

into the matter of urban flooding risks and how they are being addressed by Provincial policies and programs, in light of significant events experienced in the past several years (Bruce Reid is one of two Conservation Authority personnel on the Working Group); the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure program received many applications for funding for repair and reconstruction of CA structures in 2007-08 and efforts are being made to extend and increase the program's annual funding for 2008-09; the Permit to Take Water program is being reviewed; and Section 28 Regulations governing "interference with wetlands" have been interpreted as applying to peat removal operations in some parts of the province.

6. **Accounts Paid, November 1 – 30, 2007** Carried on consent.

7. **Staff Report – RVCA 2008 Budget**

Charles Billington explained that a few corrections were made to the "Summary" section of the Staff Report from Dell Hallett dated December 4, 2007.

- \$2,354,500 should be \$ 2,618,500 (line 7);
- \$190,000 should be \$198,500 (line 8); and
- The levy amounts to 46% of the total budget, not 4.6% (line 9).

Motion **Moved by:** Cathy Willoughby
Seconded by: David Biggs

It is recommended that the 2008 RVCA Budget (dated November 29, 2007) and Levy Apportionment Sheet (dated November 27, 2007) be received and circulated to RVCA member municipalities for their consideration.

Motion Carried

8. **RVCA Work Plan Priorities for 2008 – Taking Care of the Rideau Watershed**

Charles Billington indicated that this document will replace our "Making it Happen" publication. It will be sent to member municipalities with the 2008 budget documents and it looks back and ahead at the programs and services offered by the Authority.

Members requested that a full cost accounting be put together for the new Conservation Centre - one document showing the final price tag, results of fundraising efforts, contingencies and overruns, and the disposal of buildings in Manotick. It was noted that all of this information is available in Board minutes stretching over the last year and a half but it would be beneficial to pull it all together into one summary so that it is easy for the public and municipalities to access. Staff will put together this summary but

it will not delay the 2008 budget documents going out to municipalities in December.

Members also discussed the importance of report cards that are included as part of watershed planning documents. It was stressed that these report cards should be circulated to municipalities and progress should be measured and reported using these report cards. Bruce Reid explained that all of our Watershed Plans are first generation but the next cycle of plans will report changes in watershed health and progress made.

Members also inquired about why the Authority uses 2.5% as the rate of inflation and 2% as the assessment. The assessment rate is an average for the watershed which is why it differs from the assessment used by some municipalities.

It was clarified that the 2008 budget will not be approved until the February Joint Advisory Board meeting. The budget documents are circulated to municipalities in December so they have time to review them and ask questions. If municipalities have concerns Dell Hallett attends their council meeting to address their questions.

9. Staff Report – Source Protection Committee Selection

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson informed the Board that the Ontario Landowners Association had blockaded the Authority's driveway that morning in protest of the two agricultural representatives appointed to the Source Protection Committee. See attached press release circulated to members at the meeting.

Sommer reviewed the process used to select and appoint the two agricultural representatives and the Board confirmed that they stand by the appointments they and their Mississippi counterparts made and the selection process they followed.

Members felt that for public safety the driveway should never be permanently blocked as it is the sole point of entry if emergency vehicles were ever required (e.g. fire, ambulance). Staff will draft an interim protocol for public use of the Authority's buildings and property that will address the need to keep entryways open at all times for public safety.

10. Member Inquiries

Alan Arbuckle inquired if the Rideau Seniors Center is going to lease the Ayers Building in Manotick. Staff indicated that a lease contract had been sent to the City of Ottawa for review.

11. New Business None

12. Upcoming Meetings

- a) RVCA Middle Advisory Board Meeting, Wednesday, January 16, 2008
- b) RVCA Upper Advisory Board Meeting, Monday, January 21, 2008
- c) RVCA Board of Directors, January 24, 2008

13. Adjournment The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.

Alan Arbuckle
Chair

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
Recording Secretary

C:Board of Directors Minutes December 20 2007 Approved