



**GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES
Full Authority Board of Directors
Wednesday, February 28th, 2018, at 1:15 p.m.**

The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting was held at the Conservation Authority Administration Centre located on Inglis Falls Road.

1. Call to Order

Chair Cathy Little called the meeting to order.

Directors Present – Sue Carleton, Harley Greenfield, Scott Greig, Dick Hibma, Cathy Little, John McGee, and Ana Vukovic

Directors Absent – Al Barfoot, Paul Eagleson, Bob Pringle, and Jaden Calvert

Staff Present – Sonya Skinner, Gloria Dangerfield, John Bittorf, Andy Sorensen, Tim Lanthier, Alison Armstrong, Karen Gillan, and Doreen Robinson

2. Adoption of Agenda

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| Motion No.: | Moved by: | Dick Hibma |
| FA-18-016 | Seconded by: | Sue Carleton |

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Agenda of February 28th, 2018, with the following changes.

Under Item #7 – Business Items – d) Administration – Add 7d)1) Q4 Financial Report Acceptance and move 7d)1) CAO’s Update and Monthly Calendar to 7)d)2); Add Under Item #7 – Business Items – a) Water Management – Update on Water Management Activities; Under Item #7 – Business Items – b)

Environmental Planning – Defer - Item #2 – Board Update – GSC Permits – what we regulate, information that can be shared; Under Item #7 – Business Items – Defer - g) 1) DWSP/RMO Report – 1) Source Protection Management Committee Appointments; Under Item #7 – Business Items - Move Item 7 c) Lands Update – 1) Proposed Accessibility Policy to the beginning of the Business Items; and move Item #10 – Closed Session up earlier in the agenda.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

The Directors were reminded to disclose any pecuniary interest that may arise during the course of the meeting. No disclosures of pecuniary interest were expressed at this time.

4. Adoption of Minutes

1) Full Authority – January 24th, 2018

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|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Motion No.: | Moved by: | John McGee |
| FA-18-017 | Seconded by: | Scott Greig |

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of January 24th, 2018.

Carried

5. Business Out of Minutes – nothing at this time

6. Consent Agenda

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|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Motion No.: | Moved by: | Dick Hibma |
| FA-18-018 | Seconded by: | Harley Greenfield |

THAT in consideration of the Consent Agenda, Items listed on the February 28th, 2018, agenda, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receives the following items: 1) the list of permits under Ontario Regulation

151/06 – “Development, Interference, with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation”, for January 2018; 2) the Receipts and Expenses for January 2018; 3) Foundation Minutes of January 17th, 2018; 4) Letter from Blue Mountain Watershed Trust to Minister of MNRF; 5) Letter 2017 Education Report for GSCA from SVCA;

Carried

All staff, excluding Sonya Skinner, Tim Lanthier, and Doreen Robinson, left the meeting.

10. Closed Session

**Motion No.: Moved by: Dick Hibma
FA-18-019 Seconded by: Harley Greenfield**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors move into Closed Session to consider the security of the property of the Authority and the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

Carried

**Motion No.: Moved by: Sue Carleton
FA-18-020 Seconded by: Harley Greenfield**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors rise from Closed Session at 2:15 p.m.

Carried

Andy Sorensen, Gloria Dangerfield, Alison Armstrong, and John Bittorf returned to the meeting.

7. Business Items

c) Lands Update

1) Proposed Accessibility Policy

Tim Lanthier, Lands and Habitats Coordinator, made a presentation on the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). The Government of Ontario passed this Act in 2005. Its goal is to make Ontario accessible by 2025, by creating and enforcing accessibility standards. These standards are rules that businesses and organizations must follow to identify, remove and prevent barriers so that people with disabilities will have more opportunities to participate in everyday life. Standards address key areas of daily life, such as customer service, information and communications, and employment.

All staff members, Board of Directors, and volunteers who communicate with customers will be trained on how best to interact and communicate with people with various types of disabilities. GSC will work with the person with a disability to determine an appropriate method of communication for them.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Scott Greig**
FA-18-021 **Seconded by:** **Dick Hibma**

WHEREAS the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act requires GSC to establish policies on providing accessible customer service to people with disabilities, and to develop accessibility policies describing what we do to meet the other requirements of the regulation;
AND FURTHER WHEREAS staff have developed such a policy;
THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Accessibility Standards Policy as provided.

Carried

Documents on the GSC website would need to be in a font and a form to conform with AODA requirements. Town of Blue Mountains has already done this.

7 a) Water Management

GSC provides high water predictions and notifications to municipal staff, the media and the public. Gloria Dangerfield, GIS/Database Coordinator, provided a summary to the Board on GSC's activities during the February 2018 Flood Event. From Feb 20th to Feb 22nd the watershed experienced a total of 65mm of rain,

combined with significant snowmelt. In addition to early notifications to municipal staff in the days before the rain started:

- On February 20th a Watershed Condition Statement was issued while flows were still below normal but expected to rise. Ice jamming was a concern in Meaford, Allenford, and Clarksburg which municipal crews watched closely.
- On the 21st of February a flood watch was issued for the entire watershed and a flood warning was issued for the Sauble River, the Bighead River and the Beaver River where flooding was observed. In addition to monitoring water level gauges, five GSC staff were deployed to the field to check water levels at additional locations.
- On the 22nd of February the flood warning was lifted but the watch remained in effect on systems where flows were still high or yet to peak. On the 23rd of February a conditions statement was issued removing all the flood watches and warnings.

Staff will hold a continuous improvement debriefing next week and will also plan to debrief with municipalities.

Dick Hibma advised that a letter from Conservation Ontario has been sent to the Premier with regards to funding for Conservation Authorities to assist in costs associated with high water monitoring and prediction capabilities.

7 b) **Environmental Planning**

1) Navigating the Process

Andy Sorensen, Environmental Planning Coordinator, advised that the final version of the “Navigating the Process” flow chart for building, development and/or property transactions will be available on the GSC website within a few weeks. When it is posted a notice and the website link will be circulated to the Board and and the watershed municipalities.

7 c) **Lands Update**

2) Report Back on McKay Pay

GSC staff completed a comparison of parking payment service providers being utilized by Municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario. The most popular parking payment apps are Honk Mobile, MacKay Pay, and Pay-by-phone, and the City of Toronto has their own app. The analysis considered GSC's actual parking numbers and the overall amount of revenue for GSC considering these providers' features and pricing schemes. Staff recommend that GSC continue to utilize the MacKay Pay system. Another review of parking apps may be warranted in three to five years.

7 d) 1) **Q4 Financial Report**

There were no questions on the Q4 2017 Financial Report.

7 d) 2) **CAO's Update and Monthly Calendar**

- Staff are further developing the five strategic plan goals, and will bring the proposed actions for Board input in April.
- Fee waiver #2 for 2018 for the Bruce Trail Club was approved by the CAO for a property in Keppel Township.
- Andy Sorensen and Gloria Dangerfield attended a North Bruce Peninsula (NBP) Council meeting to review the hazard mapping which was contracted from GSC for information on NBP's zoning. Bruce County completes planning for NBP.
- At least twelve positions within GSC are charged with carrying out some level/type of enforcement. Staff will review these job descriptions to standardize wording and confirm that ongoing training needs are addressed.
- Owen Sound Transportation Company is updating their sign and have offered to add GSC to it at no charge.
- Hepworth Angler's Club members will attend as a Deputation at the BOD's meeting of April 25th, 2018. They will also offer a future tour.
- There is intention to extend existing Grey County Trails and Forests MOUs for 1 year through the end of 2018.
- The 2018 Board bus tour will be deferred until 2019.

- The Federal Budget of February 28th, 2018, has \$500 million for protecting Canada's Nature, Parks and Wild Spaces; and \$40.6 million over five years, starting in 2018-19 for Adapting Canada's Weather and Water Services to Climate Change.

7 f) Communications/Public Relations

- 1) Circulate Highlights of BOD's minutes vs set of minutes

To more clearly and concisely inform municipal councils and other stakeholders about GSC Board meeting outcomes, staff proposed sending out a short highlights document in the days after the meeting to the MNRF, MPP's, MP's, and watershed municipalities. Once approved, the full minutes will be posted on the GSC website, and forwarded to anyone requesting them. Section 29 of the Meetings Policy will be revised and brought back to a future BOD's meeting.

8. Chair's Report

Chair Cathy Little provided an update, including the homework she has done in the past month.

1. What is the role of Conservation Authorities?

Bill 139 –Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act – the process has been so very helpful in understanding the breadth of responsibilities that CAs have and the exact relationship between CAs and the Province. This is an evolving process and we need to be paying attention to Provincial initiatives, for example the Draft document: Watershed Planning in Ontario – Guidance for land-use planning authorities. Comment period deadline is April 07, 2018. The advocacy of Conservation Ontario continues to be so important, but there will be implications for GSC; we need to be prepared and proactive, in my opinion.

2. What is the role of GSC?

Through the Strategic Planning process – through reading, doing our homework and discussion with each other, together we are developing and articulating our priorities. This is a great learning experience.

3. What is expected of the Chair?
 - a. Chair meetings.
 - b. Demonstrate leadership.
 - c. Represent GSC.
 - d. I have the great advantage of learning from Dick's leadership for the last 3 years. I have my ideas about the role but I am interested in understanding what your expectations are.

Activities (official)

Jan. 26 – attended Source Protection Committee Meeting

Feb. 1 – met with Sonya to discuss new role

Feb. 1 – attended **Sydenham Sportsmen Association** AGM – John B. (member)

Sonya and Tim made a presentation on GSC and our Strategic Plan process.

Feb. 14 – attended with most of you the Strategic Plan Workshop #2

Activities (other)

My personal priority currently, as it relates to representing GSC and as it supports the first two GSC goals from our Feb. 14th meeting, is to identify and connect with community groups in order to strengthen and/or build GSC partnerships. I've listed existing or potential community partners that share with GSC a basic concern for the natural environment.

Making organizations I am currently involved with aware of my new responsibility.

Lake Eugenia Watershed Environmental Stewardship Committee (liaison)

BTCBV (Land Steward and Property Owner Ambassador)

FKF (founding member and on executive)

I have joined the following groups, and plan to attend, at minimum, one meeting to introduce myself and make a personal connection on behalf of GSC. I discovered that I already know many people active in these organizations.

Kolapore Wilderness Trails Association,

Bruce Grey Woodlands Association,

Owen Sound Field Naturalists and

Blue Mountain Watershed Trust.

In addition, I am following:

**Friends of Hibou
Grey Bruce Sustainability Network and
Eco-Health Ontario**

Feb. 22 – attended Friends of the Kimberley Forest meeting – (making plans to plant trees and enhance the GS Wodehouse Karst property with an event showcasing interpretive signage and the re-dedication of 1970’s bronze plaque)

Feb. 24 – attended Bruce Grey Woodlands Association AGM (Anne Lennox, Cam Bennett and Mike Fry attending)– introduced myself on behalf of GSC to President Chris Vanden Hout, and to the guest speaker – Glenn Trivett, indigenous teacher working out of the M’wikwedong Native Cultural Resource Centre in Owen Sound.

To do - Connect with:

**GS Foundation,
Arboretum Alliance
Beaver River Watershed Initiative**

Most of all: I am here to listen and look forward to discussing with you what your expectations of the Chair are.

9. Other Business

- a) Committees – Minutes – nothing at this time for the following:
 - 1) Friends of Hibou; 2) Arboretum Alliance; 3) Forestry Committee;
 - 4) Staff Meeting Minutes; 5) BRWI

- b) Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 28th, 2018, at 1:15 p.m.

11. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Cathy Little, Chair

Doreen Robinson
Administrative Assistant

This set of minutes was approved at the BOD’s meeting held on March 28/18.