

GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
MINUTES  
Full Authority Board of Directors  
Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 1:15 p.m.

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The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors meeting was held via the internet on the meeting application, WebEx.

1. Call to Order

Chair Scott Greig called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Directors Present: Chair Scott Greig, Vice Chair Andrea Matrosovs, Dwight Burley, Cathy Moore Coburn, Ryan Greig (came in at 1:20), Harley Greenfield, Marion Koepke, Cathy Little, Scott Mackey, Paul McKenzie, Paul Vickers (came in at 2:02 p.m.)

Regrets: None

Staff Present: CAO Tim Lanthier, Administrative Assistant Valerie Coleman, Manager of Information Services Gloria Dangerfield, Manager of Financial and Human Resources Service Alison Armstrong, Water Resources Coordinator John Bittorf, Forestry Coordinator Mike Fry

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 the time.

3. Call for Additional Agenda Items

None at this time.

4. Adoption of Agenda

Motion No.:  
FA-21-044

Moved By: Cathy Little  
Seconded By: Marion Koepke

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of March 24, 2021.**

Carried

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion No.:  
FA-21-045

Moved By: Cathy Moore Coburn  
Seconded By: Scott Mackey

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of February 24, 2021.**

Carried

6. Business Out of Minutes

CAO, Tim Lanthier clarified for the Board how Closed Session minutes would be presented on the agenda, and passed by separate Open Session resolution.

7. Consent Agenda

Motion No.:  
FA-21-046

Moved By: Cathy Little  
Seconded By: Dwight Burley

**THAT in consideration of the Consent Agenda Items listed on the March 24, 2021, agenda, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receives the following items: (i) Environmental Planning - Section 28 Permits – February 2021; (ii) Administration - Receipts & Expenses – February 2021; (iii) Correspondence – Georgian Bluffs Notice of Motion; (v) Recent Media Articles; (vi) GSCA Watershed Conditions Statement**

Carried

8. Deputation – Jeff Graham – Carbon Offset Tree Planting

Jeff Graham provided a presentation to the Board with respect to his family's decision to partner with the GSCA. In early 2020, Jeff approached the GSCA with a tree planting project with the aim of offsetting the Graham family's carbon footprint. Based on the average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per Canadian per year and the estimated CO<sub>2</sub> an individual tree absorbs, Jeff determined that 1,000 trees per member of the family would be required to offset their carbon footprint for one year. In partnership with GSCA, Jeff and his family have committed to funding the planting of 6,300 trees between two locations. Jeff explained that the benefits of a program such as this include, cost effective CO<sub>2</sub> removal, long term forestry revenue from selective tree harvesting, new wildlife habitat, and supporting the local economy by employing local tree planters and purchasing from local tree nurseries.

The members of the Board thanked Jeff for his presentation and expressed interest in having it reach a wider audience. Jeff was commended on his family's efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

## 9. Business Items

### i. Administration

#### a. Operational Plan Target Timelines Update

CAO, Tim Lanthier spoke to the presented Operation Plan with updated target timelines. Staff have provided goals and timelines for plan items. It was noted that these timelines may change over the course of the year and that the CAO will report back quarterly on the progress of Plan.

#### b. Q4 Investment Portfolio

Manager of Financial and Human Resource Services, Alison Armstrong, outlined the presented 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Investment update provided by TD Wealth. It was noted that GSCA's investments are now largely recovered from the losses in 2020.

TD Wealth representative, Mike Konopka will be making a presentation to the Board in April. The Board would like him to specify and explain the fees for managing the portfolio.

### ii. Water Management

#### a. Inglis Falls Dam

Water Resources Coordinator, John Bittorf, provided a report to the Board regarding the condition and repair options of the Inglis Falls Dam. It was noted that issues with the concrete have developed. A visual inspection completed in 2018 by Duck's Unlimited identified a crack in the dam pier as needing attention. The last significant repairs were completed between 1990 and 1992.

The Inglis Falls Dam was partially decommissioned and no longer functions as a working dam.

Staff presented four options:

- Do nothing; wait until dam shows signs of significant deterioration,
- Hire a concrete specialist to attempt repairs to identified damage,
- Complete a full repair over two years, conducting an engineering review in year one and engaging Grey County staff to complete repairs in year two, or
- Complete the entire project as per point '3' in 2021.

Staff recommended attempting the smaller repairs and assess concrete's condition with a concrete specialist, delaying full refurbishment for 10 to 15 years.

Board members asked what the long-term goals are of the dam structure and if there is a potential for removal. Staff explained that at this time there are no plans for removal of the dam structure, however, this question can be reviewed as part of the the Inglis Falls Management Plan.

### **Member Paul Vickers joined the meeting at 2:02 p.m.**

After some discussion, the Board asked staff to provide a report outlining the costs to repair the dam structure.

