

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

WELLAND

DECEMBER 14, 2011

7:00 p.m.

FULL AUTHORITY MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Maves (Chairman)
B. Baty
D. Barrick
S. Beattie
T. Dalimonte
C. D'Angelo
D. DiFruscio
T. Easton
D. Eke
A. Jeffs
D. Joyner
D. Ransom
B. Sharpe
B. Steckley
B. Timms (Vice-Chairman)

STAFF PRESENT: T. D'Amario, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary
D. Baker, Director, Land Management
J. Kukalis, Director, Water Management
M. Stack, Director Communications

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Robert Henderson
Joanna E. McGarry
Rick Froese
Erika Froese

BUSINESS:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who had a conflict of interest to declare it.

(1) MINUTES FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – NOVEMBER 16, 2011

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

FA-155-11

MOVED BY: T. Easton

SECONDED BY: B. Timms

THAT: the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held November 16, 2011, be received and approved as printed.

"CARRIED"

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

(3) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman noted there were residents from Lorraine Bay present who made a presentation at the last meeting. He advised that staff and several members met with some of the residents recently and had a tour of the area to see what the matter was about. They also talked about potential solutions and agreed to maintain an ongoing dialogue. He noted that they were in attendance tonight regarding item 6 in the agenda. He then thanked them for their hospitality and noted the visit was very informative.

The Chairman noted that the Strategic Planning Committee has met and received a draft report from the consultant, which was discussed at length. He advised it is now being refined and the Committee will be meeting again on Monday the 19th to review it and in the New Year there will be a full board session on how to move forward.

The Chairman advised that the Authority has purchased a table of 6 for the District School Board of Niagara's fundraising gala and requested that if any member wished to attend to advise the CAO.

(4) CAO'S REPORT

The CAO advised that the Preliminary NPCA budget and levy apportionment was approved by the Region of Niagara. He noted he is expecting correspondence from Hamilton regarding a presentation in late January or early February.

The CAO noted that at the last board meeting there was an update on the Welland River mapping and indicated that he had planned to present a report at this meeting. He noted that the reason it was not on the agenda was because a delegation had requested to be present, however, the request came in too late for the December meeting. They will now be at the January meeting and because they are to be a large delegation of approximately 50, the meeting will be held at Ball's Falls on January 18th. He noted that staff will meet with members of the delegation prior to in order that we are prepared for their presentation.

The CAO reported that the annual achievement awards held in November was very successful and thanked the board members who came out to assist and to Bruce Timms for filling in for the Chairman who was unable to attend.

He reminded the board members to submit any expenses to Loretta prior to year end.

He advised that there was a meeting at Hamilton Council regarding the PFOS matter which will be discussed later in the agenda.

The CAO then reminded the members that if they are late in arriving and the door is locked, to call the office number and extension 239, which is the Boardroom.

(5) CORRESPONDENCE

The CAO referred to the letter from the Town of Fort Erie regarding their approval process for alternative energy projects. A question was raised on whether this letter was as a result of the memo provided to the municipalities from the Authority on this matter. The Director, Water Management advised that Fort Erie keep us informed of such decisions on a regular basis. A motion was made to receive the letter.

FA-156-11

MOVED BY: T. Easton

SECONDED BY: B. Timms

THAT: the correspondence received from the Town of Fort Erie regarding their approval process for alternative energy projects, be received for information.

"CARRIED"

(6) WATERSHED PLANS – LAKE ERIE NORTH SHORE & CENTRAL WELLAND RIVER – REPORT NO. 67-11

The Director, Water Management noted that these plans were previously presented to the Board in February. A question was raised on why the Upper Welland River plan was never completed. The Director, Water Management indicated that it was felt that it was not necessary, however, he will look into it and have an update at the next meeting.

Dave Barrick wanted to thank the groups involved for their efforts and for having this item placed on the agenda, he thanked staff. The following resolution was presented.

FA-157-11

MOVED BY: D. Barrick

SECONDED BY: A. Jeffs

THAT: Report No. 09–11 regarding the Lake Erie North Shore Watershed Plan be received and;

That the recommended Conservation Authority restoration works be approved for implementation over a multi-year time frame subject to annual budget approvals; and

That the Lake Erie North Shore Watershed Plan and its recommendations be submitted to the Town of Fort Erie, City of Port Colborne, Township of Wainfleet and Haldimand County for their consideration in future municipal works budgets.

"CARRIED"

There was no discussion on the Central Welland River Plan. The following resolution was presented.

FA-158-11

MOVED BY: B. Steckley

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: Report No. 10–11 regarding the Central Welland River Watershed Plan be received and;

That the recommended Conservation Authority restoration works be approved for implementation over a multi-year time frame subject to annual budget approvals; and

That the Central Welland River Watershed Plan Watershed Plan and its recommendations be submitted to the Township of West Lincoln, Town of Pelham, and City of Welland for their consideration in future municipal works budgets.

"CARRIED"

(7) NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION - REPORT NO. 68-11

The Director, Water Management outlined the report and provided the Board with better maps. A brief discussion took place and the following resolution was presented.

FA-159-11

MOVED BY: B. Baty

SECONDED BY: T. Easton

THAT: Report No. 68-11 be received for information.

"CARRIED"

(8) BUDGET STATS REPORT - REPORT NO. 69-11

The CAO noted that the budget to date is in line with year-end estimates from October. He indicated that there are a number of projects which are currently underway and will be completed in 2012. An unaudited year-end report will be presented early in 2012. The following resolution was presented.

FA-160-11

MOVED BY: M. DiFruscio

SECONDED BY: C. D'Angelo

THAT: the Budget Status Report for the period ending November 30, 2011 be received.

"CARRIED"

(9) PROPOSED 2012 CONSERVATION AREAS FEE SCHEDULE – REPORT NO. 70-11

The Director, Land Management outlined the report noting the changes being proposed. A lengthy discussion took place regarding campground fees and whether they are competitive and how often they are sold out, as well as the Ball's Falls Centre and how it can be utilized more. The following resolution was presented.

FA-161-11

MOVED BY: C. D'Angelo

SECONDED BY: B. Steckley

THAT: No. 70-11 regarding the 2012 Conservation Areas fee Schedule be approved.

"CARRIED"

(10) BINBROOK CONSERVATION AREA PFOS UPDATE – REPORT NO. 71-11

The Director, Land Management provided an update on this matter which prompted a lengthy discussion which included contacting the Minister of the Environment to obtain a response to the letter sent to him requesting an update of this matter. a number of issues were raised which included how much risk the PFOS was creating, who is responsible for the testing and who, if necessary, will pay for the cleanup. It was generally agreed that a risk assessment would be in order. The following resolutions were presented.

FA-162-11

MOVED BY: C. D'Angelo

SECONDED BY: B. Baty

THAT: the Board write to the Minister of the Environment requesting that a Risk Assessment relative to the PFOS contamination from the Hamilton Airport and affecting the surrounding watershed by undertaken.

"CARRIED"

FA-163-11

MOVED BY: S. Beattie

SECONDED BY: T. Easton

THAT: Report No. 71-11 regarding the PFOS Contamination at the Binbrook Conservation Area be received.

"CARRIED"

(11) ST. JOHN CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – REPORT NO. 72-11

The Director, Land Management outlined the report. A question was raised on whether other school boards would be included in our programming once we take over including the French and Private schools. It was felt that all educational institutions should be included. The Director, Land Management advised the Terms of Reference will be modified. The following resolution was presented.

FA-164-11

MOVED BY: S. Beattie

SECONDED BY: T. Easton

THAT: Report No. 72-11 regarding the St. Johns Centre Advisory Committee be received;

That the Terms of Reference for the St. Johns Centre Advisory Committee be approved;

That Mr. George Thompson, Mr. George Scott and Father Edward Jackman be invited to participate as members of the Advisory Committee; and,

That April Jeffs, Brian Baty and Mickey DiFruscio be appointed from the NPCA Board to sit as members of the advisory committee.

“CARRIED”

(12) PROJECT/PROGRAM STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 73-11

There were several questions regarding this report. The following resolution was presented.

FA-165-11

MOVED BY: M. DiFruscio

SECONDED BY: D. Ransom

THAT: Report No. 73-11 outlining the status of Authority projects and programs be received for information.

"CARRIED"

(13) OTHER BUSINESS

Mickey DiFruscio handed the members a copy of a newspaper article with noting that an old growth forest near Temagami may be destroyed to make way for a mining operation. He requested that the Authority send letters to the Minister of Northern Development as well as the Ministry of Natural Resources noting that this property should be protected. After some discussion it was agreed more information is needed and requested that the Director, Land Management look into this further and prepare a report for the January meeting.

Brian Baty commented that the acquisition of St. Johns is exciting and will be a jewel in the Authorities properties. He requested that the Director, Land Management give consideration to a meeting of the Authority and the Thorold and Pelham Active Transportation Committee to look at opportunities to link Fonthill with Shorthills Provincial Park and Lake Gibson. He requested that the Authority meet with representatives of the Thorold and Pelham active transport committees to look at the feasibility of a walking/cycling trail loop with comments by both municipalities.

April Jeffs expressed her concern regarding floodplain mapping and the fact that it appears there will be no changes to it. The CAO advised that the Technical Guidelines are set by the Province.

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Doug Joyner wanted to know who in Toronto issues a certificate for a farmed to have boisolds put on their farm. He also wanted to know if whoever issues the certificate looks at the property to ensure that there are no watercourses involved. The Director, Water Management advised that the process is regulated, but noted he would look into it further.

(14) IN-CAMERA

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

FA-166-11

MOVED BY: D. Ransom
SECONDED BY: B. Baty
THAT: this meeting do now move in-camera.

Received at p.m. 8:46 p.m. **“CARRIED”**

FA-167-11

MOVED BY: B. Baty
SECONDED BY: T. Easton
THAT: this meeting do now move back into open session.

Received at 8:50 p.m. **“CARRIED”**

The following items were approved in camera.

Report No. CR-24-11 **FA-168-11**
MOVED BY: S. Beattie
SECONDED BY: D. Eke **“CARRIED”**

Report No. CR-25-11 **FA-169-11**
MOVED BY: D. Eke
SECONDED BY: S. Beattie **“CARRIED”**

ADJOURNMENT

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

FA-170-11

MOVED BY: C. D'Angelo
SECONDED BY: B. Steckley
THAT: this meeting do now adjourn.

Received at 8:51 p.m. **“CARRIED”**