



Grand River Conservation Authority

Minutes - General Membership Meeting

Date:	September 27, 2019
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, Don Brunk, Richard Carpenter, John Challinor II, Brian Coleman, Jim Erb, Susan Foxton, Guy Gardhouse, Rodrigo Goller, Michael Harris, Helen Jowett, Daniel Lawrence, Ian MacRae, Kathryn McGarry, Jane Mitchell, Joe Nowak, Vic Prendergast, Bruce Whale, Chris White
Regrets	Marcus Adili, Bernie Corbett, Joan Gatward, Geoff Lorentz, Warren Stauch
Staff	Karen Armstrong, Dwight Boyd, Krista Bunn, Nancy Davy, Samantha Lawson, Sonja Radoja, Tracey Ryan, George Sousa, Lisa Stocco, Pam Walther-Mabee, Sara Wilbur, Cameron Linwood, Eowyn Spencer, Beth Brown, Scott Robertson, Mark Anderson, Paul Lucier, Fred Natolochny, Gus Rungis, Janet Ivey, Martin Keller, Vahid Taleban, Trina Seguin, Kayleigh Keighan
Others	Ray Martin (Cambridge Times), Leonard Chaplinsky, Julia Morrison, Clare Gingrich, Miriam Gingrich, Hans Pottkamper

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

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

The Secretary-Treasurer certified a quorum with 19 Members present. A total of 21 Members attended the meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

K.McGarry joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

The Chair welcomed the Members and made the following remarks:

- A meeting of the General Membership Composition Review Committee will be held following the October Board meeting
- The Chair and Samantha Lawson will attend Conservation Ontario Council on Monday, September 30 in Toronto
- The Grand River Conservation Foundation 2018 Annual Report has been published and copy has been provided to Members
- Recently OMAFRA and MRNF staff received an Amethyst Award for the LiDAR project they completed. Their project provided LiDAR mapping across our entire watershed and greatly reduced costs associated with updating floodplain mapping and removed barriers to moving to digital floodplain mapping. This represents a great milestone in LiDAR data acquisition and dissemination and acknowledges the value of this data for the public good
- Beth Brown has accepted the role of Manager of Property. Ms.Brown has been with the GRCA since 1998 in a number of positions, most recently as Supervisor of Resource Planning. Through her education and experience, Ms.Brown has developed and demonstrated key skills in project management, planning and regulatory enforcement, effective communication, conflict resolution, collaboration and leadership, all of which will serve her well in her new position

M.Harris joined the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

4. Review of Agenda

- One additional delegation registered after the agenda was published. The delegation is here to speak to ice jam concerns in West Montrose and will be heard during the delegations section of the agenda

19-154

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Susan Foxton

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting of September 27, 2019 be approved as amended.

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

19-155

Moved By Kathryn McGarry

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of August 23, 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

8.2 Clare Gingrich et al - West Montrose Ice Jam Concerns

The Board heard from a group of West Montrose residents regarding their collective concerns of possible ice jams in the Grand River near their homes. The concerns were raised due to a new gravel deposit that formed a small island downstream of the West Montrose covered bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Clare and Miriam Gingrich and Mr. Hans Pottkamper shared concerns of potential flooding and damage to the heritage bridge and asked that the Board consider options for removal of the gravel deposit to reduce the potential risks.

D.Boyd provided a brief presentation and responded to Board questions indicating that the GRCA is monitoring the area and completing assessments, and will initiate mitigation if deemed necessary by the outcome of the assessments. The GRCA understands the concerns of the residents and will make a determination on the need for intervention once the assessments are complete and an information report outlining the results will be brought to the Board at that time. D.Boyd added that ice jams are extremely hard to predict and that weather conditions will be monitored throughout the winter months.

8.1 Julia Morrison and Leonard Chaplinsky - Further information regarding residential property

The Board heard from Mr. Leonard Chaplinsky and Ms. Julia Morison who shared documentation regarding the property they currently lease from the GRCA and reiterated their interest in purchasing the property. The named property was further discussed with the staff report at agenda item 12.a.

9. Presentations

There were no Presentations.

10. Correspondence

10.1 MECP: Improving transparency and accountability

19-156

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT Correspondence from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding improving transparency and accountability be received as information.

Carried

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

None.

12. Reports:

12.1 GM-09-19-90 - Residential Program Wind-down - Demolitions

L.Armstrong left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

B.Brown provided a detailed overview of the report, highlighting the background of the Board approved Residential Wind-down Program and each of four options that was considered during the review of every residential home in the program. GRCA staff considered this property in the same manner as other homes in order to maintain a consistent and objective approach. Options for considerations include: retaining the property for GRCA use, selling the entire parcel, severing and selling the property, or a demolition of the house and retaining the property. B.Brown provided details of each consideration and reiterated the staff recommendation to demolish the home.

Board members discussed the current state of the home and the property's estimated value, the tenant's commercial business being operated on the property, potential future uses of the property, liabilities as the landlord of the property, other existing leases on the parcel, and relevant legislation and guidelines the GRCA must adhere to when considering the severance or sale of property.

19-157

Moved By Rodrigo Goller

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT the General Membership enter a closed session to discuss litigation or potential litigation.

Carried

19-158

Moved By Michael Harris

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the General Membership reconvene in open session.

Carried

The meeting reconvened in open session and there were no further questions regarding the report.

