



Board of Directors
Meeting No. BOD-05-22
Friday, June 24, 2022
9:00 a.m.

Agenda

Meeting Location:

To be held virtually by Zoom
Minutes and agendas are available at www.LSRCA.on.ca

Upcoming Events

Board of Directors' Meeting

Friday, July 22nd at 9:00 a.m.
To be held virtually by Zoom

Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation 33rd Annual Dinner

Wednesday, June 22nd at 6:00 p.m.
The Manor at Carrying Place Golf and Country Club

Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation 4th Annual Invitational Golf Tournament

Monday, August 22nd at 9:00 a.m.
The Nest Golf Club

Annual Conservation Awards

Tuesday, October 11th @ 6:00 p.m.
Newmarket Old Town Hall

A full listing of events can be found at www.LSRCA.on.ca

I. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Conflicts of Interest

III. Approval of Agenda

Pages 1 - 5

Recommended: That the content of the Agenda for the June 24, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented.

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors

Pages 6 - 13

Included in the agenda is a copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-04-22, held on Friday, April 22, 2022.

Recommended: That the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-04-22, held on Friday, April 22, 2022 be approved as circulated.

b) Conservation Ontario Council

Pages 14 - 24

Included in the agenda is a copy of the minutes of Conservation Ontario Council's Annual General Meeting held Monday, April 11, 2022.

Recommended: That the minutes of Conservation Ontario Council's Annual General Meeting held Monday, April 11, 2022 be received for information.

V. Announcements

VI. Presentations

a) Phosphorus Decoupling Investigation in Lake Simcoe

Pages 25 - 27

The Conservation Authority's Limnologist, Dr Brian Ginn, will provide a presentation regarding an update on the phosphorus decoupling project investigating ecological changes in Lake Simcoe. This presentation will be provided at the meeting and available on the Conservation Authority's website following the meeting.

Recommended: That the presentation by Limnologist, Dr Brian Ginn, regarding an update on the phosphorus decoupling project be received for information.

Included in the agenda is Staff Report No. 20-22-BOD regarding the phosphorus decoupling project investigating ecological changes in Lake Simcoe.

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 20-22-BOD regarding an update on the decoupling investigation in Lake Simcoe be received for information.

b) 2023 Budget Assumptions

Pages 28 - 32

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, will provide a presentation on the Conservation Authority's 2023 Budget Assumptions. This presentation will be provided at the meeting and available on the Conservation Authority's website following the meeting.

Recommended: That the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, on the Conservation Authority's 2023 Budget Assumptions received for information.

Included in the agenda is Staff Report No. 21-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2023 Budget Assumptions.

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 21-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's recommended budget assumptions for the 2023 fiscal year be approved.

VII. Hearings

There are no Hearings scheduled for this meeting.

VIII. Deputations

There are no Deputations scheduled for this meeting.

IX. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

(Reference Pages 4 and 5 of the agenda)

X. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

XII. Closed Session

The Board will move to Closed Session to deal with a confidential human resources matter.

Recommended: That the Board move to Closed Session to deal with a confidential human resources matter; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Chief of Staff remain in the meeting for the discussion.

The Board will rise from Closed Session and report findings.

Recommended: That the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings.

a) Conservation Awards Recipients

Confidential Staff Report No. 26-22-BOD will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 26-22-BOD regarding the recipients of the 2022 Conservation Awards be received; and

Further That the recommendations contained within the Confidential Staff Report be approved.

b) Confidential Land Matter

Confidential Staff Report No. 27-22-BOD will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 27-22-BOD regarding an update on a Confidential Land Matter be received for information.

c) Confidential Land and Human Resources Matter

Confidential Staff Report No. 28-22-BOD will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 28-22-BOD regarding a Confidential Land and Human Resources matter be received for information.

XIII. Other Business

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, July 22, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. This meeting will be held via Zoom, access details to be provided prior to the meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

Agenda Items

1. Correspondence

Page 33 - 34

- a) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's letter to the Province regarding Conservation Authority Land Transfer in the Town of Georgina; and

- b) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's letter to the Province regarding Holland Marsh Treatment Facility Funding.

Recommended: That Correspondence Items a) and b) be received for information.

2. Requirement for Exception Request under section 17(1.3) of the Conservation Authorities Act for the Current Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors

Pages 35 - 37

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 22-22-BOD regarding the requirement for an exception request for the current Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors be received; and

Further That the Board of Directors Request the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks to grant an exception under Section 17(1.3) of the Conservation Authorities Act for Chair Wayne Emmerson and Vice-Chair Peter Ferragine to continue in their Board roles for 2022.

3. CAA Transition Plan Quarterly Report

Pages 38 - 41

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 23-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress Report No. 1 be received; and

Further that the June 2022 Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress No. 1 be approved for submission to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

4. Offsetting Program Results – Reconciliation to December 31, 2021

Pages 42 - 47

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 24-22-BOD regarding an update on the Conservation Authority's Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and Key Performance Indicators be received for Information.

5. Appointment of Enforcement Officer(s) under the Conservation Authorities Act

Pages 48 - 50

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 25-22-BOD regarding the appointment of Ashley Page as a Provincial Offences Officer with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act be approved.

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Board of Directors' Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-04-22

Friday, April 22, 2022

Held virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present

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

Board Members Absent

Deputy Mayor J. Gough, Mayor V. Hackson, Councillor E. Yeo

Staff Present

R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, M. Bessey, A. Brown, K. Cheney, K. Christensen, M. Critch, P. Davies, C. Hawson, B. Kemp, D. Lembcke, G. MacMillan, S. McKinnon, N. O'Dell, G. Peat, M. Rosato, C. Sharp, C. Taylor, K. Toffan, A. Yates, K. Yemm

Guests Present

C. Best, A. Delle Cese

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: B. Drew

BOD-048-22 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the April 22, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as circulated. **Carried**

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) **Board of Directors' Meeting**

Moved by: W. Gaertner

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-049-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-03-22, held on Friday, March 25, 2022 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

V. Announcements

- a) Chair Emmerson offered condolences to City of Kawartha Lakes Board member Councillor Emmett Yeo and his family on the loss of his father.
- b) CAO Rob Baldwin updated the Board that staff returned to the physical offices two days per week on April 19th, and he reminded the Board that the Newmarket Administrative offices will now be open to the public each week from Tuesday to Thursday.
- c) CAO Rob Baldwin advised that earlier in the week the Provincial government announced \$24M in capital funding towards the Holland Marsh Treatment Facility, which along with the Federal government's commitment of \$16M back in 2020, brings total funds towards this project to \$40M for the Municipal Streamline Class Environmental Assessment, design and capital construction. CAO Baldwin was pleased to attend the announcement with Minister Piccini, Minister Mulroney, and MPP Khanjin, as well as local representatives. More details will be brought to the Board as available.
- d) CAO Rob Baldwin was pleased to announce that he has been appointed to the Lake Simcoe Coordinating Committee.
- e) CAO Rob Baldwin announced that at Conservation Ontario's recently held Annual General Meeting Alan Revill of Catarqui Conservation was appointed as Chair, and Alan Dale of Upper Thames Conservation Authority was appointed Vice Chair. He also noted that along with himself, Linda Laliberte of Ganaraska and Samantha Lawson of Grand River were appointed as Board members.
- f) CAO Rob Baldwin reminded Board members of a webinar being hosted by MECP on May 2nd regarding Programs and Services of the Conservation Authorities Act changes.
- g) CAO Rob Baldwin noted that the Phase 2 Regulations of the Conservation Authorities Act were posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario, and the Conservation Authorities Working Group is now taking a break until after the Provincial election.
- h) General Manager, Planning, Development and Restoration, Glenn MacMillan, reported that a very successful meeting was recently held with the BILD. The result of which will

be a series of webinars, the first one being held on June 8th regarding hydrogeologic submissions.

