





- ∞ RVCA Joint Advisory Board, Thursday, February 23, 2006 meeting for budget approval
- ∞ New Office

Mr. Hallett discussed the variety of initiatives that the RVCA is involved in for the upcoming year including: septic re-inspection, stewardship, tree planting, hydraulic modelling, lake management plans and the generic regulations. He reported that the increase in levy for 2006 over 2005 would be \$260,000.

Dwight Bennett questioned the future of the Rural Clean Water Program due to funding challenges and the duplication of other new and existing programs such as the Environmental Farm Plan and the Soil and Crop program. Cathy stated that the RVCA's position in this program must be reviewed.

John Fischl inquired about what kind of levy increase is expected in the next 2 years. Dell replied it is the intent to keep it below 5%.

## **7. Meetings**

a) RVCA upper Advisory Board Meeting, January 16, 2006

Allan McCallam summarized the meeting of Jan. 16 reflecting on the presentations given by staff on the Watershed Watch water quality monitoring programs undertaken on lakes and the summary of the work completed to date on the Rideau Lakes Watershed Plan.

## **8. Kemptville Creek Watershed Plan Update**

Lynn Preston gave a thorough review of the Kemptville Creek Watershed Plan update highlighting the issues dealt with in the review and the methods outlined to deal with them. She stated that the report is being revised now and will be available to the public in Feb. A public meeting open house will be held in early March. All members are encouraged to attend and assist with supporting the plan. The final version will be out this spring.

## **9. Clean Water Act**

Dell Hallett presented a slide show which outlined the key features of the Act. Members should contact Brian Stratton if they have specific questions. Discussion ensued concerning the need to provide implementation costs and continued funding to support the recommendations of the plans.

## **10. Generic Regulations**

Don Maciver reported that the RVCA Generic Regulations was reviewed by the Peer Review Committee and was accepted. Staff will now ask for support of the regulations from the Ministry of Natural Resources. Deadline for approval is May 1, 2006.

## **11. Staff Reports**

It was reported that \$75,000 has been secured from the Trillium Foundation for the Ferguson Forest Centre to undertake a tree planting program and a Butternut rehabilitation program. In 2006, the RVCA will plant its 3 millionth tree.

**12. RVCA 2006, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plans**

Some of the plans include:

- ∞ New anniversary logo (40<sup>th</sup> with fireworks) - being used on 2006 letterhead, Around the Rideau, Municipal Updates, presentations
  - ∞ Anniversary press release series - starting in March; a series of four releases on history, accomplishments, people and municipal service
  - ∞ RVCA Annual General Meeting (budget) - set for Feb 23 at Monterey Inn Resort; no cost to the members municipalities
  - ∞ Anniversary bookmarks - on order; to be inserted in most correspondence and distributed at fairs
  - ∞ Foundation's Annual Anniversary Fundraising Campaign (Spring 2006)
  - ∞ Sod-turning at Beryl Gaffney Park
  - ∞ Chair's Anniversary Barbecue (June 15)
- Budget for the festivities is set at \$8,000

**13. Member Inquiries**

Ken inquired about the RVCA's position on beaver management as it affects the Smiths Falls local airport. Dell stated that beaver dams can be removed that pose a problem to adjacent landowners and roads (and runways). He encouraged the use of DFO's guidelines for beaver and beaver dam removals. Cathy volunteered that the Canadian Wildlife Service may have some useful information.

John Campbell inquired about the deadline for comments to the Clean Water Act. Dell stated that comments on the Act, due Feb. 3, can come through the CA or can be made directly to the MOE. Dwight suggested that the comments to the Ministry be strongly worded in support of funding for implementation and continued financial support from the government.

**Motion 9**

**Moved by:** Dwight Bennett  
**Seconded by:** John Fischl

That the Middle Advisory Board recommend to the Board of Directors that the RVCA comments on the Clean Water Act include a forceful statement regarding the need for long term funding for Source Water Protection Plan implementation.

**Motion Carried**

Cathy encouraged all members to make their own comments to the EBR (Environmental Bill of Rights).

