

Board of Directors' Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-08-21

Friday, July 23, 2021

Held virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

LSRCA Board Members Present

Regional Chairman W. Emmerson (Chair), Councillor K. Aylwin, Mayor D. Barton, Mayor B. Drew, Councillor A. Eek, Councillor K. Ferdinands, Councillor W. Gaertner, Councillor R. Greenlaw, Mayor V. Hackson, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Councillor C. Pettingill, Councillor C. Riepma, Regional Councillor T. Vegh

LSRCA Board Members Absent

Councillor P. Ferragine (Vice Chair), Deputy Mayor J. Gough, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor A. Waters, Councillor E. Yeo

LSRCA Staff Present

S. Auger, R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, M. Bessey, K. Christensen, M. Critch, P. Davies, J. Doyley, N. Hamley, S. Jagminas, B. Kemp, B. Longstaff, G. MacMillan, G. Peat, C. Sharp, C. Taylor, B. Thompson, K. Toffan, F. Tonto, K. Yemm, K. Zeppieri

I. Land Acknowledgement

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

None noted for the meeting.

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: K. Aylwin

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-111-21 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the July 23, 2021 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented. **Carried**

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors' Meeting

Moved by: V. Hackson

Seconded by: W. Gaertner

BOD-112-21 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-07-21, held on Friday, June 25, 2021 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

V. Announcements

- a) CAO Rob Baldwin advised that a meeting was held on July 21st at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area with the Hon. David Piccini, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. The meeting was arranged and attended by Parliamentary Assistant and Barrie-Innisfil MPP Andrea Khanjin. In attendance from the Authority were Rob Baldwin, Nicole Hamley, Ben Longstaff and Kristen Yemm. He advised that they walked the trails together while discussing salt management, our innovative stormwater work and low impact development, an overview of our education program, as well as the importance of passive recreation and the need for it to be incorporated in the changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Staff very much appreciated this opportunity to showcase some of the Authority's work.
- b) CAO Baldwin advised that discussions with staff regarding return to the physical offices in the Fall have begun, and more information will be provided to the Board as plans evolve.
- c) CAO Baldwin advised of an upcoming meeting regarding the Georgina Island Fixed Link Project, a planned causeway and bridge to connect the island with mainland Georgina, noting that he appreciates the opportunity to discuss this project in the early planning stages. As more information becomes available, it will be brought back to the Board.
- d) Chair Emmerson offered best wishes to the City of Barrie residents after their recent tornado damage. City of Barrie Councillors Aylwin and Riepma updated on the situation, noting that thankfully all injured citizens have been released from hospital. They also praised the entire community for rallying together to support one another.

VI. Presentations

a) **Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast**

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, provided a presentation on the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast. He reviewed the Executive Summary, noting that Authority business operations are recovering from some impacts seen in 2020 due to COVID-19. The Authority's 14 Annual Operating Priorities for 2021 are progressing as expected, with one exception due to Federal funding. He noted the financial condition of the Authority is strong, a surplus is forecast for 2021, and staff will monitor the use of reserves and deferred revenue for year end.

GM Critch updated on business operations, noting staff continue working from home with anticipated return to the office in the Fall. Some additional costs will be incurred related to

cleaning, supplies and equipment, as well as renovations to the Mabel Davis offices in preparation for staff's return. He went on to note that overall, revenue and expenditures are in line with mid-year expectations. Some Provincial and Federal funding is below year-to-date expectations mainly related to timing of project work. Revenue generation is trending just above year-to-date expectations due to higher volume of applications in Planning & Regulations, and tree planting and education programs have gone ahead as planned during the first two quarters.

GM Critch noted a few factors contributing to the surplus include variances due to staff turnover and recruitment for open positions, variances in operational spending which will be offset with some additional spending in the third and fourth quarters for return to office, as well as asset management. Other contributors are timing variances on capital work at Authority properties, with expenditures expected in second half of 2021.

Looking forward, GM Critch noted that the forecast at the second quarter is used to identify key trends and to monitor the remainder of the year. The forecast will help inform the development of the 2022 Budget and will ensure the adequacy of reserves in the short term. Staff will continue to monitor the impacts of Bill 229/108 and implement changes as needed.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [2nd Quarter 2021 Financial Update](#)

For more information on the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report, please contact Mark Critch at 905-895-1281, ext. 297 or m.critch@lsrca.on.ca.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-113-21 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, regarding the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 37-21-BOD regarding the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Forecast was included in the agenda.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-114-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 37-21-BOD regarding the Second Quarter Financial Report and Year-End Forecast for the period ending June 30, 2021 be received for information. **Carried**

b) Program Update: Implementation of Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies

General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Ben Longstaff, advised that the Authority's Climate Change Program is gaining strength due in large part to the completion of the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies, as well as having a dedicated climate change specialist on staff. He was pleased to introduce the Authority's Climate Change Specialist, Fabio Tonto, to provide an update on these initiatives.

Mr. Tonto advised that climate change projections for 2080 are for temperatures to rise 6.8 degrees Celsius, which will translate to several additional days above 30 degrees Celsius. In addition, rain events are expected to be more frequent, more intense, and longer in duration. In response, the Authority has completed climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, which have several recommendations. There are eight themes and in total 46 actions in the implementation plan, a few of which were highlighted during the meeting:

- Raising Awareness and Engaging the Watershed: Led by the Authority's Education team, five free themed guided hikes on three Authority properties are scheduled for Fall 2021. For more information on these hikes or to register, please click this link: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/Pages/Climate-Change-Hikes.aspx>.
- Exploring the Potential of Carbon Sequestration within Grassland Habitats: Efforts include wetland restoration projects to support the idea of net zero communities and no new carbon being released into the atmosphere.
- Supporting Municipal Readiness: Authority staff participate in regional and municipal working groups and collaborate with municipal staff to gain a better understanding of the challenges of climate change among our municipal partners. Authority staff hosted a webinar series to connect practitioners from the municipalities and to inform and share information. Four interactive webinars were held in May and June with over 150 attendees. The feedback was very positive, and lots was learned about increasing efficiency by collaborating and sharing information, plans and actions.

Authority staff continue to look for ways to move climate change initiatives forward and assist in further collaboration with municipal partners. To view this presentation, please click this link: [Climate Change Program Update](#). For additional information, please visit the Authority's Climate Change webpage: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/watershed-health/climate-change> or contact Fabio Tonto at 905-895-1281, ext. 239 or f.tonto@lsrca.on.ca.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-115-21 **Resolved That** the presentation by Climate Change Specialist, Fabio Tonto, regarding the Authority's Climate Change Initiatives be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 38-21-BOD regarding an update on the Authority's Climate Change Initiatives was included in the agenda.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-116-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 38-21-BOD regarding the Authority's initial work to implement the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies be received for information. **Carried**

VII. Hearings

There were no hearings at this meeting.

VIII. Deputations

There were no deputations at this meeting.

IX. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Item No. 4 was identified under items requiring separate discussion.

X. Adoption of Items not Requiring Separate Discussion

Items No. 1, 2, and 3 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: K. Ferdinands

Seconded by: D. Barton

BOD-117-21 **Resolved That** the following recommendations respecting the matters listed as "Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion" be adopted as submitted to the Board, and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same. **Carried**

1. Correspondence

BOD-118-21 **Resolved That** no Correspondence items be received. **Carried**

2. Monitoring Report – Planning and Development Applications for the Period January 1 through June 30, 2021

BOD-119-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 39-21-BOD regarding monitoring of planning and development applications for the period January 1 through June 30, 2021 be received for information. **Carried**

3. Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Offsetting Policies Housekeeping Updates

BOD-120-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 40-21-BOD regarding the Housekeeping Updates to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Offsetting Policies be received; and

Further that the updated Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Ecological Offsetting Policy, as attached, be approved; and

Further that the updated Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Phosphorus Offsetting Policy, as attached, be approved; and

Further that the updated Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Water Balance Recharge Policy, as attached, be approved. **Carried**

XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

4. Project Update: Tamarac Park - Stormwater Management Pond Retrofit

In response to Councillor Gaertner's question regarding whether the consultant should have known about the unforeseen conditions on this project, CAO Baldwin noted that investigations were done but the project did not go as planned due to water pressure being greater than anticipated, but the end result will be a better stormwater pond than previously on site. He went on to note that ground water is one of the biggest challenges, and sometimes conditions turn out to be worse than originally thought.

Councillor Gaertner asked if the expected phosphorus reduction in this pilot project was achieved. CAO Baldwin advised that monitoring efforts at this site will be ongoing, and this is one of many pilot projects that will evaluate what can be achieved with these types of retrofit projects. He also noted that a dry pond was added to this project to increase the overall storage and performance of the facility.

Moved by: W. Gaertner

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-121-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 41-21-BOD regarding the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's efforts with the York Region Phosphorus Removal

Demonstration Project Partnership: Tamarac Park - Stormwater Management Pond Retrofit be received; and

Further that the Board of Directors authorize the Purchase Order increase to \$1,621,087, to ensure compliance with the Authority's Purchasing Policy and associated signing authority provisions. **Carried**

XII. Closed Session

The Board moved to Closed Session to deal with confidential matters.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: V. Hackson

BOD-122-21 **Resolved That** the Board move to Closed Session to deal with confidential matters; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, the Event and Marketing Specialist and the Coordinator BOD/CAO remain in the meeting for the discussion on Item a); and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Coordinator BOD/CAO remain in the meeting for the discussion on Items b) and c). **Carried**

The Board rose from Closed Session and reported findings.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: W. Gaertner

BOD-123-21 **Resolved That** the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings. **Carried**

a) 2021 Conservation Awards Recipients

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-124-21 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 42-21-BOD regarding the 2021 Conservation Awards recipients be approved. **Carried**

b) Confidential Legal Matter

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-125-21 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 43-21-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter be received for information. **Carried**

c) Confidential Legal Matter

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-126-21 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 44-21-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter be received for information. **Carried**

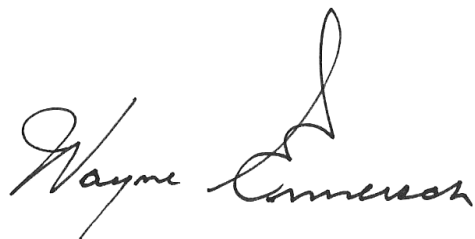
XIII. Other Business

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-127-21 **Resolved That** the meeting be adjourned at 10:24 p.m. **Carried**



Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson
Chair



Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer