



# **Grand River Conservation Authority**

## **Minutes - General Membership Meeting**

Date: April 28, 2017  
Time: 9:30 am  
Location: Auditorium  
Grand River Conservation Authority  
400 Clyde Road, Box 729  
Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6

Members Present Les Armstrong, Bruce Banbury, Robert Bell, Elizabeth Clarke, Brian Coleman, Bernie Corbett, Susan Foxton, Guy Gardhouse, Helen Jowett, Geoff Lorentz, Cindy Lunau, Kirk McElwain, Jane Mitchell, Fred Morison, Joe Nowak, Vic Prendergast, Wayne Roth, Mike Salisbury, Pat Salter, Sandy Shantz, Shirley Simons, Warren Stauch, Chris White, George Wicke

Members Absent David Neumann, George Stojanovic

Staff Dave Bennett, Dwight Boyd, Joe Farwell, Samantha Lawson, Keith Murch, Sonja Radoja, Tracey Ryan, Janet Baine, Bryan McIntosh, Jason Wagler, Fred Natolochny, Stephanie Shifflett, Sonya Strynatka George Sousa, Lisa Stocco, Sara Wilbur, Eowyn Spencer

Others Guests: Susan Johnson (CRC), Doug Tripp (CRC), Stephanie DeGrandis (CRC), Additional CRC Members

**1. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:35 a.m.

**2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 13 Members constitute a quorum (1/2 of Members appointed by participating Municipalities)**

The Secretary-Treasurer called the roll and certified a quorum with 24 Members present. A total of 24 Members attended the meeting.

**3. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed the Members and made the following remarks:

April 3rd: Conservation Ontario Annual General Meeting - Helen Jowett and Joe Farwell

April 4th: Conservation Ontario reception for MPPs at Queens Park - Chris White and Joe Farwell

April 20th: Friends of Mill Creek trout release event - Soper Park - with Minister McGarry

April 22nd: Rotary Forest Earth Day Planting in Guelph

Joe Farwell showed a short time-lapse video of the tree planting event at the Rotary Forest at Guelph Lake Conservation Area.

**4. Review of Agenda**

Cindy Lunau requested that agenda item 12.i. Hidden Quarry be moved to item 9b.

2017-68

**Moved By** Joe Nowak

**Seconded By** Shirley Simons

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

**5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests made in relation to the matters to be dealt with.

**6. Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

2017-69

**Moved By** Bernie Corbett

**Seconded By** Vic Prendergast

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of March 24, 2017, be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

**7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

**8. Hearing of Delegations**

There were no Delegations.

**9. Presentations**

**9.1 Maps, Models and Management - Stephanie Shifflett**

Stephanie Shifflett provided an informational presentation showing how maps and models are being used to improve water management decisions within the Grand River Watershed. The presentation highlighted surface water, ground water and integrated models at Whiteman's Creek, and digital mapping at Laurel Creek. Newer technology and GIS mapping are allowing for more accurate research and data. The maps and models are the tools used to increase understanding, leading to better water management.

Board members followed up with questions regarding the use of these modelling systems to protect environmental areas, expanding the uses throughout the watershed, and using the data for policy development to precipitate support for groundwater recharge. Stephanie Shifflett and Dwight Boyd responded to questions, noting that where the Region has designated an Environmentally Sensitive Landscape (ESL), data will help to support that designation; that integrated modelling is not the best option for all areas; and that policy development for groundwater recharge has been noted as an action item in GRCA's water management plan. Dwight Boyd also commented that OMAFRA is continuing to gather data using LIDAR, and once this detailed information is available across the province, GRCA staff can look at how to expand modelling across the watershed. Stephanie Shifflett responded to additional questions, noting that this model can change based on crop and irrigation type, and that

the functional role of mapping the depressions in the Laurel Creek watershed is to see how much water flows into them during a significant rain event, and to provide a recharge area.

## **9.2 GM-04-17-42 - Hidden Quarry**

Fred Natolochny provided a brief presentation with this report, noting that new information with regards to ground water and source water protection have been taken into consideration for this review. The presentation provided some background on the location of the hidden quarry, an overview of the application, wetlands and watercourses on the site, and the proposed site plan. GRCA staff are recommending a deferral of this application, to be reviewed again once an updated analysis is submitted.

