

RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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

MINUTES

**Middle Rideau Valley
Conservation Authority
Advisory Board Meeting**

April 19, 2007

#2/07

- Present:** Alan Arbuckle, City of Ottawa (RVCA Chair)
Chris Babcock (Elizabethtown-Kitley)
Dwight Bennett (North Grenville)
David Biggs (representing the City of Ottawa)
John Campbell (Beckwith)
David Crowley (Perth) (representing the RVCA Upper Board)
Ken Graham (Smiths Falls)
Andy Jozefowicz (Athens)
Estella Rose (North Dundas)
Cathy Willoughby (Merrickville-Wolford)
Adrian Wynands (Augusta)
- Staff:** Dell Hallett Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
Lynn Preston Andrea Klymko
- Regrets:** Larry O'Grady (Montague)
- Guests:** John Conley, Mayor (Athens)
Don Curry, Councillor (Athens)

1. Welcome and Opening Comments

Cathy Willoughby, Chair, welcomed the members and staff to the meeting held at Joshua Bates Centre, Athens, Ontario. Board members introduced themselves around the table. Andy Jozefowicz welcomed members and Mayor John Conley and Councillor Don Curry to the meeting. Alan Arbuckle thanked the advisory boards for their good work and wanted to express appreciation of their efforts on behalf of the Board of Directors.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Adoption of the Agenda

An additional Agenda item will be presented as, 8 b) Source Protection Update.

Motion 1 **Moved by:** Estella Rose
 Seconded by: David Crowley

That the Middle Advisory Board Agenda, Thursday April 19th 2007, be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

4. **Approval of Minutes - Meeting January 17, 2007**

Motion 2 **Moved by:** Dwight Bennett
 Seconded by: Ken Graham

That the minutes of the RVCA Middle Advisory Board meeting #1/07, January 17, 2007, be approved as printed and distributed.

Motion Carried

5. **Business Arising from Minutes**

None

6. **Staff Report – Conservation Land Management Program**

Andrea Klymko presented an overview of the Conservation Land Management Program and its activities to the advisory board (copy attached).

7. **Middle Rideau Watershed Plan**

Lynn Preston discussed the initial efforts and first stages of the Middle Rideau Watershed Plan and emphasized the continued effort to include municipal, government, non-government and public input throughout the process. Lynn asked board members to inform member municipalities. RVCA staff will be requesting municipal information, feedback and resources as part of the ongoing planning process. Terms of Reference for the plan should be expected in October.

Members asked for clarification of middle watershed boundaries. Some members commented that current Mississippi Source Water Protection research has covered this area and asked if communications and information sharing is being done between organizations. RVCA staff recognized that similar research and work is being carried out throughout this subwatershed and assured board members that open communication and information sharing is being carried out.

Members asked if all municipalities within that sub watershed will be involved in the planning process. Lynn Preston assured any municipality within the boundary of the subwatershed was included in the planning process.

8. **Kemptville Creek Watershed Update**

Lynn Preston directed the board members to the Executive Summary for a synopsis of the Kemptville Creek Watershed Management Plan. The original study was used as a template to minimize repetition and some improvements to strategies were made.

Lynn Preston reported that overall, Kemptville Creek water quality was good and that efforts to improve on issues noted as priorities by the community - water levels and beaver management - have been met. Water budget modelling to identify ideal water levels in the watershed are now underway. Although there has been little overall action on the community level, action groups are to be formed by community members

to deal with specific water related issues identified in the plan.

Members suggested that the seven year re-evaluation of the management plan is too long of a time period to revisit the plan and that an adaptive management strategy to address issues on an annual or biannual basis would be more appropriate. Lynn Preston assured that there were provisions in the plan that allowed for frequent evaluation of the plan's implementation. Some members wanted assurance that cooperation and partnership with other agencies, specifically Park Canada, were maintained as Parks has major influence on the system in this watershed. Dell Hallett mentioned that there is a bigger effort on behalf of Parks Canada to work in partnership. Information sharing between the RVCA and Parks already exists.

Final steps: Endorsements letters for the final plan will be sought by municipalities and other government agencies. Lynn thanked Bill Stevenson, Cathy Willoughby, Jim Miller, John Fichl, and North Grenville municipality for their support in this project.

8.b Source Water Protection Information Update

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson informed members that draft Clean Water Act regulations were recently posted for public comment. At the direction of our Source Water Protection Executive Committee staff sent a letter to the clerks of all our member municipalities informing them of two issues in the draft regulations we feel are of significant importance to municipalities.

The issues were outlined in handouts circulated to members (copy attached). The issues are the proposed number of municipal seats on Source Protection Committees (SPC) and the proposed inability of any SPC member to be a member of a Conservation Authority. The letter asks our member municipalities to consider supporting these concerns by submitting comments to that effect to the EBR.

Questions from members focussed on how SPC members would be chosen, their term of appointment, and how they would be compensated. Some questions could not be answered definitively by staff because the regulations are just draft and further guidance documents are forthcoming from Ministry of Environment staff. Staff noted that they share many of the uncertainties and concerns raised by members and they have raised them with MOE for further clarification. Any further questions or comments from members, municipalities or the public can be directed to Sommer.

9. Member Inquiries

David Crowley reported that the Upper Advisory Board meeting scheduled for Monday April 16, 2007 was cancelled due to weather and is rescheduled for April 23, 2007, Tay Valley Township.

Upper Board members are looking forward to receiving reports from the Friends of the Tay Watershed on the current recommendations being carried out from the Tay Watershed Management Plan. He announced a Cottage Life award was given to Susan O'Brien-MacTaggart for her exemplary work on the Bob's and Crow Lake Management Plan. The Upper Board was also looking forward to reports on the Otty Lake Management Planning process and CMAG updates.

Dwight Bennett asked for an update on the new office building construction. Dell Hallett gave an update on the building, budget, tenders and the RVCA Fundraising Gala April 18th, the event's purpose was to obtain funds from the Ottawa business community in order to meet LEED environmental construction designation.

10. New Business

None

11. Upcoming Meetings

- a) Upper Advisory Board, Monday, April 23, 2007
- b) RVCA Board of Directors, Thursday, April 26, 2007
- c) Middle Advisory Board meeting, October 17, 2007, in Elizabethtown-Kitley

12. Adjournment:

Motion 3 **Moved by:** Chris Babcock

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 pm

Motion Carried

**Chair,
Cathy Willoughby**

**Recording Secretary,
Andrea Klymko**

C:Minutes Middle April 19, 2007 Approved