



GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Minutes
Full Authority Board of Directors
Wednesday, May 10th, 2017

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

Vice Chair Marion Koepke called the meeting to order in the absence of Chair Dick Hibma.

Directors Present

Al Barfoot, Sue Carleton, Paul Eagleson, Shawn Greig, Marion Koepke, John McGee, Ana Vukovic, Jaden Calvert, and Harley Greenfield

Directors Absent - Dick Hibma and Cathy Little

Staff Present – Sonya Skinner, Doreen Robinson, Andy Sorensen, Gloria Dangerfield, Krista McKee, Jason Traynor, and Alison Armstrong

2. 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.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Al Barfoot
FA-17-054	Seconded by:	Jaden Calvert

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of May 10th, 2017.

Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

**Motion No.: Moved by: Harley Greenfield
FA-17-055 Seconded by: Sue Carleton**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of April 12th, 2017.

Carried

5. Business out of Minutes

1) Métis Harvester Card Staff Report and Policy

After reviewing the Métis Harvester Card Staff Report, the following points were made by the Board and staff:

- If hunting and trapping are permitted uses on a specific GSCA property, they must be in accordance with the MNRF Regulations
- It was asked that if a person gets injured, does GSCA have insurance to cover the permitted uses? GSCA staff will check with the insurance company.
- To date there has not been communication directly with the local Captain of the Hunt.
- The proposed resolution will also consider the advance request for the harvesting of plants in general, specifically where they are for medicinal, ceremonial and social purposes.
- The proposed resolution addresses the cutting of trees by directing interested parties to bid via GSCA's wood products tenders, including those interested in firewood.
- One key point is that GSCA lands are not public lands.

**Motion No.: Moved by: Ana Vukovic
FA-17-056 Seconded by: Jaden Calvert**

**WHEREAS GSCA properties are private property, therefore the Métis Harvester's Card does not apply to GSCA land;
AND FURTHER THAT harvesting trees on GSCA properties will follow GSCA's Tendering Policy and that hunting & fishing where permitted on GSCA's properties is in accordance with MNRF's hunting & fishing regulations;
AND FURTHER THAT the GSCA's Board of Directors consider advance requests for the use of GSCA properties for medicinal, ceremonial, and social purposes.
AND FURTHER, THAT a future GSCA Properties Policy include property permitted uses, including which are open for public trapping, hunting and the harvesting of forest products.**

Carried

The board asked GSCA staff to also communicate the decision to the local Métis Captain of the Hunt.

2) Meetings Policy

Sonya Skinner reviewed the updated Meetings Policy, which includes the changes recommended by the Board at the April 12th, 2017, meeting.

Clarification was made that the policy does not allow a motion in a Closed Session unless it is direction to staff.

**Motion No.: Moved by: John McGee
FA-17-057 Seconded by: Sue Carleton**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority approve the Meetings Policy as presented on May 10th, 2017.

Carried

6. Correspondence – nothing at this time

7. Business Items

a) Water Management

Staff provided a general update, given the recent rains and media coverage of flooding elsewhere:

- In the past week (May 1 to 5th) all of the GSCA watersheds stayed well below normal spring runoff levels. Not all of the watershed received the same amount of rain. On May 4th GSCA sent a watershed update to all of our flood contacts, indicating that flows were not expected to exceed normal spring runoff conditions and that we would update them if the conditions worsened. On May 5, GSCA released a similar watershed update to the press and MNRF.
- With respect to flood prevention and mitigation, there seems to be a lack of understanding in the press about what CAs do (including permits for development in and around a designated floodplain area), the flood contingency planning carried out with municipalities, and the notice provided to municipalities around water level increases, including to what level and how fast it is expected to rise.
- There are excellent communication and positive collaborative relationships in place with our municipal flooding and emergency contacts.
- Staff appreciate the efforts of Directors to help explain and support the Authority's work and decisions related to flood plain management. More in-depth briefings are available.

b) Environmental Planning

1) Section 28 Permits – April 2017

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Harley Greenfield
FA-17-058	Seconded by:	Jaden Calvert

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the list of permits under Ontario Regulation 151/06 – “Development, Interference, with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation”, for April 2017.

Carried

2) Annual Map Schedule Update for Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations, to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulations

Andy Sorensen, Environmental Planning Coordinator and Gloria Dangerfield, GIS/Database Coordinator, made a presentation on the annual update to the mapping of the areas regulated under Regulation 151/06, which is titled “Grey Sauble Conservation Authority: Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses.” This Regulation was created under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

The text of the regulation itself defines the regulated areas (often called “Natural Hazards”) such as slope hazards, flood prone areas and wetland boundaries and applicable buffer widths. GSCA produces maps of these areas to support applications screening and some permit decisions (and to support comments made to municipalities or others under other legislation such as the Planning Act). Staff emphasized that the mapping does not change the regulation itself.

