



August LRCA Board Meeting Minutes
August 30, 2023 at 4:30 PM
130 Conservation Road

Members Present:

Grant Arnold, Donna Blunt, Robert Beatty, Dan Calvert, Sheelagh Hendrick, Greg Johnsen, Brian Kurikka, Jim Vezina

Members Present (Remote):

Jim Vezina

Absent:

Albert Aiello
Rudy Buitenhuis
Trevor Giertuga

Also Present:

Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer
Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager
Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager
Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager
Mark Ambrose, Finance Manager
Jessie McFadden, Watershed Stewardship Technician
Melanie O'Riley, Administrative Clerk/Receptionist, recorder of Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

THAT: the Agenda be adopted as published.

Motion: #79/23

Motion moved by Grant Arnold and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Sixth Regular Meeting held on June 21, 2023 be adopted as published.

Motion: #80/23

Motion moved by Brian Kurikka and motion seconded by Grant Arnold. **CARRIED.**

5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

No In-Camera Meeting was held.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Renewal of Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area Lease

Members were advised that the City of Thunder Bay has renewed the Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area Lease Agreement for an additional five (5) year term.

8. STAFF REPORTS

8.1 VE-2-2023 Purchase of 2023 Husqvarna Riding Mower

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report VE-2-2023 related to the purchase of a 2023 Husqvarna riding lawn mower.

THAT: the purchase from Northern Turf Equipment for a 2023 Husqvarna riding mower at a cost of \$4,339.99 plus HST be accepted AND FURTHER THAT the funds will be appropriated from the Vehicle and Equipment Reserve.

Motion: #81/23

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

9.1 Monthly Treasurer's Report

Members were provided with the monthly Treasurer's Report for June and July's Administration and Capital.

9.2 Merging of Deferred Funds

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report FIN-11-2023 related to the proposed merging of deferred funds.

THAT: *Staff Report FIN-11-2023 be received AND FURTHER THAT the proposed merging of deferred funds as outlined in the report be approved.*

Motion: #82/23

Motion moved by Grant Arnold and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

9.3 2024 Draft Budget

Members reviewed and discussed the 2024 Draft LRCA Budget. It was noted that the budget had been formatted to adhere to the requirement in O. Reg. 402/22, which applies to the 2024 budget and that each Member Municipality would receive the Draft Budget for consultation purposes.

THAT: *the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority approves the 2024 Draft Budget, Version 1.0, dated August 30, 2023, for consultation purposes.*

Motion: #83/23

Motion moved by Sheelagh Hendrick and motion seconded by Greg Johnsen. **CARRIED.**

10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

THAT: *having examined the accounts for the period June 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023 cheque #2920 to #2962 for \$105,093.88 and preauthorized payments of \$126,795.50 for a total of \$231,889.38, we approve their payment.*

Motion: #84/23

Motion moved by Greg Johnsen and motion seconded by Sheelagh Hendrick. **CARRIED.**

THAT: *having examined the accounts for the period July 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023 cheque #2963 to #2985 for \$244,043.21 and preauthorized payments of \$121,121.52 for a total of \$365,164.73, we approve their payment.*

Motion: #85/23

Motion moved by Sheelagh Hendrick and motion seconded by Greg Johnsen. **CARRIED.**

11. REGULATORY ROLE

Members were provided with the summaries for the Plan Review program and Section 28 permits issued since the last meeting summaries.

12. PROJECTS UPDATE

12.1. Communications Manager Projects Update

A verbal update of Silver Harbour Day was provided at the Meeting. The day was well attended with 260 participants and well received by the Municipality of Shuniah.

It was noted that Staff attended the Fort William Historical Park's Great Rendezvous celebration with an information booth and Staff also lead a plant and wildflower hike at the Fort.

It was noted that the Communications Manager attended a Heart of the Continent Partnership meeting at Fort William Historical Park held at the same time as the Great Rendezvous celebration.

12.2 Lands Manager Projects Update

It was noted that all the outhouse units owned by the LRCA have been painted and identifier decals placed on the doors.

Members were advised that the paving project at Cascades Conservation Area was completed one week ahead of schedule. The paved trail was repaved and is now AODA compliant and the drainage issues in the parking lot have been addressed. It was noted that \$130,000 in funding had been announced from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) for the paving project and to also install an AODA concrete vault toilet at Cascades Conservation Area which will be installed by the end of the year.

It was noted that a Memorial Bench had been installed at Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area to commemorate the passing of retired employee Dave Olson who had worked at the Authority for over 30 years.

It was noted that Silver Harbour Dive Park has been completed with an access point at the shoreline, additional signage noting the rules divers must follow and dive location indicator signs at the shoreline facing the lake to inform boaters of the dive park location.

It was also noted that a Pay and Display unit had been installed at Silver Harbour Conservation Area.

12.3 Watershed Manager Projects Update

Members were advised that a Level 1 Low Water Condition was declared to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) by the LRCA on August 3, 2023 for our area of jurisdiction.

It was noted that the LRCA's Environmental Planner, Michelle Willows, and Watershed Stewardship Technician, Jessie McFadden have completed a training and certificate course to become wetland evaluators under the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES).

It was noted that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks had confirmed the presence of blue-green algae in a water sample collected at Hazelwood Lake on August 24, 2023. At the direction of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, Staff have posted an advisory at Hazelwood advising users to avoid drinking the water, using it for household purposes or swimming in it and to keep pets from drinking the water. The water should be avoided for 2 weeks after the bloom has dissipated.

It was noted that, in consultation with various City organizations, the Encampment on the Floodway, due to health and safety concerns, has been relocated.

13. NEW BUSINESS

None.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on September 27, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

15. Board Training


Members were provided with the sixth session of Board of Directors training. The focus was on the Stewardship Program.

16. ADJOURNMENT

THAT: *the time being 5:39 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business we adjourn.*

Motion: #86/23

Motion moved by Greg Johnsen and motion seconded by Sheelagh Hendrick. **CARRIED.**


Chair


Chief Administrative Officer