



**FULL AUTHORITY
ONLINE VIDEO CONFERENCE
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, May 21, 2021
9:30 a.m.**

NOTE: The archived recorded meeting is available on the NPCA website. The recorded video of the Full Authority meeting is not considered the official record of that meeting. The official record of the Full Authority meeting shall consist solely of the Minutes approved by the Full Authority Board. *NPCA Administrative By-law*

MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Johnson (Chair)

S. Beattie
R. Brady
B. Clark
D. Coon-Petersen
D. Cridland
L. Feor
R. Foster
J. Hellinga
J. Ingraio
K. Kawall
B. Mackenzie
J. Metcalfe
W. Rapley
E. Smith
B. Steele
M. Woodhouse
B. Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT: D. Huson
R. Shirton

OTHERS: S. Plugers, KPMG

STAFF PRESENT:

C. Sharma, C.A.O. / Secretary – Treasurer
G. Bivol, Clerk
R. Bisson, Manager, Communications and Public Relations
A. Christie, Director, Operations and Strategic Initiatives
C. Coverdale, Business and Financial Analyst
J. Culp, Supervisor, Permits and Compliance
D. Deluce, Senior Manager, Planning and Regulations
M. Ferrusi, Manager, Human Resources
L. Gagnon, Director, Corporate Services
N. Green, Project Manager, Strategic Plan
S. Mastroianni, Manager, Planning and Development
S. Miller, Senior Manager, Water Resources
G. Shaule, Administrative Assistant
G. Verkade, Senior Manager, Integrated Watershed Planning / Information Management

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution No. FA-82-2021

Moved by Member Beattie

Seconded by Member Brady

1. **THAT** the agenda **BE AMENDED** to allow a motion in conjunction with Correspondence Item 4.a) and to permit Item 5.a) on the agenda, the presentation by S. Plugers, KPMG to occur immediately after adoption of the minutes.

2. **AND THAT** the Full Authority Agenda dated May 21, 2021 **BE APPROVED** as amended.
CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Minutes of the Full Authority meeting dated April 16, 2021

b) Minutes of the Full Authority Closed Session Meeting dated April 16, 2021

Resolution No. FA-83-2021

Moved by Member Clark

Seconded by Member Coon-Petersen

THAT the minutes of the following meetings **BE ADOPTED** as presented:

- Minutes of the Full Authority Meeting dated April 16, 2021; and
- Minutes of the Full Authority Closed Session Meeting dated April 16, 2021 to remain private and confidential.

CARRIED

5. PRESENTATIONS (As Per Resolution No. FA-82-2021)

a) Presentation by Scott Plugers, KPMG RE: Financial Statements and Audit Findings [Corresponds to Item 9.1.3 Report No. FA-31-21 RE: 2020 Audited Financial Statements & Audit Findings Report] – In accordance with Resolution No. FA-82-2021, C.A.O. Sharma introduced Scott Plugers, Auditor, KPMG. Mr. Plugers presented and discussed revenues, the financial statements and audit findings report. Questions were posed by Members and discussion ensued.

Resolution No. FA-84-2021

Moved by Member Cridland

Seconded by Member Feor

THAT the presentation by Scott Plugers, KPMG RE: Financial Statements and Audit Findings **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-85-2021
Moved by Member Kawall
Seconded by Member Mackenzie

1. **THAT** Report No. FA-31-21 RE: 2020 Audited Financial Statements **BE RECEIVED**.
2. **THAT** the 2020 Audited Financial Statements and the 2020 Audit Findings Report **BE APPROVED**.

CARRIED

4. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Conservation Ontario Council Report dated March 29, 2021 RE: Proposed Conservation Ontario Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative and Endorsement of Steering Committee Representatives

Resolution No. FA-86-2021
Moved by Member Metcalfe
Seconded by Member Rapley

THAT the Conservation Ontario Council Report dated March 29, 2021 RE: Proposed Conservation Ontario Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative and Endorsement of Steering Committee Representatives **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-87-2021
Moved by Member Metcalfe
Seconded by Member Rapley

WHEREAS the provincial government has passed legislative amendments related to the governance of Conservation Authorities;

AND WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities remain committed to fulfilling accountable and transparent governance;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority **ENDORSE** the three key actions developed by the Conservation Ontario Steering Committee to update CA Administrative By-laws, to report proactively on priorities, and to promote/demonstrate results.
2. **AND THAT** staff **BE DIRECTED** to work with Conservation Ontario to implement these actions and to identify additional improvements and best management practices.

CARRIED

- b) Correspondence dated April 23, 2021 from Town of Pelham RE: Motions and Notice of Motions RE: Request for Erosion Mitigation – Headwaters of Twelve Mile Creek

Resolution No. FA-88-2021
Moved by Member Metcalfe
Seconded by Member Rapley

THAT the correspondence dated April 23, 2021 from Town of Pelham RE: Motions and Notice of Motions re: Request for Erosion Mitigation – Headwaters of Twelve Mile Creek **BE RECEIVED**.