- i) Foundation Executive Director, Cheryl Taylor, was pleased to update that the Foundation's Annual Dinner is sold out with 366 guests expected. She also noted that the 4th Annual Golf Tournament is being held on August 22nd at the Nest at Friday Harbour. More information on these events can be found at [Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation](#)
- j) Manager, Forestry and Greenspace Services, Phil Davies, provided an update on the public webinar held on April 20th on the spongy moth. The webinar was well attended and covered the life cycle and management options. The recorded webinar has been posted on the Conservation Authorities' website: [Spongy Moth webinar](#)

VI. Presentations

a) 2021 Draft Audited Financial Statements

BDO Canada LLP Auditor Adam Delle Cese provided a high-level overview of the Conservation Authority's 2021 audit process and results, noting that the audit is substantially complete aside from a couple of items; those being approval of the audited financial statements by the Board of Directors, and receipt of the signed representation letter, both expected to be completed after the meeting with no changes expected. He noted a risk base audit approach is taken and significant risk areas are identified; namely, management override of controls and revenue recognition as it relates to grants and special levy. He also noted these two areas are significant to all organizations and was pleased to note there were no issues noted during these tests. Internal control tests found no control deficiencies and no adjusted or unadjusted differences. Accordingly, he advised there are no communications needing the Board's attention. He reviewed the audit process and noted that some changes are coming for the 2022 audit around testing. In closing, he advised that BDO Canada LLP is independent of the Conservation Authority as required, and BDO did conduct an audit of the financial statements of the Conservation Authority. It is their opinion that the financial statements present fairly and are in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Moved by: C. Riepma

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-050-22 **Resolved That** the presentation by Adam Delle Cese of BDO Canada LLP regarding the Conservation Authority's 2021 audit process and findings be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 14-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2021 Draft Audited Financial Statements was included in the agenda.

Moved by: C. Riepma

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-051-22 **Resolved That** the Staff Report No. 14-22-BOD regarding the Authority's 2021 Draft Audited Financial Statements be received; and

Further that the 2021 Draft Audited Financial Statements be approved; and

Further that the Appropriations to and from Reserves as outlined in Schedule 8 – Statement of Continuity of Reserves of the 2021 Draft Audited Financial Statements be approved; and

Further that the pending 2021 Audited Financial Statements be distributed to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and the Authority's banker, and be made available on the Authority's website. **Carried**

b) Land Securement Initiative Update, Town of Georgina

General Manager, Conservation Lands, Brian Kemp, provided an overview of the recent land securement in the Town of Georgina, noting that the Conservation Authority is very pleased to have this property transferred to its ownership and care. The property is approximately 890 acres consisting of wetlands, woodlands, York Region Greenland and agricultural lands. The lands are situated adjacent to the Arnold C. Matthews Nature Reserve, which are lands protected through a conservation easement held by the Conservation Authority, bringing the total protected lands in this area to over 1,110 acres. He advised the lands are subject to a Minister's Zoning Order that removes the registered plan of subdivision and replaces it with Environmental Protection Area zoning. GM Kemp shared some photos taken by staff who have walked the property. Next steps include closing off the property to trespassers so that staff may conduct site visits and gain a better understanding of the property's natural features. Staff are compiling data for submission to the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program and will begin discussions with Regional and local municipalities for potential tax relief and exemption. Staff are seeking funding through the Conservation Authority's Ecological Offsetting Program and the Canada Nature Fund as identified in the accompanying staff report. Staff will be reviewing restoration opportunities for the development of a short-term management plan, as well as a long-term Master Plan, which will include the development of a community stakeholders' committee.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Newly Acquired Lands, Town of Georgina](#)

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-052-22 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Conservation Lands, Brian Kemp, regarding the Conservation Authority's land securement initiative in the Town of Georgina be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 15-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's land securement initiative in the Town of Georgina.

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: M. Quirk

BOD-053-22 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. No. 15-22-BOD regarding an update on a recent land securement initiative be received; and

Further That the use of funds from the Authority's Ecological Offsetting Reserve (Land Acquisition Fund) to a maximum of \$150,000 be approved; and

Further That staff be directed to post signage and close the property off to the public for an interim period while the planned next steps described within this report are undertaken. **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

Items 1 and 3 were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

X. Adoption of Items not Requiring Separate Discussion

Items No. 2 and 4 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: K. Aylwin

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-54-22 **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**

2. Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management Solutions

BOD-055-22 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 16-22-BOD regarding updates to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management Submissions be received; and

Further that the revised Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management Submissions be approved, effective immediately. **Carried**

4. 2022 Conservation Awards Program and Ceremony

BOD-056-22 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 18-22-BOD regarding the 2022 Conservation Awards be received for information. **Carried**

XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

1. Correspondence

Mayor Quirk commented on the Federal funding recently announced for lakes and asked if the Conservation Authority would be putting together a request for some of this funding. CAO Baldwin noted that a very detailed package of potential projects was submitted in 2021, and staff will be ready once any notification is received. He also noted his contact at Environment and Climate Change Canada has moved on, so he has not yet met the new area Director to discuss how or when the \$19.5M will be shared. CAO Baldwin will provide an update as soon as information is known.

Moved by: M. Quirk

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-057-22 **Resolved That** Correspondence Item a) be received for information. **Carried**

3. 2022 Provincial Funding Agreements Summary – Lake Simcoe Protection Plan

Councillor Eek asked for clarification on which pumping station will be monitored in the Holland Marsh Pump Station Monitoring project, as there are four pumping stations in the Holland Marsh.

CAO Baldwin first advised that early discussions have been held on renaming the facility with Phosphorus Recovery Facility as an example or something broader than the Holland Marsh Treatment Facility.

Acting General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, David Lembcke, advised that the intent of this project is to install an autosampler at the Art Janse Pumping House. The current challenge with the pump house is that it does not response well to storm events like natural systems do, so pumping can take days and make it difficult to get a highly accurate estimation

of that pumping. This project will allow the taking of multiple samples over a longer duration, providing much more accuracy on what the phosphorus concentrations are at that point, as there is an amount of water coming out of the pump house that staff want to gain a better understanding of.

Councillor Eek also noted that she hopes the Drainage Superintendent will be involved in any future discussions as he is very experienced and has a great understanding of how these systems work. Acting GM Lembcke confirmed that staff have been in contact with the Drainage Superintendent regarding this project.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: P. Ferragine

BOD-058-22 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 17-22-BOD regarding recently secured Provincial funding in support of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan be received for information. **Carried**

XII. Closed Session

The Board moved to Closed Session to deal with confidential legal and land matters.

Moved by: R. Greenlaw

Seconded by: D. Barton

BOD-059-22 **Resolved That** the Board move to Closed Session to deal with a confidential human resources matter; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Chief of Staff remain in the meeting for the discussion. **Carried**

The Board rose from Closed Session to report findings.

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-060-22 **Resolved That** the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings. **Carried**

a) Confidential Human Resources Matter

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: P. Ferragine

BOD-061-22 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 19-22-BOD regarding a confidential human resources matter be received for information. **Carried**

XIII. Other Business

- a) Chair Emmerson noted the next Board of Directors' meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 27, 2022. This meeting will be held virtually.

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: D. Barton

BOD-062-22 **Resolved That** the meeting be adjourned at 11:15 a.m. **Carried**

Original to be signed by:

Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson
Chair

Original to be signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

CONSERVATION ONTARIO AGM/COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2022 (Meeting via Zoom)

Voting Delegates Present:

Chair: Andy Mitchell, Otonabee Region

Dave Jewitt, Ausable Bayfield
Marissa Vaughan, Ausable Bayfield
Brian Horner, Ausable Bayfield
Alan Revill, Cataraqui Region
Katrina Furlnetto, Cataraqui Region
Lori Baldwin-Sands, Catfish Creek
Dusty Underhill, Catfish Creek
Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario
Tom Adams, Credit Valley
Jan O'Neill, Crowe Valley
Tim Pidduck, Crowe Valley
Tim Byrne, Essex Region
Mark Lovshin, Ganaraska Region
Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region
Samantha Lawson, Grand River
Scott Greig, Grey Sauble
Tim Lanthier, Grey Sauble
Hassaan Basit, Halton
Lloyd Ferguson, Hamilton
Lisa Burnside, Hamilton
Andy Letham, Kawartha
Mark Majchrowski, Kawartha
Alison Warwick, Kettle Creek
Elizabeth VanHooren, Kettle Creek
Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region
Rob Baldwin, Lake Simcoe Region
Tammy Cook, Lakehead
Michael Columbus, Long Point Region
Judy Maxwell, Long Point Region

