



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

Thursday April 16, 2015; 6:30 pm
3292 Sixth Avenue; Jordan, ON Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation - Elgin Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: S. Annunziata (Vice-Chair)

B. Baty
S. Beattie
P. Dart
D. DiFruscio
J. Diodati
B. Hodgson
A. Jeffs
D. Joyner
J. Kaspersetz
J. Maloney
T. Quirk
R. Shirton

B. Timms (Chair)

MEMBERS ABSENT: F. Campion (*Regrets*)

STAFF PRESENT:

C. D'Angelo, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
D. Barrick, Sr. Manager, Operations
J. Long, Sr. Manager, Corporate Services
S. McInnes, Acting, Director Watershed Management
B. Wright, Manager, Watershed Projects
S. Miller, Supervisor, Water Resources
M. Brickell, Project Manager
J. Baker, Manager, RAP & Restoration
G. Furtney, Conservation Areas Supervisor
K. Vallier, Business Development Manager
M. Reles, Communications Specialist
M. MacIntyre, Superintendent, Long Beach
L. Conte, Administrative Assistant, Office of CAO & Board

OTHERS PRESENT:

Len Aarts, Bev Lepard, Don Smith, Chris Powell (Stantec), Mark Neufeld (SPC), Paul Grenier (SPC), Linda Rogers, Loretta Shields, Albert Garofalo.

Chairman Timms called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance.

NOTE: The “*Closed Session*” of tonight’s agenda will be held following the Public Meeting, Revised Agenda distributed to members and the public.

PUBLIC MEETING: DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Member John Maloney declared a conflict regarding Report No. CR-29-15 item 2.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Further adjustment to the agenda with item 12; Report No. 38-15 Niagara Region Wind Corporation and the Gord Harry Trail; will be considered following the CAO Remarks.

Resolution No. FA-63-15

Moved by: A. Jeffs

Seconded by: T. Quirk

THAT the Revised Agenda be adopted with noted changes.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ITEMS IN OPEN SESSION:

1. Approval of the Minutes - Full Authority Board Meeting March 11, 2015

Resolution No. FA-64-15

Moved by: B. Baty

Seconded by: T. Quirk

THAT the minutes of the Full Authority Meeting held March 11, 2015 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

3. Correspondence

- Bert Miller Nature Club (letter dated March 16, 2015)
- Ducks Unlimited Canada (letter dated February 25, 2015)
- NPCA letter to Minister Bill Mauro (dated March 12, 2015)
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (letter dated March 25, 2015)
- Toronto Star article “Birds at Risk..” (dated March 23, 2015)

Supplementary Correspondence:

- Niagara Region Audit Committee (NPCA letter dated April 13, 2015)

Resolution No. FA-65-15

Moved by: P. Darte

Seconded by: R. Shirton

THAT the correspondence items listed on the agenda and addendum, be received for information.

- Member Jeffs noted that Wainfleet residents are concerned over the wood lots. D'Angelo stated that NPCA staff has met regarding this matter and will be meeting with the Wainfleet group to discuss and provide responses to their concerns.

4. Delegations:

- A. Linda Rogers – Mothers Against Wind Turbines
PDF presentation attached.

Resolution No. FA-66-15

Moved by: R. Shirton

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT the presentation by Linda Rogers-Mothers Against Wind Turbines, be received for information.

CARRIED

- B. Loretta Shields – Niagara Region Wind Energy Project
PDF presentation attached.

Resolution No. FA-67-15

Moved by: B. Baty

Seconded by: T. Quirk

THAT the presentation by Loretta Shields regarding the Niagara Region Wind Energy Program, be received for information.

CARRIED

- C. Steve Miller – Welland River Background (NPCA)
PDF presentation attached.

Member Baty expressed concern over the impact of OPG's operations on the Welland River and asked that NPCA solicit support from Federal and Provincial members of Parliament to resolve the issues. Member Baty's concern was noted.

Resolution No. FA-68-15

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: S. Annunziata

THAT the presentation by NPCA Staff Steve Miller regarding the Welland River Background, be received for information.

CARRIED

D. Bev Lepard – Welland River Flood Plain Association
PDF presentation attached.

Mr. Lepard recommended to the board that all property owners affected by the floodplain mapping, be notified of NPCA's intentions for the new floodplain.

Resolution No. FA-69-15

Moved by: A. Jeffs

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT the presentation by Bev Lepard from the Welland River Flood Plain Association, be received for information.

CARRIED

5. Chairman's Remarks

- Chair attended the AGM for Conservation Ontario on March 30th. As a result of the Municipal elections, there are several new Board Chairs and there are several committees in action to provide comment on the Green Belt Act, the Oak Ridges Morrain Act, the Escarpment Act and the Conservation Authorities Act. NPCA staff are participating on several advisory committees that will present a collective position to the Ministry on the reviews underway.
- Regarding the Hamilton Levy situation, Chair, Timms had a discussion with John Vice, Chair of Halton Conservation Authority. The Region of Halton funds Halton C.A. 90% plus, with Hamilton as a 4% funder. They are aware of NPCA's Levy position and Hamilton's appeal. Halton C. A. has levied according to the old formula and feels they have little growth in the Hamilton part of his watershed, so the formula would have little impact. Chair Timms also communicated with the Chair of Grand River Conservation Authority, Jane Mitchell who indicated that their CA has formally asked the Minister to review the apportionment formula for next year while maintaining status quo this year.
- Timms attended the Provincial Public Consultation held last evening for the Acts currently under review and felt it was mostly focused on the Greenbelt and viable Farming under the Act.
- This morning, Chair attended NPCA's Cave Springs Presentation to the Niagara Escarpment Commission. The presentation was well received by the NEC Board, and Timms noted it is beneficial to present information early in the process.

6. CAO Remarks

- CAO, D'Angelo presented a 2 min. video of the DSBN building.
- Following up on the comment made by Bev Lepard; D'Angelo stated that NPCA staff is working with the community group and are considering notifying affected property owners of the plan review. We are currently waiting for the RFP floodplain mapping.
- Member Baty requested that NPCA make presentation to local communities and local newspapers regarding the floodplain.

Report for Consideration:

7. **Niagara Region Wind Corporation (NRWC) – Gord Harry Trail – Report No. 38-15**

Guest speaker, Mrs. Angie Harry; wife of late NPCA Chair Gord Harry, spoke about the concerns surrounding the access for NRWC on the Gord Harry Trail, and stated that Gord Harry stood for progress and that Gord would have supported this initiative. Mrs. Harry expressed her support of NPCA providing NRWC access of the Gord Harry Trail.

Members expressed concern over some potential provisions in an agreement between NPCA and NRWC and requested staff consult with the Town of Lincoln. Staff was further requested to meet with representatives from the delegations to scope their concerns; report on the status of overhead lines and add a stipulation in the agreement that the \$20,000/year must escalate with the rate of inflation.

Resolution No. FA-70-15

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: A. Jeffs

THAT Report No. 38-15 be deferred to the June meeting; and, THAT staff present an additional report which will allow Wainfleet Council an opportunity to discuss.

CARRIED

Reports for Information:

8. **Project Status Reports:**

8.1 **Watershed Status Report No. 31-15**

8.2 **Operations Status Report No. 32-15**

- Member Annunziata asked if NPCA has a high priority list concerning the Emerald Ash. D. Barrick responded affirmatively and will provide a copy of the list to members.

8.3 **Corporate Services Status Report No. 33-15**

9. **Budget Status Period Ending March 31, 2015 – Report No. 34-15**

10. **Forestry Bylaw – Report No. 35-15**

Resolution No. FA-71-15

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: J. Diodati

THAT Reports 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35 be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

Reports for Consideration:

11. Policy Review Update - Report No. 36-15

Member Hodgson suggested that the RFP should also align with the new Town of Lincoln's Official Plan and that the successful vendor have experience in dealing with agricultural matters.

Resolution No. FA-72-15

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: J. Diodati

**That Report No. 36-15 be received for information, and
That the Board provide approval for the NPCA to send out a Request for Proposal (RFP) to consultants who will assist the NPCA with the intensive public consultation process and fundamental rewrite of its Policy Document.**

CARRIED

12. Approval for appropriation of Reserve Funds (Dec 31, 2014) – Report No. 37-15

Member Hodgson commented that we should not be diverting funds from the Reserve to Operations and strive to align with best practices moving forward. It was noted that NPCA is in a correction year and staff is attempting to reduce this practice for subsequent years.

Resolution No. FA-73-15

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: S. Annunziata

THAT the NPCA Board approve the appropriation of reserves funds of \$494,118.50 to the 2014 Operating and Capital budgets.

CARRIED

13. Morningstar Mill - Report No. 39-15

It was noted that this property may not align with the City of St. Catharines' future operations and as such have asked the Conservation Authority to consider the possible acquisition. Staff intends to investigate all options, infrastructure costs, liabilities, management plan and consultation with current volunteers.

Resolution No. FA-74-15

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: J. Maloney

1. That Report No. 39-15 be received;
2. That the NPCA Board authorize staff to enter into in-depth discussions with the City of St. Catharines for the purpose of negotiating and determining the terms and conditions under which the acquisition of the Morningstar Mill could occur; and,
3. That staff report back to the Board at a future Board meeting.

CARRIED

14. Camp Marydale – Report No. 40-15

Resolution No. FA-75-15

Moved by: S. Beattie

Seconded by: T. Quirk

- 1. That Report No. 40-15 be received for information; and**
- 2. That the NPCA Board authorize staff to enter into an Access Agreement with the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) to utilize a dock on Lake Niapenco within the Binbrook Conservation Area.**

CARRIED

15. Other Business

- Chair acknowledged gallery attendance of Albert Garofalo as member of the CLAC.
- June 20th – Woodend Open House
- Member Quirk asked staff to look into the Geospatial Policy – GEO Caching
- Member DiFruscio expressed concerns about the wind turbines and the raptors. He would like to send a letter to government officials to enforce laws to protect this species of birds.
- Member Annunziata expressed concern over the chemical spill in Fort Erie and asked if NPCA staff is aware of the situation and have proper authorities been contacted about the contamination. Staff will follow up directly with member Annunziata.
- Member Baty noted that the NPCA needs to update and develop a Regional Trail System. Direction to staff to map out. Staff are currently mapping trails on Conservation Area Properties only.
- **MAY Board meeting to be held on Wednesday May 20th : 9:30 am**

Resolution No. FA-76-15

Moved by: S. Annunziata

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT the meeting move to closed session to discuss violations and a land acquisition

CARRIED

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

BUSINESS – Closed Session:

1. Violations Summary – Report No. CR-29-15
2. Land Acquisition – Report No. CR-30-15
3. Confidential Correspondence

Resolution No. FA-77-15

Moved by: P. Darte
Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT the meeting move to open session.

CARRIED

Following the closed session, the Chair declared the following resolutions;

Resolution No. FA-78-15

Moved by: T. Quirk
Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT Report No. CR-29-15 on violations be received for information; and,
THAT staff be directed to follow board direction on Report No. CR-30-15; and,
THAT the Confidential Correspondence be received.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

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

Resolution No. FA-79-15

Moved by: P. Darte
Seconded by: A. Jeffs

THAT the Full Authority meeting be adjourned. Received at 10:45 pm

CARRIED


Lisa Conte; Recording Secretary


D. Bruce Timms, Chair, NPCA