



**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FULL AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday December 17, 2014; 7:00 pm.
3292 Sixth Avenue; Jordan, ON Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation - Elgin Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: **B. Timms (Chairman)**
 A. Jeffs (Vice-Chair)
 M. Bagu
 B. Baty
 S. Beattie
 D. Dick
 D. DiFruscio
 D. Joyner
 D. Ransom
 B. Sharpe
 B. Steckley
 D. Zimmerman

MEMBERS ABSENT: T. Dalimonte (*regrets*)
 B. Maves (*regrets*)

STAFF PRESENT: C. D'Angelo, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
 J. Long, Sr. Manager, Corporate Services
 P. Graham, Director Watershed Management
 D. Barrick, Sr. Manager, Operations
 J. Hagar, HR Specialist
 M. Brickell, Project Manager
 B. Wright, Manager, Watershed Projects
 G. Furtney, CA Supervisor
 S. McInnes, Manager, Plan Review & Regulations
 M. Reles, Communications Specialist
 M. MacIntyre, Assistant Superintendent, Long Beach
 L. Conte, Admin. Assistant; Office of CAO & Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Eke, Trevor Easton, Mary Easton, Bev Lepard, Lois Johnson,
 Glen Robins, Len Aarts, John MacLellan

Chairman, B. Timms called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm. and welcomed all in attendance.

ROLL CALL:

Two members send their regrets.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Member B. Steckley declared a conflict of interest regarding Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival as a vendor at the Festival.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Resolution No. FA-214-14

Moved by: S. Beattie
Seconded by: D. Ransom

THAT the rules within the Regulations be waived to allow NPCA Staff presentation on Cave Springs at the request of Steering Committee members D. Ransom and S. Beattie.

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-215-14

Moved by: A. Jeffs
Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT the rules within the Regulations be waived to allow John MacLellan to speak with reference to NPCA Report No. 122-14.

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-216-14

Moved by: D. DiFruscio
Seconded by: D. Zimmerman

THAT the Agenda be adopted to include the noted changes.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Recognition / Appreciation Awards for Member's Service

The following members were recognized for their service and outstanding contribution to the NPCA Board of Directors; Barry Sharpe, Bob Steckley, Dave Eke, Debbie Zimmerman, Dennis Dick and Trevor Easton.

2. John MacLellan – presentation referencing NPCA Report 122-14

Mr. MacLellan voiced his concern about conducting another floodplain mapping study; he does not support the RFP at this time and suggested to the board that more water monitoring be conducted over the next few years which will, in his opinion, provide evidence that the operations of OPG are altering the flow of the Welland River. Mr. MacLellan's presentation is **attached**.

- Member Zimmerman asked, if you're not supporting another floodplain mapping, what is your remediation? Mr. MacLellan believes that fixing the flow of the River is the remediation and that the siltation and blockage in siphons are obstructing the flow. The River has to flow properly first; fix the flow and then do the floodplain mapping.
- Member Sharpe asked whether OPG has acknowledged responsibility for the problem surrounding the Welland River and whether there is anything lacking in the RFP. MacLellan commented that OPG acknowledged there is a problem with the flow of the River. C. D'Angelo clarified that OPG is regulated by a US treaty and the Green Energy Act.
- Regarding the siphons, B. Sharpe further noted that in 2010 a study was conducted to investigate the old siphon owned by the City of Welland which by way of robotic technology, shows the capacity and amount of blockage in the siphon.

Resolution No. FA-217-14

Moved by: A. Jeffs
 Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT the presentation by John MacLellan referencing NPCA Report No. 122-14 be received for information.

CARRIED

3. Cave Springs – Presentation update

By way of a power point presentation (**attached**) M. Brickell showed the various out-buildings on the property that are falling down, in need of removal; and that the clean-up work of overgrown shrubs and weeds etc. will be required.

Resolution No. FA-218-14

Moved by: S. Beattie
 Seconded by: M. Bagu

THAT the presentation on Cave Springs be received for information

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-219-14

Moved by: S. Beattie
 Seconded by: D. Ransom

THAT NPCA Operations Staff prepare a plan for the clearing of brush and removal of outbuildings located in the Cave Springs Conservation Area and;

THAT this plan ensure any impacts on the natural environment be kept to a minimum and;

THAT the Cave Springs Master Plan Steering Committee and NPCA Board will both have an opportunity to review the plan prior to any related work being authorized.

- A board member raised the question about consulting with the First Nations Representatives. Response from staff is that they are prepared to conduct consultation as recommended in the Cave Springs Terms of Reference.

- In consideration of how NPCA plans to allocate resources for 2015-2016; Member Zimmerman suggested staff consider looking at the Heritage fund and any other funding opportunities allowed through the Federal and Provincial governments. When direction was given to staff to look at funding opportunities, C. D'Angelo noted that the new Manager of Business Development will be tasked with this.
- M. DiFruscio requested the Cave Springs property have a buffer zone restricting hunting.
- Member D. Joyner inquired about the historical importance of these outbuildings that have to come down. Direction given to staff to address the historical importance and provide costs for this clean-up.

CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes - Full Authority Board Meeting November 24, 2014

Resolution No. FA-220-14

Moved by: B. Sharpe
 Seconded by: M. Bagu

THAT the minutes of the Full Authority Meeting held November 24, 2014, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Chairman's Remarks

Chair Timms remarks are attached.

8. CAO Remarks

- With the exception of Township of Wainfleet in January, the Strategic plan has been delivered to all funding municipalities and will now concentrate on other stakeholders and community agencies.
- Request made to the Clerks of the funding Municipalities to formalize the process for appointments to our board currently 3yrs plus 12 months, asking to formalize to 4yr term.
- Testing conducted at Binbrook of PFO's and sent to Hamilton's Public Health – results show amounts will not adversely affect human health.
- 2014 budget is on track. 2015 correction of apportionment of levies to municipalities under Reg. 670/00 agreement required. Currently Niagara Region is trying to locate the agreement; discussions will be held to rectify.

Reports for Information:

9. **PROJECT STATUS REPORTS:**

- i. **Watershed Management – Report No. 115-14**
- ii. **Operations Status – Report No. 116-14**
- iii. **Corporate Services - Report No. 117-14**

10. **Financial Status – Month Ending November 30, 2014 – Report No. 118-14**

11. **NPCA Policy Review – Ontario Reg. 155/06 - Report No. 119-14**

With no comments on the reports for information, the board passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. FA-221-14

Moved by: B. Sharpe

Seconded by: M. Bagu

THAT Report No. 115, 116, 117, 118 and 119-14 be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

Reports for Consideration:

12. **Source Protection Data Sharing Agreement Extension – Report No. 120-14**

Resolution No. FA-222-14

Moved by: D. Dick

Seconded by: S. Beattie

THAT the NPCA sign the extension to the data sharing agreement with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) and Conservation Ontario (CO).

CARRIED

13. **Rates and Fees - Operations – Report No. 121 -14**

- Member DiFruscio is concerned that hunting fees are too low and further noted that the amount of hunters should be regulated. D. Barrick commented that the increase will be gradual and thus avoid a situation that could potentially overwhelm enforcement officers with an increase in offenders unlawfully accessing our hunting areas.
- D. Ransom noted that the decrease in adult cost at Ball's Falls resulted in a positive increase in visitors and revenue. He further noted the illegally parked vehicles outside of the designated parking at Ball's Falls to avoid entrance/parking fees; and requested staff to ask the Town of Lincoln the amount of parking tickets issued for the violations at this site.

Resolution No. FA-223-14

Moved by: B. Steckley
Seconded by: D. Dick

THAT the NPCA Board approve the 2015 Conservation Area Fee Schedule as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report. **CARRIED**

14. Welland River Flood Plain Committee update – Report No. 122-14

Resolution No. FA-224-14

Moved by: D. Dick
Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT all recommendations on Report No. 122-14 be received.

Note: No vote was conducted. Further discussion ensued.

- S. Beattie commented that it makes good sense to put monitoring stations and collect data.
- B. Timms stated that the floodplain mapping and floodplain management is a fundamental responsibility of Conservation Authorities. This responsibility was assigned to Conservation Authorities by the Province of Ontario.
- Member Sharpe noted that the City of Welland undertakes a study of the old siphon every 5 years; 22' diameter shows sediment. From 2005 to 2010 studies indicate that distribution of sediment has changed dramatically. Why not ask OPG to modify its operations to minimize reverse flow effects. Only way to convince them is by proving it with hydrologic modelling and mapping.
- B. Baty noted that all studies need to be considered. The RFP will provide us with more information, see what the criteria are and where the Aquafor study may be flawed and work with that. B. Baty would also like to see the cost factors involved; staff to provide.

Resolution No. FA-225-14

Moved by: D. Joyner
Seconded by: B. Sharpe

THAT Report No. 122-14 be received for information purposes; and,
THAT Staff issue the RFP as proposed in the Report.

Recorded Vote Attached (10 in favour, 1 opposed)

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-226-14

Moved by: A. Jeffs
Seconded by: B. Sharpe

THAT In recognition of the Township of Wainfleet Resolution No. C-125-2014, NPCA Staff be directed to co-ordinate a meeting of stakeholders (OPG, MNRF, Seaway Corporation and the City of Welland) to address operational impacts on the Welland River; and
THAT John MacLellan's letter be considered at this meeting.

Recorded Vote Attached (10 in favour, 1 opposed)

CARRIED

15. **Permit Approval Process – Ontario Reg. 155/06 – Report No. 123-14**

Resolution No. FA-227-14

Moved by: B. Baty

Seconded by: S. Beattie

THAT the Board adopt Report No. 123-14 including Appendix 1 – NPCA Permit Approval Process Flow Chart (December 2014).

CARRIED

16. **Henley Island Bridge Project – Report No. 124-14**

Resolution No. FA-228-14

Moved by: B. Sharpe

Seconded by: S. Beattie

THAT Report No. 124-14 entitled “Henley Island Bridge Project” be received as information.

CARRIED

17. **Other Business**

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Resolution No. FA-229-14

Moved by: B. Steckley

Seconded by: D. Dick

THAT the Full Authority meeting be adjourned. Received at 10:39 pm

CARRIED



Lisa Conte, Recording Secretary



D. Bruce Timms, Chairman