Staff articulated that more accurate mapping is good for applicants, as GSCA staff are able to more accurately advise them whether there are any permit requirements and more quickly make permit decisions.

The maps are based on the Ontario Basic Mapping produced by the province, and the limits of Provincially Significant Wetlands are provided by MNRF.

Throughout each year Authority staff update our mapping. As soon as a mapping change is made the new information is used to guide and make decisions.

Most of the changes result from inaccuracies in the base maps such as inaccurate or missing stream locations. Updates also become available from field inspections by staff, new aerial photography, the use of new tools such as the 3 Dimensional (3D) mapping software acquired through the Shell Canada grant in 2013 and enhanced digital elevation models.

From 2007 to 2016 staff brought forward an annual listing of changes, all of which to-date have received Board approval.

Staff walked through several examples of mapping changes where the regulated areas have increased or decreased.

Discussion was held with the following points being made.

- The public can access maps with GSCA's regulatory mapping on the GSCA website, and on both the Grey and Bruce County websites. The digital files are also provided to local municipal planning offices. These maps include appropriate disclaimers to advise users that maps are not 100% accurate and may change from time to time.
- If someone wants general information about their property including whether there are any Natural Hazards, staff provide it with no charge.
- When mapping changes are made, GSCA does not proactively contact property owners. Directors asked whether owners should be notified, or if there should be a public meeting or newspaper ads to advise of changes? Staff commented that unlike with most municipal zoning changes, this mapping shows geographic features on the ground (such as the location of the toe of a slope), and that permits are based on these physical features, often after a site visit to confirm. Given current resources, staff would prefer to concentrate efforts on providing timely and accurate service to the public or developers who are actively considering development on their property.
- Staff agreed to again send each watershed municipality the mapping changes, and to consider in the future posting the changes on the GSCA website for several weeks, providing owners a chance to review.
- One Director mentioned concern with the Board approving map changes across all municipalities when each Director represents their own municipality.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Jaden Calvert**
FA-17-059 **Seconded by:** **Shawn Greig**

THAT the list of proposed technical changes to the Ontario Regulation 151/06 maps, dated May 1, 2016, to April 30, 2017, be approved as presented at the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting held on May 10th, 2017.

Carried

John McGee and Shawn Greig were opposed.

Staff were directed to return to the Board to propose the process that GSCA will follow in the future for updates, and to recommend whether the Board should approve the process and/or the actual mapping updates.

c) Lands Update

1) Great Lakes Guardian Funding

Grey Sauble Conservation staff are working with MOECC to seek a funding agreement through the Great Lakes Guardian Fund.

2) Request from Saugeen Ojibway Nation for Overnight Camping at Hibou Conservation Area

Jason Traynor, Field Superintendent and Fleet Manager, has been asked by a representative from the Saugeen Ojibway Nation to allow overnight camping at the Hibou Conservation Area on May 23rd, 2017. They would also like to have a small camp fire. This is in conjunction with the Water Walk being held from May 22nd to June 2nd, 2017, by the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. The organizers' vision of this walk is "a prayerful journey of the people to uplift the Spirit of the Water and to maintain our relationship and responsibility to our First Mother, Shkikima Kwe, and all that She sustains." The permitted uses of the Hibou property do not include camping.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Jaden Calvert**
FA-17-060 **Seconded by:** **Ana Vukovic**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors give permission to the Saugeen Ojibway Nation to camp overnight at Hibou Conservation Area on Tuesday, May 23rd, 2017, and to have a small camp fire in a burn barrel to be supplied by GSCA staff.

Carried

d) Forestry, Fish and Wildlife

1) Annual Tree Sale

On behalf of Anne Lennox and herself, Alison Armstrong, Finance Coordinator, advised the Board that at this year's annual tree sale on April 29th, had total sales of almost \$27K. This is over \$5K more than last year. In addition, there were pre-orders totaling \$40K. Krista McKee, Community Relations Coordinator, provided a photo of the line-up of shoppers which went for several hundred metres and discussed the advance communications and what a survey attendees told us about the effectiveness of each method.

Harley Greenfield encouraged all Board Members to volunteer at the tree sale. It is a great promotional event. The Foundation and Arboretum Alliance both provide volunteers. As well as the event being advertised on the GSCA website, it could be advertised on the municipalities' websites.

e) Communications/Public Relations

1) GSCA 60th Anniversary Events

Krista McKee, Community Relations Coordinator, made a presentation on the 60th Anniversary Celebrations for Grey Sauble Conservation being held Sunday, July 9th, 2017, at Harrison Park, as a part of the Riverfest celebration.

