

GANARASKA REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 20, 2021 (via Zoom)

GRCA 03/21

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The Chair called the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Lees, Chair - Municipality of Port Hope
Mark Lovshin, Vice Chair - Township of Hamilton
Tim Belch - Township of Cavan Monaghan
Brian Darling - Town of Cobourg
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

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Nicole Beatty - Town of Cobourg

ALSO ABSENT: Greg Booth - Township of Alnwick/Haldimand

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

GRCA 16/21

MOVED BY: Brian Darling

SECONDED BY: Tim Belch

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority approve the minutes of the April 15, 2021 meeting.

CARRIED.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

Joe Neal asked that an item regarding trees in the Ganaraska Forest be added to the agenda.

GRCA 17/21

MOVED BY: Joe Neal
SECONDED BY: Vicki Mink

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority adopt the agenda as amended.
CARRIED.

5. Delegations

None.

6. Presentations

a) Natural Hazards Presentation Series – Part 5: Hazardous Lands

Staff provided an information session on hazard lands regulated under the Conservation Authorities Act and focused this month's talk on 'hazardous lands'. Ken Thajer, Planning and Regulations Coordinator, provided the definition of hazardous lands under the Provincial Policy Statement and Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and spoke with regards to restrictions for development in these areas. He further described the various types of unstable soils, organic soils and marine clays, that can be found on hazardous land sites.

Cory Harris, Watershed Services Coordinator, addressed unstable bedrock and provided illustrations of karst bedrock. He explained how moisture infiltrates and percolates into the fractures within the limestone bedrock and creates sink holes. Development within these areas is generally not permitted does require setbacks. The presentation concluded by stating that there are no marine clays or karst bedrock within in the watershed however there are organic soils present. Cory stated that this was the last presentation in the natural hazard series.

Tracy Richardson thanked staff for the series of presentations.

GRCA 18/21

MOVED BY: Vicki Mink
SECONDED BY: Tracy Richardson

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

7. Business Arising from Minutes

None.

8. Correspondence

a) 05/21 Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks and 05/21 cc Fort Erie

GRCA 19/21

MOVED BY: Mark Lovshin
SECONDED BY: Marg Zwart

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

b) MECP re: Regulatory Proposals under the *Conservation Authorities Act*
Linda Laliberte, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer, provided a brief overview of the Regulatory Proposal Consultation Guide.

GRCA 20/21

MOVED BY: Brian Darling

SECONDED BY: Tim Belch

THAT the Board of Directors received for the correspondence for information with further information coming to the June's Board of Directors meeting.

CARRIED.

9. Applications under Ontario Regulation 168/06:

Permits approved by Executive:

GRCA 21/21

MOVED BY: Vicki Mink

SECONDED BY: Brian Darling

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:

None.

11. New Business:

a) Conservation Ontario Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative

Joe Neal asked if the agendas are published on the website. Staff respond that they are posted. The members section is password protected in the event there are confidential items on the agenda.

GRCA 22/21

MOVED BY: Joe Neal

SECONDED BY: Tracy Richardson

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.
CARRIED.

b) 2021 Budget

Joe Neal asked if there were any material changes from the preliminary budget. Staff report that a Clarington project has been added that is fully funded by Clarington. He further asked about the loss of revenue from the Forest Centre and staff responded that the staff reductions are still in place.

GRCA 23/21

MOVED BY: Brian Darling

SECONDED BY: Mark Lovshin

THAT the Board of Directors approve the 2021 Budget.

CARRIED.

12. Other Business

Joe Neal ask about some large oak trees in the forest that have been forested. He asked if there was a plan to preserve the large oaks. Staff responded that there is a forest management plan. The forester will be asked to provide a report on this for the June meeting.

13. In Camera

None.

14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m. on a motion by Joe Neal.

CHAIR

CAO/SECRETARY-TREASURER