



**GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES
Full Authority Board of Directors
Wednesday, January 23rd, 2019, at 1:20 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 – Dwight Burley, Sue Carleton, Harley Greenfield, Ryan Greig, Scott Greig, Dick Hibma, Cathy Little, Scott Mackey, Andrea Matrosovs, Paul McKenzie, and Paul Vickers

Staff Present – Sonya Skinner, Doreen Robinson, Vicki Rowsell, Serenity Morton, Alison Armstrong, Jason Traynor, John Bittorf, Gloria Dangerfield, Tim Lanthier, and Carl Seider

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. Appointment of Chair for Meeting

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Scott Mackey
FA-19-001	Seconded by:	Dick Hibma

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors appoint Cathy Little as Chair of the Grey Sauble Conservation Board of Directors until the 2019 AGM. Carried

4. Adoption of Agenda

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Paul McKenzie
FA-19-002	Seconded by:	Harley Greenfield

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Agenda of January 23rd, 2019, as amended, by removing Item 7) 3) a) – Letter from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Carried

5. Adoption of Minutes

**Motion No.: Moved by: Ryan Greig
FA-19-003 Seconded by: Dwight Burley**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the minutes of November 28th, 2018.

Carried

6. Business Out Of Minutes – nothing at this time.

7. Consent Agenda

**Motion No.: Moved by: Sue Carleton
FA-19-004 Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs**

THAT in consideration of the Consent Agenda, as amended by removing Item #3 – Correspondence – a) Letter from Steve Clark, Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Housing Supply Action Plan, Items listed on the January 23rd, 2019, agenda, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receives the following items: 1) Environmental Planning - Section 28 Permits – November and December 2018; 2) Administration - Receipts and Expenses – November and December 2018; 3) Correspondence – b) e-mail from Susan Sparks, MNRF, re: responsibility for the Conservation Authorities Act; 4) Minutes - Foundation - December 12th, 2018;

Carried

**Motion No.: Moved by: Dick Hibma
FA-19-005 Seconded by: Dwight Burley**

THAT GSCA respond to the letter from Steve Clark, Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding streamlining and the development process with a strong recommendation that the requirements under the regulations of the Clean Water Act and Drinking Source Water Protection plans not be subject to Bill 66 and be maintained in their entirety for the residents of Ontario, with copies being sent to the MNRF, MECP, the Premier, and local MPP's; AND FURTHER, THAT GSCA staff open lines of discussion with municipalities to understand where they may be considering decisions related to Bill 66.

Carried

Directors commented that it is unclear if municipalities can pick from a menu of what they want to exempt, and that the exemptions must be related to businesses that employ at least 50 people.

There is a meeting on February 7th, 2019, at Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority offices with Minister Phillips, MECP and Minister Lisa Thompson, EDU.

Directors also questioned what had been done to increase funding for Conservation Authorities, as it has not changed since 1995, and is limited to flood-related programs. Staff and directors provided an overview of budget submissions year after year to the provincial government with no changes despite the new Conservation Authorities Act, delegations at AMO and the passing of supportive motions by all municipalities in the watershed. It was suggested that all municipalities should band together and make a concerted effort, including a potential AMO delegation and a request to meet with the Minister.

Dick Hibma pointed out that over the past couple of years the Provincial government has spent over 60 billion dollars annually on health care, and related it to a statement in 2013 by John Howard, a pediatrician and professor, that we do not have a health care system, we have a disease treatment system. We need to address issues with our environment to address asthma problems among children and many other wellness issues.

8. Business Items

- a) Water Management – nothing at this time
- b) Environmental Planning – nothing at this time
- c) Lands Update
 - 1) Report back on land use agreements standardized language and agreements needed/done

As per Sections 21 and 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act, GSCA may enter into agreements for services, permissions, and for the purposes of accomplishing its objectives.

GSCA utilizes agreements to manage risk, to control activities on GSCA lands, to set expectations, and to enter into partnerships. These include:

- Agricultural Lease Agreements
- Other Land Lease Agreements
- Special Event License Agreements
- Research License Agreements
- Trapping Agreements
- Film and Photography Shoot License Agreements

- Pavilion Rental License Agreements
- User Group Agreements
- Partnership Agreements and
- Municipal Use Agreements

Staff have started the process of modernizing these agreements to better protect GSCA's interests, and the next steps include finalizing draft templates for all necessary agreement types and having legal counsel review the draft templates.

Discussion included potential for parking signs at Gleason Lake, staff intentions to review knowledge of wildlife population and trapping approaches, and whether it is possible to re-negotiate the long-term lease with the City of Owen Sound for the Bayshore area properties.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Scott Greig**
FA-19-006 **Seconded by:** **Sue Carleton**

WHEREAS under subsections (f), (g), and (n) of Section 21 of the Conservation Authorities Act the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) may enter into agreements with organizations and individuals for the purposes of accomplishing its objectives,

AND FURTHER WHEREAS under Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act, GSCA may require a person to obtain permission for certain activities;

AND FURTHER WHEREAS GSCA does enter into such agreements and issue such permissions;

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive as information this update on status of GSCA's agreements.

Carried

2) 2019 Grey County Forestry and Trails MOUs Review and Signing

The Forest and Trail Management Agreement and the Forest Management By-Law Enforcement Agreement between Grey County and Grey Sauble Conservation will be extended to December 31st, 2019.

Under these Memorandums of Understanding, GSCA staff manage Grey County forests, trails, CP trails and compliance with the Forest Management By-Law, on a cost recovery basis. GSCA sees this work as a strong win win as we are able to leverage the strong forestry and trails departments at GSCA to provide cost-effective services, and to decrease the overall travel by GSCA and the County in accessing the properties of both entities in the area. Recent improvements also include implementation of a GIS-based trail inspection risk management tool.

Discussion included whether GSC has the same agreement with Bruce County, and staff clarified that GSCA does not.

- d) Forestry – nothing at this time
- e) Communications/Public Relations – nothing at this time
- f) Administration
 - 1) Indigenous and GSCA Relationships Group/Committee Report Back

Serenity Morton, Accounting and Clerical Assistant, presented the following report.

In March 2018, a motion was carried to appoint four Directors including, Cathy Little, Dick Hibma, Sue Carleton, and Jaden Calvert, to investigate the creation of an Indigenous Relationships Committee. This group was joined by four staff members, with all eight members participating with equal roles.

Meetings and activities have included compiling and sharing experiences, attending an Aboriginal Health themed conference, attending a treaties information session and a presentation from Petal Furness highlighting changes over the generations of her family, and pursuing education and training opportunities.

The initiating members strongly endorse the formation of a continuing committee, with next steps including:

- Refining and prioritizing the list of potential short-term and long-term goals compiled by the Interim Committee,
- Completing of the terms of reference,
- Further developing relationships with our Indigenous communities. An initial meeting with Doron Ritchie of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation Environmental Office has been set up. He represents both the Saugeen First Nation and the Chippewas of Nawash. Topics will include signage for St. Jean's Point Nature Preserve and GSCA's Draft Forest Management Plan.

The discussion was held with regards to this report included that statements in reference documents (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada has Calls to Action) include principles to guide and motivate our actions, that the scope and priorities of the work will be confirmed by the proposed committee, that important education and background for Board members will be provided via this committee, and that while there are a number of short-term goals, the committee is taking a very soft approach to understand and build relationships. It was confirmed that a Terms of Reference would be developed.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Dwight Burley**
FA-19-007 **Seconded by:** **Andrea Matrosovs**

WHEREAS, the United Nations has published the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada has made 94 Calls to Action related to reconciliation, and

WHEREAS, GSC manages land located within the traditional territory of Indigenous Communities and values strong partnerships with neighbouring communities to act as leaders in land stewardship, and

WHEREAS the current interim members have expressed strong support for the value from its activities and recommend the creation of a continuing Committee,

THAT the Board of Directors accept this report-back and endorse the creation of an Indigenous and GSCA Relationships committee, with the purpose of taking an active role in educating ourselves, and in letting real, non-goal-oriented relationships develop with our indigenous communities, and task this committee to further develop its terms of reference and priorities.

Carried

2) **Vacation Carry-Over Report**

Per the Personnel Policy, the CAO may approve the carry-over of vacation days, and will report to the Board where over 10 days has been carried over.

Sonya Skinner reported that two persons in the Forestry Department carried over time, due to the extra work filling in for the Forestry Coordinator vacancy in 2018, and one person in the Operations Department, due to the additional efforts to streamline trails work between GSCA and Grey County, to implement trails risk assessments, and delivery of the enhanced parking fee compliance activities.

3) Proposed 2019 BOD's meeting schedule

A proposed 2019 BOD's meeting schedule was reviewed with the Board. The next meeting of the Board, which is also the AGM, will be held on Friday, March 1st, 2019, at 12:45 p.m.

g) DWSP/RMO Report – nothing at this time

There was a break at 2:45 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

9. 2019 Budget

Sonya Skinner and the Coordinators/Supervisors provided an overview of the proposed 2019 GSCA Budget.

Motion No.: **Moved by:** **Harley Greenfield**
FA-19-008 **Seconded by:** **Scott Mackey**

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the 2019 draft budget;

AND FURTHER, THAT staff be directed to distribute the 2019 Draft Budget to municipalities for the 30 day review period.

Carried

10. CAO's Update and Monthly Calendar

- On January 11th – there was a meeting held with staff from the Town of the Blue Mountains about collaboration on frazil ice, LiDAR, and drainage studies. Both Collingwood and the Town of Blue Mountains have asked our LiDAR contract scope be expanded to cover more of their jurisdictions. GSCA is actively reviewing the provision of this service on a cost-effective fee for service basis. Staff judge that the amount of expansion is reasonable for this competitively-tendered RFP and award.
- Very low water levels in the Rankin watershed have recovered, and there is a pilot underway leaving some logs in the dam to potentially enable easier dam placement in the spring.
- Proceeding with Georgian Bluffs on a friendly appeal of their by-law which inadvertently did not include the GSCA Natural Hazards layer. They now have GSCA's info but need to fill in "holes" with appropriate other zoning.
- Continuing to work with counties, interested local politicians, municipal staff on Natural Heritage provisions in SVCA area where their Board has resolved to stop providing this service.

- The GSCA AGM is scheduled for March 1st, 2019, at 12:45 pm. Rob Messervey is the guest speaker speaking on the History and Value of Conservation Authorities and why Conservation Authorities Matter
- The Forestry Technician position has been filled by Rita McGee.
- All Council orientations have been completed other than Arran-Elderslie, which is scheduled for March 11th.
- A political strategist has been hired by Conservation Ontario. Sonya Skinner will be attending the meeting on February 11th to contribute to the strategist's plan for approaching the provincial government about the value of Conservation Authorities.

This is Dick Hibma's last official GSC BOD's meeting. He will continue to work with the Grey Sauble Conservation Foundation. Cathy Little and others said they have learned a lot from Dick and thanked him for his exceptional leadership and guidance.

11. Chair's Report

- Attended Conservation Ontario meeting which is always a valuable learning experience.
- Attended Christmas luncheon in Town of Blue Mountains with recognition at the event of the many valued Volunteers working with GSCA.
- The Epping John Muir Lookout was used as a sample location for ecological development design concepts by landscape architecture students at the University of Guelph, and I attended a presentation of their projects at the end of November.

12. Other Business

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

13. Closed Session

- 1) Litigation or potential litigation including matters before administrative tribunals

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Paul McKenzie
FA-19-009	Seconded by:	Sue Carleton

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors move into Closed Session to consider Litigation or potential litigation including matters before administrative tribunals.

Carried

Motion No.:	Moved by:	Dick Hibma
FA-19-010	Seconded by:	Paul McKenzie

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors rise from Closed Session.

Carried

14. Adjournment

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Cathy Little, Chair

Doreen Robinson
Administrative Assistant

This set of minutes was approved by the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors at their meeting held on March 1st, 2019.