Krista provided an overview of the large line-up of activities and events, including a river parade/flotilla, the partners and the budget. Harley Greenfield asked if Buffet Taylor or Marsh Canada have been contacted for a donation towards the event. The City will be providing bussing and there will be designated parking areas. Krista McKee was commended on all her hard work towards this project. Jeff Elie has also been a huge support and the graphics were complimented. All participants will be given a token of the day. The celebration information and the miniature boat die cuts (\$2 retail) will be sent to the watershed municipal offices and to Grey Roots.

f) DWSP/RMO Report – nothing at this time

g) Administration

1) Receipts and Expenses – April 2017

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Jaden Calvert**
FA-17-061 **Seconded by:** **Sue Carleton**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the receipts and expenses for April 2017.

Carried

2) GSCA Policies and Guidelines and Potential Next Steps

Sonya Skinner, CAO, presented a list of all Policies and Guidelines currently in place at GSCA. Updates are underway on several of foundational policies (i.e. Personnel Policy, Social Media/Communications Policy, Forest Management Policy, Meetings Policy).

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **John McGee**
FA-17-062 **Seconded by:** **Al Barfoot**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the master list of policies and guidelines and accept the draft gaps and changes noted as emerging items that will be tracked and validated after the strategic plan;
AND FURTHER, THAT the numbering of policies and guidelines be deferred until the validation of the list is complete.

Carried

3) Monthly Calendar Update

An updated calendar listing key upcoming meetings was provided.

Sonya Skinner attended a meeting in Toronto on May 8th, 2017, for General Manager/C.A.O.'s from Ontario Conservation Authorities. Halton and Credit Valley are hosting this year's Biennial Tour. The Board will be updated with the dates of this Tour when they become available.

There is a newly formed CAOs' Collaboration Group focused on the four major plan areas including the Niagara Escarpment. Staff are considering the benefits of being engaged and in the know with the proposed \$2,500 cost.

- 4) Signing Authority for Cheques – replacing Chris Hachey

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Harley Greenfield**
FA-17-063 **Seconded by:** **Al Barfoot**

THAT effective May 10th, 2017, the signing authorities for Grey Sauble Conservation Authority will be as follows:

Section 28 Permits – Andy Sorensen, Sonya Skinner, John Bittorf

Financial (cheques) – Krista McKee, Gloria Dangerfield, Sonya Skinner, Dick Hibma, and Marion Koepke.

Carried

8. **Chair's Report** – nothing at this time

9. **Other Business**

- a) Committees – Minutes

- 1) BRWI
- 2) Arboretum Alliance

There have not been minutes from the Beaver River Watershed Initiative Committee (BRWI) and the Arboretum Alliance for some time. Representatives from both Committees will be asked to attend a future BOD meeting.

A commitment has been made by the Arboretum Alliance to support the new Hospice in Owen Sound through the donation of plants, and potentially other planning plans or advice and planting.

- 3) Forestry Committee – nothing at this time

- 4) Foundation Minutes – April 12th, 2017
- 5) Foundation AGM Minutes – April 12th, 2017
- 6) Staff Meeting Minutes – April 7th, 2017

- b) Replace Chris Hachey on Grey Sauble Conservation Foundation as a Board representative

At this time there is not a replacement staff individual for Chris Hachey to serve on the Grey Sauble Conservation Foundation and no Board Directors volunteered to serve. It was determined that representation from the Board on the Foundation would remain at two members at this time. A GSCA staff member to act as liaison is to be confirmed.

- c) Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 14th, 2017, at 1:15 p.m.

- d) Trees – Jones Falls

Al Barfoot asked for an update on the dead trees in the Highway 21 right-of-way that are blocking the view of Jones Falls. Staff indicated that MTO says they are included in a contract that will take place this summer, and will follow up with MTO again.

- e) Non-permitted activities at various Grey Sauble Conservation areas

Al Barfoot noted that when emergency services, such as the Intertownship Fire Department, are required to assist with incidents at conservation properties in the Township of Georgian Bluffs (i.e. Inglis Falls, Jones Falls) invoices are submitted to the Township of Georgian Bluffs. It was noted that in some cases individuals have fallen from an illegal climb of the falls or while taking a video in a restricted area. It was suggested that a sign be posted to notify individuals that anyone requiring emergency assistance due to an activity that is not permitted on these properties will be invoiced for any emergency costs incurred. Staff will review this matter and report back to the Board.

10. Closed Session – Personnel

Motion No.: Moved by: Shawn Greig
FA-17-064 Seconded by: Jaden Calvert

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors move into Closed Session to consider a Personnel Matter.

Carried

11. Lands Coordinator Position Description and Next Steps

The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors agreed with the next steps to run an open competition to fill the position of the Lands Management Coordinator, with an updated job description as discussed.

12. Adjournment - The Chair declared the open session adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

"Original Signed"

Marion Koepke, Vice Chair
(Acting Chair)

Doreen Robinson
Administrative Assistant/
Accounting Clerk