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- c) Correspondence dated April 27, 2021 from Town of Fort Erie to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario RE: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation – C.A.O. Sharma indicated that this matter was going before the relevant Conservation Ontario committee and that correspondence so apprising of the Town of Fort Erie would be sent.

Resolution No. FA-89-2021
Moved by Member Smith
Seconded by Member Steele

THAT the correspondence dated April 27, 2021 from Town of Fort Erie to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario RE: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-90-2021
Moved by Member Feor
Seconded by Member Smith

THAT the correspondence dated April 27, 2021 from Town of Fort Erie to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario RE: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation **BE ENDORSED**.

CARRIED

- d) Correspondence dated April 30, 2021 from Jim Bradley, Chair Niagara Region to the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation (Ontario) and the Honourable Omar Alghabra, Minister of Transport RE: Surplus Lands in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario - The Board requested that the NPCA's letter of endorsement be sent to the federal Minister of Transport, provincial Minister of Transportation as well as copied to all parties noted in Chair Bradley's correspondence. The Board also directed that separate correspondence from the NPCA Chair and CAO be sent to the four Members of Parliament within the watershed encouraging them to actively pursue this transaction on behalf of the NPCA.

Resolution No. FA-91-2021
Moved by Member Steele
Seconded by Member Metcalfe

THAT the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board of Directors **RECEIVES** and **ENDORSES** correspondence dated April 30, 2021 from Jim Bradley, Chair Niagara Region to the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation (Ontario) and the Honourable Omar Alghabra, Minister of Transport RE: Surplus Lands in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

CARRIED

5. PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)

- b) Presentation by C.A.O. Chandra Sharma RE: Bill 229 Conservation Authorities Act Update on Regulatory Proposal Consultation Guide – Ms. Sharma presented and Members posed questions. Staff was directed to send comments to partner municipalities for support as soon as possible.

Resolution No. FA-92-2021
Moved by Member Woodhouse
Seconded by Member Wright

THAT the PowerPoint presentation by C.A.O. Chandra Sharma RE: Bill 229 Conservation Authorities Act Update on Regulatory Proposal Consultation Guide **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

None.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- a) Report No. FA-29-21 RE: 2020 Year End Status Report of the NPCA-Ontario Power Generation Welland River Watershed Account Memorandum of Understanding

Resolution No. FA-93-2021

Moved by Member Hellinga

Seconded by Member Beattie

THAT Report No. FA-29-21 RE: 2020 Year End Status Report of the NPCA – Ontario Power Generation Welland River Watershed Memorandum of Understanding **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

- b) Report No. FA-35-21 RE: Hamilton – Binbrook Capital Funding Plan – Update

Resolution No. FA-94-2021

Moved by Member Brady

Seconded by Member Clark

THAT Report No. FA-35-21 RE: Hamilton – Binbrook Capital Funding Plan – Update **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) Report No. FA-28-21 RE: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Officer Appointments

Resolution No. FA-95-2021

Moved by Member Clark

Seconded by Member Cridland

1. **THAT** Report No. FA-28-21 RE: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Officer Appointments **BE RECEIVED.**

2. **THAT** the Board **APPOINTS** the following NPCA staff as Officers of the Conservation Authority pursuant to Section 28.1 (e) of the Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990 for the term of their employment with the NPCA for the purpose of enforcing Section 29 of the Conservation Act:
CUMMING, Brent
POWELL, Alicia
RUTKA, Josie.

CARRIED

- b) Report No. FA-34-21 RE: Natural Resources Canada 2 Billion Trees Request for Information (RFI) Submission

Resolution No. FA-96-2021

Moved by Member Feor

Seconded by Member Foster

WHEREAS the federal government has announced the “Growing Canada’s Forests” program as part of its 2 Billion Trees initiative, making substantial matching funding available to support reforestation efforts across Canada;

WHEREAS this is a timely opportunity to attract federal investment towards implementing nature-based climate solutions and enhancing natural cover through a strong and coordinated multi-partner approach across the Niagara Peninsula watershed;

WHEREAS the NPCA has a well-established track record of reforestation with private and public landowners, non-governmental organizations, nature clubs, academic institutions and community groups, has the scientific know-how to identify land and tree species with the biggest ecological and climate benefits, and has partnerships in place to mobilize volunteers to plant and monitor trees;

WHEREAS municipalities in the NPCA jurisdiction and other community partners have shown interest and support for a 10-year planting initiative to leverage the Growing Canada’s Forest Funding Program;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** Report No. FA-34-21 RE: Natural Resources Canada 2 Billion Trees Funding Request for Information (RFI) Submission **BE RECEIVED** and staff **SUBMIT** the RFI to Growing Canada’s Forests 2 Billion Trees initiative.
2. **AND FURTHER THAT** staff continue to **COLLABORATE** with municipalities and other partners in identifying planting opportunities to be included in the full funding application should the Request for Information submission as an expression of interest be successful.