Trevor Thompson, Lower Thames
Mark Peacock, Lower Thames
Eric Sandford, Lower Trent
Matt Duncan, Maitland Valley
Jeff Atkinson, Mississippi Valley
Janet Mason, Mississippi Valley
Robert Foster, Niagara Peninsula
Chandra Sharma, Niagara Peninsula
Carl Jorgensen, Nickel District (Con.Sudbury)
Brian Tayler, North Bay-Mattawa
Mariane McLeod, Nottawasaga Valley
Gail Little, Nottawasaga Valley
Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley
Andy Mitchell, Otonabee Region
James Flieler, Quinte Region
Richard Pilon, Raisin Region
Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Rideau Valley
Barbara Dobreen, Saugeen Valley
Jennifer Stephens, Saugeen Valley
Corrina Barrett, Sault Ste Marie Region
George Darouze, South Nation
Angela Coleman, South Nation
Pat Brown, St. Clair Region
Ken Phillips, St. Clair Region
John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region
Alan Dale, Upper Thames River
Tracy Annett, Upper Thames River

Guests:

Brad McNevin, Quinte Conservation
Dan Marinigh, Otonabee Region
Phil Beard, Maitland Valley
Kelly Vandette, Lower Trent

CO Staff:

Kim Gavine
Deborah Balika
Amber Brant
Kristin Bristow
Nicholas Fischer
Bonnie Fox

Members Absent:

Mattagami Region

Jane Lewington
Lauren McPherson
Nekeisha Mohammed
Patricia Moleirinho
Leslie Rich
Jo-Anne Rzakki
Rick Wilson

1. Welcome from the Chair

Chair Mitchell welcomed everyone in attendance. Brian Tayler's retirement was recognized and he was thanked for his many years of service with the conservation authority community. Lin Gibson was acknowledged for her long tenure on the CO Board of Directors. Dusty Underhill was welcomed and introduced as the new General Manager of Catfish Creek Conservation Authority.

Chair Mitchell invited the GMs to introduce their new CO Council membership, and each of the respective GMs provided an introduction.

Chair Mitchell acknowledged the evolving policy agenda for conservation authorities and thanked the ministerial working group for their hard work.

With the approaching election, he encouraged all members to meet with their local riding candidates and use the material that CO had provided, tailoring it to local circumstances.

Finally, Chair Mitchell advised the collective that he would not be seeking another term as Chair. He thanked the collective for the privilege of having chaired Conservation Ontario for the past year and thanked the membership for their support and wise counsel. He also thanked and acknowledged the CO staff as a group of dedicated professionals who served CO, their membership and the people of Ontario well.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

**#01/22 Moved by: Lori Baldwin-Sands, Catfish Creek
 Seconded by: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There was none declared.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**#02/22 Moved by: Jeff Atkinson, Mississippi Valley
 Seconded by: James Flieler, Quinte Conservation**

THAT the minutes from the December 3, 2021 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none that was not covered by the meeting agenda.

Kim Gavine called for nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2022.
Pieter Leenhouts nominated Alan Revill for Chair of Conservation Ontario.
Kim Gavine called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.

**#07/22 Moved by: Lloyd Furguson, Hamilton
 Seconded by: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent**

THAT the nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2022 be closed.

CARRIED

Alan Revill accepted the nomination and was declared Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2022.

Kim Gavine and Alan Revill thanked Andy Mitchell for his term as Chair of Conservation Ontario.

Kim Gavine called for nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2022.
Samantha Lawson nominated Alan Dale.
Kim Gavine called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.
There was not a second nomination for the second Vice Chair.

**#08/22 Moved by: Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley
 Seconded by: Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario**

THAT the nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2022 be closed.

CARRIED

Alan Dale accepted the nomination and was declared Vice Chair for Conservation Ontario for 2022.

Kim Gavine called for nominations for the Directors (staff positions) for 2022.
Eric Sandford nominated Linda Laliberte
Kim Gavine called a second time for the Directors (staff positions) for 2022.
Mariane McLeod nominated Rob Baldwin.
Kim Gavine called a third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.

**#09/22 Moved by: Lori Baldwin-Sands, Catfish Creek
 Seconded by: Alan Dale, Upper Thames River**

THAT the nominations for Directors (staff positions) of Conservation Ontario for 2022 be closed.

CARRIED

Linda Laliberte and Rob Baldwin accepted their nominations and were declared Directors of Conservation Ontario for 2022.

Kim called for nominations for Director for Conservation Ontario for 2022. It was noted that this could be a staff or elected member.
Rob Foster nominated Samantha Lawson.
Kim Gavine called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.

#10/22 Moved by: Barbara Dobreen, Saugeen Valley
Seconded by: John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region

THAT the nominations for Director of Conservation Ontario for 2022 be closed.

CARRIED

Samantha Lawson accepted the nomination and was declared Director of Conservation Ontario for 2022.

#11/22 Moved by: Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region
Seconded by: Pat Brown, St. Clair Region

THAT the Council recording and polling be deleted.

CARRIED

Alan Revill thanked Andy Mitchell and presided as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

11. Standing Committee Representatives

#12/22 Moved by: Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region
Seconded by: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent

THAT the appointment of the Budget and Audit Standing Committee membership be approved;

THAT the membership of the Group Insurance and Benefits Committee be ratified;

AND THAT the appointment of the Occupational Health and Safety/risk Management Committee membership be approved.

CARRIED

12. Motion to move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole

#13/22 Moved by: Barbara Dobreen, Saugeen Valley
Seconded by: Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region

THAT the meeting now move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

13. Items for Discussion

a. General Manager's Report

Kim Gavine presented the General Manager's and 2021 CO Workplan report.

C.W. #14/22 Moved by: Jan O'Neill, Crowe Valley
Seconded by: Lori Baldwin-Sands

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

b. Special Projects Budget 2022

Kim Gavine presented the report.

**C.W. #15/22 Moved by: Jan O'Neill, Crowe Valley
Seconded by: Alan Dale, Upper Thames River**

THAT the 2022 Special Projects Budget in the amount of \$5,232,670 be approved as presented and as recommended by the Budget and Audit Committee.

CARRIED

c. April 2021-March 2022 Annual Update on Conservation Ontario (CO) Representatives and Conservation Authorities Program Discussion Group List

Bonnie Fox presented the report.

**C.W. #16/22 Moved by: Hassaan Basit
Seconded by: Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region**

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

d. Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Regulatory and Policy Proposals (Phase 2) under the Conservation Authorities Act (ERO#019-4610) and Update on CO/CA Activities for Phase 1 and proposed Phase 2 Regulations

Bonnie Fox provided an update and presentation which is attached to the minutes.

John Mackenzie noted that the *Planning Act* amendments around natural hazard changes have been well communicated by the Government but have not gone into effect which has caused confusion. Bonnie Fox confirmed that these have not yet been proclaimed.

Barbara Dobreen questioned whether Conservation Ontario could lobby on behalf of the Conservation Authorities to receive some cost relief or funding to assist with administering the new regulations. Kim Gavine noted that Conservation Ontario has been advocating for additional funding, including access to the modernization and streamlining funding, but that if CO Council had specific suggestions, that Conservation Ontario would welcome them. Barbara Dobreen followed-up with a suggestion that Ministers could be engaged via municipal delegations through conferences like ROMA and AMO. Kim Gavine agreed but noted that CO is unable to request a delegation but that it would have to come via a Conservation Authority and their municipal member.

**C.W. #17/22 Moved by: John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region
Seconded by: Tom Adams, Credit Valley**

THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Regulatory and policy proposals (Phase 2) under the Conservation Authorities Act" submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on February 25th, 2022, be endorsed.

CARRIED

e. Introduction to Bill 109 “More Homes for Everyone Act”

This item was a walk-on agenda item. Leslie Rich provided an update and presentation which is attached to the minutes.

John Mackenzie noted that Conservation Authorities are facing challenges with different branches of the Government not communicating and requested that there be an emphasis on coordination at the Provincial level to assist with this.

Lloyd Ferguson asked what position Conservation Ontario was taking on this legislation as it has serious consequences to municipalities that can filter down to Conservation Authorities. He noted that speeding up the application process and rendering decisions in the time period provided has serious implications with respect to application fees being returned if the review of the application cannot be completed within the legislated timeframes. Leslie Rich noted that Conservation Ontario is proposing to respond to four of the ten consultations through the Environmental Registry, but have not taken a specific position with respect to the bill as we await feedback from the conservation authorities.

