



Grand River Conservation Authority Minutes - General Membership Meeting

Date: September 23, 2022
Time: 9:30 am
Location: GRCA Zoom Virtual Meeting

Members Present Marcus Adili, Les Armstrong, Bruce Banbury, Robert Bell, Richard Carpenter, John Challinor II, Bernie Corbett, Kevin Davis, Cathy Downer, Jim Erb, Susan Foxton, Guy Gardhouse, Joan Gatward, Helen Jowett, Daniel Lawrence, Ian MacRae, Kathryn McGarry, Jane Mitchell, Jerry Smith, Bruce Whale, Chris White

Regrets Brian Coleman, Michael Harris, Geoff Lorentz, Joe Nowak, Warren Stauch

Staff Samantha Lawson, Karen Armstrong, Beth Brown, Krista Bunn, Joe Farwell, Brandon Heyer, Janet Ivey, Lisa Keys, Sonja Radoja, Lisa Stocco, Eowyn Spencer

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:30 a.m.

2. Certification of Quorum

The Secretary-Treasurer certified quorum with more than half of the Members present. A total of 21 Members attended the meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed the Members and made the following remarks:

- On August 29th the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) was designated as the Ministry responsible for administering the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Moving forward, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks no longer has duties, functions or responsibilities under the CA Act.
- The GRCA is pleased to welcome Joe Farwell as the interim director of the water management division. The Board will recall Joe's significant experience in engineering and flood management prior to his retirement in 2019.

J.Erb and K.Davis joined the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

4. Review of Agenda

22-143

Moved By Bernie Corbett

Seconded By John Challinor II

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting be approved as circulated.

Carried

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests made in relation to the matters to be dealt with.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

K.McGarry joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

22-144

Moved By Jerry Smith

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of August 26, 2022 be approved as circulated.

Carried

7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

7.1 Update - Return to In-person Board Meetings

- K.Armstrong advised the Board that hybrid meetings will be implemented starting in October. Instructions will be sent by email prior to the next meeting.

8. Hearing of Delegations

There were no Delegations.

9. Presentations

There were no Presentations.

10. Correspondence

There was no Correspondence.

11. 1st and 2nd Reading of By-Laws

None.

12. Reports:

12.1 GM-09-22-71 - Progress Report #2 - Ontario Regulation 687/21

- S.Lawson advised that the update is a regulatory requirement though there has been little change since the last update. The GRCA will be hosting

webinars for watershed municipalities to provide a high level overview of Category 2 programs, and to provide a framework for discussions related to municipal agreements for category 2 programs.

22-145

Moved By Richard Carpenter

Seconded By Ian MacRae

THAT Progress Report #2 be approved, circulated to all participating Grand River watershed municipalities, posted on the Grand River Conservation Authority website, and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in accordance with Ontario Regulation 687/21.

Carried

12.2 Minutes of the Ad-hoc CA Act Committee Meeting - September 12, 2022

There were no comments or questions regarding the Minutes of the CA Act Committee meeting.

22-146

Moved By Marcus Adili

Seconded By Ian MacRae

THAT the Minutes of the Ad-hoc Conservation Authorities Act Committee meeting held on September 12, 2022 be received as information.

Carried

12.2.1 GM-09-22-75 - Exception Request Letter to MNRF for Chair and Vice Chair Term Limits

- The Chair reminded the Board that the term limits for Chair and Vice-Chair were reduced to a maximum of two one-year terms, and that the positions need to rotate amongst participating municipalities except where exceptions have been granted by the Province, at the request of the Conservation Authority members.
- A request was previously submitted and the Minister advised that the request should be submitted closer to the timing of the end of the two one-year term limits, and provided clarification about the chair and vice-chair rotation that the member(s) from one municipality cannot hold back-to-back terms as Chair or Vice-Chair, and not that the positions must rotate through all municipalities. As such, a request for an exception of the requirement to rotate the positions is not being made at this time.
- The previous request has been updated to reflect the one exception request that the term limits for Chair and Vice-Chair be for up to four one-year terms rather than just two.

22-147

Moved By Helen Jowett

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority submits a request to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry for an exception as per s.17 (1.3)(a) of the Conservation Authorities Act to the two-year term limit for Chair and Vice-Chair of the GRCA Board of Directors to allow up to four one-year consecutive terms for the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Member	Municipality/Group	In Favour (yes)	Opposed (no)	Other
Les Armstrong	Region of Waterloo	yes		
James Erb	Region of Waterloo	yes		
Sue Foxton	Region of Waterloo	yes		
Michael Harris	Region of Waterloo			absent
Helen Jowett	Region of Waterloo	yes		
Geoff Lorentz	Region of Waterloo			absent
Kathryn McGarry	Region of Waterloo	yes		
Jane Mitchell	Region of Waterloo	yes		
Joe Nowak	Region of Waterloo			absent
Warren Stauch	Region of Waterloo			absent
Bernie Corbett	Haldimand & Norfolk Counties	yes		
Daniel Lawrence	Haldimand & Norfolk Counties	yes		
John Challinor II	Region of Halton	yes		
Marcus Adili	City of Hamilton	yes		
Bruce Banbury	County of Oxford	yes		
Richard Carpenter	City of Brantford	yes		
Kevin Davis	City of Brantford	yes		
Bob Bell	City of Guelph	yes		
Cathy Downer	City of Guelph	yes		
Guy Gardhouse	Group 1	yes		
Bruce Whale	Group 2	yes		
Jerry Smith	Group 3	yes		
Ian MacRae	Twp of Ctr Wellington	yes		
Chris White	Group 4	yes		
Brian Coleman	County of Brant			absent
Joan Gatward	County of Brant	yes		
TOTAL MEMBERS = 26		21	0	5

Carried

12.3 Minutes of the Ad-hoc Board Composition Committee Meeting - September 16, 2022

An error in the minutes was reported, noting the word 'agenda' where it should read 'minutes' in the header. The minutes will be amended as noted.

22-148

Moved By Joan Gatward

Seconded By John Challinor II

THAT the Minutes of the Ad-hoc Board Composition Committee meeting held on September 16, 2022 be received as amended.

Carried

12.4 GM-09-22-76 - Cash and Investment Status

There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

22-148

Moved By Bernie Corbett

Seconded By Guy Gardhouse

THAT Report Number GM-09-22-76 Cash and Investment Status – August 2022 be received as information.

Carried

12.5 GM-09-22-73 - Financial Summary

There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

22-150

Moved By Marcus Adili

Seconded By Susan Foxton

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending August 31, 2022 be approved.

Carried

12.6 GM-02-22-72 - Human Resources Policy Update - 1.4 Acceptable Use of Information and Information Technology Resources

There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

22-151

Moved By Marcus Adili

Seconded By Ian MacRae

THAT Human Resources Policy - 1.4 Acceptable Use of Information and Information Technology Resources be amended, approved, and implemented effective September 23, 2022.

Carried

12.7 GM-09-22-74 - Current Watershed Conditions

There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

22-152

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Daniel Lawrence

THAT Report Number GM-09-22-74 – Current Watershed Conditions as of September 14, 2022 be received as information.

Carried

13. Committee of the Whole

Not required.

14. General Business

There was no General Business.

15. 3rd Reading of By-Laws

None.

16. Other Business

- J.Mitchell inquired about damage to picnic tables at Laurel Creek recently reported to her by a member of the public. L.Keys will look into the matter and provide a response by email.

17. Closed Meeting

22-153

Moved By Jane Mitchell

Seconded By John Challinor II

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting in accordance with the *Municipal Act section 239(2)* for the following purpose(s): labour relations or employee negotiations.

Carried

22-154

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Marcus Adili

THAT the General Membership reconvene in open session.

Carried

17.1 Minutes of the previous closed sessions

22-155

Moved By Marcus Adili

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the Minutes of the previous closed session be approved as circulated.

Carried

GM-08-22-C07 - Financial Consideration - Staffing and Labour Matters 22-156

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Cathy Downer

THAT a new reserve be created called “water management operating” reserve via transfer of \$1,000,000 from the ‘water control structures” reserve to this new reserve.

Carried

Prior to the adjournment of the meeting, D.Lawrence expressed his appreciation for B.Corbett, who will not be seeking re-election for council in Haldimand County and thus will no longer be appointed to the GRCA Board. D.Lawrence commended B.Corbett for his service and commitment to public service, noting that he will be missed by all who worked with him and those he represented.

18. Next Meeting - October 28, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

19. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

22-157

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the General Membership Meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer