

Board Meeting Highlights

69th Annual General Meeting

January 24, 2020

Welcome and Greetings:

Chair Emmerson welcomed everyone to LSRCA's 69th Annual General Meeting and thanked the many guests in attendance from the provincial government, First Nations, Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation, as well as municipal partners and many LSRCA staff members. Chair Emmerson called upon the following individuals to bring greetings to the meeting:

- Andrea Khanjin, MPP Barrie-Innisfil and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks;
- Kim Gavine, General Manager of Conservation Ontario; and
- Marvin Geist, Vice President of the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Board of Directors;

Mike Walters, LSRCA's CAO, thanked everyone for attending, introduced LSRCA's Executive Management Team, and thanked all Board members and staff for their hard work and continued support to Lake Simcoe. He noted that LSRCA's greatest strength is the staff and recognized and thanked the many staff members in attendance.

Presentations

a) The State of the Lake Simcoe Watershed

LSRCA Manager, Environmental Science and Monitoring, David Lembcke unfortunately was ill, but fortunately LSRCA's Limnologist, Dr. Brian Ginn was able to deliver the presentation on the recent phosphorus loads 2015-2017 update report. He noted that for the 2015-16 hydrologic (June 1-May 31) year, the phosphorus load was 87 tonnes, 2016-17 was 73 tonnes, and 2017-18 was 131 tonnes. In these years, much of this load was from tributary and polder sources, which are driven by precipitation and surface run-off. LSRCA's monitoring has shown that while phosphorus concentrations in tributaries have mostly shown no trend, there has been changes in tributary flow, which also increases the annual phosphorus load. In the 2017 hydrologic year, a greater tributary flow was controlled not by the total amount of annual precipitation, but the intensity and timing of some rain storm events fell on wet-saturated or frozen ground that prevented infiltration of rain water. June and February accounted for 40% of the 131 tonne load, including 11% of the phosphorus load being from a single 60 mm, overnight, rain event that occurred on June 23rd with rain falling on ground already soaked from five previous days of precipitation.

Dr. Ginn noted that these precipitation events are becoming more frequent, as predicted by modelled climate change scenarios. It is recommended that LSRCA not only continue to monitor phosphorus

concentrations in tributaries to check the progress of LSPP strategies, but also look for ways to reduce stormwater volume in order to stabilize phosphorus loads to Lake Simcoe. To view this presentation, please click on the following link: [The State of the Lake Simcoe Watershed](#)

b) The Health of Lake Simcoe

LSRCA's Limnologist, Dr. Brian Ginn presented some current environmental trends in Lake Simcoe as they relate to the newest phosphorus loading report, noting that although there has been variability in phosphorus loads, actual in-lake concentrations of phosphorus and dissolved oxygen continue to improve, relative to the 1980s, despite theories that they should fluctuate in proportion to phosphorus loading. In light of this unusual scenario, LSRCA will start to investigate reasons why Lake Simcoe has not responded to changing loads. Building on research from other parts of the Great Lakes Region, LSRCA will study if the recent change from invasive zebra to quagga mussels has impacted how phosphorus is being used and cycled in the lake, and also if the rapid spread of an invasive aquatic plant species (starry stonewort) is also impacting phosphorus availability in the lake. To view this presentation, please click on the following link: [The Health of Lake Simcoe](#)

c) LSRCA 2019 Year in Review and Looking Forward into 2020

Chair Emmerson congratulated LSRCA staff and Board of Directors for an incredible year filled with many accomplishments. He then shared a video presentation that summed up this year's successes: [2019 Highlights Video](#) and noted that LSRCA's 2019 Annual Report is now available online. Please click this link to view LSRCA's 2019 Annual Report: [2019 Annual Report](#). To obtain a hard copy, please contact Katarina Zeppieri at k.zeppieri@lsrca.on.ca or 905-895-1281 ext 116.

LSRCA's CAO Mike Walters presented the 2020 Annual Operating Priorities, noting the focus for 2020 will be to complete the remaining priority actions outlined in LSRCA's [2016-2020 Strategic Plan: Vision to Action, Action to Results](#); namely:

1. Floodplain emergency mapping/flood relief program
2. Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies
3. Asset management plan
4. Enhance service delivery – plan review and regulation
5. Scanlon Creek Operations Centre – renovation project
6. Continue fundraising for a new Nature Centre to house LSRCA's education programs
7. Community engagement strategy
8. Lead the salt reduction strategies
9. Land disposition policies and strategy
10. Continue restoration efforts
11. Continue to implement the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (LSPP)
12. Draft the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan

To view this presentation, please click on the following link: [LSRCA's 2020 Annual Operating Priorities](#)

Conclusion of 2019 Business

Chair Emmerson concluded the Year 2019 business and deemed the Chair vacant.

2020 Business

The 2020 Business portion of the meeting was called to order by the CAO, Mike Walters, who served as Chair Pro Temp during the election of the Chair and Vice Chair for 2020.

Election of Officers for 2020

Regional Municipality of York Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson was renamed Chair for 2020 and Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Councillor Peter Ferragine was named Vice Chair for 2020.



2020 Meeting Schedule – LSRCA Board of Directors

The Board approved the following meeting schedule for the remainder of 2020. Meetings are held in LSRCA's Administrative Offices located at 120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket from 9:00a to approximately 12:00p.

Friday, February 28th

Friday, March 27th

Friday, April 24th

Friday, May 22nd

Friday, June 26th

Friday, July 24th

No meeting in August

Friday, September 25th

Friday, October 23rd

Friday, November 27th

Friday, December 18th

2020 LSRCA Board of Directors

Below is a photo of the 2020 Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors in attendance.



From left to right:

Back Row: Councillor Emmett Yeo, Councillor Clare Riepma, Mayor Virginia Hackson, Councillor Keenan Aylwin, Mayor Margaret Quirk, Councillor Randy Greenlaw, Councillor Alex Waters

Front Row: Councillor Shira Harrison-McIntyre, Regional Councillor Tom Vegh, Councillor Avia Eek, Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson (LSRCA Chair), Councillor Peter Ferragine (LSRCA Vice Chair), Mayor Bobbie Drew, Mayor Dave Barton

Missing: Mayor Debbie Bath-Hadden, Councillor Wendy Gaertner, Councillor Ken Ferdinands, and Township of Ramara

To view LSRCA's AGM media release, please click the following link: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/Pages/Media-Release-Lake-Health-Improved.aspx>