John Mackenzie echoed Lloyd Ferguson’s concerns about the application timelines and noted that he thinks Conservation Ontario should take a strong stand regarding this when responding to the consultations through the Environmental Registry.

**C.W. #18/22 Moved by: John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region
Seconded by: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent**

CARRIED

f. Update on the Conservation Ontario Client Service and Streamlining Initiative and the Second Annual Report on Section 28 Permit Timelines

Leslie Rich provided an update and presentation which is attached to the minutes.

Lori Baldwin-Sands noted that in addition to sending letters to the Ministers, that they should also be sent to the Parliamentary Assistants.

**C.W. #19/22 Moved by: Tom Adams, Credit Valley
Seconded by: Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley**

THAT Quentin Hanchard (CVC) be endorsed as a member of the Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Steering Committee;

AND THAT the 2021 Annual Report on CA Section 28 Permit Timelines be received as information;

AND THAT the results of the 2021 Annual Report on CA Section 28 Permit Timelines be shared with Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Stakeholders; provincial staff members; the Ministers of Environment, Conservation and Parks; Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry; and Municipal Affairs and Housing; and the Premier of Ontario.

CARRIED

g. Update on the Conservation Ontario Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative

Bonnie Fox and Nicholas Fischer presented the report.

C.W. #20/22 Moved by: Jeff Atkinson, Mississippi Valley
Seconded by: Tom Adams, Credit Valley

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

h. Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Subwatershed Planning Guide" (ERO#019-4978)

Bonnie Fox presented the report.

C.W. #21/22 Moved by: Barbara Dobreen, Saugeen Valley
Seconded by: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent

THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Subwatershed Planning Guide" (ERO#019-4978) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on March 11, 2022, be endorsed.

CARRIED

i. Update on Conservation Ontario's Action on Indigenous

Nicholas Fischer presented the report.

C.W. #22/22 Moved by: Jeff Atkinson, Mississippi Valley
Seconded by: Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

j. Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act

Kim Gavine presented the report.

C.W.# 23/22 Moved: Andy Letham, Kawartha
Seconded: Alan Dale, Upper Thames River

THAT Karen Armstrong (GRCA), Quentin Hanchard (CVC), Lise Gagnon (NPCA), Eric McGill (SNC), Lisa Burnside, Bonnie Fox (CO) and Kim Gavine (CO) be endorsed as members of the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act working group.

CARRIED

k. Overview of 2023 Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards

Jane Lewington provided an update and presentation which is attached to the minutes.

Scott Greig noted the importance of this program and his appreciation for this report to Council.

C.W.#24/22 **Moved: Tom Adams, Credit Valley**
Seconded: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent

THAT Council endorse the appointment of Co-Chairs of the CA Working Group, Loveleen Clayton (CVC) and Ian Ockenden (NVCA) and the compilation of the 2023 Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards.

CARRIED

l. Update on the 2021 Latornell Conservation Symposium

Jane Lewington presented the report.

C.W.#25/22 **Moved: Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region**
Seconded: Tom Adams, Credit Valley

THAT Council receives this report for information

CARRIED

13. Consent Items:

C.W. #26/22 **Moved by: Barbara Dobreen, Saugeen Valley**
Seconded by: John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region

THAT Council approve the consent agenda and endorse the recommendations accompanying Consent Items 13 l-y and zi-ziv.

CARRIED

m. Submission of Conservation Ontario's Five-Year Review Report for the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects
THAT Conservation Ontario's "Five Year Review Report for the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects" be received as information.

n. Conservation Ontario's comments on "Moving to a project list approach under the Environmental Assessment Act" (ERO#019-4219)
THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on "Moving to a project list approach under the Environmental Assessment Act" (ERO#019-4219) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on January 20, 2022, be endorsed.

o. Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Amendments to exempt low risk sewage works from requiring an Environmental Compliance Approval" (ERO#019-4456)
THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Amendments to exempt low risk sewage works from requiring an Environmental Compliance Approval" (ERO#019-4456) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on December 9th, 2021, be endorsed.

- p. Conservation Ontario's Comments on "Expanding administrative penalties for environmental contraventions" (ERO # 019-4108)
THAT Council endorses the comments on "Expanding administrative penalties for environmental contraventions (ERO #019-4108)" submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks on March 10, 2022.
- q. Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Low Impact Development Stormwater Management Guidance Manual" (ERO#019-4971)
THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Low Impact Development Stormwater Management Guidance Manual" (ERO#019-4971) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on March 28, 2022, be endorsed.
- r. Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Municipal Wastewater and Stormwater Management in Ontario Discussion Paper" (ERO#019-4967)
THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Municipal Wastewater and Stormwater Management in Ontario Discussion Paper" (ERO#019-4967) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on March 28, 2022, be endorsed.
- s. Carolinian Canada Coalition Update
THAT Conservation Ontario continue to support the Carolinian Canada Coalition with a Board member.
- t. 4R Steering Committee Status Report
THAT Council receives this report;
AND THAT Conservation Ontario thank Anne Loeffler (Grand River CA) for her representation on the Ontario 4R Nutrient Stewardship Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) Steering Committee;
AND THAT a new CO representative be identified and endorsed at a future CO Council Meeting.
- u. Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee (PFFWC) Representatives
THAT Scott Robertson and Katelyn Lynch (Grand River) for the South Central Region; Davin Heinbuck (Ausable-Bayfield); Emily DeCloet (St. Clair Region) for the Southwest Region and Katherine Watson (South Nation Conservation) for the Eastern region be endorsed by Conservation Ontario Council as representatives on the Provincial Flood Forecast and Warning Committee;
AND THAT Conservation Ontario commend all CA Regional representatives for their past and future contributions;
AND THAT CO Council extend special appreciation to Dwight Boyd (Grand River) and Stephen Jackson (Maitland) for their contributions to the PFFWC.
- v. Ontario Hydrometric Program Coordinating Committee (OHPCC) Representative
THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorse Katherine Watson as CO/CA Representative on the Ontario Hydrometric Program Coordinating Committee;
AND THAT another representative be identified and endorsed by Conservation Ontario Council in the future.
- w. Nature Smart Climate Solutions Program Update
THAT Council receives this report for information.
- x. 2021/2022 Conservation Areas Workshop Report
THAT Council receives this report for information.

- y. 2021 Rekindle the Sparks Conservation Authority Educators Workshop
THAT Council receives this report for information.
- z. Program Updates
 - i. Business Development and Partnerships Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.
 - ii. Drinking Water Source Protection Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.
 - iii. Marketing and Communications Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.
 - iv. Information Management Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.

14. Motion to Move from Committee of the Whole to Full Council

#27/22 **Moved by: Lori Baldwin-Sands, Catfish Creek**
Seconded by: James Flieler, Quinte Region

THAT the meeting now move from Committee of the Whole to Full Council

CARRIED

15. Council Business – Council Adoption of Recommendations

#28/22 **Moved by: Hassaan Basit, Halton**
Seconded by: Peter Ferragine, Lake Simcoe Region

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council adopt Committee of the Whole (C.W.) Recommendations:
 C.W. #14/22 to C.W. #27/22.***

CARRIED

16. New Business

None identified

18. Adjourn

#29/22 **Moved by: Lloyd Ferguson, Hamilton**
Seconded by: Tom Adams, Credit Valley

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: David Lembcke, Manager, Environmental Science and Monitoring and Brian Ginn,
Limnologist

Date:

Subject

Phosphorus Decoupling Investigation in Lake Simcoe

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 20-22-BOD regarding an update on the decoupling investigation in Lake Simcoe be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 20-22-BOD is to provide an update on the investigation into the decoupling of the phosphorus loading and dissolved oxygen relationship in Lake Simcoe.

Background:

With the Conservation Authority's publication of the 2015-17 Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Loading Report in 2020, it became apparent that environmental trends in Lake Simcoe (improving deepwater dissolved oxygen and improving in-lake nutrient concentrations toward Lake Simcoe Protection Plan targets) were not following the model predictions that would result from the phosphorus loads of that period (73-131 t/y).

In 2020, the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (Ministry) funded a project for the Conservation Authority to investigate possible reasons for this "phosphorus disconnect", or "phosphorus decoupling", between phosphorus loads and expected in-lake conditions.

Based on a literature review and jurisdictional scan, other locations in the Great Lakes Region (e.g. Lake Michigan) are showing similar trends, but not to the full extent being recorded in Lake Simcoe. From this initial investigation, it appeared that although the predicative power of the Lake Simcoe models is stable for some aspects (e.g. chlorophyll *a* concentrations and expected deepwater dissolved oxygen concentrations), other aspects of the models were not following expected ecological relationships.

Based on a review of the existing models and relationships by Ministry scientists, it appears that since 2009, there has been a “decoupling” between predictions in aspects of the model that relate to: (1) the amount of Phosphorus loading and measured in-lake Phosphorus concentrations, (2) in-lake Phosphorus concentrations and algae concentrations, and (3) the end of summer deepwater dissolved oxygen concentration that would be expected based on recorded Phosphorus loads.

From Conservation Authority staff assessments, there appears to be environmental changes in Lake Simcoe related to the amount of Phosphorus entering the lake, how Phosphorus is being delivered to the lake, the timing of Phosphorus deliveries, and how Phosphorus is being used for in-lake ecological processes. In 2020 with the support of the Ministry, the Conservation Authority initiated a jurisdictional scan and through 2021 began investigating potential causes of the changes in Lake Simcoe including;

- 1) Impacts of changing climate, precipitation patterns, and lake residence time,
- 2) Is a change in the dominant aquatic macrophyte species (from aquatic plants such as coontail and Eurasian watermilfoil to the invasive macroalga starry stonewort responsible for a change in the uptake and cycling of Phosphorus?
- 3) Potential for changes in Phosphorus cycling in Lake Simcoe related to a change from zebra mussels to quagga mussels.

With the insights provided by this investigation, staff will be able to move forward, with the help of partners, to develop an improved ecological model for Lake Simcoe that more accurately predicts how changes to Phosphorus inputs are being used by lake processes.

As the decoupling of Phosphorus from dissolved oxygen seems to occur at various stages of Phosphorus cycling, understanding how the nutrient is being intercepted, used, and cycled will enable a better understanding of which current processes are driving ecological changes in the lake, and what happens if additional changes occur in the future.

Issues:

The results of this proposed investigation will be used to determine how to develop a path forward to better describe, model, and predict the environmental changes in Lake Simcoe that result from Phosphorus loading and, moving forward, how possible future scenarios may cause additional environmental changes to the lake. This will help inform future lake management actions and strategies.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

All work conducted complies with any related Conservation Authority policy.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

The jurisdictional scan conducted in 2020 was supported through a Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks agreement of \$70,000, and the investigations in 2021 were supported through a further \$77,000 agreement. Continued work investigating the decoupling in 2022 is supported through the routine lake monitoring program. However, a proposal has been submitted to access potential funds through Environment and Climate Change Canada's Freshwater Action Plan.

Summary and Recommendations:

To continue the effective management protection of Lake Simcoe, it is essential that stressors and drivers of the ecological health of the lake are understood. The results of the decoupling investigation will be used to determine how to develop a path forward to better describe, model, and predict the environmental changes in Lake Simcoe that result from Phosphorus loading and, moving forward, how possible future scenarios may cause additional environmental changes to the lake.

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 20-22-BOD regarding an update on the decoupling investigation in Lake Simcoe be received for information.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

David Lembcke
Acting General Manager, Integrated
Watershed Management

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Susan McKinnon, Manager, Budgets and Business Analysis

Date: June 13, 2022

Subject:

2023 Budget Assumptions

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 21-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's recommended budget assumptions for the 2023 fiscal year be approved.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 21-22-BOD is to seek approval on the recommendations for the Conservation Authority's 2023 budget assumptions for the operating and capital budget development process.

Background:

The levy increase requested from the Conservation Authority's municipal partners includes salary increases due to Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) and step, inflation, investment in strategic initiatives and funding for asset management.

a) COLA and Step

Staff reached out to various municipalities and conservation authorities to gather information on projected 2023 COLAs, please see the appendices for details. The Region of York, City of Barrie and Region of Durham are the largest municipal partners and thus are used as comparators. Each has a Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) agreement with their workers, and the COLAs from those agreements are usually used as comparators. CUPE 905 agreement with York Region has agreed upon a 2.00% COLA, CUPE 2380 with City of Barrie is not ratified past June 30, 2022, and CUPE 1764 has an agreement with Region of Durham of 1.50% COLA for 2023.

Neighbouring conservation authorities, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, are used for comparators. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority usually uses the City of Toronto's agreement with CUPE 416 COLA to set their COLA assumption. The City of Toronto currently has an agreement with CUPE 416 for 1.99% for 2023. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority usually uses the Consumer Price

Index (CPI) for Ontario which is currently 6.80% however, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority has not set their 2023 COLA assumption yet.

Municipalities	2023 CUPE agreement	2022 CUPE agreement	2021 CUPE agreement
Region of York, CUPE 905	2.00%	2.80%	1.25%
City of Barrie, CUPE 2380	1.00% ends June 30, 2022	1.00%	1.00%
Region of Durham, CUPE 1764	1.50%	1.75%	1.75%
Conservation Authorities	2023 COLA	2022 COLA	2021 COLA
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, CUPE 416	1.99%	2.00%	2.00%
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, CPI for Ontario	TBD, CPI is 6.80%	1.30%	1.80%
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority	TBD	2.00%	1.00%

b) Inflation

Staff are recommending a 4.00% inflation rate for 2023. Please note that 4.00% will not be used long term in capital planning. The Bank of Canada's 2023 Inflation target is 2.00% and the forecasted 2023 inflation rate for April is 6.70%.

c) Strategic Initiatives

Staff recognized the funding challenges for the Conservation Authority's municipal partners last year and accordingly deferred any request in investment in the Strategic Plan, Transition 2022-2024 until this year. For 2023 staff are recommending a 1.50% increase on levies to support the Conservation Authority's new Strategic Plan.

d) Asset Management

Staff are utilizing a small placeholder of 0.50% of capital, \$22.1K in the 2023 budget assumptions for asset management costs. The long-term funding strategy for asset management will be presented to Board of Directors for approval in 2022.

e) Lessons Learned from the 2022 Forecast

As staff begin the 2022 forecasting process, program adjustments, savings and efficiencies will be incorporated into the 2023 budget.

Issues:

a) Board of Directors’ Direction Required

Staff will develop the budget to meet the Conservation Authority’s Annual Operating Priorities (Priorities) and legislative responsibilities. Staff will look for efficiencies, program reductions and implement changes from the review of Conservation Authority fees. Following that, staff will use the Board approved budget assumptions to build the operating and capital budgets and determine the amount of municipal investment required. With that in mind, staff request a range for the COLA and suggest a maximum cap to the levy increase to allow staff to continue to work with changing municipal guidelines. In summary, staff recommend:

1. Inflation: up to 4.00% used only for applicable expenditures (2022: 2.00%)
2. COLA: up to 2.00% (2022: 2.00%) plus applicable step increases
3. Infrastructure levy for Asset Management: up to 0.50% on capital funding (2022: 0.50%)
4. Investment in Strategic Priorities: 1.50% (2022: 0.00%)
5. No additional new FTEs in 2023, unless they are fully funded from grants and/or fees
6. General and Special Operating Levy: Up to 2.00%, (2022: 1.00%).
7. Special Capital Levy: Up to 1.68% (2022: 1.00%).

b) Staff May Require Flexibility to Meet Future Municipal Targets

		General Levy	Special Capital	Special Operating	Total
2023 Levy Targets in ‘000s					
General Levy	*2.00%	81.9			81.9
Special Capital	*1.68%		74.2		74.2
Special Operating	*2.00%			10.0	10.0
Maximum Estimated Tax Levy		\$81.9	\$74.2	\$10.0	\$166.1
2023 Budget Assumptions					
STEP		11.8	25.8	0.1	37.8
COLA	up to 2.00%	72.9	59.0	5.3	137.2
Inflation	up to 4.00%	9.1	28.8	4.7	42.6
Strategic Initiative	Up to 1.50%	61.3	66.2	7.5	135.0
Asset Management	up to 0.50%	0.0	22.1	0.0	22.1
Efficiencies/Revenue		(73.3)	(127.7)	(7.6)	(208.60)
Total*		\$81.9	\$74.2	\$10.0	\$166.1

* Aligning with preliminary budget targets provided by majority of funding.

