

Board Meeting Highlights

February 26, 2021

Announcements:

- a) Chair Emmerson took a moment to remember Mayor Debbie Bath-Hadden, who lost her battle with cancer at the end of January. Mayor Bath-Hadden was very supportive of the work of the Authority and a valued member of the Board of Directors for a number of years.
- b) Chair Emmerson welcomed guest Councillor Cria Pettingill from the Township of Brock, who has been appointed to the Board by the Township and is awaiting confirmation in March by the Regional Municipality of Durham.

Presentations:

a) Corporate Communications Overview

Director, Corporate Communications and Engagement, Kristen Yemm, provided an overview of the Authority's Corporate Communications, advising that getting the right message to the right people at the right time is a critical function of communications. A variety of communications methods are used to influence others and to demonstrate how we translate the funds we receive into effective programs and services that deliver on our mandate to improve the health of the watershed and Lake Simcoe.

Ms. Yemm reviewed some of the significant annual documents the Authority publishes, including: the Budget at a Glance book, a high-level overview of proposed annual budget sent out to each of our municipal partners; the Annual Budget book typically provided to Board members at the March meeting and sent to funding partners with levy letters; and the Budget Companion document, developed in 2019 and now a highly anticipated document outlining our mission and vision for the watershed, as well as service area responsibilities, revenue sources and expenditures, previous year's accomplishments and a look into the future; and annual Audited Financial Statements, which are posted on our website and accessible to the public.

She went on to note our Annual Reports that have been published for decades are now being replaced with our Year-in-Review Infographic, which takes some of our most significant accomplishments and translates them into performance metrics making it easier to see the impacts of our work as well as the changes over time. This infographic provides a variety of statistics that can be easily shared over social media.

The Authority's foremost communications tool, our website www.LSRCA.on.ca, provides a wealth of quality information, is continually updated, and is compliant with the *Accessibility for*

Ontarians with Disabilities Act. The Authority also has a number of publications, such as Conservation Matters, a quarterly newsletter published in Lake Simcoe Living magazine; and Lake Simcoe Buzz, a quarterly newsletter for watershed residents. The Authority's publications can be found through the following link, where sign up information can also be found: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/about-us/publications>.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Corporate Communications Overview](#)

b) Investigating a Land-lake Phosphorus Disconnect in Lake Simcoe

Limnologist, Dr. Brian Ginn, provided a presentation on his research into investigating the decoupling between phosphorus loading and within-lake environmental conditions. Dr Ginn reviewed that one overarching goal of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan is the restoration and protection of coldwater fish habitat, which requires an end-of-summer deep water dissolved oxygen concentration of 7 mg/L, which is linked to the phosphorus loading target of 44 tonnes per year. However, in recent years, environmental conditions in Lake Simcoe do not reflect changes in phosphorus loading, particularly in 2013 and 2017 where high phosphorus loads did not seem to alter ecologically good conditions in the lake.

After reviewing the science, LSRCA and provincial partners are investigating several areas in an effort to understand this decoupling and how predictive models for the lake can be improved. One area is climate change, where winter rain and intense summer storms may be changing how phosphorus is delivered to the lake, how it is used, and if it flushed through the lake faster than in the past. A second area is changes in phosphorus use within the lake due to changes in the phosphorus cycle resulting from invasive species. The third area is further changes in phosphorus use related to a change in the type of algae found in the lake, and how filtration by invasive mussels may change phosphorus availability. These areas are currently the topic of a funding proposal with Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks for research in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Land-lake Phosphorus Disconnect in Lake Simcoe](#)

Correspondence and Staff Reports:

Corporate Communications Overview

The Board received Staff Report No. 02-21-BOD regarding Corporate Communications at Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

Investigating a Land-lake Phosphorus Disconnect in Lake Simcoe

The Board received Staff Report No. 03-21-BOD regarding the investigation of the land-lake phosphorus decoupling in Lake Simcoe.

Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: Annual Statistical Report

The Board received Staff Report No. 04-21-BOD regarding the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act – 2020 Annual Statistical Report.

Monitoring Report – Planning and Development Applications for the Period January 1 through December 31, 2020

The Board received Staff Report No. 05-21-BOD regarding monitoring of planning and development applications for the period January 1 through December 31, 2020.

Bill 229: Proclaimed Amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*

The Board received Staff Report No. 06-21-BOD regarding proclaimed amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* regarding Bill 229 and directed the Chief Administrative Officer to review the Authority's existing Administrative By-Laws and prepare revised by-laws for consideration in accordance with any proclaimed amendments to *Conservation Authorities Act* as defined under Bill 229.

Applications for Permission pursuant to Section 28.0.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*

The Board received Staff Report No. 07-21-BOD regarding issuing permissions under Section 28.0.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and authorized the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into agreements and approve permissions for elements of development projects authorized by a Minister's Zoning Order that are minor in nature. The Board approved an amendment to the Authority's fee schedule to include an application fee of double the applicable existing permit fee for a permit under S.28.0.1 be approved effective immediately, as well as an amendment to the Authority's fees policy that all legal fees associated with the development and execution of any Agreement under Section 28.0.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* be paid in full by the proponent prior to the final execution of the Agreement.

Kettleby Creek Restoration Project

The Board received That Staff Report No. 08-21-BOD regarding the issuance of a Purchase Order and Construction Contract to R&M Construction for a restoration project to remove a fish barrier and streambank restoration at Kettleby Creek in the Township of King at a cost of \$224,159.39 including taxes.

Confidential Legal Matter

The Board received Confidential Staff Report No. 09-21-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter.

Confidential Legal Matter

The Board received Confidential Staff Report No. 10-21-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter.

Confidential Land Matter

The Board received a presentation regarding a confidential land matter and approved recommendations contained in Confidential Staff Report No. 11-21-BOD regarding this land matter.

For more information or to see the full agenda package, visit [LSRCA's Board of Directors' webpage](#).