



GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY MINUTES

Full Authority Board of Directors
Wednesday, October 11th, 2017 - 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, Sue Carleton, Jaden Calvert, Dick Hibma, Cathy Little, John McGee
Marion Koepke, Paul Eagleson, and Ana Vukovic

Directors Absent - Harley Greenfield and Shawn Greig

Staff Present – Sonya Skinner, Doreen Robinson, John Bittorf, Andy Sorensen, Tim Lanthier, Carl Seider, Alison Armstrong, Jason Traynor, Cam Bennett, Rebecca Ferguson, and Gloria Dangerfield

Commencing with the November BOD's agenda, the regular and consent agendas will be both listed under the one item – "Adoption of Agenda".

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Al Barfoot
FA-17-092	Seconded by:	Cathy Little

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of October 11th, 2017, with the following amendments: Under Item #10)

- Other Business – Add Clendenan Dam and Haines Dam; Remove Item #4) – Adoption of Consent Agenda; Remove Item #11) Closed Session – Personnel;

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

Motion No.:	Moved by:	John McGee
FA-17-093	Seconded by:	Jaden Calvert

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of September 13th, 2017, with the following amendment: Item #2 – “reads Adoption of Minutes”, should read “Adoption of Agenda”.

Carried

5. Business Out Of Minutes

1) Organizational Chart – Information

The organizational chart was reviewed. The Species at Risk & Invasive Species Technician job box should include the incumbent’s name Elaine VanDenKieboom. The chart will be updated.

2) Clendenan Dam Meeting with Fishing Clubs

Sonya Skinner, John Bittorf and Jason Traynor had a successful meeting with members of the Lake Huron Fishing Club, Georgian Triangle Anglers Association, Beaver River Watershed Initiative and MNRF. The fishing clubs are interested in ensuring that the fishway is not plugged, and there were several questions to

MNRF about opening the fishway during the time of the year when salmon would use it, as the current river management plan limits salmon access above this dam.

GSC shared their normal maintenance and inspection practices with participants, and noted that the internal fishway inspections show the fishway is consistently clear. Participants noted that fishing club members are willing to provide notice to GSC if they notice a blockage. As a follow up, Jason went through the fishway a week later and took pictures for the group to show the setup inside the structure. No blockages were found.

6. Consent Agenda

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Marion Koepke
FA-17-094	Seconded by:	Jaden Calvert

THAT in consideration of the Consent Agenda, Items listed on the October 11th, 2017, 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 September 2017; 2) Receipts and Expenses for September 2017; 3) BRWI Minutes – September 21st, 2017; 4) Foundation Minutes – September 20th, 2017; 5) Forestry Committee Minutes – September 26th, 2017; 6) Arboretum Alliance Minutes – May 16th, 2017 & September 12th, 2017; 7) Correspondence – i) Letter from Anne Lennox re: retirement; ii) Letter from Krista McKee – re: retirement; 8) Staff Meeting Minutes – September 6th, 2017;

Carried

The Chair of the Arboretum Alliance is now providing minutes of their meetings for circulation in the BOD’s meeting packages. Marion Koepke commented on the good work from the Planning Department with regards to the high volume of permits that have been issued under Section 28 for September.

7. Business Items

a) Water Management

1) Invasive Species Report

Rebecca Ferguson, Stewardship Technician, made a presentation on invasive plant species, including relevant legislation and regulations, what municipalities, stakeholders and Grey Sauble Conservation are doing now, and a range of potential go-forward roles and activities for GSC.

GSC's current activities include presentations, mapping and contract work for others. There are also Phragmites cutters purchased by BRWI that are available for use by groups. Invasive plant species on roadsides, parks and recreation areas are a common concern among all eight member municipalities and both counties.

Dick Hibma recommended contacting Francis Chua at Bruce Power. John McGee stated that there is quite a range of invasive species and should GSCA be focused on the ones that affect our watershed. The extent of the problem of invasive species needs to be defined and distinguish responsibilities with partners to avoid any duplication. Al Barfoot mentioned the Wild Chervil work being led by Grey County. GSCA should be concentrating on what affects the watershed. Marion Koepke requested that a presentation be arranged for the Owen Sound Community Services Committee.

