

**Finance Committee
MINUTES
Hybrid Meeting
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
3350 Merrittville Hwy., Thorold ON
Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 10:00 a.m.**

ATTENDANCE: S. Beattie
D. Cridland
R. Foster
J. Metcalfe (departed at 10:23 a.m.)

REGRETS: M. Seaborn

STAFF PRESENT: L. Lee-Yate, CAO & Secretary-Treasurer
L. Gagnon, Director, Corporate Services
A. Christie, Director, Conservation Areas
M. Davis, Manager, Office of the CAO & Board
N. Green, Director, Watershed Strategies & Climate Change
D. Deluce, Director, Planning & Development
C. Coverdale, Manager, Financial Services
E. Gervais, Manager, Corporate Support Services

GUESTS PRESENT: B. Grant

Chair Foster called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation No. FC-17-2025

Moved by: John Metcalfe

Seconded by: Donna Cridland

THAT the agenda for the NPCA Finance Committee dated September 17, 2025 **BE AMENDED** with the addition of a presentation regarding 2026 Draft Budgets and Municipal Levies Item 5.1;

AND THAT Item 8.1 be addressed immediately following Item 5.1.

CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

3.1. Minutes of the NPCA Finance Committee dated April 16, 2025

Recommendation No. FC-18-2025

Moved by: Stew Beattie

Seconded by: John Metcalfe

THAT the Finance Committee minutes dated July 16, 2025 **BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.**

CARRIED

4. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1. 2026 Draft Budgets and Municipal Levies

Director, Corporate Services, Lise Gagnon, presented on the 2026 Draft Budgets and Municipal Levies. Discussion regarding funds available to complete land management plans and prioritization of strategic land securement initiatives ensued.

8.1. Report No. FC-12-25 RE: 2026 Draft Budgets and Municipal Levies

Recommendation No. FC-19-2025

Moved by: Donna Cridland

Seconded by: Stew Beattie

THAT Report No. FC-12-25 RE: 2026 Draft Budgets and Municipal Levies **BE RECEIVED;**

AND THAT the 2026 Draft Budgets & Municipal Levies **BE APPROVED BY WEIGHTED LEVY VOTE** at the Board of Directors meeting on October 24, 2025 for discussion with municipal staff, in accordance with Board approved Budget Assumptions;

AND THAT the list of 2026 unfunded pressures **BE PROVIDED** to partner municipalities for any future opportunities outside the 2026 budget through collaborative projects or external funding;

AND THAT NPCA staff **REPORT** the results of discussions with municipal staff to the 2026 Q2 Finance Committee and Board of Directors meetings;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of the 2026 Draft Budgets and Municipal Levies **BE FORWARDED** to partner municipalities by September 24, 2025, which is 30 days in advance of the October 24, 2025 NPCA Board of Directors meeting.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

None.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

None.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- Member Cridland noted that a successful event was hosted on September 4, 2025 by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation. While the primary focus was marketing and networking, the Foundation has seen direct donations in result of hosting the event already.

9.1. Update on Niagara Region Funding Agreement – Capital Projects 2025

- Director, Corporate Services, Lise Gagnon, informed the Committee that the funding arrangement for two capital projects presented to the Full Authority on May 23, 2025, was defeated at Regional Council on August 21, 2025.
- The Committee was informed that a follow-up report will be presented to the Full Authority in the addendum for the upcoming meeting on September 19, 2025.
- Discussion ensued regarding engaging with Niagara Region to explore the creation of a by-law that would enable the execution of alternative financing arrangements like other agencies, boards, and commissions.

10. CLOSED SESSION

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.