

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**WELLAND**

**MAY 16, 2012**

**7:00 p.m.**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** D. Barrick (with regrets)  
B. Baty (with regrets)  
S. Beattie (with regrets)

**STAFF PRESENT:** T. D'Amario, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer  
D. Gullett, Recording Secretary  
J. Kukalis, Director, Water Management  
D. Baker, Director, Land Management  
M. Stack, Director, Communications  
D. Lindblad, Restoration Project Lead  
G. Verkade, Supervisor G.I.S.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ellen Robins  
Glen Robins  
Ted Hinks  
Jeanne Fawcett  
Lennie Aarts  
Bev Lepard  
Norm Johnson  
Brian DiMartle  
Murial Whalley  
Peter Whalley

**BUSINESS:**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m., welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who had a conflict of interest to declare it.

(1) **MINUTES**  
**(A) FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – APRIL 18, 2012**

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

**FA-55-12**

**MOVED BY:** T. Easton  
**SECONDED BY:** D. Ransom

**THAT:** the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held April 18, 2012, be received and approved as printed.

**"CARRIED"**

**(B) BALL'S FALLS HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES– MAY 9, 2012**

There were no errors or omissions in the minutes. Doug Ransom mentioned a letter of appreciation should be forwarded to Ms. Holmes for her numerous years of volunteering and sitting on the Heritage Advisory Board. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-56-12**

**MOVED BY:** D. Ransom  
**SECONDED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**THAT:** the Minutes of the Ball's Falls Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held May 9, 2012, be received for information purposes.

**"CARRIED"**

**(2) DELEGATION**

Mr. Norm Johnson was in attendance to speak on behalf of the Welland River Floodplain Association which represents hundreds of ratepayers who own property along the Welland River. He was very impressed with Mayor Jeffs who took bold and decisive actions to protect the interests of her residents. This group feels that proceeding without public input was unethical and probably illegal. He referred to the "Perdikaris Report" on the Welland Canals and Welland River which he feels NPCA staff ignored. The Association has retained Dr. Simonovic to peer review the above mentioned report.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Johnson, and asked if there were any questions or comments. Barry Sharpe agreed with a peer review as it is important. Carmen D'Angelo thanked him for articulating they would like more public input, and a steering committee was established.

Trevor Easton commented the NPCA had a mandate for this update, and staff completed this. April Jeffs questioned if this was a mandate from the MNR, and John Kukalis responded we are delegated for floodplain mapping. All Conservation Authorities across the province are updating, and as part of our ongoing maintenance, this was a capital plan approved by the board.

**(3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

(4) **CORRESPONDENCE**

April Jeffs thanked the C.A.O. for circulating the e-mail she received from a constituent.

(5) **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman reminded everyone of the upcoming Bob Welch Memorial Golf Tournament on June 5, 2012. The proceeds of this event will benefit the Jordan Harbour Project.

The Chairman thanked the members who attended the special strategic plan meeting held on Monday, May 14, 2012.

The Chairman mentioned the tree plantings are now complete, and asked the Director, Communications to inform the board members of the dates for the high school programs, as he would like to attend.

(6) **CAO'S REPORT**

The CAO announced that Terence Carruthers, Chairman of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation (NPCF) resigned due to medical reasons. The Foundation is currently in the process of recruiting new members.

Senior management at Niagara Region are currently working on 2013 budget timelines, and hopefully a preliminary budget can be prepared for August.

There was very good participation at the fishing derby May 12 at Binbrook Conservation Area. Carmen D'Angelo and Tony D'Amario presented Andy Fevez with a plaque and there is also one on site. Carmen D'Angelo thanked the C.A.O. and the Director of Communications for being a part of this ceremony.

Lastly, the proposals for audit services proposals were received and the CAO will have a report for next meeting.

(7) **BLASZYNSKI PROPERTY – REPORT NO. 24-12**

The Director, Water Management prepared this report of public record and requested we move forward to fix this. There are mainly two issues indicated below:

Item # 1 – Structure in the valley

This is an active violation file and the structure can be removed and restore the area to resolve the violation or make a formal application to the NPCA Board for a permit.

The Chairman said to sum it up, he needs to apply for permit. The Town of Lincoln is a separate issue.

Item # 2 – Retaining walls

It was suggested staff hampered him from building the retaining walls, and that staff had stopped him. No correspondence can be found to support this.

Carmen D'Angelo stated if someone contacts you, it's your responsibility to meet with them. Bruce Timms and Trevor Easton went and had a look at the property, tried to offer solutions which may have been out of scope. They didn't speak on behalf of the board, only on their personal professionalism.

A letter was forwarded stating he could undertake works to stabilize the retaining walls, however he would need to apply for a permit. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-57-12**

**MOVED BY:** D. Ransom  
**SECONDED BY:** T. Easton

**THAT:** the Blaszyński report be received for information purposes.

**"CARRIED"**

**(8) NATURAL HERITAGE INVENTORY - PRESENTATION**

Deanna Lindblad gave a presentation on the Natural Heritage Inventory, and asked everyone to save questions until the end. The MNR provided the wetland lines which are accurate and aerial photos were used.

Bob Steckley wondered if this be available to municipalities. Planners have this information and this is also on the website. This program was funded through Water Smart, and until more funding is available, may have to look at charging a fee for data.

After a lot of discussion, the CAO wanted to clarify these are not policies, they are facts and will not be used for land use restrictions or regulations and this report doesn't threaten anyone at this time. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-58-12**

**MOVED BY:** C. D'Angelo  
**SECONDED BY:** D. Eke

**THAT:** the Board receive this report as a draft and be brought up at another meeting.

**"CARRIED"**

**(9) REGULATION OFFICERS – REPORT NO. 25-12**

This report reflected the new positions that were filled due to the restructuring of the Water Department. The appointment of staff as Officers is necessary for investigations and enforcements. The following resolution was then presented.

**FA-59-12**

**MOVED BY:** T. Easton  
**SECONDED BY:** B. Steckley

**That** the Board appoint Lara Widdifield, Supervisor, Construction Permit Approvals as an Officer pursuant to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 155/06.

**That** the Board appoint Kiefer Paton, Construction Compliance Technician as an Officer pursuant to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 155/06.

**That** the Board appoint Amy Brant, Fish and Wildlife Technician as an Officer pursuant to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 155/06.

**"CARRIED "**

**(10) BUDGET STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 26-12**

Attached is the budget status report for the period ending April 30, 2012. There were no significant variances to this report, the following resolution was then presented.

**FA-60-12**

**MOVED BY:** B. Timms

**SECONDED BY:** T. Easton

**THAT:** the Budget Status Report for the period ending April 30, 2012 be received.

**"CARRIED"**

**(11) LEASE TO FORT ERIE CONSERVATION CLUB – REPORT NO. 27-12**

The Director, Land Management informed the board this is ongoing from last year. The term of this lease is for one year. David Eke pointed out there is a spelling error in the title "Mutual Covenant" in section 4. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-61-12**

**MOVED BY:** T. Easton

**SECONDED BY:** B. Steckley

**THAT:** Report Number 27-12 be approved; and,

That staff be authorized to enter into a 1-year lease agreement with the Fort Erie Conservation Club; and,

That staff be directed to make application with the Ministry of Natural Resources for approval to enter into a lease for a 21-year less one day term.

**"CARRIED"**

**(12) PFOS COMPOUNDS AT THE BINBROOK RESERVOIR (update) – REPORT 28-12**

The Director, Land Management asked if there were any questions or comments on this report. There being none, the following resolution was presented.

**FA-62-12**

**MOVED BY:** D. Joyner

**SECONDED BY:** B. Timms

**THAT:** Report No. 28-12 regarding PFOS Compounds at the Binbrook Reservoir be received.

**"CARRIED"**

**(13) PROJECT / PROGRAM STATUS REPORT - REPORT NO. 29-12**

Barry Sharpe mentioned the floodplain mapping and that the Welland River Floodplain Association will provide us with a peer review. April Jeffs commented the floodlines have been in effect since April 2011 and we need to change some policies. David Eke agreed to maintain some flexibility for permit applications. Staff will look into previous minutes to see what motion was actually passed. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-63-12**

**MOVED BY:** D. Joyner

**SECONDED BY:** B. Steckley

**THAT:** Report No. 29-12 outlining the status of Authority projects / programs be received for information.

**"CARRIED"**

**(14) OTHER BUSINESS**

The Director, Land Management presented this report with regards to an agreement for access to the Binbrook Reservoir. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-64-12**

**MOVED BY:** M. DiFruscio

**SECONDED BY:** A. Jeffs

**THAT:** Report No. 30-12 regarding NPCA Access Agreements with CYO Camp Marydale be received; and,

That staff be authorized to execute the agreements for a term of 1-year.

**"CARRIED"**

**(15) IN-CAMERA**

The following resolutions were presented.

**FA-65-12**

**MOVED BY:** D. Joyner

**SECONDED BY:** T. Easton

**THAT:** this meeting do now move in-camera.

Received at 10:55 p.m.

**"CARRIED"**

**FA-66-12**

**MOVED BY:** B. Timms

**SECONDED BY:** B. Sharpe

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

Received at 10:57 p.m.

**“CARRIED”**

As a result of the in-camera session, the following resolution was presented.

**FA-67-12**

**MOVED BY:** B. Steckley

**SECONDED BY:** B. Timms

**THAT:** the recommendation brought forth in the In-Camera session be approved.

**"CARRIED"**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**FA-68-12**

**MOVED BY:** T. Easton

**SECONDED BY:** B. Timms

**THAT:** this meeting do now adjourn.

Received at 11:00 p.m.

**“CARRIED”**

**"D. Gullett, Acting Recording Secretary**

**Bart Maves, Chairman”**