



Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

Minutes

Full Authority Board of Directors

Wednesday, April 13th, 2016 – 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 Dick Hibma called the meeting to order.

Directors Present

Al Barfoot, Harley Greenfield, Dick Hibma, Marion Koepke, Cathy Little, and Ana Vukovic

Directors Absent – Jaden Calvert, Paul Eagleson, Shawn Greig, John McGee, and Ryan Thompson

Staff Present – John Cottrill, Doreen Robinson, Alison Armstrong, John Bittorf, and Andy Sorensen

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Marion Koepke
FA-16-040	Seconded by:	Ana Vukovic

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of April 13th, 2016.

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. Approval of Minutes

a) Full Authority - March 9th, 2016

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Harley Greenfield
FA-16-041	Seconded by:	Cathy Little

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of March 9th, 2016.

Carried

5. Business Out of Minutes

1) 2016 GSCA Year End Audit

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Al Barfoot
FA-16-042	Seconded by:	Ana Vukovic

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the 2015 Year-End report.

Carried

6. Correspondence - nothing at this time

7. Business Items

a) Water Management

1) Water Conditions Update

John Bittorf, Water Resources Technician, reviewed with the Directors the water conditions for the storms in March.

We had three separate weather events occur from March 24th to March 31st. The first event brought snow, freezing rain and rain. Stream flows responded but stayed below normal spring runoff conditions. The March 27-28 event deposited 1 to 1.5 inches of rain throughout most of our watersheds. Again, flows came up but peaked at or below the normal spring runoff conditions. However, this system hit the Bighead and Beaver area much harder. The rain gauge at the Kolapore Uplands area recorded 92 mm (3.75 inches) and the Mill Creek rain gauge recorded 55.75mm (just over 2 inches). This resulted in a rapid increase in flows for these two river systems. Mill Creek (5 years of record) and the Beaver River at Slabtown (49 years of record) almost matched their previous maximum recorded flows with the Beaver River Gauge located at Grey Rd 30 (7 years of record) exceeding its maximum. The Bighead River peaked near 90 cms which was higher than its average Spring Runoff flows of 76 cms but not close to its maximum recorded flow of 139 cms.

This rain event also created problems for the Lake Eugenia power station. Ontario Power Generation (OPG) was in the process of storing water for summer level operations. The lake filled quickly and OPG notified GSCA March 30th that they needed to release surplus water from their facility. The gauge at Grey RD 30 is located on the Beaver River immediately downstream of the OPG penstock outlets and was showing flows had peaked in that portion of the Beaver River and were coming down quickly. The release of water from the dam brought the levels back up but still below the peak flows from the previous rain event.

On March 31st, with the weather forecast predicting another significant rain event, GSCA issued a Flood Watch for its entire watershed jurisdiction. This rain event deposited even more rain on the watersheds than the March 28th event with most areas receiving 25-50 mm (1-2 inches). The heavy thundershowers at the end of the system seemed to travel through the southern headwater areas of our watersheds. Our Desboro rain gauge recorded 61.5mm for the day and the Inglis Falls rain gauge recorded 59.4mm. Unfortunately, the Bighead and Beaver River systems were hit the hardest again. The Kolapore rain gauge recorded 70.1 mm (2.75 inches) of rain. The Bighead River peaked overnight at 113 cms causing some roads to overtop but no significant flooding was reported. The Beaver River also peaked (103.6 cms) overnight at just slightly higher than the March 28th peak (102.3 cms). The maximum recorded flows at this gauge was 104 cms.

With OPG still releasing water from Lake Eugenia, the added rain caused flows at the Grey Rd 30 gauge to exceed the peak from the March 28th event. Some flooding was already occurring in the Beaver Valley near Talisman but the added flows caused additional problems especially for the Beaver Valley Ski Club. Their entrance was being overtopped and became unpassable. They needed to stabilize their access and add additional culverts to convey the flows. GSCA upgraded its "Flood Watch" to a "Flood Warning" specific to the area below Lake Eugenia and kept the "Flood Watch" in place for the rest of the watersheds until April 2nd.

On April 1st, OPG informed GSCA that the lake was still rising and that they needed to release even more water. The flows at the gauge were dropping but this release held flows higher than normal spring runoff conditions. Flows did not exceed the previous peak flows from the day before. On April 4th, lake levels returned to normal levels and OPG started to restore the logs in their dam. GSCA lifted the Flood Warning.

Ana Vukovic and Cathy Little complimented staff on their response and dedication during the flooding. Beaver Valley Ski Club had damage on the lower valley road.

Mill Dam - Work has been completed at the dam, including the railings. The bent spindles have been replaced.

Harrison Park - There is a silt issue at Harrison Park. Authority staff have contacted City of Owen Sound staff, but have no response with regards to putting a proposal together. The City needs to contact the Department of Fisheries and Oceans with a proposal. If fill is needed, a permit is required from Grey Sauble Conservation.

b) Environmental Planning

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Cathy Little
FA-16-043	Seconded by:	Harley Greenfield

THAT the list of permits under Ontario Regulation 151/06 - "Development, Interference, with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation", for March 2016, be received by the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors.

Carried

c) Lands Update - nothing at this time

d) Forestry, Fish, and Wildlife

1) Annual Tree Sale - Saturday, April 30th, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Grey Sauble Conservation's annual tree sale will be held on Saturday, April 30th, 2016, from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. All volunteers are welcome. The Foundation hosts a bbq at the sale.

- e) Communications/Public Relations - nothing at this time
- f) Administration
 - 1) Receipts and Expenses - March 2016

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Al Barfoot**
FA-16-044 **Seconded by:** **Ana Vukovic**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the receipts and expenses for March 2016.

Carried

9. Chairman's Report

Since our last meeting, as Chair, Dick Hibma has attended / participated in the following activities:

CAO John Cottrill and I have attended a Queen's Park Day where John and I were recognized in the Legislature by our MPP Bill Walker, and by MPP Eleanor McMahon, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Bill Mauro at the start of Question Period on Thursday March 10th. This event was co-hosted by Conservation Ontario and MPP McMahon, and attended by representatives of 29 of 36 Conservation Authorities across the province. We were welcomed by Minister Mauro and MPP McMahon, and had a number of provincial cabinet ministers visit, including MOECC Minister G. Murray, OMAFRA Minister J. Leal, Community and Social Services Minister H. Jaczek, along with a number of MPPs from all parties. The event allowed us to showcase Conservation Authority programs and projects to provincial politicians and their staff.

John and I also attended a meeting with MPP Walker at his office to discuss matters of importance to our Conservation Authority, including control of phragmites, the Conservation Authorities Act Review, funding for summer employment.

I was unable to attend the inaugural meeting of the Great Lakes Guardians Council initiated by Minister Glenn Murray of the MOECC due to a family emergency.

I was able to participate in a teleconference on March 28th as a new member of the bi-national Great Lakes Blue Accounting Advisory Committee. This committee was established by the Council of Great Lakes Governors and Premiers to gather, analyze, and share data from a wide variety of stakeholders to assist the Governors and Premiers in their decision making for allocation of resources for Great Lakes management, protection and restoration.

And this past Monday, John and I attended the AGM of Conservation Ontario where I was returned for another year as Chair. The E-Bulletin with the highlights of this meeting will be shared with you in the coming weeks.

10. Other Business

- a) Next Meeting - Wednesday, May 11th, 2016, at 1:15 p.m.

- b) Foundation Minutes
 - 1) February 10th, 2016
 - 2) March 9th, 2016

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Marion Koepke
FA-16-045	Seconded by:	Harley Greenfield

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the Foundation minutes of February 10th, 2016, and March 9th, 2016.

Carried

c) Staff Minutes - March 10th, 2016

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Al Barfoot**
FA-16-046 **Seconded by:** **Ana Vukovic**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the Grey Sauble Conservation Staff Minutes of March 10th, 2016.

Carried

d) Risk Management Report

Carl Seider, Manager, Risk Management Office, GSCA, and Mike Traynor, Chairman, DWSP, were present for the following report.

Administration:

We have received signed Agreements to conduct risk management services on their behalf from the following municipalities:

- South Bruce
- West Grey
- Brockton
- Kincardine
- South Bruce Peninsula
- Georgian Bluffs
- Arran-Elderslie

We are also in the process of getting signed Agreements with Blue Mountains, Meaford and Grey Highlands.

Risk Management Office Update:

We have started threats verification work in South Bruce, West Grey, Arran-Elderslie and Kincardine with letters sent to all affected landowners. We are currently staging the distribution of letters to manage the number of calls that are received by this office following mail-outs.

Risk Management Official/ Inspector Designations:

Risk Management Officials (RMOs) and Risk Management Inspectors (RMIs) need to be appointed under Part IV of the *Clean Water Act, 2006 (the Act)* to carry out the duties and powers under *the Act*. Persons eligible to be appointed as RMO/RMI must complete a Director-approved training course to meet the qualifications prescribed by the regulation.

RMOs are responsible for negotiating risk management plans under s.58 of *the Act*, as well as issuing s.59 screening (restricted land use) notices.

RMIs are responsible for ensuring compliance through inspections and have the authority to collect documents and data related to an activity subject to a risk management plan.

The following staff members currently employed by Grey Sauble Conservation have completed the necessary RMO/RMI training course and are seeking appointment:

- Carl Seider (RMO/RMI)
- Emily Vandermeulen (RMO/RMI)
- Karen Gillan (RMI)
- Sara Pickard (RMI)

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Marion Koepke**
FA-16-047 **Seconded by:** **Ana Vukovic**

THAT Carl Seider and Emily Vandermeulen be appointed by Certificate of Appointment as Risk Management Officials/Risk Management Inspectors; AND FURTHER, THAT Karen Gillan and Sara Pickard be appointed by Certificate of Appointment as Risk Management Inspectors.

Carried

Harley Greenfield commented that the Minister of Agriculture has stated in the next 50 years, the centre of agriculture will be around the Great Lakes.

e) Dick Hibma expressed his sincere appreciation for expressions of condolences from the Board of Directors and Authority staff in the passing of his Mother.

The Board expressed condolences to Carl Sadler, an Authority employee, in the passing of his wife, Erin Sadler, who passed away on Monday. A Memorial Tree will be dedicated to Erin from the Board.

11. **Closed Session** - nothing at this time

12. **Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Dick Hibma, Chairman

Doreen Robinson
Administrative Assistant