communication materials and websites. This will be accomplished through the following activities:

i) Promote the initiative and prepare analyses of results and appropriate communication materials, as necessary

ii) Develop QA/QC checklist of governance material that should be available on CA websites to permit ease of public access.

The checklist is proposed to include:

a. Members

b. Administrative by-laws

c. Annual Meeting Schedule with information on how to participate

d. Agendas – full package

e. Minutes (to be posted within 30 days of meeting)

f. Audited financial statement

g. Annual Fee schedule

h. Other corporate documentation as available including Strategic Plans, Annual Reports, Watershed Report Cards.

iii) CO to track implementation of the QA/QC checklist and create CO webpage promoting the initiative and that this information can be found on CA webpages

At the April CO Council meeting, the formation of a Steering committee was endorsed as were the three proposed action areas as outlined above. Council further passed a resolution to seek endorsement by all Conservation Authorities to pursue governance accountability and transparency measures. The following resolution is requested.

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS the provincial government has passed legislative amendments related to the governance of Conservation Authorities;

AND WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities remain committed to fulfilling accountable and transparent governance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority endorse the three key actions developed by the Conservation Ontario Steering Committee to update CA Administrative By-laws, to report proactively on priorities, and to promote/demonstrate results;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to work with Conservation Ontario to implement these actions and to identify additional improvements and best management practices.

Recommended by:



Linda J. Laliberte, CPA, CGA
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

STAFF REPORT – May 20, 2021

TO: Chair and Members of the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority

Re: 2021 Final Budget

Attached is the 2021 Final Budget. The municipal levy, in the amount of \$1,185,049, was passed at the November 19, 2020 Board of Directors' meeting. COVID-19 continues to affect the operations of the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority, as it has other organizations, which in turn affects the budget.

It is anticipated that Section 39 funding will remain at \$51,863.10. The Ganaraska Forest timber tenders which closed in April, resulted in \$356,000 revenue which is a significant increase from 2020 and will allow for some carryover of revenue into 2022. The rent from Tree Top Trekking will be reduced again this year as they have also had reduced revenue. The Ganaraska Forest Centre remains closed to the public with the only revenue from a few pop-up weddings. Staff were able to offer virtual school visits however with in-person learning not happening this has also ceased. Staff are hopeful that a smaller Nature Nuts Camp will be able to be offered similar to that of 2020.

Throughout the budget, various expenses such as cleaning and utilities have been decreased due to COVID-19 as a result of less building usage. Staff have been moving forward with some capital asset management projects on the building.

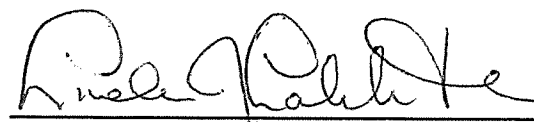
Again, this year, corporate services will capture, under "Other Funds", \$70,000 in program administration. This reflects program administration charges that have been applied to the capital projects done in partnership with watershed municipalities, other conservation authorities and organizations. An expense of approximately 10% of the total has been added to the various projects as an overhead charge to cover administration costs and brought back into corporate services. Most conservation authorities do this with some charging as high as 18%. This practice will continue to help offset the overhead of the projects.

The budget is not normally reviewed in a line by line presentation at the board meeting. Board members are encouraged to contact the CAO/Secretary-Treasurer to answer any questions in advance of the meeting or should a more in-depth review of the budget be requested, a meeting to review the budget prior to the board meeting can certainly be arranged.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Directors approve the 2021 Budget.

Prepared by:



**Linda J. Laliberte, CPA, CGA
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer**