

# 71<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-01-22

Friday, January 28, 2022

Held virtually via Zoom

## Meeting Minutes

### LSRCA Board Members Present

Regional Chairman W. Emmerson (Chair), Councillor P. Ferragine Councillor (Vice Chair), Councillor K. Aylwin, Mayor D. Barton, Mayor B. Drew, Councillor A. Eek, Councillor K. Ferdinands, Councillor W. Gaertner, Deputy Mayor J. Gough, Councillor R. Greenlaw, Mayor V. Hackson, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor C. Riepma, Regional Councillor T. Vegh, Councillor A. Waters, Councillor E. Yeo

### LSRCA Board Members Absent

Councillor C. Pettingill

### LSRCA Staff Present

D. Andrews, L. Aspden, S. Auger, R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, M. Bessey, B. Bollmann, R. Bolton, A. Brown, M. Brown, C. Byron, D. Campbell, J. Chan, K. Cheney, K. Christensen, C. Connell, S. Cuddy, A. Cullen, M. Critch, C. Currie, P. Davies, M. Dennis, J. Doyley, P. Du, D. Eldon, C. Eves, E. Daechsel, X. Fei, E. Fitzpatrick, T. Fleischaker, S. Fogelman, B. Ginn, M. Grieve, L. Grzywniak, N. Hamley, C. Hawson, K. Hillis, J. Ingoe, S. Ingott, S. Jagminas, J. Jakop, B. Kemp, K. Kennedy, D. Lembcke, V. Lam, J. Lim, B. Longstaff, G. MacMillan, C. Mantega, S. McKinnon, L. McLean, S. Moin, L. Munnoch, K. Nagrani, K. Nesbitt, C. Newton, N. O'Dell, B. Patel, G. Peat, K. Pellerin, B. Piotrowski, M. Quattromini, S. Rawski, M. Rosato, D. Ruggle, E. Sellan, C. Sharp, A. Sprague, T. Stevenson, P. Strong, L. Tafreshi, C. Taylor, R. Tiessen, P. Thase, B. Thompson, K. Toffan, F. Tonto, S. Troan, M. Touw, R. Wilson, A. Yates, K. Yemm, K. Zeppieri, K. Zhao

### Guests in Attendance

C. Best, S. Davidson, C. Elliott, D. Gallagher-Murphy, M. Geist, J. Grant, L. Hanson, O. Jerschow, E. Keith, K. Kelly, T. Krsul, S. Kurtz, I. Lovatt, S. MacDonald, E. Mahoney, J. Mott, J. Powell, B. Rogers, J. Scott, P. Seear, M. Seeley, B. Stiles, J. Taylor, K. Thompson

## I. Chair's Welcome and Introductions

Chair Emmerson welcomed everyone to the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual General meeting of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and recognized a number of guests in attendance.

### Roll Call – 2021 Board Members

The 2021 Board Members introduced themselves and stated which municipality they represent.

## II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None noted for the meeting.

## III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: M. Quirk

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-001-22 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's 71<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Friday, January 28, 2022 be approved as presented. **Carried**

## IV. Adoption of Minutes

### a) Board of Directors

Moved by: R. Greenlaw

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-002-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting No. BOD-12-21 held on Friday, December 17, 2021 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

## V. Greetings

Chair Emmerson called upon some guests to bring greetings on behalf of their respective organizations. First up was Scot Davidson, Member of Parliament for York-Simcoe, who brought greetings from the shores of Lake Simcoe. Chair Emmerson welcomed the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health, and MPP for Newmarket-Aurora and the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Francophone Affairs, Minister of Transportation, and MPP for York-Simcoe, who brought greetings on behalf of the Province of Ontario. Brandon Stiles brought greetings on behalf of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation, and Marvin Geist, President of the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Board of Directors, brought greetings on behalf of the Foundation.

## VI. Presentations

### a) 2021 Year in Review

The Authority's Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Baldwin, reviewed the many accomplishments of 2021, including the progress made on the *Conservation Authorities Act* regulations through the conservation authorities working group; the completion of the Authority's new Strategic Plan - [Transformation 2022-2024](#); improvements made to address requirements of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*; a banner year for restoration projects; the

acquisition of ecologically significant lands to our holdings; the successful execution of our virtual conservation awards ceremony; as well continually adapting education programs to ensure opportunities for participation. CAO Baldwin introduced the Authority's Executive Leadership Team and shared a video showcasing the Authority's 2021 highlights and accomplishments. To view this video, please click this link: [2021 Year in Review](#)

#### **b) Climate Change: An Optimistic Outlook**

General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Ben Longstaff, provided a presentation regarding actions taken and decisions made around climate change. Climate change and the Authority's vision of a "healthy lake, healthy land, healthy life...for generations to come" do epitomize everything we need to do as a watershed community. Decisions we make today and how seriously we take climate change will impact generations to come. We have choices to make on whether we continue down the path of high emissions or will we make concerted efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions. The business-as-usual pathway will have significant consequences to the environment, including more frequent and more severe storms leading to increased flooding and more phosphorus leading to Lake Simcoe. Predictions of milder winters and warmer summers will have significant impacts to watershed communities and ecosystems. With all this in mind he explained, a positive pathway to enhance resilience by dedicating resources is needed. Over the years the Authority has completed many projects toward this positive pathway in the areas of watercourse projects, streambank stabilizations projects, barrier removal projects, wetland and grassland projects, tree plantings, working with farmers on agricultural projects, stormwater management projects, and trail management and maintenance projects.

He noted that the Authority's new strategic plan recognizes that climate change cuts across all areas of the organization. With mitigation and adaptation strategies in place, the Authority has a dedicated team always ready to assist and is better positioned than every to bring our municipalities together to help tackle the challenge.

General Manager Longstaff introduced the City of Barrie's Risk Management Official, Katie Thompson, to present on the City's path towards climate resiliency through mitigation and adaptation. Katie noted that with many creeks flowing through the City to Kempenfelt Bay, much of their adaptation efforts have focused on managing stormwater. She described some of the devastating impacts the City has experienced due to some recent weather events, as well as the enormous costs of repair. It was determined that adaptation was needed to curb the financial impacts of climate change, and it is estimated that every dollar spent on adaption can yield anywhere from \$9 to \$38 in avoided damage costs.

A Climate Change adaptation strategy was completed in the City of Barrie, an implementation plan was developed, and budget friendly initiatives were undertaken. The new draft official plan fully embraces sustainability as a key theme to growth management and outlines working with other agencies to fully understand future environmental trends. The plan recognizes the need for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and incorporates policies guiding infrastructure maintenance and development in a manner that will allow the City to recover to weather events.

Another area of focus for the City is stormwater infrastructure and efforts on enhancing controls, and the City is working with the Authority on a project in the Kidds Creek subwatershed that will greatly reduce flooding and increase water quality.

Ms. Thompson noted that the City participates in the local climate change exchange working group that enables knowledge and resource sharing to assist with capacity building and expand successful action. The group looks to reduce overlapping efforts and use resources efficiently.

She shared information on the City's Community Energy Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Plan, noting the draft plan will be posted soon on the City's website for public consultation and provided the following link for information: [www.buildingbarrie.ca/communityenergy](http://www.buildingbarrie.ca/communityenergy)

For more information on the Authority's Climate Change initiatives, please contact Ben Longstaff @ [b.longstaff@lsrca.on.ca](mailto:b.longstaff@lsrca.on.ca) or 905-895-1281 ext 305.

### **c) Top Ten Restoration Projects of 2021**

Manager, Restoration Services, Christa Sharp provided a presentation on the Authority's top ten restoration projects of 2021, noting there were so many great projects that it was difficult for her team to pick just ten. In fact, she noted that 102 restoration projects were completed for a total cost of \$1.88M. The top ten projects included:

- retrofitting a dry stormwater pond in Barrie, which involved the installation of an underground vault chamber that stores and infiltrates stormwater. This project will infiltrate over 16,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year and will reduce phosphorus by over 10 kg/year;
- a low impact development retrofit project in East Gwillimbury implemented to address runoff that would flow across the parking lot picking up pollutants on its way. The parking lot was resurfaced and a bioretention swale installed, which will filter over 400 m<sup>3</sup> of stormwater during major storm events;
- in partnership with private landowners, developing designs for construction for two properties; Bayfield Mall in Barrie and 404 Town Centre in Newmarket, to retrofit the properties with low impact development features to reduce negative impacts to nearby creeks. These projects will move forward in 2022 and 2023;

- another design project at Scanlon Creek to address erosion along the creeks by stabilizing the banks to reduce sediment. This project also involves continuing work done in 2015 by removing another barrier and connecting 1.7km of watercourse to the West Holland River, securing this creek for flash storms and adding more habitat for fish to spawn in;
- Kettleby Creek Restoration Project at Kettleby Valley Camp, where the removal of a dam and restoration of a portion of the creek allows coldwater fish to migrate through unhindered, also reconnecting endangered redbreasted sunfish to their spawning habitat;
- with prescribed burns being one of the top recommended methods to manage grasslands, the Authority undertook a 9 hectare burn at Innisfree in the Town of Innisfil and a 2.4 hectare burn at the Maple Cross Nature Reserve in King Township;
- increasing biodiversity and creating pollinator habitat by planting native wildflowers;
- working with livestock farmers to restrict livestock from watercourses, manage manure, and manage milkhouse waste. Outcomes included protecting 320m of streambank from erosion, creating 7.7M litres of storage capacity for manure and milkhouse waste, improving conditions for over 150 livestock and preventing 480 kg of phosphorus from entering our waterways;
- continuing work done in 2019 to reduce agricultural runoff at a Beaverton farm, grassed waterways, water and sediment control basins, buffer plantings, windbreaks, and new ditches are among the new features installed to reduce the amount of phosphorus, sediment and other contaminants from reaching Lake Simcoe;
- supported farmers in the Holland Marsh as they completed projects such as: seeding cover crops to help control wind and water erosion, prevent soil loss and reduce weed competition. Some farmers also installed de-dirting equipment and one farmer installed a closed loop wash water treatment system, reducing the amount of water used and preventing discharge into the local drainage ditch; and
- completed 27 community action projects with over 275 volunteers who planted over 6,700 native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants, which improve wildlife and pollinator habitat, increase biodiversity, help store carbon, protect streambanks and create shade in urban environments.

To view these restoration projects, please click this link: [Top Ten Restoration Projects of 2021](#)

For more information on the Authority's Restoration Program, please contact Christa Sharp @ [c.sharp@lsrca.on.ca](mailto:c.sharp@lsrca.on.ca) or 905-895-1281 ext 115.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: J. Gough

BOD-003-22 **Resolved That** the presentations, Items VI. (a-c) be received for information. **Carried**

## **VII. 2021 Business is Concluded**

Chair Emmerson concluded the business of 2021 and deemed the Chair vacant.

Moved by: R. Greenlaw

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-004-22 **Resolved That** the Board of Directors conclude the business of 2021; and

**Further That** the Chair be declared vacant. **Carried**

## **VIII. 2022 Business**

The 2022 Business portion of the meeting was called to order by the Authority's Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Baldwin.

### **Roll Call – 2022 Board Members**

As there is no change in Board members from 2021 to 2022, a roll call was not conducted.

## **IX. Election of Officers**

CAO Baldwin conducted the election of officers and outlined the general rules for election. He noted that positions are required for Chair and Vice Chair for 2022 and must be appointed members of the Board of Directors.

### **A. Election of Officers – 2022**

#### **i. Chair of the Authority**

Regional Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson was nominated for the position of Chair by Councillor Ken Ferdinands. Nominations were called for three times. No further nominations were put forward.

Moved by: C. Riepma

Seconded by: J. Gough

BOD-005-22 **Resolved that** the nominations for the position of Chair be closed. **Carried**

Regional Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson accepted the nomination for the position of Chair, and CAO Baldwin offered congratulations to Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson as the 2022 Chair.

#### **ii. Vice Chair of the Authority**

Councillor Peter Ferragine was nominated for the position of Vice Chair by Mayor Bobbie Drew. Nominations were called for three times and no further nominations were put forward.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: A. Waters

BOD-006-22 **Resolved that** the nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed. **Carried**

Councillor Ferragine accepted the nomination, and CAO Baldwin congratulated Councillor Ferragine as the 2022 Vice Chair.

Chair Emmerson chaired the remainder of the meeting.

#### **B. Appointment of the Regulations Sub-committee for 2022**

CAO Baldwin explained that in the event of a Hearing by the Board of Directors, a Regulations Sub-Committee is formed in order to review the circumstances of the Hearing and report to the Board. This sub-committee normally consists of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Member representing the local municipality in which the application under Ontario Regulation 179/06 is received.

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: J. Gough

BOD-007-22 **Resolved that** the Chair and Vice Chair, along with the Member representing the local municipality in which the application under Ontario Regulation 179/06 is received, shall be members of the sub-committee to review applications and report to the Board of Directors. **Carried**

#### **C. Appointment to Conservation Ontario for 2022**

CAO Baldwin explained it is the practice for the Chair, or his/her designate, and the Chief Administrative Officer to represent the Authority on Conservation Ontario's Council. Chair Emmerson asked Vice Chair Ferragine, who agreed, to represent the Authority for 2022.

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: K. Aylwin

BOD-008-22 **Resolved that** the 2022 Vice Chair be appointed as the Authority's voting delegate to Conservation Ontario; and

**Further that** the Chief Administrative Officer be the alternate delegate. **Carried**

#### **D. Appointment to the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Board of Directors for 2022**

CAO Baldwin explained that the Chair and Vice Chair typically serve on the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation Board of Directors. Chair Emmerson requested that Vice Chair Ferragine and Regional Councillor Tom Vegh serve on the Foundation Board of Directors for 2022.

Moved by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-009-22 **Resolved that** the Vice Chair, Councillor Peter Ferragine and Regional Councillor Tom Vegh be appointed to the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation for 2022. **Carried**

#### **E. Appointment of Solicitors for 2022**

CAO Baldwin explained that the Authority wishes to continue utilizing the services of five (5) legal firms of: Stiver Vale for general administrative advice and land management; Hicks Morley for employment and labour related matters; HHL Law Firm (formerly Hill Hunter Losell) for floodplain regulation advice; Barriston LLP for general administrative and regulations advice; and Beard Winter for floodplain regulation advice and litigation.

Moved by: K. Ferdinands

Seconded by: A. Eek

BOD-010-22 **Resolved that** Stiver Vale, Hicks Morley, HHL Law Firm, Barriston Law and Beard Winter be appointed as Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's legal firms for 2022. **Carried**

#### **X. Signing Officers for 2022**

CAO Baldwin explained that each year the Authority appoints four signing officers: namely, the Chair and the Vice Chair, along with the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services.

Moved by: V. Hackson

Seconded by: B. Drew

BOD-011-22 **Resolved that** an account in the name of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (hereinafter called the "Organization") be kept at the Bank of Nova Scotia (hereinafter called the "Bank"); and

**Further that** the Authority's Chair, Vice Chair, the Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer, and the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, or any two of them are hereby authorized to sign, make, draw, accept, endorse and deliver cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, orders for the payment of money and such agreements and instruments as may be necessary or useful in connection with the operation of the said account; and

**Further that** any one of the above-mentioned officers is hereby authorized for and in the name of the Organization to endorse and transfer to the Bank for deposit or discount with or collection by the Bank (but for the credit of the Organization only) cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, orders for the payment of money and other instruments, to arrange, settle, balance and certify all books and accounts with the Bank and to sign receipts for vouchers. **Carried**

## **XI. Borrowing Resolution**

CAO Baldwin noted that the borrowing resolution authorizes the Authority to borrow an amount up to \$500,000.

Moved by: R. Greenlaw

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-012-22 **Resolved that** signing officers for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority be empowered to borrow up to \$500,000 on an Operating Loan Agreement, as required, for administration and/or capital expenditures. **Carried**

## **XII. Meeting Schedule**

The Board approved Staff Report No. 01-22-BOD, which outlined the Board of Director's 2022 meeting schedule.

Moved by: W. Gaertner

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-013-22 **Resolved that** Staff Report No. 01-22-BOD regarding the 2022 Board of Directors' meeting schedule be approved. **Carried**

## **XIII. Closing Remarks**

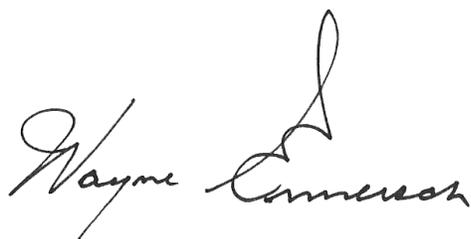
Vice Chair Ferragine and Chair Emmerson thanked the Board of Directors for their trust and confidence in them, and both noted they look forward to serving once again in their respective roles.

#### **XIV. Adjournment**

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-014-22 Resolved that the meeting be adjourned @ 11:15 a.m. **Carried**



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Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson  
Chair



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Rob Baldwin  
Chief Administrative Officer