Fred Natolochny responded to questions from board members, with the following key notes: GRCA staff are providing the best technical information to allow people who are making the decisions to make an informed decision; GRCA undertakes its review with its own technical experts and will provide an independent opinion, and outside peer review would be engaged only if GRCA did not have in-house experts; and that when technical comments are provided, they can be brought back to the board. Fred noted that it is not in our practice to return to the board, and Cindy Lunau requested that the information be presented after the new information is submitted. Mike Salisbury asked if this application requires a permit from the GRCA, Fred Natolochny responded that there is a specific provision in the Conservation Authorities Act that eliminates the need to obtain a permit under a licensed area. Mike Salisbury then asked if excavation below water would significantly change the characteristics of tributary B, and if below water pumping is something that would change under the new application. Fred Natolochny responded that it would be substantial change that would require a site plan. Sue Foxton then asked about the effect of removing gravel and its impact on the groundwater, noting that she would like to see more information regarding this concern. The Chair noted that this concern of gravel and groundwater has been hitting a provincial level.

After some discussion regarding the information to be brought back to the board, an amendment was made to the resolution with regards to this report. Once this application has been updated, resubmitted, and reviewed, a report will be brought back to the board to be received as information.

The Chair called a brief recess at 10:50 a.m. to allow guests to exit the meeting.

Reconvened at 10:57 a.m.

Jane Mitchell commented that it would be beneficial to hear revisions to the aggregate act from the Minister once changes are finalized. Joe Farwell noted that staff can provide the board with a report on changes to the Act, and an invitation to the Minister can be arranged.

2017-70

**Moved By** Chris White

**Seconded By** Cindy Lunau

THAT report GM-04-17-42 – Hidden Quarry is received for information;

And THAT staff report back to the board after the applicant provides additional information and a technical review has been completed.

**Carried**

**10. Correspondence**

**10.1 Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry re: Lands Sale Proceeds Reserve fund**

2017-71

**Moved By** George Wicke

**Seconded By** Guy Gardhouse

THAT correspondence from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the use of Land Sale Reserves for hazard tree management be received as information.

**Carried**

**11. 1st and 2nd Reading of By-Laws**

None.

**12. Reports:**

**12.1 GM-04-17-49 - Chair's Report of the Special Recognition Committee - Meeting of March 24, 2017**

2017-72

**Moved By** Les Armstrong

**Seconded By** Pat Salter

THAT the report of the Special Recognition Committee with respect to its meeting held March 24, 2017 be received for information,

And THAT the recommendation of the GRCA Special Recognition Committee to name a new seating area at the Guelph Rotary Forest *Clare's Lookout*, and name a classroom at the Apps' Mill Nature Centre *The SCJ Nature Education Room*, and name the property at the south end of Main Street in Grand Valley be named *Hereward Women's Institute Park*, be approved.

**Carried**

### **12.2 GM-04-17-46 - Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

Joe Farwell noted that the annual tree sale will be on May 12th.

An augmented reality sandbox has been created for use in nature centres and children's water festivals. One is on-site in the auditorium and board members were invited to view a brief demonstration following the meeting.

The Chair reminded the board of the Foundation's annual canoe event. An invitation will follow.

2017-73

**Moved By** Susan Foxton

**Seconded By** Warren Stauch

THAT Report GM-04-17-46 - Chief Administrative Officer's Report, be received for information.

**Carried**

### **12.3 GM-04-17-40 - Cash and Investment Status**

There were no questions or concerns with regards to this report.

2017-74

**Moved By** Brian Coleman

**Seconded By** Chris White

THAT Report Number GM-04-17-40 – Cash and Investments Status Report as of March 31, 2017 be received as information.

**Carried**

**12.4 GM-04-17-47 - Financial Summary**

Keith Murch noted that the insurance information came in later in the month, so the savings are not reflected in this month's financial summary.

2017-75

**Moved By** Jane Mitchell

**Seconded By** Shirley Simons

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending March 31, 2017 be approved.

