

NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Minutes of General Board Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Room C-12
Tom Davies Square

Commenced: 4:05 p.m.
Adjourned: 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Bob Rogers, Chair
John Dennis
Joscelyne Landry-Altmann
Anne Watelet

ALSO PRESENT: A. Bonnis, N.D.C.A.
P. Sajatovic, N.D.C.A.
Carl Jorgensen, Department of Fisheries & Oceans Canada

COMMUNICATIONS: Jacques Barbeau
Joe Cimino
Evelyn Dutrisac

1. Chair Rogers opened the meeting.
2. No declarations of conflict were declared.
3. Adoption of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Resolution 2009-37

Landry-Altmann - Watelet

That the May 21, 2009 agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a) April 16, 2009

Resolution 2009-38

Landry-Altmann - Watelet

That the minutes of the April 16, 2009 General Board meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

b) Business Arising from Minutes

Chair Rogers noted that some issues addressed in the April 16th minutes would be dealt with at this meeting. Chair Rogers and P. Sajatovic outlined plans for a climate change partners working session to be held on June 5th with City staff. Liette Vasseur will be returning to facilitate this session. P. Sajatovic noted that the application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Program related to work on future directions for the Lake Laurentian Environmental-Education Program had been submitted on April 24th. It is hoped that a positive response to this application will be received before the end of June so that the N.D.C.A. can hire an Intern to proceed with the important work.

5. Presentation

Chair Rogers welcomed Carl Jorgensen to the meeting. Mr. Jorgensen is a Fish Habitat Biologist with the Department of Fisheries & Oceans Canada (D.F.O.), and has an office in Sudbury. Mr. Jorgensen proceeded to make a power point presentation and had hand-outs for members. The presentation focused on a number of issues including, the role/function/powers of D.F.O., under the Federal Fisheries Act; the nature of the Level One Partnership Agreement between the N.D.C.A. and D.F.O., which has been in effect since 2002; local examples of how the two agencies work together to protect the local ecosystem; and D.F.O.'s enforcement and compliance capabilities, etc. Members had a number of questions for Carl on a variety of topics. Chair Rogers thanked Carl for coming to the meeting and for a very informative presentation.

As an outcome from this presentation, the N.D.C.A. will be posting a link to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's Spills Action Centre as it relates to citizens reporting deleterious spills around the N.D.C.A. watershed.

6. General Business

a) Section 28 Permit Applications - March and April, 2009

Permits issued in March and April, 2009 were reviewed. As well, a permit denied and subject to appeal by the applicant, has been pending review by the N.D.C.A.'s Regulations Review Committee. The review hearing is expected to happen soon. Following the discussion, a resolution was presented.

Resolution 2009-39

Dennis - Landry-Altmann

That the N.D.C.A. Permits 2009-02 to and including 2009-08, issued in March and April, 2009, be approved as outlined in the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines/Watercourses and Fisheries Files report.

Carried.

b) Request to Purchase N.D.C.A. Owned Land

The Solicitor for the applicant had requested that this matter be deferred to the June, 2009 General Board meeting as more information has to be submitted. Members agreed to the deferral to the next General Board meeting.

c) Drinking Water Source Protection Program Staffing

i) Water Resources Technician

The N.D.C.A. General Board had previously agreed to hire a Water Resources Technician to provide field and data management support to the Drinking Water Source Protection Project. Members had been polled by e-mail prior to this meeting to confirm the hiring recommendation as it was desirable to start the employee on May 4, 2009. Following a brief discussion, a resolution was presented.

Resolution 2009-40

Dennis - Watelet

That Anoop Naik be hired as the Drinking Water Source Protection Project Water Resources Technician effective May 4, 2009,

AND FURTHER that the Nickel District Conservation Authority/Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority enter into a Term Employment Contract with the Water Resources Technician, based on guaranteed 100% funding from the province, for the maximum period of May 4, 2009 to March 31, 2011,

AND FURTHER that the wage rate category and other non-monetary benefits provided will be as approved by the Conservation Authority/Source Protection Authority for the duration of the Term Employment Contract.

Carried.

ii) D.W.S.P. Term Employment Contract Amendments

A staff report was presented to members based on previous direction received from General Board members concerning this issue. A number of questions were raised by members, which were answered by staff. A resolution was then presented to members for their consideration.

Resolution 2009-41

Dennis - Landry-Altman

WHEREAS Resolution 2008-33 was passed at the March 20, 2008 General Board meeting dealing with the renewal of Term Employment Contracts for the existing Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP) program staff,

AND WHEREAS the contract renewals were for the maximum period of April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2012, based on guaranteed continuing 100% funding from the Province for the Drinking Water Source Protection program work,

AND WHEREAS the Nickel District Conservation Authority/Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority now want to enroll the employees in the available extended benefit programs, subject to approval by the benefit providers and acceptance of the DWSP employees, to be funded 100% through the DWSP program budget,

AND WHEREAS these benefit coverages would only be provided if 100% funding from the Province continues to be received up to and including March 31, 2012,

AND WHEREAS the current DWSP staff currently receive an enhanced hourly rate, including 4% statutory vacation pay, this hourly rate will be modified to reflect the benefit coverages to be funded through the annual DWSP program budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the DWSP employees will be required to sign amended Term Employment Contracts for the maximum period up to March 31, 2012, and further that any general wage increase approved by the NDCA on April 1st of each year, will also be provided to DWSP staff for the maximum period of the Term Employment Contracts.

Carried.

d) 2009 W.E.C.I. Special Projects

Members were advised that written approval has been received from the province, through the Ministry of Natural Resources, to proceed with Phase 2 of the Nickeldale Dam concrete remediation project in 2009. The total funding requested was approved by the Province and the N.D.C.A. has the local matching share in place.

However, three dam safety review projects were not funded for 2009, although the N.D.C.A.'s projects are near the province's funding cut-off line. Therefore, it was recommended by N.D.C.A. staff that the studies still proceed using N.D.C.A. funds. As well, should some provincial funding eventually become available in 2009, it would be credited back to the appropriate N.D.C.A. account. Members had a number of questions related to the need to do the three studies identified; the specifics of the

provincial Dam Safety Guidelines, etc. Following a very thorough discussion, a resolution was presented.

Resolution 2009-42

Dennis - Landry-Altmann

That the Nickel District Conservation Authority proceed with Dam Safety Inventory and Survey works in 2009 for the following dams:

- i) Maley
- ii) Nickeldale
- iii) Lake Laurentian,

AND FURTHER that this work be completed by using funding from the N.D.C.A.'s Special Projects Funding and Water Management Reserve, if necessary,

AND FURTHER that if any funding becomes available through the W.E.C.I. Program in 2009 related to any of these studies, that the provincial share be credited back to the appropriate N.D.C.A. account.

Carried.

e) 2009 A.D. Latornell Conservation Pioneer Award

Chair Rogers referred members to the information received from Conservation Ontario concerning the nomination of individuals for the 2009 Latornell Conservation Pioneer Awards. It was noted that Dr. John Gunn had been nominated in 2008 by the N.D.C.A. and had received one of the awards presented. Chair Rogers indicated that nominations have to be submitted by June 26, 2009. It was noted that these awards recognize individuals who have contributed significantly to the conservation movement in Ontario. Members were asked to submit the names of possible candidates for consideration at the June General Board meeting.

f) Conservation Ontario Update

Chair Rogers, Vice-Chair Dennis and A. Bonnis attended the Conservation Ontario Annual General Meeting on April 27th in Toronto. Chair Rogers reported on some of the issues discussed including the outcome of elections for Chair and Vice-Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2009/2010. It was noted that Chair Rogers and Dr. Liette Vasseur had made a presentation concerning the N.D.C.A.'s Community Climate Change Initiative, and that it was very well received.

Chair Rogers and A. Bonnis also reported on the Conservation Ontario Strategic Thinking and Business Planning workshop session held on April 28th. They highlighted some of the key internal and external issues impacting the way Conservation Authorities will have to operate in future. N.D.C.A. members will be given a copy of the workshop summary report for their information.

7. In-Camera Matters

No in-camera matters were dealt with at this meeting.

8. New Business

i) Junction Creek Access Structure

Members were informed that this project was near final completion. An event will be held on Thursday, June 11th to acknowledge completion of this important project. Minister and Sudbury M.P.P. Rick Bartolucci will be attending. As well, N.D.C.A. members, City representatives, and individuals involved with the Junction Creek Safety Committee will be invited. Participants will be able to enter the structure to see how it leads down to the box culvert. Member Landry-Altman suggested that a plaque be placed on or in the structure to identify the significance and relationship to the tragic drowning event in August, 2007 which helped to reinforce the need for this access point along Junction Creek. Staff agreed that this will be done.

ii) Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the N.D.C.A. General Board will be held on **Thursday, June 18, 2009, at 4:00 p.m., in Room C-12, Tom Davies Square.**

No other business was transacted.

9. Adjournment

Resolution 2009-43

Landry-Altman - Dennis

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.