Staff have initiated conversations with the Conservation Authority's municipal partners and will remain engaged throughout the budget cycle. The Conservation Authority has received guidelines from its largest funder, York Region, indicating 2.0% for operating and 1.68% for special capital. The Conservation Authority is scheduling a fall meeting with all municipal partners to participate in an on-line financial update to review guidelines and any issues arising with the development of the 2023 budget.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

The Conservation Authority is required to prepare annual budgets as part of the fiscal control and responsibilities of the organization. These budgets are also used in the audit process for evaluation by the external auditing firm. Annual audits are required under Section 38 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

The total municipal funding will be capped at \$9,167K for 2023, which is an overall 1.85% increase of \$166.1K. This total increase is made up of \$81.9K increase to general levy, \$10.0K increase to special operating, \$74.2K increase to special capital.

Summary and Recommendations:

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 21-22-BOD regarding the recommended budget assumptions for the 2023 fiscal year be approved.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Mark Critch
General Manager, Corporate and Financial
Services/CFO

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

- i) Comparators for 2023 Budget Assumptions

Comparators for 2023 budget Assumption						
Municipalities	Comments	2023 CUPE agreement	2022 CUPE agreement	2021 CUPE agreement	2020 CUPE agreement	2019 CUPE agreement
Region of York, CUPE 905	CUPE 905 current agreement 2020-2024	2.00%	2.80%	1.25%	1.74%	1.74%
City of Barrie, CUPE 2380	CUPE 2380 current agreement is for 18 months only, ending June 30, 2022.	Agreement has not been negotiated beyond June 2022	1.00%	1.00%	1.80%	1.75%
Region of Durham, CUPE 1764	8 collective bargaining units: Using CUPE 1764(inside workers) for comparison	1.50%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
Conservation Authorities		2023 COLA	2022 COLA	2021 COLA	2020 COLA	2019 COLA
TRCA, CUPE 416	CUPE 416 agreement until 2024, salary review % will include COLA and review	1.99%	1.77%	1.77%	1.98%	2.00%
NVCA, CPI for Ontario	no assumptions yet, usually uses CPI for Ontario	NA	1.30%	1.80%	1.90%	1.80%
Statistics Canada (All-items)		Forecast 2023	April 2021 to April 2022	April 2020 to April 2021	March 2019 to March 2020	March 2018 to March 2019 Actual
Statistics Canada, Table 28-28-0001-13 Consumer Price Index by product group, monthly, percentage change, not seasonally adjusted, Canada, provinces, Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit		6.70%	6.80%	3.40%	0.90%	1.90%
Trading Economics (Forecast)		Forecast 2023	March 2021 to March 2022	2021 April Actual	2020 March Actual	
https://tradingeconomics.com/canada/inflation-cpi		3.00%	6.70%	3.40%	0.90%	
Bank of Canada		2023 Inflation target	2022 Q1 Actual	2021 Q4 Actual	2020 Q4 Actual	2019 Q4 Actual
https://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/indicators/capacity-and-inflation-pressures/		2.00%	5.80%	4.70%	0.07%	2.10%
Focus Economics		Forecast 2023	2022 March Actual	2021 May Actual	2020 May Actual	2019 Q4 Actual
https://www.focus-economics.com/country-indicator/canada/inflation		2.60%	6.70%	2.20%	1.60%	1.90%



April 27, 2022

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

And to:

Hon. Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
minister.mah@ontario.ca

And to:

Hon. Caroline Mulroney
Minister of Transportation
minister.mto@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Clark, and Minister Mulroney:

Re: Conservation Authority Land Transfer in the Town of Georgina

On behalf of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your commitment to protecting the lands formerly known as Maple Lake Estates and finding a solution to ensure the preservation of these environmentally significant lands.

Board members and conservation authority staff are very excited to have the opportunity to care for these lands. Staff will begin the process of familiarizing themselves and assessing the lands to determine the best way to protect its natural beauty.

Again, we thank you for bringing this lengthy outstanding matter to a mutually satisfactory close.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Emmerson".

Wayne Emmerson
York Region Chairman and CEO
Chair, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority



April 27, 2022

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

And to:

Hon. David Piccini
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

And to:

Hon. Caroline Mulroney
Minister of Transportation
minister.mto@ontario.ca

And to:

Ms. Andrea Khanjin
MPP Barrie-Innisfil
andrea.khanjin@pc.ola.org

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Piccini, Minister Mulroney and MPP Khanjin:

Re: Holland Marsh Treatment Facility Funding

On behalf of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for showing your commitment to Lake Simcoe with your government's announcement of funding to build the Holland Marsh Treatment/Recycling Facility. The concept of this project goes back to the mid-eighties, and we are thrilled that it has now come to fruition. This facility will aid significantly in the restoration and protection of Lake Simcoe.

We look forward to learning more details as they evolve, and Conservation Authority staff are available and willing to assist as needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Emmerson".

Wayne Emmerson
York Region Chairman and CEO
Chair, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Rob Baldwin, CAO

Date: June 8, 2022

Subject:

Requirement for Exception Request under section 17(1.3) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* for the Current Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors

Recommendation:

That Staff Report No. 22-22-BOD regarding the requirement for an exception request for the current Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors be received; and

Further That the Board of Directors Request the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks to grant an exception under Section 17(1.3) of the Conservation Authorities Act for Chair Wayne Emmerson and Vice-Chair Peter Ferragine to continue in their Board roles for 2022.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 22-22-BOD is to seek a Board resolution formally requesting an exception for the current Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors to continue in their respective roles in accordance with Section 17(1.3) of the Conservation Authorities Act (Act).

Background:

One of the governance elements changed as part of the legislative requirements outlined in Bill 229 was regarding the tenure of Chair/s and Vice-Chair/s of Conservation Authorities. The general intent of Section 17 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* is to increase the opportunity for members across the Conservation Authority membership to be Chair and/or Vice-Chair and to limit tenure to two years. A tenure of more than two years can occur with the approval of the Minister for an exception.

Over the past year there has been some confusion regarding whether the effective date of proclamation of the Act's various amendments including Section 17 were effective from that date forward only or looked backwards in time in counting years of tenure for a Chair or Vice-Chair.

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks staff provided further clarification that indeed the expectation is that a Conservation Authority is required to count the existing time a current Chair and/or Vice-Chair has been in their respective position. In the case of this Conservation Authority, both the current Chair and Vice-Chair are in their fourth year of service in these roles. Therefore, an exception request and subsequent approval of the Minister is required.

Issues:

There are no issues with the request for an exception. The following outlines the rationale for the exception request:

- At the Conservation Authority's Annual General Meeting in January 2022, nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair for 2022 were called for on three occasions, with only one nomination coming forward for each position. No other members expressed interest or intent to hold the position of Chair or Vice-Chair for the 2022 fiscal.
- Both the Chair and Vice-Chair were acclaimed as there were no other candidates.
- The continuation of the current Chair and Vice-Chair allows for significant continuity during the last year of the current municipal terms of council.
- The Conservation Authority's Chair represents York Region, and the Vice-Chair represents the Town Bradford West Gwillimbury, which ensures representatives from two different and distinct member municipalities.
- The continuity of Chair and Vice-Chair has ensured stability over the past years and the current year, while significant navigation through the Conservation Authorities Act transition has occurred. This has been incredibly valuable to the Conservation Authority.
- This approval would see the Conservation Authority Board begin the next term of council in 2023 with a new Chair and Vice-Chair elected in January 2023, allowing for alignment of tenure times for the Chair and Vice-Chair over the term of council and providing increased stability.

The above listed rationale clearly outlines the justification for both requesting of and granting of an exception by the Minister under S.17 of the Act.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

The current Chair and Vice-Chair were elected in accordance with Conservation Authority policy and bylaws at its Annual General Meeting held on January 28, 2022.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

There is no impact on Conservation Authority finances associated with this request.

Summary and Recommendations:

Continuing the with current Chair and Vice-Chair for 2022 is the simply and most logical approach and will bring the Conservation Authority to the end of this term of council allowing for a smooth transition into 2023 and the next term of municipal council.

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 22-22-BOD regarding the requirement for an exception request for the current Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors be received; and **Further That** the Board of Directors Request the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks to grant an exception under Section 17(1.3) of the Conservation Authorities Act for Chair Wayne Emmerson and Vice-Chair Peter Ferragine to continue in their Board roles for 2022.

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Rob Baldwin, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: June 14, 2022

Subject:

Conservation Authorities Act Transition - Quarterly Progress Report No. 1 for June 2022

Recommendation:

That Staff Report No. 23-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress Report No. 1 be received; and

Further that the June 2022 Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress No. 1 be approved for submission to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 23-22-BOD is to update the Board of Directors on the status of the *Conservation Authority Act* transition, as well as to seek approval to submit the first mandatory quarterly update to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Background:

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (the Ministry) implemented the first phase of *Conservation Authorities Act* regulations in October 2021. The regulations require each conservation authority to have a transition plan in place by December 31, 2021 and to create an inventory of programs and services by February 28, 2022. These documents initiate consultations with member municipalities prior to the Transition Date of January 1, 2024.

The Programs and Services Inventory approved by the Board on February 25, 2022 lists the programs and services that the Conservation Authority currently delivers and intends to deliver in the future. Staff circulated the Inventory to member municipalities and MECP and held a municipal presentation regarding the Inventory on February 24th, 2022.

Regulations require the provision of quarterly updates to the Ministry as consultations take place and the Programs and Services Inventory is refined. Six quarterly reports are to be submitted as follows: in 2022 - July 1st and October 1st; and in 2023 - January 1st, April 1st, July 1st, and October 1st.

The reports are required to include:

1. Any comments or other feedback submitted by a municipality regarding the inventory;
2. A summary of any changes that the authority has made to the inventory to address comments or other feedback referred to in clause 1;
3. An update on the progress of negotiations of cost apportioning agreements with the participating municipalities;
4. An outline of any difficulties that the conservation authority is experiencing that might affect its ability to conclude any cost apportioning agreements with one or more participating municipalities by the transition date.

The first progress report is attached for the Board's consideration and provides an update on the requirements, as well as other relevant legislative mandatory requirements.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

This report and the quarterly update are consistent with legislative requirements and Conservation Authority policy.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

There is currently no direct impact on Conservation Authority finances. Any potential or future financial impacts will be identified as they arise.

Summary and Recommendations:

This report is the first of a series of mandatory quarterly reports required under regulation to be provided to the Ministry. This report also provides the Board with a quarterly update as the Conservation Authority goes through the significant transition process moving towards the critical January 1, 2024 conclusion date for most requirements.

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. No. 23-22-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress Report No. 1 be received; and **Further That** the June 2022 Conservation Authority Transition Quarterly Progress No. 1 be approved for submission to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

- i) Conservation Authority Quarterly Progress Report No. 1 – June 2022

Conservation Authority Quarterly Progress Report No. 1 – June 2022

1. Engagement with Participating Municipalities

- Various meetings held with five of eight member municipalities to date
- Meetings are ongoing and being arranged with all member municipalities and will continue as required
- Meeting held with the two specified municipalities included the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan with no concerns raised with the new requirements as outlined
- All meetings have been productive and initial in nature with much more detail and discussion to occur specifically during the development of the 2024 budget

2. Summary of Changes to Program and Services Inventory

- No changes have been made at this time
- No changes have been requested to date
- Any potential changes will occur upon completion of initial municipal discussions that have not occurred to date

3. Update on cost apportioning agreements with participating municipalities

- Staff have been reviewing existing funding agreements with municipalities to assess applicability of status of being a specific project agreement or may require a cost apportioning agreement
- Discussions with municipalities will be ongoing for programs and services requiring cost apportioning agreements
- Exploring process to use a master agreement and use of specific schedules to address programs and services for efficiency and consistency

4. Difficulties affecting the establishment of cost apportioning agreements with participating municipalities

- No specific difficulties identified at this time
- Only general comment raised is the challenge of entering into agreements with financial components in advance of municipal budget approvals. This timing issue will be explored in more detail as we move towards January 1, 2024.

Status Update on Various Mandatory Requirements

Activity Area	Current Status	Ongoing or Next Steps
Information Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% compliance with mandatory information requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap analysis to identify any outstanding items Ensure all requirements are implemented by end of 2022
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exception request for Chair and Vice-Chair submitted Meetings have occurred with specified municipalities with no issues raised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of current bylaws to identify any amendments Bring forward bylaw amendments in Fall 2022 Develop Board protocol / process for meetings when specified municipalities are required to participate
Conservation Land Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Securement Strategy Complete Land Disposition Strategy Complete Various Conservation Area management plans complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake gap analysis of all existing Land Management strategies, plans to determine what is outstanding and what needs to be completed
Watershed Management Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All subwatershed plans are complete and have a process for updating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting required with Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to discuss the overlap / potential issues with the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authority undertook a detailed and comprehensive fee review in 2021 with external consulting using standard municipal costing practices New fee scheduled was implemented for 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake review and gap analysis of approved Fee Classes to ensure compliance and consistency

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Christa Sharp, Manager, Restoration Services

Date: June 14, 2022

Subject

Offsetting Program Results – Reconciliation to December 31, 2021

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 24-22-BOD regarding an update on the Conservation Authority's Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and Key Performance Indicators be received for Information.

Purpose of this Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 24-22-BOD is to provide an update on the Conservation Authority's Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and Key Performance Indicators. This update provides an overview from the onset of this program up to December 31, 2021.

Background

The Conservation Authority's offsetting policies address loss of natural heritage features (ecological offsetting), groundwater recharge deficit (water balance offsetting) and post development phosphorus loads (phosphorus offsetting), which are the result of development within the watershed. These policies are implemented by Planning and Development staff through review of applications made under the *Planning Act*.

The Conservation Authority's Ecological Offsetting Policy was approved by the Board of Directors in 2017 and was put in place to address the loss of natural heritage features and their associated vegetation protection zones.

Since 2017, the Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offsetting Policy has been improving and protecting the quality of water in Lake Simcoe and its streams and rivers. Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offsetting Policy requires that all new development must control 100% of the phosphorus from leaving the development site.

To ensure that adequate groundwater recharge is maintained throughout the entire Lake Simcoe watershed, and to mirror the policies of the Source Protection Plan, the Conservation Authority developed the Water Balance Recharge Policy in 2018 to accompany Lake Simcoe Protection Plan policies 6.40-DP and 4.8-DP, which are to be applied to all applications for major development outside of the WHPA Q2 area. This policy, as well as the WHPA Q2 policies

of the Source Protection Plan (July 2015), address the deficit of groundwater recharge resulting from development.

The offsetting policies are tiered plans; avoid, minimize, mitigate and compensate. The collection and allocation of funds received and Key Performance Indicators through Ecological Offsetting, Phosphorus Offsetting and Water Balance are outlined in the attached Tables 1, 2, and 3.

In April 2022 the Conservation Authority presented the program overview and results to the Building Industry Land Development Association, and the information was accepted as presented.

The primary key performance indicators for ecological offsetting projects are total natural heritage restored, wetland and woodland area restored, and area acquired/protected. Through the restoration and protection of wetlands, woodlands and other natural heritage features, the program has provided funding of \$1,033,344, which has accomplished 13.7 hectares of natural heritage restoration and protection. Other achievable co-benefits include but are not limited to additional grassland area, installation of habitat structures, increase in biodiversity, flood reduction, groundwater recharge, carbon mitigation, protection of infrastructure, thermal mitigation, urban heat reduction and social/community impacts. This program has also allocated an additional \$806,262. These projects will be implemented in 2022 and 2023 and are expected to achieve 4.25 hectares of natural heritage restoration and protection.

Through the implementation of stormwater retrofits and low impact development projects, the water balance recharge and phosphorus offsetting projects achieve phosphorus reduction and infiltration as the main key performance indicators. The WHPA Q2 and Water Balance program has provided funding of \$137,798 and the phosphorus offsetting program has provided funding of \$44,989 to achieve 2161 m³/year of infiltration and 1.79 Kg/year phosphorus reduction. Other achievable co-benefits include but are not limited to water quality, peak flow reduction, increase in biodiversity, flood reduction, groundwater recharge in significant recharge areas, carbon mitigation, protection of infrastructure, thermal mitigation, urban heat reduction, improvements to the natural heritage system, and social/community impacts. These programs have also allocated \$1,274,291.00. These projects will be implemented in 2022 and 2023 and are expected to achieve 16,789 m³/year of infiltration and 80.6 Kg/year of phosphorus reduction.