**Carried**

**12.5 GM-04-17-41 - 2017-2018 General Insurance Renewal**

Keith Murch provided an overview of the Conservation Ontario Group Insurance coverage. Highlights of coverage this year include no changes in our carriers, this being our fourth year with Marsh; two additional coverages: social engineering fraud and cyber fraud; and all policies are being renewed 'as-is' with no changes in premiums or rates. The total premiums are 16.5 percent lower than last year due to savings in property premiums, automobile premiums, and a change in the formula used to allocate the liability premium. If staff conclude that a portion of this savings should be set aside for uninsured losses, a recommendation will be brought to the board. Automobile coverage may see an increase due to the number of vehicles added to the fleet during the year, which could change the final savings amount.

2017-76

**Moved By** Elizabeth Clarke

**Seconded By** Susan Foxtton

That Report GM-04-17-41 – General Insurance Renewal, 2017-2018, be received for information.

**Carried**

**12.6 GM-04-17-43 - 2017 Vehicle Purchase Tender Results**

Board members requested that future reports of this type include a comparison of how actual cost relates to budgeted figures. Dave Bennett noted that this information will be included in future reports, and that the numbers in this report are below the estimated budget.

2017-77

**Moved By** Geoff Lorentz

**Seconded By** Chris White

THAT Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for the purchase of one ½ Ton Pickup Truck Regular Cab (2WD), one ½ Ton Pickup Truck Extended Cab (4WD), one ¾ Ton Pickup Truck Extended Cab (4WD) and one 1 Ton Pickup Truck Regular Cab (4WD) to Bennett GM for a total amount of \$133,903.52 (excluding HST).

**Carried**

**12.7 GM-04-17-44 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines Regulation**

Jane Mitchell questioned whether it is necessary to see these reports on a monthly basis, and asked for additional input from board members. After a brief discussion, Jane Mitchell suggested that these permit reports can be provided quarterly to the board, and should include overall data for individual municipalities. Specific permit details will no longer be necessary.

2017-78

**Moved By** Jane Mitchell

**Seconded By** Brian Coleman

THAT the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines reports be removed as a monthly report, and be added as a quarterly report which will include summary data segregated by municipality.

**Carried**

2017-79

**Moved By** Guy Gardhouse

**Seconded By** Sandy Shantz



THAT Report GM-04-17-44 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines, be received for information.

**Carried**

**12.8 GM-04-17-45 - Environmental Assessments**

There were no questions or concerns with regards to this report.

2017-80

**Moved By** Joe Nowak

**Seconded By** Susan Foxton

That Report Number GM-04-17-45 Environmental Assessments be received as information.

**Carried**

**12.10 GM-04-17-48 - Current Watershed Conditions**

2017-81

**Moved By** Chris White

**Seconded By** Les Armstrong

That Report No. GM-4-17-48 – Current Watershed Conditions as of April 19, 2017 be received as information.

**Carried**

**13. Committee of the Whole**

Not required.

**14. General Business**

There was no General Business.

**15. 3rd Reading of By-Laws**

None.

**16. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**17. Closed Meeting**

2017-82

**Moved By** Bernie Corbett

**Seconded By** Sandy Shantz

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting to discuss a confidential matter.

**Carried**

**Back to Open Session**

2017-83

**Moved By** Les Armstrong

**Seconded By** Susan Foxtan

THAT the General Membership return to open session.

**Carried**

**17.1 Resolutions Resulting from Closed Meeting**

2017-84

**Moved By** Geoff Lorentz

**Seconded By** George Wicke

THAT Grand River Conservation Authority seek party status at the Ontario Municipal Board regarding the appeal of Official Plan Amendment No. 48, for the redesignation of Grand River Conservation Authority's Land on Niska Road/Pioneer Trail, in the City of Guelph.

**Carried**

**18. Next Meetings**

The next General Membership meeting will be held on May 26, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

**19. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

2017-85

**Moved By** Les Armstrong

**Seconded By** Susan Foxton

THAT the General Membership Meeting be adjourned.

**Carried**

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer