



Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

Minutes

Full Authority Board of Directors

Wednesday, November 9th, 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, Jaden Calvert, Paul Eagleson, Harley Greenfield, Shawn Greig, Dick Hibma, Marion Koepke, Cathy Little, and Ana Vukovic

Directors Absent – John McGee and Ryan Thompson

Staff Present – Sonya Skinner, Chris Hachey, Doreen Robinson, Alison Armstrong, John Bittorf, Andy Sorensen, Krista McKee, Gloria Dangerfield, and Cam Bennett

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion No.: Moved by: Jaden Calvert
FA-16-093 Seconded by: Cathy Little

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of November 9th, 2016, with the following additions. Under Item 6. Correspondence, add (1) Letter from Township of Mulmur and (2) Arboretum Alliance Meadow Project (Henry Havekes); (3) Under Item 7. Business Items d) Forestry, Fish and Wildlife – add Rocklyn Creek Management Area; Under Item 9. Other Business, add f) Proposed Upgrades at Harrison Park; After Closed Session Meeting, add Items - Hiring Sonya Skinner as CAO; and Resolution

appointing Sonya Skinner as an alternate voting delegate for Conservation Ontario;

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

The Directors were reminded to disclose any pecuniary interest that may arise during the course of the meeting. Dick Hibma declared a pecuniary interest in the October receipts – cheque 9193 – Miscellaneous expenses.

4. Approval of Minutes

a) Full Authority a) October 12th, 2016; b) September 22nd, 2016

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Marion Koekpe
FA-16-094	Seconded by:	Al Barfoot

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of September 22nd, 2016, and October 12th, 2016.

Carried

The Haines Dam project has been completed, but the Authority has not yet received any funding from the federal government or the WECl program.

No payment has yet been received from Brack Classic Hill Climb organizers for use of the Authority property. Staff were instructed to send this organization an invoice. The event boosts tourism and economic development but staff has raised concerns about safety and the role the Authority had played. We had taken on a greater role than anticipated. In future, it would be pertinent to list services provided by the Authority and these items be listed in an agreement between Grey Sauble and the organizers.

5. Business Out of Minutes

a) Forestry Tenders for Compartments #154, #26 and #155

Cam Bennett made a presentation to the Directors on prices received for stand improvement operations.

The following three stands were put out to tender and reported on at the September 14, 2016 Full Authority meeting. We did not receive any bids at that time. We have since contacted three contractors, Complete Woodlot Management, Timber Horse Logging and Scott Graham, to give GSCA an offer for these forest improvement operations. GSCA received one offer for each of the stands, and staff recommend that these offers are accepted.

Spey River Management Area – Compartment 154, Stand #5

Part Lot 1, Concession 12, Municipality of Meaford (formerly Sydenham Twp), Grey County; Marked Area: 12 acres

Volume Tendered: Sawlogs – 3,631 fbm Fuelwood – 16 Full Cords

Offer:

Contractor	Sawlogs	Fuelwood	Total Bid
Complete Woodlot Mgmt	\$1,800.00	\$400.00	\$2,200.00

Bognor Marsh Management Area – Compartment 26, Stand #1

West Part Lot 9, Concession 4, Municipality of Meaford (formerly Sydenham Twp) Grey County. Marked Area: 9 acres

Volume Tendered: Sawlogs – 1,882 fbm Fuelwood – 19 Full Cords

Offer:

Contractor	Sawlogs	Fuelwood	Total Bid
Complete Woodlot Mgmt	\$1,204.00	\$475.00	\$1,679.00

Rockford Management Area – Compartment 155, Stand #3

North Part Lot 9, Concession 12, Municipality of Meaford (formerly Sydenham Twp), Grey County; Marked Area: 20 acres

Volume Tendered: Sawlogs – 1,730 fbm Fuelwood – 43 Full Cords

Offer:

Contractor	Sawlogs	Fuelwood	Total Bid
Complete Woodlot Mgmt	\$1,053.00	\$1,075.00	\$2,128.00

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Harley Greenfield**
FA-16-095 **Seconded by:** **Marion Koepke**

THAT Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors accept the offers for Compartment 154 at \$2,200.00, Compartment 26 at \$1,679.00 and Compartment 155 at \$2,128.00 from Complete Woodlot Management, subject to signing the agreement.

Carried

Ana Vukovic commented on the Forestry Tour held earlier in the year. She felt the growth of the trees was not as high as anticipated in quantity and quality.

6. Correspondence

- 1) Letter from Township of Mulmur re: Proposed changes to the Niagara Escarpment Plan

Terry Horner, CAO/Clerk, forwarded a letter to Grey Sauble Conservation advising that Mulmur Township Council supports the two motions passed by the Grey Sauble Conservation Board of Directors – one not supporting the expansion of the Niagara Escarpment Plan boundary areas and the other that the proposed designations be subject to full consultation with affected land owners and lower tier municipalities. Mulmur has 30,000 acres and a small budget. The NEC proposal would impact their lands and raise taxes. It is believed that Grey County also has completed a summary of what monies they will lose with regards to the proposed changes to the NEC Plan.

The Niagara Escarpment will be hosting two additional days of meetings in December.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Al Barfoot**
FA-16-096 **Seconded by:** **Jaden Calvert**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the correspondence from the Township Mulmur with regards to proposed changes to the Niagara Escarpment Plan.

Carried

2) Arboretum Alliance Meadow Project (Henry Havakes)

In October, Krista McKee was contacted with regards to a family asking if they could plant a tree at Grey Sauble’s Administration Centre or Arboretum in memory of Henry Havakes. The family was advised about the Memorial Forest Program where they can purchase a tree in someone’s name. Later that week the immediate family came into the office and spoke to Chris and he advised them of the opportunity to support the Native Meadow Program by the Arboretum Committee.

In Henry’s Obituary, the family asked that donations be made to Henry’s favourite walking trails and in particular the Native Meadow Program. Since October 6th the Program has received 70 donations. The total amount to date is \$5,211.

An “In Memory” package has been prepared for the family as an appreciation of the donations in Henry’s name.

7. Business Items

a) Water Management – nothing at this time

b) Environmental Planning

1) Section 28 Permits – October 2016

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Jaden Calvert**
FA-16-097 **Seconded by:** **Cathy Little**

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 October 2016.

Carried

c) Lands Update – nothing at this time

d) Forestry, Fish, and Wildlife

1) Rocklyn Creek Management Area

Jaden Calvert spoke to a posting on the Grey Sauble Conservation’s Facebook which he felt was unsettling. The post was challenging Grey Sauble Conservation in its forest management practices. Conservation could mean not taking out trees or could mean managing a forest. Grey Sauble has taken huge strides in sustainable forest management. After Jaden provided some information for readers on the Authority Facebook, the comments stopped. Discussion was held on how to educate people on the Authority’s sustainable forest management, including what is done and why, including ideas such as an executive summary of the forest management plan, and a policy on the use of social media for the GSCA.

e) Communications/Public Relations – nothing at this time

f) Administration/Finance

1) Receipts and Expenses – October 2016

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Cathy Little
FA-16-098	Seconded by:	Harley Greenfield

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

Carried

2) 2016 budget – 3rd quarter

The 3rd quarter of the 2016 budget was reviewed. The biggest variable is funding from 2 sources for the Haines Dam. Neither funding has been received to date. This does impact the dam reserve.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Jaden Calvert**
FA-16-099 **Seconded by:** **Shawn Greig**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the 3rd quarter of the 2016 budget.

Carried

3) Preliminary 2017 Budget Planning & Preparation

Draft #1 of the 2017 Grey Sauble Conservation Authority budget will be presented to the Board at the December 14th meeting with the potential of the Board endorsement and the Board of Director's revisiting the budget at the January meeting. The final document would be brought back at the February meeting. As in past years, the Chair and the CAO will attend municipal Council meetings for presentation of the proposed 2017 budget. An invitation could be extended from the Authority to Watershed Municipal CAO's and finance leads for budget review.

Items could be highlighted in the budget not only on what the Authority does, but work leveraged through others such as ski clubs, the Foundation, the Arboretum, etc. There is intention to create an updated narrative that sets out the Authority's outcomes and actions.

Some of the pressures for 2017 include the cost of living increase (at 1.6% using the Grey County figure) and the associated changes to WSIB, etc. which alone can push the impact toward a 2% municipal levy change. As per a previously Board approved salary study, if 2-3 employees move up on the salary grid those changes can be in the range of \$20,000.

There is intention to start a Strategic Plan update in-house in 2017 with completion in 2018.

Other items discussed

- Water Management – rebuilding of reserves; phragmites problem
- Lands – spiral staircase at Spirit Rock funded \$100,000.
- Asset Management Plan – structures estimate at \$100,000 or more for a roof replacement at the administration centre
- Vehicle purchase – looking at ability to purchase in groups to decrease costs
- Replacement of washrooms is needed at various facilities
- Revenue – partnerships with Arboretum Alliance – trail improvements
- Bognor Marsh boardwalk upgrade
- Forestry – what are the intentions and goals – need some conversation. The current income is about \$100,000 per year. Would changes affect GSCA’s overall ability to make a difference?
- Public Relations – Canada’s 150th birthday
- Administration/IT/GIS — How do we keep ourselves in the digital age, and harness this capability to communicate and attract users? Investment needed - but in what and how much?

4) Signing Officers – Section 28 Permits and Cheques

Grey Sauble Conservation Signing Officers for Section 28 Permits and Cheques

Signing Officers for	Signing Officers As Per Resolution FA-11-032 passed February 9, 2011	Proposed Signing Officers
Section 28 Permits	Andy Sorensen John Cottrill John Bittorf	Andy Sorensen Sonya Skinner John Bittorf
Financial (cheques)	Chris Hachey Krista McKee Dick Hibma John Cottrill Dave Clarke	Chris Hachey Krista McKee Dick Hibma Sonya Skinner Harley Greenfield

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Jaden Calvert**
FA-16-100 **Seconded by:** **Marion Koepke**

THAT effective November 9th, 2016, the signing authorities for Grey Sauble Conservation Authority will be as follows:

Section 28 Permits – Andy Sorensen, Sonya Skinner, John Bittorf
Financial (cheques) – Chris Hachey, Krista McKee, Dick Hibma, Sonya Skinner, and Harley Greenfield

Carried

8. Chairman’s Report

Since the last BOD’s meeting, on November 1st I attended a Grey Sauble Conservation staff meeting to introduce and welcome Sonya Skinner to staff. I also attended one of the Extraordinary Tree Lecture Series. The series hosts a variety of speakers.

9. Other Business

a) Next Meetings

- 1) Wednesday, December 14th, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. at the Grey Sauble Administration Centre followed by a luncheon at 12:30 noon at the Chatsworth Legion
- 2) Wednesday, January 11th, 2017, 1:15 p.m. – AGM

b) Foundation Minutes – October 12th, 2016

The Foundation is hosting the Earth Film Festival on April 20th, 2017, at the Roxy. There will be a children’s program for which a \$2,000.00 grant has been obtained.

c) Staff Minutes – September 15th, 2016

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Shawn Greig**
FA-16-101 **Seconded by:** **Jaden Calvert**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the Grey Sauble Conservation Foundation minutes of October 12th, 2016, and the Grey Sauble Conservation staff minutes of September 15th, 2016.

Carried

d) Proposed Upgrades – Harrison Park, City of Owen Sound

The City has an engineering plan to alleviate a water ponding problem on the roadway at the Harrison Park entrance. Repairs should be completed within the next few weeks. Andy Sorensen will review the Authority files to ensure we are aware of the project.

All staff, excluding Doreen Robinson, left the meeting.

10. Closed Session

1) Personnel

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Al Barfoot**
FA-16-102 **Seconded by:** **Harley Greenfield**

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

Carried

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Al Barfoot**
FA-16-103 **Seconded by:** **Shawn Greig**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors rise from Closed Session at 2:50 p.m.

Carried

Sonya Skinner returned to the meeting.

Items pertaining to CAO position

Motion No.: Moved by: Shawn Greig
FA-16-104 Seconded by: Al Barfoot

THAT the hiring of Sonya Skinner as the Chief Administrative Officer for Grey Sauble Conservation Authority be ratified.

Carried

Motion No.: Moved by: Marion Koepke
FA-16-105 Seconded by: Harley Greenfield

THAT Sonya Skinner, CAO, be appointed as an alternate voting delegate at Conservation Ontario.

Carried

11. Adjournment

On motion by Shawn Greig, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

“Original Signed”

Dick Hibma, Chairman

Doreen Robinson
Administrative Assistant/
Accounting Clerk