On a pilot basis for 2018, GSC staff recommend that GSC start to take a coordination and leadership role strongly directed to finding, understanding and addressing the highest priority invasive species. This includes:

- Educating the local community on invasive species and begin monitoring and controlling invasive species on GSC properties.
- Providing a set initial level of monitoring, mapping and control activities at priority areas identified with local municipalities.
 - These activities would be delivered by the Stewardship Technician with support from GSC's SAR/IS Technician.
 - Pending the amount of fee for service work, once it is secured the additional needed seasonal staff or students would be hired for delivery.

- Providing a report-back at the end of 2018, including incorporation of municipalities input, to recommend whether to continue or change GSC's role and activities in 2019.

If all recommendations are selected, the total cost of implementation would be \$20,400 from municipal levy funding, and generally directed toward continuing the Stewardship Technician position.

Motion No.: Moved by: John McGee
FA-17-095 Seconded by: Jaden Calvert

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve in principle Report #11-2017 – Invasive Species Action Plan Options for the Grey Sauble Watershed.

Carried

b) Environmental Planning

1) National Disaster Mitigation Program Application Support

Grey Sauble Conservation has, in collaboration with Grey County and the Blue Mountains, put forward a proposal for the National Disaster Mitigation Program. This program offers 50% funding to applicant Provincial & Territorial agencies to undertake projects that will fill a critical gap in Canada's ability to effectively mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from, flood-related events by building a body of knowledge on flood risks in Canada, and investing in foundational flood mitigation activities.

This project will move Grey Sauble Conservation (GSC), Grey County and the Town of the Blue Mountains much closer to a well-engineered, thorough and systematic understanding of potential flooding scenarios, and enable proactive flood mitigation and resiliency actions, including the development of investment plans. The proposed approach includes the capture of elevation data across the Lake Huron Georgian Bay lake fringe subwatersheds in Grey County, which span from the west side of Collingwood to the east edge of Wiarton, and using the

information in a defined pilot area (the Craigleith and Camperdown subwatershed pilot area in the Town of the Blue Mountains), such that at the end of this project the Risk Assessment activities will be completed, and the municipalities and GSC can prioritize immediate flood mitigation actions and effectively proceed in the next phase with flood mapping over the entire area.

The total contribution across the three partners, including both cash and in-kind contributions is \$138,000, with a total value of \$276,000 if approved when the federal contribution is added.

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Sue Carleton
FA-17-096	Seconded by:	Jaden Calvert

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors support the application to the National Disaster Mitigation Program, with a commitment by the Board if the application is approved.

Carried

Blue Mountains, and Grey County will need to endorse a similar motion and forward it on to the Province with the Province forwarding it on to the Federal Government.

- c) Lands Update – nothing at this time
- d) Administration
 - 2) Capital Asset Management Plan

Sonya Skinner reviewed the comments received on the Capital Asset Management Plan and staff updates with the Board. The following points were made/reviewed.

- The Administration Centre financial needs were increased to \$600,000 including an estimated cost of \$440,000 to bring the building up to

accessibility standards, as well as work on the roof, energy efficiency, the electrical and heating systems and the offices layout.

- Any programs for building improvements, such as energy efficiency would be applied for.
 - Directors suggested and staff agreed that they will consider a new or different building, as well as renovation.
- There are caveats in the report that require future work, such as:
 - All signs, specifically entrance and other, need to be inventoried and assessed.
 - There is no listing of culverts the Authority owns or their condition, so their needs are not included in this plan.
 - Actual value of all trails is not known. Further work is required to understand their replacement costs.
 - Studies on the needs for our dams are required.
 - Further work on the value of the ecological services delivered by GSC's lands will be completed.
- Dick Hibma mentioned that all the pavilions are not listed in this Asset Management Plan but were in the first draft. Staff will follow up.