Motion No.:  
FA-21-047

Moved By: Dwight Burley  
Seconded By: Scott Mackey

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors direct staff to obtain quotes for the hiring a concrete specialist to complete the repairs to the Inglis Falls dam as identified by the 2018 Duck's Unlimited report.**

**AND THAT staff be directed to assess these quotes and come back to the Board with a follow-up report for the approval of the expense.**

Carried as amended

**b. Snow Melt/Flow Forecasting**

Water Resources Coordinator, John Bittorf, made a presentation to the Board via PowerPoint regarding the work that he has been doing on combining GSCA's current flow rate models with snow melt models from NOAA.

**Member Ryan Greig left the meeting at 2:32.**

iii. Environmental Planning  
Nothing at this time.

iv. Conservation Lands  
Nothing at this time.

v. Forestry

**a. Agricultural Committee**

The CAO, Tim Lanthier, gave an overview of a previous request from the Grey County Branch of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture for the GSCA to form an Agricultural Committee. At the time, the decision was made to support staff in seeking opportunities to connect with the agricultural community.

Forestry Coordinator, Mike Fry, spoke with respect to the provided report on the proposed GSCA Agricultural Advisory Committee. It was noted that neighbouring CA's, the Town of the Blue Mountains, and Grey County have active Agricultural Committees.

The goals of the GSCA Agricultural Advisory Committee would be to:

- improve relations between GSCA and the agricultural community.
- be a forum for input.
- be a direct link between GSCA and the agricultural community.
- aid in the development of partnerships.

Staff have prepared a draft Terms of Reference for the committee and asked the Board for input.

After some discussion the Board choose to accept the Terms of Reference as presented and encouraged staff to proceed on the formation of the committee as soon as possible.

**Member Ryan Greig re-joined the meeting at 2:50.**

Motion No.:  
FA-21-048

Moved By: Scott Mackey  
Seconded By: Dwight Burley

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Agricultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference as presented,**

**AND THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the formation of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.**

Carried

vi. **Communications/Public Relations**  
Nothing at this time.

vii. **GIS/IT**  
Nothing at this time.

viii. **Operations**  
Nothing at this time.

ix. **Education**  
Nothing at this time.

x. **Drinking Water Source Protection & Risk Management**  
Nothing at this time.

**10. CAO's Report**

The CAO reported that March had been another busy month and staff have been actively moving operational plan items forward.

The CAO gave an interview on Rogers TV program, Politically Speaking, with David Shearman. The interview went well and may be repeated in the future. The episode aired on Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

GSCA is in the midst of its annual financial audit. It is going as per usual with no surprises at this point. The Audited Financial Statement should be presented to the Board in May.

Tim has been working on closing out existing files and managing other items previously discussed, lining up agreements with GSCA partners, attending Conservation Ontario GM meetings, and working with staff to align priorities with the operational plan. Additionally, the GSCA is working through some staff change challenges.

Current Staffing Changes:

- **Stewardship Technician**  
The person hired has taken a job with a different CA. Staff are working to refill the position and expect it to be filled by mid April.

- The Manager of Environmental Planning  
MacLean Plewes, GSCA Watershed Planner, applied and was the successful candidate to fill the position. Mac has been with GSCA's Planning Department since 2012. Mac will assume the role in early April.
- The Intermediate Planner  
Olivia Sroka was the successful candidate and will begin in late April.
- Watershed Planner  
This position has been posted to backfill Mac's vacated position. Plan to have this position filled in early May.
- Andrew Sorensen  
Andy's last day in the office will be March 21<sup>st</sup> and his official last day will be April 18<sup>th</sup>. Andy has been with GSCA since 1990 and has been a passionate and committed member of GSCA, often being the last person in the office at the end of the day. He was always there if anyone needed help or volunteers were required. Andy was involved in the local naturalist community. GSCA is sad to see Andy go but he has more than earned this next step in life.

Member Harley Greenfield offered congratulations on Andrew's impending retirement and thanked Andrew for his work with GSCA and his service to the community.

#### 11. Chair's Report

Chair Greig offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to Andrew on his retirement and to Mac for achieving the Manager of Environmental Planning position.

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, Chair Greig met with Bob Knapp from the Friends of Hibou for an interpretive hike.

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Chair Greig, Vice Chair Matrosovs, and Member Mackey attended the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Politicians Meeting, hosted by the Bruce County and Grey County Federations of Agriculture. Presentations were made by Saugeen Valley CA and Keith Reid from ALUS.

#### 12. Other Business

Nothing at this time.

#### 13. Closed Session

##### i. **Approval of Closed Session Minutes**

Nothing at this time.

#### 14. Next Full Authority Meeting

##### i. Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

15. Adjournment

Motion No.:

FA-21-049

**THAT this meeting now adjourn.**

Moved By:

Seconded By:

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

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Scott Greig, Chair

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Valerie Coleman  
Administrative Assistant