

NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 9, 2019

Tom Davies Square, room C-12
200 Brady Street, Sudbury

Commenced: 4:35 p.m.
Adjourned: 6:50 p.m.

PRESENT: Lin Gibson, Chairperson
Steve Kaufman, Vice Chair
Jennifer Davidson
Mike Jakubo (left at 6 p.m., after item 6a)
Joscelyne Landry-Altman
Bill Leduc
Geoff McCausland (left at 6:10 p.m., during item 6b)
Paul Sajatovic

ALSO PRESENT: Carl Jorgensen, Secretary –Treasurer, General Manager
Sarah Woods, staff
Gil Ciulini, RBC Dominion Securities

COMMUNICATION: Anne Watelet, regrets

1. Chairperson Lin Gibson began the meeting by welcoming attendees and providing some opening remarks.
 - a. Lin recently attended NDCF meeting of April 24 where members are formulating a strategic marketing plan for Lake Laurentian programming funding.
 - b. The Fast-flowing Water Contest judging was held May 22; the awards ceremony will be at held in the Cavern at Science North on June 12 from 10:30-12:00 followed outside by Billboard with winner(s) and class participants. Event champion from staff is Daniela Stuewer working with Petryna Advertising and funded through many appreciated sponsors. All Members welcome to attend if possible.
 - c. Condolences were sent to Conservation Ontario's Past Chair Dick Hibma on the passing of his wife Sandra Lee after her courageous fight with cancer.
 - d. With respect to recent Provincial cuts (MNR and Forests Ontario) proud of the Greater Sudbury council's unanimous support of a motion by Ward 12 Councilor Landry-Altman with a letter of comment to Environmental Registry Ontario posting 013-5018 in support of the vital role of the authority within its jurisdiction and the relationship between the two entities.
 - e. It is noted that on April 24 Sudbury MP Paul Lefebvre provided a letter to local media referencing the Forests Ontario program cuts and overall environmental budget cuts.

f. Lin also highlighted the amount of social media supporting many of the 36 authorities, including our own and Conservation Ontario, with a strong voice using a communication tool unavailable in the era of the extreme provincial funding cuts of the mid 1990s.

2. No declarations of conflict were made.

3. Adoption of Agenda/Addition to Agenda

Resolution 2019-43

Jakubo – Landry-Altmann

That the agenda of the May 9, 2019 General Board Meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Previous Meeting Minutes

a) Adoption of Minutes of April 11, 2019

Resolution 2019-44

Davidson - Kaufman

That the minutes of the April 11, 2019 General Board Meeting, as circulated and reviewed, are approved.

Carried.

b) Business arising from the meeting not addressed below

n/a

5. General Business

a) Gil Ciulini, RBC Dominion Securities - investments

Mr. Ciulini is our investment manager. He shared a presentation with the Members that outlined the distribution of our investment products, returns and the share invested in socially responsible holdings. The Members had a few questions that he addressed. It was noted that he and our auditor would collaborate on the presentation of figures for 2019.

b) Section 28/29 Report

There was a brief discussion and question about one permit extension.

Resolution 2019-45

Kaufman - Jakubo

That the report for permits issued under Sections 28 and 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act during the month of April 2019 is received.

Carried.

c) 50 Million Trees Program

Sarah Woods updated the Members on the program indicating that the upcoming spring planting will proceed despite the cut from the provincial government to Forests Ontario. Even though the program is ending the authority still has several years of responsibility to the landowners. The program operated at an overall surplus and the amount to see the commitments through is similar in magnitude to the overall surplus. Staff is looking for other partners with the goal of continuing a similar program in future. There were a few questions and some discussion.

Resolution 2019-46

Leduc - Davidson

Be it resolved that the staff report Tree Planting Program Update dated May 2, 2019, is received and further,

That a recommendation is made that \$24,000 of the Strategic Implementation Reserve be earmarked to sustain ongoing commitments related to the 50 Million Trees Program until completion.

Carried.

6. New Business / Upcoming

a) 2019 revised budget

Carl Jorgensen indicated that he met with staff to review the budget and to look for areas of savings possible and also for income sources. Also since the year is 1/3 completed, some conservative estimates can be tightened up. The resulting budget has a projected overrun comparable to the 6% contingency. Any annual deficit would be eliminated by reserves and it was acknowledged that this is not sustainable. The presentation was followed by a few questions and general discussion.

Resolution 2019-47

Jakubo – Kaufman

That the revised budget for 2019 is received and approved, and

That any deficit resulting from cuts made by the Province of Ontario during the Authority's fiscal year of 2019 are offset by the Levy Stabilization Reserve having a current balance of \$132 863.

Carried.

b) Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) Postings

i) CA Act Modernization

Carl made an electronic presentation that guided the discussion of the proposed changes.

Resolution 2019-48

Sajatovic – Landry-Altman

Given that the government of the Province of Ontario, via the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted a proposal in relation to amending the Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990 on the Environmental Registry of Ontario and reflected in Schedule 2 of the More Homes, More Choice Act, introduced the first reading of Bill 108 on May 2, 2019

Whereas the proposal recommends changes that will affect the budgets, operations and administration of all conservation authorities and their relationships with member municipalities, be it resolved

That a draft response to the Environmental Registry of Ontario posting 013-5018 will be prepared by the General Manager and circulated to the members on or before noon on May 15, 2019, and

That the Members of the Authority will provide their concurrence with the response or suggest revisions on or before May 16, 2019 at 8 PM so that a final response can be prepared and authorized by the Chairperson for submission on May 17, 2019 and

Be it further resolved that the response is circulated to the City of Greater Sudbury, local MPPs and MPs, Conservation Ontario and is posted on the Conservation Sudbury website and social media.

Carried.

ii) Focusing Development Permits

Carl made an electronic presentation that guided the discussion of the proposed changes.

Resolution 2019-49

Landry-Altman – Leduc

Given that the government of the Province of Ontario, via the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has posted a proposal in relation to preparing a regulation under the Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990 on the Environmental Registry of Ontario and

Whereas the proposal makes recommendations that will affect regulatory and planning functions and budgets of all conservation authorities, be it resolved

That a draft response to the Environmental Registry of Ontario posting 013-4992 will be prepared by the General Manager and circulated to the Members on or before noon on May 15, 2019, and

That the Members of the Authority will provide their concurrence with the response or suggest revisions on or before May 16, 2019 at 8 PM so that a final response can be prepared and authorized by the Chairperson for submission on May 17, 2019 and

Be it further resolved that the response is circulated to the City of Greater Sudbury, local MPPs and MPs, Conservation Ontario and is posted on the Conservation Sudbury website and social media.

Carried.

7. In-Camera Session

Resolution 2019-50

Kaufman - Leduc

That we go in-camera at 6:40 p.m.

At 6:50 p.m. the Board ended the in-camera session with no resolutions forthcoming.

8. Adjournment

Resolution 2019-51

Leduc - Davidson

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.