



LRCA Board Meeting Minutes  
September 27, 2023 at 4:30 PM  
130 Conservation Road/Microsoft Teams

**Members Present:**

Albert Aiello, Donna Blunt, Robert Beatty, Rudy Buitenhuis, Dan Calvert, Sheelagh Hendrick, Greg Johnsen, Brian Kurikka, Jim Vezina

**Members Present (Remote):**

Grant Arnold, 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

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: #87/23**

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

*THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Seventh Regular Meeting held on August 30, 2023 be adopted as published.*

**Motion: #88/23**

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

**5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA**

*THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:31 p.m.*

**Motion: #89/23**

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: we go into Open Meeting at 5:00 p.m.*

**Motion: #90/23**

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority June 21, 2023 meeting be adopted as published.*

**Motion: #91/23**

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: Staff Report CORP-09-2023 is received AND FURTHER THAT the Information Systems Coordinator position succession plan as outlined in the report is approved.*

**Motion: #92/23**

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Greg Johnsen. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: effective January 1, 2024, the Watershed Stewardship Technician position will become a permanent full-time position AND FURTHER THAT the position title will change to Watershed Biologist.*

**Motion: #93/23**

Motion moved by Sheelagh Hendrick and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: the CAO is authorized to apply for funding under the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, under the Workforce Development Stream, to hire a Watershed Stewardship Technician Intern.*

**Motion: #94/23**

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**7.1 Resolution passed by Hamilton Conservation Authority related to recent changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and natural heritage.**

Members were provided with the resolution passed by Hamilton Conservation Authority related to the recent changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* and natural heritage.

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

**8.1 POLICY-HS-25\_27\_28\_29-2023 Various Policies**

Members reviewed and discussed the Staff Report related to various Health and Safety Policies.

*THAT: Health and Safety Policy HS-25: First Aid be adopted.*

**Motion: #95/23**

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: Health and Safety Policy HS-27: Health & Safety Communication be adopted.*

**Motion: #96/23**

Motion moved by Jim Vezina and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: Health and Safety Policy HS-28: Health & Safety Participation be adopted.*

**Motion: #97/23**

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

*THAT: Health and Safety Policy HS-29: Needlesticks/Sharps Policy be adopted.*

**Motion: #98/23**

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

**9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**9.1 Monthly Treasurer's Report**

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

**9.2 Conservation Authorities Act - Progress Report #6**

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-10-2023: *Conservation Authorities Act Progress Report #6.*

*THAT: Staff Report CORP-10-2023: Conservation Authorities Act Progress Report #6 be received AND FURTHER THAT Progress Report #6 be approved AND FURTHER THAT the report be forwarded to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.*

**Motion: #99/23**

Motion moved by Brian Kurikka and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

**10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS**

*THAT: having examined the accounts for the period August 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023 cheque #2986 to #3011 for \$342,819.24 and preauthorized payments of \$156,196.80 for a total of \$499,016.04, we approve their payment.*

**Motion: #100/23**

Motion moved by Jim Vezina and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

**11. REGULATORY ROLE**

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

## **12. PROJECTS UPDATE**

### **12.1 Communications Manager Projects Update**

It was noted that 34 people participated in the popular Fall Mushroom Hike led by Dr. Leonard Hutchison of Lakehead University.

It was noted that 17 people participated in the Neebing Birding Day and Sandhill Crane Festival.

### **12.2 Lands Manager Project Updates**

It was noted that the Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) at Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area that was reported to the MECP on August 24, 2023 had an advisory posted until September 15, 2023 advising of the presence of the algae.

### **12.3 Watershed Manager Projects Update**

Members were advised that the CAO, Watershed Manager, Development Regulations Offices and GIS/Water Resources Technologist attended the Flood Forecasting Workshop organized by the Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee. Professionals in flood forecasting from across the industry were in attendance.

It was noted that Lake Superior water levels remain above average.

It was noted that LRCA's area of jurisdiction remained in a Level 1 Low Water Condition.

## **13. NEW BUSINESS**

It was noted that the LRCA will celebrate its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024. A 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event will be planned at the Authority Office on Thursday, July 18, 2024.

It was noted that Competent Supervisor training will be held at the LRCA Administrative Building on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and that Member Municipalities will be invited to send staff.

It was noted that the Board Members were encouraged to begin considering the upcoming 2024 Board elections, taking into consideration the legislated limitations on the term of Chair and Vice-Chair.

## **14. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on October 25, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

## **15. BOARD TRAINING**

A second Board tour will occur in the fall to tour the remaining Conservation Areas.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**THAT:** *the time being 5:37 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business we adjourn.*

**Motion: #101/23**

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

  
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Chair

  
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Chief Administrative Officer