

WELLAND

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

D. Ransom, (Chairman)
B. Baty (Vice-Chairman)
B. Bentley
G. Burroughs
B. Butters
T. Dalimonte
C. D'Angelo
D. DiFruscio
A. Fevez
B. Heit
B. Henderson
N. Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

D. Goulbourne (with regrets)
B. Greenwood (with regrets)
D. Martin (with regrets)

STAFF PRESENT:

A.L. Burt, General Manager
L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary
T. McDougall, Executive Director Conservation Foundation
M. Stack, Director Communications
T. D'Amario, Director, Water Management
D. Baker, Director, Land Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Mark Neufeld, Chair Source Protection Committee

BUSINESS:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. He then welcomed everyone in attendance and requested that if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare it. Brian Heit declared a conflict with any items that included Telus or Talk Wireless.

(1) MINUTES

(a) FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – AUGUST 15, 2007

There were no errors or omissions. The following resolution was presented.

FA-109-07

MOVED BY: G. Burroughs

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held August 15, 2007, be received and approved as printed.

"CARRIED"

(b) **BALL'S FALLS HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – SEPTEMBER 5, 2007**

FA-110-07

MOVED BY: M. DiFruscio

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: the Minutes of the Ball's Falls Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held September 5, 2007, be received and approved as printed.

"CARRIED"

(2) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(3) **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman thanked the Foundation staff for organizing the silent auction at the Rock 'N Rib event held at Harbour Estates Winery on Saturday, September 15th. Approximately \$1,700.00 was raised and Kim Mitchell provided the entertainment for the evening.

The Chairman noted that the Family Day event held at Ball's Falls for the Niagara Children's Water Festival was successful with lots to see and do. He thanked the Authority staff and the staff at the Region for their work on this event.

The Chairman reminded the members of the upcoming Thanksgiving Festival and noted anyone who was able to volunteer at the event should see Mary or Terry.

The Chairman also reminded the members of the Foundation Elimination Draw being held at the Welland Lions Hall on Friday, November 2nd. He noted the proceeds from this event help fund conservation projects.

(4) **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

The General Manager also noted the success of the Water Festival Family Day and thanked the Mayors and the Regional Chairman for assisting with the BBQ.

The General Manager advised that the Niagara Children's Water Festival will run all this week and approximately 5,000 grade 3 and 4 students from schools throughout our watershed will attend. He thanked the many volunteers for their assistance and particularly Mary Stack and Elizabeth Best for their co-ordination of this event.

The General Manager indicated he attended a meeting at the Region on the Planning MOU and the delegation of the Region's Tree Conservation By-law. He noted that representatives from the Agricultural community were also in attendance and indicated their concerns. He noted that a report will be presented to the Planning Committee next week and will request clarification on how to proceed.

The General Manager advised that letters have been sent to the Niagara South and Niagara North Federations of Agriculture Presidents requesting a meeting with their members or Executive Committees to have a better understanding of the concerns of the farming community as well as how our programs affect them and what improvements or changes can be made in our programs in order to move forward.

(5) **ACCOUNTS – AUGUST, 2007 – REPORT NO. 67-07**

There were no questions with respect to the accounts. The following resolution was presented.

FA-111-07

MOVED BY: T. Dalimonte

SECONDED BY: M. DiFruscio

THAT: The list of accounts for the month of August, 2007, in the amount of \$328,887.20 be received and approved.

"CARRIED"

(6) **2007 CURRENT BUDGET – ESTIMATES TO YEAR END - REPORT NO. 68-07**

The General Manager outlined the current budget noting some minor variances. After responding to questions, the following resolution was presented.

FA-112-07

MOVED BY: B. Henderson

SECONDED BY: B. Butters

THAT: Report No. 68-07 regarding the 2007 Current Budget – Estimates to Year End be received and approved.

"CARRIED"

(7) **2007 CAPITAL BUDGET – ESTIMATES TO YEAR END - REPORT NO. 69-07**

The General Manager outlined the capital budget also noting some minor variances as well as some projects which will be carried into 2008. After responding to questions, the following resolution was presented.

FA-113-07

MOVED BY: A. Fevez

SECONDED BY: C. D'Angelo

THAT: Report No. 68-07 regarding the 2007 Capital Budget – Estimates to Year End be received and approved..

"CARRIED"

(8) **2008 PRELIMINARY CURRENT BUDGET – REPORT NO. 70-07**

The General Manager highlighted the report and responded to questions. He noted that this budget was reviewed and recommended by the Budget Review Committee. It was

suggested that a summary page be provided with the budget to illustrate the increases in the budget that are related to the transfer of program responsibilities to the Conservation Authority. The following resolution was presented.

FA-114-07

MOVED BY: C. D'Angelo

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: Report No. 70-07 regarding the 2008 Preliminary Current Budget be received; and

That the 2008 Preliminary Current Budget with a total expenditure of \$6,503,900 and levies of \$4,202,074 to the Region of Niagara, \$200,349 to the City of Hamilton and \$25,048 to Haldimand County be approved; and

That staff be authorized to submit the 2008 Preliminary Current Budget to the member municipalities and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

"CARRIED"

(9) 2008 PRELIMINARY CAPITAL BUDGET – REPORT NO. 71-07

The General Manager also highlighted this budget and responded to questions. He noted that the Budget Review Committee had recommended this budget at their September 10th meeting. A discussion took place and the General Manager responded to questions. The following resolution was presented. Gary Burroughs advised he wished to be shown as opposed to this motion.

FA-115-07

MOVED BY: T. Dalimonte

SECONDED BY: C. D'Angelo

THAT: Report No. 71-07 regarding the 2008 Preliminary Capital Budget be received; and

That the 2008 Preliminary Capital Budget with a total expenditure of \$5,896,000 and levies of \$2,608,811 to the Region of Niagara, \$288,710 to the City of Hamilton and \$20,679 to Haldimand County be approved; and

That staff be authorized to submit the 2008 Preliminary Capital Budget to the member municipalities and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

"CARRIED"

(10) PROPOSED JOB EVALUATION & COMPENSATION STUDY - REPORT NO. 72-07

The General Manager outlined the staff report. After responding to questions, the following resolution was presented.

FA-116-07

MOVED BY: A. Fevez

SECONDED BY: G. Burroughs

THAT: Report No. 72-07 regarding the Proposed Job Evaluation & Compensation Study be received; and

That staff be authorized to retain The Avalon Group to carry out the proposed Job Evaluation & Compensation Study at an upset cost of \$25,000.

“CARRIED”

(11) PROPOSED AMENDMENTS – TREE CONSERVATION BY-LAW – REPORT NO. 73-07

The General Manager outlined this report in detail and advised that a further letter had been received from the Township of West Lincoln. The members discussed this matter at length after which the following resolution was presented.

FA-117-07

MOVED BY: M. DiFruscio

SECONDED BY: G. Burroughs

THAT: Report No. 73-07 regarding the Regional Tree Conservation By-Law and the August 22, 2007 correspondence from the Township of West Lincoln regarding the Clear Cutting of Woodlot West of Anastasio Estates Phase IV be received; and

That the Region of Niagara be requested to direct this matter to the Planning and Public Works Committee and the Tree Conservation By-Law Advisory Committee for their consideration and recommendation; and

That the Conservation Authority advise the Region of our willingness to assist the Tree Conservation By-Law Advisory Committee in their consideration of this matter.

“CARRIED”

(12) 2007 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS – REPORT NO. 74-07

The General Manager briefly outlined this report and advised the members to see Mary or Loretta if they had anyone they wished to nominate. Andy Fevez asked for a list of past winners, so that they wouldn't be nominated again. The following resolution was presented.

FA-118-07

MOVED BY: B. Henderson

SECONDED BY: B. Butters

THAT: Report No. 74-07 regarding the 2007 Conservation Achievement Awards be received for information purposes.

“CARRIED”

(13) PROJECT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 75-07

The following resolution was presented.

FA-119-07

MOVED BY: C. D'Angelo

SECONDED BY: A. Fevez

THAT: Report No. 75-07, outlining the status of Authority projects be received for information.

“CARRIED”

(14) OTHER BUSINESS

(a) PERSONAL INSURANCE GROUP PROGRAM – REPORT NO. 76-07

The General Manager outlined this report noting this is an additional benefit for Authority employees at no cost to the Authority. The following resolution was presented.

FA-120-07

MOVED BY: A. Fevez

SECONDED BY: B. Butters

THAT: Report No. 76-07 regarding the Personal Insurance Group Program be received; and

That staff be authorized to enter into an agreement with Aon Reed Stenhouse appointing them as the broker of record for the personal insurance group program.

“CARRIED”

(b) CONSERVATION FOUNDATION APPOINTMENT – REPORT NO. 77-07

The General Manager provided a brief outline of the proposed Foundation member. The following resolution was presented.

FA-121-07

MOVED BY: A. Fevez

SECONDED BY: B. Butters

THAT: Ms. Draj Fozard be appointed to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation for a term of three years to expire December 31, 2010.

“CARRIED”

(c) **GORD HARRY CONSERVATION TRAIL – ACCESS REQUEST – REPORT NO. 78-07**

The Director, Land Management outlined this report and the Authority's policy regarding easements across Conservation Authority Lands. The members discussed this matter at length and the following resolution presented.

FA-122-07

MOVED BY: B. Butters

SECONDED BY: N. Johnson

THAT: Report No. 78-07 regarding the Gord Harry Conservation Trail – Access Request be received; and

That the requirement of an access agreement in accordance with the NPCA Policy on Easements Across Conservation Authority Lands be reaffirmed; and

That staff be authorized to allow water deliveries on a fee-for-service basis until November 1, 2007.

“CARRIED”

(15) **IN-CAMERA - VIOLATION AND COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. CR-08-07**

In accordance with Authority policy, the following resolutions were presented.

FA-123-07

MOVED BY: G. Burroughs

SECONDED BY: B. Baty

THAT: this meeting do now move in-camera.

Received at 9:00 p.m.

“CARRIED”

FA124-07

MOVED BY: M. DiFruscio

SECONDED BY: N. Johnson

THAT: this meeting do now move back into open session.

Received at 9:06 p.m.

“CARRIED”

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the following resolution was presented.

Authority Meeting - Minutes
September 19, 2007 – continued

FA-125-07

MOVED BY: G. Burroughs

SECONDED BY: M. DiFruscio

THAT: this meeting do now adjourn.

Received at 9:06 p.m.

“CARRIED”

"L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary

D. Ransom, Chairman"