Issues

There are no issues associated with this report.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy

One of the goals of the Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan, a resilient watershed, is achieved through nature-based restoration solutions and an increase in protected areas on rural, urban and agricultural lands. The development and implementation of the offsetting policies assist in achieving this goal by providing a consistent approach to enhancement and restoration throughout the watershed.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances

This update will not impact Conservation Authority finances. As provided in previous reports to the Board of Directors, a record of the collection and allocation of funds will be made available to watershed municipalities, Building Industry and Land Development Association and other interested stakeholders, on an annual basis, through a report to the Board of Directors. Staff continue to monitor inflation rates and will consider rate changes to the three policies as necessary.

Summary and Recommendations

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 24-22-BOD regarding an update on the Conservation Authorities Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and Key Performance Indicators be received for Information.

Pre-Submission Review

This Staff Report has been reviewed by General Manager, Planning, Development and Restoration and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Glenn MacMillan
General Manager, Planning, Development
and Restoration

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

Table 1: Ecological Offsetting results

Table 2: WHPA Q2 and Water Balance Recharge results

Table 3: Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offsetting results

Table 1

Ecological Offsetting Policy Collection, Allocation of Funds and Key Performance Indicators of Restoration Projects by Subwatershed - 2017 to 2021

Subwatershed	Project Funds Collected (net of admin) (\$)	Funds Spent on Projects 2017 to 2021 (\$)	Ending Balance Available December 31, 2021 (\$)	Wetland Loss (ha)	Woodland Loss (ha)	Total Natural Heritage Restored (ha)	Wetland Restored and/or Protected (ha)	Woodland Restored and/or Protected (ha)	Acquisition (ha)
Barrie Creeks	9,322		9,322	0	2.17				
East Holland	1,225,610	606,943	618667	4.45	11.52	5.1	1.2	2.5	
Hewitts Creek	991,353		991353	20.11	3.03				
Innisfil Creeks	924,065	426,271	497,794	22.44	64.88	8.6	2.2	4.3	0.57
Oro Creeks South	177,480		177,480	0.5	1.3				
Whites Creek	286,860		286,860	0.37	1.71				
Uxbridge Brook	1,107		1,107	0	0.2				
West Holland	337,263	130	337,133	2.16	4.08				
Lover's Creek	365,005		365,005	1.01	4.25				
Black River	372,799		372,799	1.3	0.3				
Hawkstone Creeks	305,424		305,424	7.51	8.26				
General Pool - Interest Earned	91,048		91,048	0	0				
Grand Total	\$5,087,336	\$1,033,344	\$4,053,992	59.85	101.71	13.7	3.4	6.8	0.57

Table 2:

WHPA Q2 and Water Balance Recharge Policy Collection, Allocation of funds and Key Performance Indicators of Restoration Projects by Subwatershed - 2015 to 2021

Subwatershed	Project Funds Collected (net of Admin) (\$)	Spent on Projects 2015 to 2021 (\$)	Ending Balance Available at December 31, 2021 (\$)	Infiltration Deficit (m³/year)	Phosphorus Reduction Achieved (kg/year)	Infiltration Achieved (m³/year)
East Holland	2,021,317	137,978	1,883,339	43,275	1.29	1,818
West Holland	1,787,367		1,787,367	39,298		
Black River	128,955		128,955	42,010		
Lover's Creek	288,904		288,904	4,655		
Oro Creeks North	39,248		39,248	892		
Oro Creeks South	17,028		17,028	387		
Innisfil Creeks	822,272		822,272	19,374		
General Pool	44,142		44,142	0		
Grand Total	3,299,021	137,978	3,161,043	130,991	1.29	1,818

Table 3:

Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offsetting Policy Collection, Allocation of funds and Key Performance Indicators of Restoration Projects by Subwatershed - 2016 to 2021

Subwatershed	Project Funds Collected (net of Admin) (\$)	Spent on Projects 2016 to 2021 (\$)	Ending Balance Available at December 31, 2021 (\$)	Phosphorus Loss (Kg/year)	Phosphorus Reduction Achieved (kg/year)	Infiltration Achieved (m³/year)
West Holland*	873,373	36	873,337	9.62		
Maskinonge River	20,125		20,125	0.20		
Lovers Creek*	457,625	1,895	455,730	4.66		
Innisfil Creeks	186,655		186,655	2.10		
Georgina Creeks	17,850		17,850	0.18		
East Holland	1,975,914		1,975,914	21.18		
Black River	10,500		10,500	0.10		
Barrie Creeks	215,228	43,058	172,170	1.96	0.5	343
Whites Creek	6,248		6,248	0.07		
Uxbridge Brook	230,749		230,749	2.98		
General Pool - Interest Earned	26,273		26,273	0.14		
Grand Total	4,020,540	44,989	3,975,551	43.19	0.5	343

*Projects in progress

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Ashlea Brown, Director Regulations

Date: June 10, 2022

Subject

Appointment of a Provincial Offences Officer under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 25-22-BOD regarding the appointment of Ashley Page as a Provincial Offences Officer with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* be approved.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 25-22-BOD is obtained Board appointment of a Provincial Offences Officer, Ms. Ashley Page, in accordance with Section 28 s, (1) (d) and (e) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Background:

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's staff are responsible for the enforcement of Ontario Regulation 179/06, made pursuant to Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Ontario Regulation 179/06 deals with development activities within the Conservation Authority's jurisdiction as prescribed in the regulation.

Specifically, the *Conservation Authorities Act*, Section 28(1)(d) and (e) allows conservation authorities to appoint officers to enforce regulations made under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*:

- 28(1) *Subject to the approval of the Minister, an authority may make regulations applicable in the area under its jurisdiction,*
- (d) *Providing for the appointment of officers to enforce any regulation made under this section or section 29.*
- (e) *Providing for the appointment of persons to act as officers with all of the powers and duties of officers to enforces any regulation made under this section.*

The Ministry of Natural Resources class designation was signed June 14, 1999 by the Minister of Natural Resources regarding the appointment of a class of person as officers under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the Trespass to Property Act. The class designation enabled the Board of Directors of a Conservation Authority to appoint an employee as an officer under Section 28 and/or Section 29 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* subject to the following criteria:

1. The officer shall provide proof of a clean criminal record check;
2. The officer shall be adequately trained in the legislation they are to enforce through the completion of the level 1 regulatory compliance training or equivalent;
3. An officer must be appointed as a POA officer at an official Board meeting; and
4. Each Conservation Authority is responsible for the filing and record keeping of each designation within their organization.

Ashley Page has successfully completed the qualifying criteria and can therefore be appointed as a Provincial Offences Officer by the Board to enforce the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and Ontario Regulation 179/06.

Issues:

The Conservation Authority protects residents of our watershed through the administration and enforcement of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 179/06. Particularly, this legislation requires that development be prohibited within hazard lands unless it can be demonstrated through the submission of a permit application that development can occur without impacting the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, or the conservation of land. Further the activity should not create conditions or circumstances that, in the event of a natural hazard would jeopardize the health or safety of persons or result in the damage or destruction or property.

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Environmental Compliance Officers are designated as Provincial Offences Officers and are responsible for the enforcement of the regulation through collection of information, preparation of compliance letters, Violation Notices, laying of charges and testifying in court. They perform these functions under the immediate direction of the Director, Regulations and the General Manager, Planning, Development and Restoration.

Currently, Kristin Nyborg, Environmental Compliance Officer and Ashlea Brown, Director of Regulations are appointed as Provincial Offences Officers. Ashley Page has recently accepted the second Environmental Compliance Officer position. The appointment of Mrs. Page as an Enforcement Officers under Section 28(1)(d)(e) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* is necessary for the purpose of administering Ontario Regulation 179/06.

Ashley has successfully completed the Level 1 compliance training through Conservation Ontario and have provided clean criminal record checks. As such, they meet the requirements to be designated as officers.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

The appointment of Provincial Offences Officers by the Board of Directors is in keeping with provincial legislation including, the Provincial Offences Act Section 1 (3), the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 179/06, as well as Conservation Authority process and policy.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

There are no financial implementations associated with this report as this is an existing full-time budgeted position.

Summary and Recommendations:

It is therefore **Recommended that** Staff Report No. 25-22-BOD regarding the appointment of Ashley Page as a Provincial Offences Officer for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority to enforce Section 28 of the Act be approved.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Planning, Development and Restoration Services and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Signed by:

Glenn MacMillan
General Manager Planning, Development
and Restoration Services

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer