



Grand River Conservation Authority

Minutes - General Membership Meeting

Date:	April 26, 2019
Time:	9:30 am
Location:	Auditorium Grand River Conservation Authority 400 Clyde Road, Box 729 Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6
Members Present	Marcus Adili, Les Armstrong, Bruce Banbury, Robert Bell, Don Brunk, Richard Carpenter, John Challinor II, Brian Coleman, Bernie Corbett, Jim Erb, Susan Foxtan, Guy Gardhouse, Joan Gatward, Rodrigo Goller, Michael Harris, Helen Jowett, Daniel Lawrence, Geoff Lorentz, Ian MacRae, Kathryn McGarry, Jane Mitchell, Joe Nowak, Vic Prendergast, Warren Stauch, Bruce Whale, Chris White
Staff	Karen Armstrong, Dave Bennett, Dwight Boyd, Krista Bunn, Nancy Davy, Joe Farwell, Samantha Lawson, Sonja Radoja, Tracey Ryan, Lisa Stocco, Pam Walther-Mabee, Cameron Linwood, Beth Brown, Janet Ivey, Janet Engel, Katelyn Lynch, Scott Robertson, Rebecca Mitchell, Eowyn Spencer
Others	Ray Martin (Cambridge Times), Stephanie De Grandis (Concerned Residents Coalition), Mary Anne Caibaiosai, Laura Hamilton, Lori Folkerson (MPP Mike Schreiner)

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:30 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 26 Members attended the meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed the Members and made the following remarks:

- On April 10th GRCA staff attended a Chamber Breakfast where I participated in a conversation about Healthcare and Opioids in our community. As this board is aware this is an ongoing concern that affects all of our communities. I want to once again thank GRCA staff for participating in these discussions with partner agencies and for keeping these conversations going
- Celebrate Earth Day with the Guelph Lake Rotary Forest tree planting event on April 27th. Staff and volunteers will be planting 4,000 trees at this event
- The GRCA is hosting its annual Children's Water Festivals in Brantford-Brant and Haldimand Counties on May 15 and May 23. Thank you to GRCA staff for hosting these to help educate young people about the importance of water resources
- The GRCA also partners in the Waterloo-Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival. Volunteers are still needed for this event and board members are welcome to sign up. For more information on becoming a volunteer for a day, please contact Eowyn
- Welcome to new member John Challinor II representing Halton Region
- GRCA Conservation Areas are set to open for the 2019 season on May 1

4. Review of Agenda

19-67

Moved By Michael Harris

Seconded By Chris White

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting of April 26, 2019, 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

19-68

Moved By Bernie Corbett

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of March 22, 2019, 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

8.1 Mary Anne Caibaiosai & Laura Hamilton - All Nations Grand River Water Walk

- Mary Anne Caibaiosai addressed the Board to share information about the All Nations Grand River Water Walk. The ceremonial walk is a sacred tradition of honouring the water and indigenous and non-indigenous people are invited to join the trek. A pail of river water will be carried along the Grand River from Dundalk to Port Maitland to honour the spirit of the water. The walk is scheduled from June 15 to 21, 2019. Route and participation information is available on the River Walk website at www.grandriverwaterwalk.com

M.Adili joined the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

9. Presentations

There were no Presentations.

10. Correspondence

10.1 Avon Trail - use of GRCA property

10.2 Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - 2019-2020 Transfer Payment Funding

10.3 Halton Region - Paris Galt Moraine Conservation Act, 2019

19-69

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT Correspondence from Avon Trail regarding access through Laurel Creek Nature Centre footpaths, and from Halton Region regarding Bill 71, the Paris Galt Moraine Conservation Act, 2019, and from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the 2019-2020 Section 39 Eligible Natural Hazard Management Grant be received as information.

Carried

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

None.

12. Reports:

12.1 GM-04-19-44 - Chair's Report of the Special Recognition Committee

S.Foxton joined the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

19-70

Moved By Chris White

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the Report of the Special Recognition Committee with respect to its meeting held March 22, 2019 be received as information.

Carried

12.2 GM-04-19-37 - Environmental Assessments

19-71

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Joan Gatward

THAT Report GM-04-19-37 Environmental Assessments be received as information.

Carried

12.3 GM-04-19-36 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

19-72

Moved By Bruce Banbury

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT Report GM-04-19-36, Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation, be received as information.

Carried

12.4 GM-04-19-38 - Cash and Investment Status

- B.Corbett inquired about maturing bonds and interest rates. S.Radoja will review available information and bring it back to the board in May

19-73

Moved By Joe Nowak

Seconded By Susan Foxtton

THAT Report GM-04-19-38 Cash and Investment Status – March 2019 be received as information.

Carried

12.5 GM-04-19-43 - Financial Summary

- B.Corbett raised a question of use of reserves when considering provincial funding cuts. S.Radoja responded that a final course of action is not decided, and J.Farwell added that this topic will be further discussed at agenda item 12.i
- S.Radoja said that expenses are on track for 2019 and that forecast adjustments will be made as required

19-74

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Marcus Adili

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending March 31, 2019 be approved.

Carried

12.6 GM-04-19-40 - General Insurance Renewal 2019-2020

19-75

Moved By Richard Carpenter

Seconded By Susan Foxtton

THAT Report GM-04-19-40 – General Insurance Renewal, 2019-2020, be received as information.

Carried

12.7 GM-04-19-49 - Chief Administrative Officer's Report

- J.Farwell recently attended the Aggregate Reform Summit hosted by The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
- S.Foxtton and K.McGarry added comments regarding the turn out of the event and provincial consultations with the aggregate industry

19-76

Moved By Kathryn McGarry

Seconded By Susan Foxtton

THAT Report GM-04-19-49 – Chief Administration Officer's Report be received as information.

Carried

12.8 GM-04-19-39 - Proposed Amendment to Conservation Authorities Regulations for Development Permits (ERO Posting 013-4992)

- D.Brunk noted that staff should consider a stronger position on provincial investment in updating natural hazard maps

19-77

Moved By Don Brunk

Seconded By Susan Foxtton

THAT Report Number – Proposed Amendment to Conservation Authorities Regulations for Development Permits (ERO Posting #013-4992) be received as information,

AND THAT Grand River Conservation Authority Report GM-04-19-39 be submitted to the Province through the Environmental Registry.

Carried

12.9 GM-04-19-41 - Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations (ERO Posting 013-5018)

- J.Farwell advised the Board that the province is accepting comments on modernizing conservation authority operations and defining a core mandate for the authorities and asked the Members for feedback on the wording in the report that will be sent to the government in response to the ERO posting. J.Farwell discussed GRCA's role in natural hazard protection management, and how to show the connection between other programs that are also a part of natural hazard management
- Board members discussed budget impacts on programs, self-generating revenue from user fees, hydro generation and reserve funds
- J.Farwell noted that the budget impact is uncertain as details from the province have not yet been finalized, but that natural hazard management, and the water and erosion control infrastructure programs are critical pieces of the authorities' mandate
- J.Challinor noted a recent staff report prepared for the Town of Milton on reducing regulatory burdens and offered to share the information with staff

19-78

Moved By Susan Foxtan

Seconded By Kathryn McGarry

THAT Report GM-04-19-41 – Environmental Registry Posting 013-5018: Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations be received as information,

AND THAT Grand River Conservation Authority Report GM-04-19-41 be submitted to the Province through the Environmental Registry.

Carried

12.10 GM-04-19-45 - 2019 Road Surface Treatment Tender Results

19-79

Moved By Susan Foxtan

Seconded By Kathryn McGarry

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for the 2019 road surface treatments to Cornell Construction Limited of Brantford, Ontario up to the amount of \$73,000.00 excluding HST.

Carried

12.11 GM-04-19-46 - Guelph Lake Workshop Tender Results

- In response to an inquiry from B.Bell about the location of the workshop, D.Bennett showed a map of the area and highlighted the maintenance and

access roads, proposed septic area, workshop and gatehouse area, day use area, and new nature centre location

19-80

Moved By Bob Bell

Seconded By Chris White

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for the Guelph Lake Workshop project to Demikon Construction Ltd. of Guelph, Ontario in the amount of \$887,600.00, excluding HST.

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve a total project budget for the Guelph Lake Workshop project of \$1,029,860.00.

Carried

12.12 GM-04-19-47 - 2019 Loader Tractor Purchase

19-81

Moved By Bernie Corbett

Seconded By Bob Bell

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority purchase one 30.7 kW (41.2 HP) PTO four wheel drive tractor with cab and front loader attachment from Premier Equipment Ltd. in the amount of \$56,400.00 excluding HST and one 74.5 kW (100 HP) four wheel drive tractor with cab and front loader attachment from Premier Equipment Ltd. in the amount of \$103,800 (excluding HST).