CARRIED

9. COMMITTEE ITEMS

9.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 9.1.1 Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting dated April 28, 2021

Resolution No. FA-97-2021

Moved by Member Kawall

Seconded by Member Ingrao

THAT the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting dated April 28, 2021 **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

- 9.1.2 Report No. FA-30-21 RE: 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets – FINAL – Finance Committee Chair Kawall and Director of Corporate Services L. Gagnon spoke.

Resolution No. FA-98-2021

Moved by Member Kawall

Seconded by Member Metcalfe

1. **THAT** Report No. FA-30-21 RE: 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets – FINAL **BE RECEIVED**.
2. **THAT** the Final 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets **BE RECOMMENDED** to the Board of Directors for approval.
3. **THAT**, in accordance with the Board approved Reserves Policy, the following 6 projects in the amount of \$1,757,204 **BE FUNDED** from Reserves:
 - a. \$392,171 – General Capital Reserve
 - b. 32,126 – Niagara Levy Differential Reserve
 - c. 800,000 – Land Acquisition Reserve – Niagara
 - d. 390,411 – General Operating Reserve
 - e. 63,746 – Restoration Reserve
 - f. 78,750 – Tree By-law Reserve
4. **AND FURTHER THAT** the 2021 Unfunded Budget Priorities list (Appendix 1) **BE ADOPTED** and staff **BE AUTHORIZED** to update the list and address critical pressures as funding becomes available through external funding sources and/or within the approved budget.

CARRIED

9.1.3 Report No. FA-31-21 RE: 2020 Audited Financial Statements & Audit Findings Report – This item was addressed in conjunction with Agenda Item 5. a) Presentation by Scott Plugers, KPMG RE: Financial Statements and Audit Findings.

9.1.4 Report No. FA-32-21 RE: Financial Report – Q4 – 2020

Resolution No. FA-99-2021

Moved by Member Kawall

Seconded by Member Rapley

THAT Report FA-32-21 RE: Financial Report – Q4 - 2020 **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

9.1.5 Report No. FA-33-21 RE: Financial Report – Q1 – 2021

Resolution No. FA-100-2021

Moved by Member Kawall

Seconded by Member Smith

THAT Report FA-33-21 RE: Financial Report – Q1 - 2021 **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

9.2 PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

9.2.1 Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee Meeting dated April 29, 2021

Resolution No. FA-101-2021

Moved by Member Steele

Seconded by Member Woodhouse

THAT Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee Meeting dated April 29, 2021 **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

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10. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

11. MOTIONS

- a) Canada Employment Wage Subsidy - A waiver of the Administrative By-law was undertaken in order to allow Member Kawall to bring forward a motion in respect of the Canada Employment Wage Subsidy. Staff provided background information on the matter. Discussion ensued with staff requesting an opportunity to investigate and report back to the next meeting of the Board.

Resolution No. FA-102-2021

Moved by: Member Kawall

Seconded by: Member Ingraio

THAT in accordance with Section 9, Appendix 4 of the NPCA Administrative By-law, the Board **WAIVES** the notice provisions of the by-law to address a motion regarding the Canada Employment Wage Subsidy.

CARRIED

Resolution No. FA-103-2021

Moved by: Member Kawall

Seconded by: Member Wright

THAT the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority **ACCEPTS** the Canada Revenue Agency determination and **DIRECTS** that the Canada Employment Wage Subsidy be returned.

Resolution No. FA-104-2021

Moved by: Member Kawall

Seconded by: Member Wright

THAT the motion to accept the Canada Revenue Agency determination and direct the return of the Canada employment wage subsidy **BE DEFERRED** until the June meeting of the NPCA Board of Directors.

CARRIED

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Verbal Update from the C.A.O.- The Chair noted that Vice Chair Mackenzie had recently been named by the Rotary Club of Grimsby as recipient of its Paul Harris Fellowship award. C.A.O. Sharma updated the Board on the Strategic Plan public survey, parks and Conservation Area operations for the Victoria Day weekend and the Wainfleet wetlands and quarry.
- b) Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation – Member Foster updated the Board on the activities of the Foundation.

13. CLOSED SESSION

None.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. FA-105-2021

Moved by Member Coon-Petersen

Seconded by Member

THAT the Full Authority Meeting **BE ADJOURNED** at 11:08 a.m..

CARRIED

Brenda Johnson, Chair
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Chandra Sharma, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer / Secretary-
Treasurer,
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority