

**RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**Box 599, 1128 Mill Street**  
**Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A5**  
**(613) 692-3571, 1-800-267-3504**

**MINUTES**

**Board of Directors**

**August 23, 2007**

**8/07**

**Present:** Alan Arbuckle                      Dwight Bennett  
David Biggs                                  David Crowley  
Steve Desroches                          Ken Graham  
Magda Kubasiewicz                      Michael McEwen  
Maria McRae                                John H. Miller  
Cathy Willoughby

**Staff:** Charles Billington                      Cliff Craig  
Terry Davidson                              Jim Ellis  
Dell Hallett                                 Don Maciver  
Bruce Reid

**Regrets:** Glenn Brooks

**Guests:** Alissa Noonan (Executive Assistant to Glenn Brooks)

1. **Declaration of Interest**                      None.

2. **Consent Agenda**

**Motion 1**                      **Moved by:** Maria McRae  
**Seconded by:** Dwight Bennett

That Agenda items 3 and 5 be carried by consent.

**Motion Carried**

3. **Approval of Minutes, July 26, 2007**

Carried by consent.

4. **Business Arising from Minutes**

None.

5. **Accounts Paid, July 1 - 31, 2007**

Carried by consent.

6. **A. D. Latornell Conservation Symposium, November 14, 15 and 16, 2007**

Dell told Directors about the excellent networking and professional development opportunities available at Latornell. Members were asked to indicate their interest in attending and provide this information to Joan at the office as soon as possible. Final decisions on RVCA participation will be made once full program information is available.

7. **Staff Report – Strategic Planning Discussion**

Dell Hallett opened the discussion with a brief history of the long way we have come in the past five years thanks to the support of our municipalities. Together we have created the core of excellent staff and programs that provide competent municipal information and environmental services. The current total RVCA program can be broken down into 55% on-the-ground program delivery, 35% in monitoring/understanding our watershed, and 10% administration. Staff now needs the Board's advice to finetune the scope of our programs and ensure delivery of a balanced program that serves municipal needs for 2008-2010.

Each of the Program Area Managers then gave a short overview of the issues and opportunities in their specific programs based on the outlines provided before the meeting. General discussion was invited following all presentations.

Summary of Board comments:

- Water quality (particularly nutrient reduction) constantly arises as the #1 issue; RVCA Clean Water Programs (Ottawa and the watershed) and Septic Re-inspection Programs are two of the key ways to get at this problem; need incentive grants in rural area; long waiting lists; timing is right to develop strategic approach.
- Timing is also right to raise RVCA profile; possibly a communications plan to bring all the pieces together (World Heritage status, new building, relation to fundraising).
- Need for more targeted communications: telling the good planning and regulations stories; education/outreach for septic re-inspection programs; linking RVCA monitoring and reporting to City of Ottawa's (watershed plans, report cards); use communications to increase marketing/fundraising.
- Need to establish municipal environmental priorities (can't be everything to everyone); seek provincial and federal grants at every chance and let them know when downloading occurs through changes in regulations or otherwise.
- Would be helpful if managers identified how their programs contributed to RVCA's established objectives in the handout; better idea of which are priority.

- Recent municipal investment has been substantial; ease off on new or expanded programs and get the key things done well.
- Would the Board consider a strategy retreat away from the Boardroom to focus on planning priorities?
- Chairman Alan requested further feedback or second thoughts by phone or e-mail over the next two weeks.

**8. Member Inquiries**

The long-awaited Sawmill Creek Constructed Wetland is complete and will be Officially Opened with a ceremony on Thursday, September 27th at 10:30 am. This City project will be linked to the good partnered work of the RVCA in preparing and assisting with the development. Board members are invited to attend this auspicious occasion. More news to follow.

The Chapman Mills Conservation Area parking lot and grounds are patrolled by City of Ottawa police. RVCA will consider helping the police maintain order by putting up a sign showing specific closure times.

A community meeting to further discuss the future of the Heart's Desire Weir are anticipated this fall.

**9. New Business**

<b>Motion 2</b>	<b>Moved by:</b>	Ken Graham
	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Maria McRae

That the Board of Directors move in-camera.

**Motion Carried**

<b>Motion 3</b>	<b>Moved by:</b>	Dwight Bennett
	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Ken Graham

That the Board of Directors move out of in-camera.

**Motion Carried**

<b>Motion 4</b>	<b>Moved by:</b>	Maria McRae
	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Magda Kubasiewicz

That the Board of Directors extend thanks to RVCA Staff for their efforts and input to the Strategic Planning Discussion.

**Motion Carried**

**10. Upcoming Meetings**

- a) RVCA Board of Directors, Thursday, September 27, 2007

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ken Graham.

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**Alan Arbuckle**  
**Chair**

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**Recording Secretary,**  
**Charles Billington**

C:Board of Directors Minutes August 23 2007 Approved