Carried

12.13 GM-04-19-51 - Utility Vehicle Purchase

M.Harris left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

- R.Goller inquired if authority staff have explored options for electric vehicles. D.Bennett said that a number of options are available, especially for use within the campgrounds, and that options will be investigated and tested starting in June

19-82

Moved By Rodrigo Goller

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority purchase three Polaris Ranger utility vehicles with integrated cab from Bennett Equipment Services for a total amount of \$74,250.00 excluding HST.

Carried

12.14 GM-04-19-52 - Turf Maintenance Equipment Purchase

19-83

Moved By Joan Gatward

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority purchase three 2019 front mounted mowers with 60" wide cutting decks from G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd. for a total amount of \$74,295.00 (excluding HST).

Carried

12.15 GM-04-19-50 - Conestogo Dam Concrete Rehabilitation DR 19.009 Tender Award

19-84

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Geoff Lorentz

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority accept the tender with MTM-2 Contracting Inc. in the amount of \$1,270,617.20 (including HST) as it was the lowest tender submitted meeting all tender requirements,

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve a total project budget for the Conestogo dam concrete rehabilitation of \$1,307,391.26,

AND THAT AECOM Canada Ltd. be retained to oversee the Contract Administration and Quality Assurance for both phases the project, Phase 1 cost is \$88,361.74 (including HST).

Carried

12.16 GM-04-19-48 - Mill Run Maintenance Agreement

19-85

Moved By Susan Foxtton

Seconded By Kathryn McGarry

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority enter into a maintenance agreement with the City of Cambridge to permit municipal use of Grand River Conservation Authority lands for recreational activities.

Carried

12.17 GM-04-19-42 - Current Watershed Conditions

- D.Boyd reviewed the current watershed conditions, highlighting a delayed spring. The watershed is currently saturated and conditions are being closely monitored. The long-range forecast varies, but a warming trend is emerging
- D.Boyd also provided an update on the jet fuel spill that occurred in January near the 401. The Ministry is continuing to observe the area immediately near the spill as well as downstream near the Shade's Mill reservoir. The Ministry has reported that no impact to wildlife has been observed or is expected.

There is no evidence of long-term impact or an ongoing threat. Water-based recreation activities at Shade's Mills are not recommended as observations continue. Associated costs of monitoring and remediation are borne by the jet fuel carrier

- R.Carpenter noted a scaling issue in the Brantford precipitation map provided in the report, and asked if increased rainfall could lead to erosion. D.Boyd said bank erosion is typically more affected by ice, and that new LIDAR technology will help to map along the bottom and sides of the river and will help assess how the river is changing over time. This technology is in the preliminary stages, with the project wrapping up by March 2020
- D.Lawrence inquired about long term plans for new reservoirs in the watershed, and D.Boyd responded that there are no plans at this time, but there are options for future reservoirs

19-86

Moved By Susan Foxtton

Seconded By Kathryn McGarry

THAT Report GM-04-19-42 – Current Watershed Conditions as of April 16, 2019 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

None.

17. Closed Meeting

19-87

Moved By Geoff Lorentz

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting to discuss a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition.

Carried

19-88

Moved By Guy Gardhouse

Seconded By Susan Foxton

THAT the General Membership return to open session.

Carried

18. Resolutions from Closed Session

17.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

19-89

Moved By Bob Bell

Seconded By Richard Carpenter

THAT the minutes of the previous closed session be approved as circulated.

Carried

17.2 GM-04-19-C06 - Declaration of Surplus Lands - City of Brantford

The Grand River Conservation Authority acquired a 36 acres parcel of land in the City of Brantford in 1981 as part of the Brantford Flood Control project. A portion of the property contains the earth berm dike upon which the City's trail is located. As part of the Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan for the Special Policy Area 2 in the south of Brantford, 1.62 hectares (4 acres) of GRCA land has been identified as part of the preferred alternative for the overall stormwater strategy. The land will be used for stormwater management infrastructure.

19-90

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Warren Stauch

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority declare surplus the lands known as the former Ames Property described as Part of Lot 10 in the Eagles Nest Tract, City of Brantford, municipally known as 436 Erie Avenue, consisting of approximately 1.62 hectares (4 acres) to be more particularly described on a Reference Plan to be deposited;

AND THAT staff be directed to negotiate an agreement of sale for the surplus lands with the City of Brantford.

Carried

19. Next Meetings

- General Membership - May 24, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.
- General Membership Composition Review Committee - At the call of the Chair
- Chief Administrative Officer Hiring Committee - At the call of the Chair

20. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

19-91

Moved By Bernie Corbett

Seconded By Rodrigo Goller

THAT the meeting of the General Membership be adjourned.

Carried

21. Grand River Source Protection Authority Meeting

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer