

That the minutes of the RVCA Middle Advisory Board meeting #2/07, April 19, 2007, be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

5. Business Arising from Minutes

None.

6. Watershed Stewardship Services Program

Rudy Dyck presented the Watershed Stewardship Program (see attached outline).

7. Middle Rideau Watershed Plan

RVCA staff has begun to collect background information and data on all aspects of the Middle Rideau Watershed (Poonamalie to Burritts Rapids). Some reports are still outstanding but all are expected to be completed by October 31, 2007.

We have also begun an evaluation of the effectiveness of the watershed planning program. Further discussion with staff and Board will be required if the approach changes. This review may delay the development of the MRWP somewhat. A new schedule will be drafted early in 2008.

8. RVCA Preliminary Budget 2008

Dell Hallett presented the preliminary budget. (see attached)

Larry O'Grady asked about the 2.5% assumption for COLA. He indicated that for Ontario the Aug to Aug figure was 1.6%. RVCA has traditionally used the Canadian average of the last twelve months. The actual rate will be finalized closer to budget approval.

Dwight Bennett asked for clarification regarding special levy. It would appear that there is an error. Staff will look into it and report back.

Cathy Willoughby suggested that the staff report should be changed to reflect the fact although the budget number for the Rural Clean Water Program is increased by \$40,000, the program will not grow by this amount. Over the past two years the RVCA has subsidized the Clean Water Program by approximately \$25,000 with money budgeted for Shoreline Stewardship. The actual increase is more like \$15,000. She went on to say that support for the program could be substantially increased owing to the number of projects on the waiting list. Dwight Bennett offered a note of caution especially in light of the Environmental Farm Plan program funding. Ken Graham thought that consideration of a means test might be a good idea, as some of the grant recipients really don't need the grant dollars.

Dwight Bennett reminded the members that the RVCA had doubled the levy in the early 2000 and we told municipalities that increases would be consistent with the COLA and changes in assessment. Ken Graham

thought we were consistent with that approach, especially in light of the increases in construction materials and contractor prices for any capital projects.

Motion 1

Moved by: Ken Graham
Seconded by: Andy Jozefowicz

That the RVCA – 2008 Preliminary Budget be received.

Motion Carried

9. Source Water Protection

Dell Hallett provided the attached handout.

10. RVCA New Office Headquarters

Dell Hallett showed a few slides of the New Office construction. Progress continues on RVCA's new headquarters. Tendering is completed and all that remains is for some of the sub-trades to finish their work. We expect the building to be substantially completed, and for the Construction Manager to turn the building over to the RVCA, by mid-November. Furniture delivery and installation will happen during the second and third weeks of November. There will also be a two week flush out of the building to clear the air of any off-gassing from carpets, blinds, furniture, etc. Plans are also in order regarding telephone service, internet connection, IT cabling, and a security system.

We anticipate moving existing furniture, files, telephones, computers, etc. from our buildings in Manotick during the weekend of December 7, 8, & 9. Staff will move into the building on December 10th.

Preliminary discussions regarding an official opening involve combining the opening with our Joint Advisory Board Meeting on February 28, 2008. More information on this will follow as the plans get firmed up.

The fundraising effort led by the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation has been very successful. The Foundation raised close to \$250,000 (cash and in-kind donations) which will help ensure LEED Certification of our new office building. Our original mandate was Silver Level Certification and we have been told there is a good chance we will achieve Gold Level Certification. The outcome should be known in time for the official opening.

11. Member Inquiries

None

12. New Business

None

13. Upcoming Meetings

a) RVCA Board of Directors, Thursday, October 25, 2007

14. Adjournment:

Motion 11

Moved by:

Estella Rose

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

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**Chair,
Cathy Willoughby**

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**Recording Secretary,
Dell Hallett**

C:Minutes Middle October 17, 2007 Approved