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Al Barfoot
FA-17-097	Seconded by:	Jaden Calvert

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors accept the 2nd draft of the Capital Asset Management Plan dated October 4th, 2017, to be used as input into the 2018 Budget.

Carried

1) Draft #1 of Proposed 2018 Budget

The CAO provided an overview of the proposed 2018 priorities, the associated budget changes and the overall recommended 2018 budget. The following discussion was held:

- Paul Eagleson questioned putting \$600,000 into a 40 year old building compared to building a new one.
- 8 entrance signs per year will be replaced
- Given the mounting volume and increasing complexity of planning and permit applications, it is recommended that this department be increased by one person. In lieu of filling the Intermediate Planning position the budget proposal is for two Planning Technician positions (contract). Staff will report back on whether an increase in fees is viable to address the net change of \$30,000 in departmental levy costs.

Motion No.: Moved by: John McGee
FA-17-098 Seconded by: Marion Koepke

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors request staff to prepare a report on increasing planning and regulation fees with revenue being generated by \$30,000 to avoid an increase in the levy by this amount with this report showing the staff compliment for 2017 vs 2018.

Carried

- The Stewardship Technician position and the Invasive Species Technician will be included in staffing for 2018.
- Paul Eagleson said the public have expressed that the GSCA Planning Department is on top of their game. Paul feels that hiring full time staff for Planning is more likely to attract the high quality and longer-term staff required. Staff were directed to bring back a report on a full time vs contract option.
- The Foundation were requested to help with the funding for renewed properties signage, and have provided a preliminary reply that they are interested in helping.

Marion Koepke left the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

- The modified current assessment is used to assign portions of the municipal levy to each municipality. Staff were surprised that this value has decreased for five of GSC's eight municipalities and is following up with MRNF.
- GSC has contracts with Grey County which include a 15% administration fee.
- For Drinking Water Source Protection the actual costs are charged to MOECC, including a portion of GSC's administration and building costs.
- Paul Eagleson commented that we have less funds to carry out our mandate than we had 20 years ago. The draft budget should be taken to the municipalities, and include the dollar value increase of \$120,000 broken down by municipality.
- Dick Hibma said the \$120,000 could be revised lower, pending decision on fees for permit and planning services.
- Ana Vukovic commented that some councils are not fully familiar with GSC's mandate and services.
- Dick Hibma will be making a presentation to the MNRF voicing our concern that with regards to the \$71,779 from the MNRF stressing that this money is well below the costs to deliver the mandatory programs. It is hoped that the Province of Ontario would increase that figure. Financially, the MNRF is an insignificant partner with the municipalities being the significant partner.

3) CAO's Update and Monthly Calendar

- Grey County has supported GSC by putting out trail use counters on three trails by Grey County in August. Average daily attendance for the month was: Eugenia Falls - 185 people a day; Derby (Grey Co. property) – 9 people a day; Bognor Marsh - 25 people a day.
- GSC's contribution to the Springmount municipal drain will be \$16,500. This includes the new pedestrian bridge from GSC's property (OSTC parking lot) to the Pottawatomi/Jones Falls trails. In lieu of re-using the old

decking, the Foundation paid for the new wooden decking, and it is intended to install a plaque at the site to recognize their support.

- There is one remaining presentation in Meaford seeking Strategic Plan input. Initial observations continue to be that some council members and the public don't know what GSC does, and we are generally thought of as a regulator of nature-related things (whereas we are actually a regulator related to flood and other water hazards and provincially-significant wetlands and have an encouraging and communication role related to conservation). We also have not attracted a lot of participants to the sessions so our advertising approach will require future improvements. The next step is a discussion at the November Board meeting.
- Thanksgiving observations – Old Baldy – was smooth; 30+ vehicles at Eugenia;
- Field staff are stretched to cover weekend needs.

Cathy Little pointed out that the Strategic Planning meeting held at Grey Highlands on September 13th was not reflected in the BOD's calendar. It will be put in the calendar.

4) Proposed Change in Meeting Dates for 2018

At present the BOD's meeting dates are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:15 p.m. Due to Stat holidays and the closeness to month end, it is sometimes difficult to have BOD's agenda items prepared on time. Jaden Calvert suggested the 4th Wednesday of the month. Members who were not present during this discussion will be contacted to ask if this date would accommodate their schedules.

e) Forestry, Fish and Wildlife

1) Forest Management Policy – deferred until the November Meeting

2) Forestry Tenders

Cam Bennett, Forestry Technician, presented the following summary on tenders which were received for Sawlog, Fuelwood, and Pine Thinning Tenders which closed on October 10th.

Kolapore Uplands Management Area – Compartment 83

Lot 12, Concession 14, Municipality of Grey Highlands (formerly Osprey Twp), Grey County - Marked Area: 70 acres

Volume Tendered: Sawlogs – 63,113 fbm Fuelwood – 134 full cords

Tenders Received

Contractor	Total Bid
Page Logging	33,520.00
Klemmer Lumber Ltd.	50,100.00
Complete Woodlot Mgmt.	47,000.00
Midwest Eccles Ltd.	51,250.00
Timber Horse Logging	29,110.00
Bester Forest Products	36,800.00

Kolapore Uplands Management Area – Compartment 93

North Part Lot 4, Concession 6, Town of the Blue Mountains (formerly Collingwood Twp), Grey County - Marked Area: 20 acres

Volume Tendered: Sawlogs – 25,607 fbm Fuelwood – 15 full Cords

Tenders Received

Contractor	Total Bid
Klemmer Lumber Ltd.	26,100.00
Midwest Eccles Ltd.	22,150.00
Timber Horse Logging	13,010.00
Complete Woodlot Mgmt.	17,000.00

Sydenham Forest Management Area – Compartment 164

Est Part Lot 22, Concession 6, Municipality of Meaford (formerly Sydenham Twp),
 Grey County - Marked Area: 40 acres
 Volume Tendered: Sawlogs – 29,527 fbm Fuelwood – 213 full cords

Tenders Received

Contractor	Total Bid
Klemmer Lumber Ltd.	21,600.00
Midwest Eccles Ltd.	22,100.00
Timber Horse Logging	11,010.00
Complete Woodlot Mgmt.	23,500.00

Pine Thinning Tenders

Rockford Management Area – Compartment 155

North Part Lot 9, Concession 12, Municipality of Meaford (formerly Sydenham Twp), Grey County - Marked Area: 3 acres
 Volume Tendered: White Pine (100%) – 20 cords

Tenders Received

Contractor	Total Bid
Moggie Valley Timber Inc.	400.00

Telfer Creek Management Area – Compartment 163

North Part Lot 15, Concession 10, Municipality of Meaford (formerly Sydenham Twp), Grey County - Marked Area: 6 acres
 Volume Tendered: Red Pine (90%), White Pine (10%) – 68 cords

Tenders Received

Contractor	Total Bid
Moggie Valley Timber Inc.	3,400.00

Skidders Bluff Management Area – Compartment 146

Lot 20, Concession 25, Township of Georgian Bluffs (formerly Derby Twp), Grey County. Marked Area: 12 acres
 Volume Tendered: White Pine (60%), Red Pine (40%) – 140 cords Total

Tenders Received

Contractor	Total Bid
Liverance Lumber Inc.	9,380.00
Moggie Valley Timber Inc.	7,000.00

Bognor Marsh Management Area – Compartment 27

North Part Lot 10, Concession 4, Municipality of Meaford (formerly Sydenham Twp), Grey County - Marked Area: 18 acres

Volume Tendered: White Pine (70%), White Spruce (30%) – 271 Full Cords

Tenders Received

Contractor	Total Bid
Liverance Lumber Inc.	18,970.00
Moggie Valley Timber Inc.	13,550.00

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Cathy Little**
FA-17-099 **Seconded by:** **Ana Vukovic**

THAT Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors award the tenders for Sawlog, Fuelwood and Pine Thinning Tenders as follows:

Kolapore Uplands Management Area-Compartment 83 to Midwest Eccles Ltd. for their total bid of \$51,250.00, subject to signing the agreement;

Kolapore Uplands Management Area-Compartment 93 to Klemmer Lumber Ltd. for their total bid of \$26,100.00, subject to signing the agreement;

Sydenham Forest Management Area-Compartment 164 to Complete Woodlot Management for their total bid of \$23,500.00, subject to signing the agreement;
Rockford Management Area-Compartment 155 to Moggie Valley Timber Inc. for their total bid of \$400.00, subject to signing the agreement.

Telfer Creek Management Area-Compartment 163 to Moggie Valley Timber Inc. for their total bid of \$3,400.00, subject to signing the agreement;

Skinner's Bluff Management Area-Compartment 146 to Liverance Lumber Inc. for their total bid of \$9,380.00, subject to signing the agreement;

Bognor Marsh Management Area-Compartment 27 to Liverance Lumber Inc. for their total bid of \$18,970.00, subject to signing the agreement.

Carried

- f) Communications/Public Relations – nothing at this time
- g) DWSP/RMO Report – nothing at this time

8. Chair's Report

Since our September meeting I have attended and participated in Strategic Plan consultations with the municipalities of Grey Highlands, South Bruce Peninsula, Township of Chatsworth, and the City of Owen Sound.

Additional local meetings included the Drinking Water Source Protection Committee on Sept. 22nd, with members of the executive of the Grey Sauble Conservation Foundation regarding their strategic planning process on Sept. 27th, and the Forestry Committee meeting on Sept. 26th.

I also attended the Conservation Ontario meeting on Sept. 25th where MNRF Minister Kathryn McGarry attended to speak to the Conservation Ontario Council members. She provided an update on the progress to date of Bill 139, with includes the proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, and expressed her appreciation for and support of Conservation Authorities across the province. The Bill has passed 2nd reading in the Legislature and is now sent to committee for additional consultation, all party review and debate on potential revisions. It is anticipated that the Bill should be back to the Legislature for final reading and passage prior to the Christmas break. We'll remain cautiously optimistic about the timing.

This year the Conservation Authorities Biennial Tour was hosted by Credit Valley Conservation and Conservation Halton from Oct 1st through 4th, touring projects and properties on the Lake Ontario shoreline, flood management initiatives in the highly developed urban area of Mississauga to address concerns in Cooksville Creek, commercial / industrial properties demonstrating Low Impact Development features in Oakville, housing developments in Milton which incorporated biodiversity restoration initiatives in a highly compromised river,

extensive rehabilitation of early phases of the Milton quarry, the Glen Eden ski hill operated by Conservation Halton, and Crawford Lake which features an historic Iroquois village and interpretive centre along with the unique meromictic Crawford Lake which led to the discovery of evidence of the First Nations settlement over 600 years ago.

I also had the opportunity to attend two separate events to mark the launch of Mark Zelinski's latest book, *The Heart of Turtle Island, The Niagara Escarpment*. The first was held at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton on Sept. 20th, and the second was held this past Friday, Oct. 6th where I was given the opportunity to speak about the value of the escarpment to our region and our Conservation Authorities. We do have a limited number of these books available for sale here at the Administrative Centre, and I encourage you all to have a look through it.

Jaden Calvert left the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

9. Other Business

- a) Committees – Minutes
 - 1) Friends of Hibou – nothing at this time
- b) Next Meetings
 - Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 at 1:15 p.m.
 - Wednesday, December 13th, 2017 – meeting at 9:30 at GSCA Administration Centre followed by Christmas Luncheon at Tara Legion at 12 noon
- c) Haines Dam – John McGee advised that a plaque had been erected at the Haines Dam with the Haines family present. Congratulations to Grey Sauble Staff. It is a beautiful location for a picnic which is being planned to watch the salmon spawn.

10. Adjournment – On motion by Al Barfoot, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Dick Hibma, Chair

Doreen Robinson, Administrative Assistant

This set of minutes was approved at the BOD's meeting held on November 8th, 2017.