19-159

Moved By Bob Bell

Seconded By Michael Harris

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority demolish the house, known as the Leishman Residence, located on Lot 1, Concession 9, Division C, Pt Lot 2, Concession 9, Division C, Township of Guelph, Parts 1, 2,3, 61R244, save and except Pt 1 61R6941, Pt 1 61R6839; Township of Guelph, known municipally as 5501 Wellington Road 38, Guelph/Eramosa.

Carried

12.2 GM-09-19-99 - Chief Administrative Officer's Report

D.Lawrence and M.Harris left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

S.Lawson informed the Board that she and the Chair have met with watershed MPPs, senior Minister's staff at MNRF and MECP and have been invited to a consultation meeting with the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding changes in the *More Homes, More Choices Act*. An update will be provided to Members following the consultation.

The Provincial Flood Advisor, Mr. Doug McNeil, hosted a roundtable discussion at the GRCA on September 13, 2019 and met with GRCA staff to learn more about flood management in the Grand River watershed.

19-160

Moved By Bruce Whale

Seconded By Susan Foxton

THAT Report GM-09-19-99 – Chief Administrative Officer's Report be received as information.

Carried

12.3 GM-09-19-97 - Human Resources Policies Update 2019

19-161

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Guy Gardhouse

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority Human Resources Policies dated September 2019 be approved and implemented.

Carried

12.4 GM-09-19-92 - Provincial Offences Act Officer Designation

19-162

Moved By Richard Carpenter

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority designate Pamela Walther-Mabee as a Provincial Offences Act Officer.

Carried

12.5 GM-09-19-86 - Cash and Investment Status

19-163

Moved By Chris White

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT Report Number GM-09-19-86 Cash and Investment Status – August 2019 be received as information.

Carried

12.6 GM-09-19-95 - Financial Summary

19-164

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

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

Carried

12.7 GM-09-19-88 - Budget 2020 (draft #1)

G.Gardhouse left the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

S.Lawson and S.Radoja presented the first draft of the 2020 budget. S.Lawson provided an overview of the Grand River watershed and challenges faced by conservation authorities. S.Radoja provided a detailed overview of the operating and capital budget assumptions for 2020, highlighting changes in revenue and expenses and outlining special programs. Unless the Members request otherwise, the second draft of the budget will be presented to the Board in January. The final budget will be presented for approval at the February 2020 Board meeting and presentations will be made to municipal councils upon request.

J.Erb left the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

J.Mitchell left the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

19-165

Moved By Rodrigo Goller

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT Report Number 09-19-88 - Budget 2020 (draft #1) be received as information.

Carried

12.8 GM-09-19-94 - Water Control Structures Major Maintenance Forecast 2019-2024

19-166

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Susan Foxton

THAT Report GM-09-19-94 - Water Control Structures Major Maintenance Forecast – 2019-2024 be received as information

Carried

12.9 GM-09-19-93 - Cambridge East Bank Dike Repair Tender Award

19-167

Moved By Kathryn McGarry

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender with Cambridge Landscaping and Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$129,503.65 (including HST);

AND THAT a project budget of \$140,000 be approved.

Carried

12.10 GM-09-19-89 - Acquisition of River Level Measuring and Logging Equipment

19-168

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Ian MacRae

THAT Grand River Conservation Authority acquire:

(A) 50 iRIS 270-DC data logger devices from Hydrological Services America at a total cost of \$128,450 USD plus applicable sales taxes; and

(B) 50 AD375MA Absolute Shaft Encoders from Hydrological Services America at a total cost of \$58,200 USD plus applicable sales taxes;

AND THAT these expenses be funded by the gauge reserve.

Carried

12.11 GM-09-19-91 - Demolition and Soil Remediation Services at Brant Conservation Area Tender Results

19-169

Moved By Vic Prendergast

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for Demolition and Soil Remediation Services at Brant Conservation Area to QM LP of Mississauga, Ontario in the amount of \$175,640.70, excluding HST;

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve a project budget of \$295,000;

AND THAT any shortfall in insurance coverage for the overall project expenses be funded from the Conservation Area Reserve.

Carried

12.12 GM-09-19-87 - Halidmand County Memorandum of Understanding for Plan Review Services

19-170

Moved By Kathryn McGarry

Seconded By Susan Foxton

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority endorse report GM-09-19-87 – Haldimand County Memorandum of Understanding for Plan Review Services,

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign the final Memorandum of Understanding for Plan Review Services on behalf of the Grand River Conservation Authority,

AND THAT the existing 2016 Memorandum of Understanding be terminated.

Carried

12.13 GM-09-19-98 - Environmental Assessments

19-171

Moved By Joe Nowak

Seconded By Chris White

THAT Report Number GM-09-19-98 Environmental Assessments be received as information.

Carried

12.14 GM-09-19-97 - Current Watershed Conditions

D.Boyd noted the high Lake Erie levels and highlighted ongoing emergency preparedness planning across the watershed. The long range fall forecast is indicating warmer temperatures in to late fall and a traditional winter forecast is expected. A more active than normal hurricane season is also being monitored.

19-172

Moved By Richard Carpenter

Seconded By John Challinor II

That Report Number GM-09-19-96 – Current Watershed Conditions as of September 17, 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

The Chair noted that Jim Erb shared an article with her about Conservation Authorities that she has shared with S.Lawson who will review and report on the information as applicable.

17. Closed Meeting

Not required at this time.

18. Next Meetings

- General Membership - October 25, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.
- GM Composition Review Committee - October 25, 2019 following the meeting of the General Membership

19. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12.11 p.m.

19-173

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Kathryn McGarry

THAT the meeting of the General Membership be adjourned

Carried

20. Grand River Source Protection Authority Meeting

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer