



# LAKEHEAD REGION

## CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Third Regular Meeting of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority held on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, via Microsoft Teams. The Chair called the Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Donna Blunt, Chair  
Grant Arnold, Vice-Chair  
Joel Brown  
Rudy Buitenhuis  
Erwin Butikofer  
Andrew Foulds  
Andrea Goold  
Umed Panu  
Allan Vis

**REGRETS:** Trevor Giertuga  
Jim Vezina

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:** Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mark Ambrose, Finance Manager  
Gail Willis, Watershed Manager  
Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager  
Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager  
Melanie O'Riley Receptionist/Admin Clerk, recorder of Minutes

**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Resolution #39/21

Moved by Grant Arnold, Seconded by Joel Brown

***"THAT: the Agenda be adopted as published." CARRIED.***

**2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolution #40/21

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis, Seconded by Erwin Butikofer

*“THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Second Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 be adopted as published.” CARRIED.*

**4. IN-CAMERA AGENDA**

Resolution #41/21

Moved by Andrew Foulds, Seconded by Andrea Goold

*“THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:36 p.m.” CARRIED.*

Resolution #42/21

Moved by Umed Panu, Seconded by Allan Vis

*“THAT: we go into Open Meeting at 6:06 p.m.” CARRIED.*

Resolution #43/21

Moved by Andrew Foulds, Seconded by Joel Brown

*“THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority August 26, 2020 meeting be adopted as published.” CARRIED.*

The purpose of the In-Camera Meeting pertained to legal matters.

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

(a) File: Mission Island Board Report LM-02-2021

It was noted that on March 19, 2021 the damaged sections of the boardwalk and sheet pilings were removed, and the remaining boardwalk section was repaired at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) File: Changes to Conservation Authorities Act – Term of Chair

It was noted correspondence was received from MECP granting the requested exception to the term of the Chair and Vice-Chair, permitting them to hold their respective positions beyond the legislated term limit of two years in the 2022 election, if so elected.

## 7. STAFF REPORTS

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report POLICY-HS-13-2021 related to Health and Safety Policy HS-13: Equipment Training.

Resolution #44/21

Moved by Erwin Butikofer, Seconded by Umed Panu

***"THAT: Health and Safety Policy HS-13: Equipment Training be adopted." CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report LM-03-2021 related to the construction of a new multi-use trail and walkway on LRCA owned property as part of the Edward Street Bridge Replacement Project.

Resolution #45/21

Moved by Allan Vis, Seconded by Grant Arnold

***"THAT: the City of Thunder Bay is authorized to construct a new multi-use trail (LRCA Property No. 9 and 10), resurface the existing multi-use trail (LRCA Property No. 9A and 11A), and construct a new walkway (LRCA Property No. 8) on LRCA owned property as outlined on Edward Street Bridge Replacement Drawing Number 1004 and 1005 dated February 23, 2021 with the requirement that the City of Thunder Bay is responsible for the construction work and all on-going maintenance of the new multi-use trail or required maintenance resulting from the new multi-use trail." CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report KAMEC-01-2021, which summarized the 2021 update to the Kaministiquia River Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Plan for Victor Broadway.

Resolution #46/21

Moved by Andrew Foulds, Seconded by Andrea Goold

***"THAT: Staff Report KAMEC-01-2021 be received." CARRIED.***

## 8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report POLICY-PP-12-2021 related to the development of an Hours of Operation Policy.

Resolution #47/21

Moved by Allan Vis, Seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis

***"THAT: Personnel Policy PP-12: Hours of Operation be adopted." CARRIED.***

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Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report FIN-07-2021 related to an amendment to the 2021 Education Programming Fee Schedule.

Resolution #48/21

Moved by Joel Brown, Seconded by Grant Arnold

***“THAT: Staff Report FIN-07-2021 be received AND FURTHER THAT the 2021 Education Programming Fee Schedule be amended accordingly.” CARRIED.***

**9. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS**

Resolution #49/21

Moved by Joel Brown, Seconded by Umed Panu

***“THAT: having examined the accounts for the period February 1 to February 28, 2021 cheque #2187 to #2212 for \$41,222.90 and preauthorized payments of \$87,293.22 for a total of \$128,516.12 we approve their payment.” CARRIED.***

**10. REGULATORY ROLE**

Members were provided with the Plan Input and Review Summary for the period of February 2021 to March 23, 2021 and a summary of Section 28 Permits issued in 2021.

**11. PROJECTS UPDATE**

It was noted that 826 Explore Card Passes had been sold as of the date of the meeting.

It was noted that the Source Protection Committee (SPC) held a meeting on March 16, 2021 to discuss the sixth annual progress report, which is due to the MECP on May 1, 2021, as well as other relevant issues related to source protection. Members were provided with the Minutes of the Source Protection Committee Meeting held on March 16, 2020.

It was noted that a Source Protection Authority Meeting will be held immediately after the April 28, 2021 Board Meeting, to receive and adopt the sixth annual progress report, prepared annually by the Source Protection Authority and submitted to the Director of the MECP prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> every year, as required in the *Clean Water Act*.

It was noted that the final draft of the 2020 Annual Report will be provided to the Board at the April Board Meeting for adoption with distribution being targeted for late May.

It was noted that due to COVID-19 the Dorion Bird Festival has been cancelled. Staff are investigating ways to offer a virtual bird festival experience.

Members were provided with an update related to the proposed birding tower at Hurkett Cove Conservation Area, indicating that Parks Canada is no longer willing to financially support the project.

It was noted that the March 15, 2021 snow surveys indicated that the snow survey locations were below average for snow depth and water content, when compared to the historical averages for March 15.

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

It was noted that the Government of Canada is looking to establish a new Canada Water Agency (CWA) that will focus on finding the best way to keep our water safe, clean, and well-managed by working together with provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, local authorities, scientists, and others.

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Melt Meeting was held on March 29, 2021 via Microsoft Teams. The annual meeting was held to discuss the spring melt conditions and to keep the lines of communications open with staff and personnel who may be involved during a flood emergency.

It was noted that LRCA staff were successful in executing a Transfer Payment Agreement with the MECP to implement the rehabilitation design plans for Fisherman's Park West and raise climate change awareness through volunteering and school events. Total funds received from MECP to support the project are \$47,400.00.

It was noted that in April, LRCA staff will be launching the 'Superior Stewards' Shoreline Protection Program through the LRCA's Stewardship webpage, social media, media releases, and E-newsletter. Additionally, two publicly accessible webinars will be hosted by Staff on April 15 and April 22 to provide attendees with an overview of the program, shoreline protection principles, best management and planting techniques, application process and requirements, and to answer questions.

It was noted that this year the Spring Water Awareness Program (SWAP) is being held in a virtual format.

It was noted that the 2021 Tree Seedling Assistance Program has been cancelled at the request of Hill's Greenhouses as they were unable to offer seedlings this year.

It was noted that due to COVID-19 the May 6, 2021 Wine Tasting and Dinner at Whitewater has been cancelled.

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **13. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. (due to a conflict with NOMA) followed by a Source Protection Authority meeting.

14. AJOURNMENT

Resolution #50/21

Moved by Erwin Butikofer, Seconded by Allan Vis

***"THAT: the time being 6:47 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business THAT we adjourn." CARRIED.***



Chair



Chief Administrative Officer