

**RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
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APPROVED MINUTES

Board of Directors November 27, 2008 11/08

Present: Alan Arbuckle Dwight Bennett
 David Crowley Steve Desroches
 Ken Graham Ed Hand
 Michael McEwen John H. Miller
 Cathy Willoughby

Staff: Charles Billington Dell Hallett
 Bruce Reid

Regrets: Glenn Brooks Clive Doucet
 Maria McRae

1. **Declaration of Interest** None.

2. **Consent Agenda**

Motion 1 Moved by: Ken Graham
Seconded by: David Crowley

That Agenda items 3, 11, 12 and 14 be carried/approved by mutual consent.

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of Minutes, October 23, 2008**

The minutes of Board of Directors Meeting, #10/08, October 23, 2008 were approved by consent.

4. **Business Arising from Minutes** None.

5. **Meetings**

a) **MVC, RVCA and SNC Ottawa Members, November 14, 2008**

Directors expressed satisfaction with the all-Ottawa member meeting. The general sense was that there are several areas of conservation activity where potential efficiencies exist, which

could demonstrate better public service and better use of public funds. Several specific pilot projects were mentioned including forest management, park management and acquisition of natural areas within the city. Councillors were very interested in exploring these opportunities based on business plans which the CAs will provide over the coming months.

b) RVC Foundation Meeting, November 17, 2008

Charles reported on the Annual General Meeting of the Foundation which included the re-election of Mary Bryden and Angela Maisonneuve as Chair and Secretary-Treasurer respectively, and as the new Vice Chair, Lynn Kaplansky. Unfortunately, Steve Simmering, long-time VC of the Foundation, resigned in mid-October due to work pressures. A review of the audited 2007 Financial Statements shows the Foundation in a very positive position. The Directors offered congratulations and advice to the Conservation Awards Organizing Committee advising them to seriously consider an annual program and event due to the very positive results from the 2008 effort.

c) A. D. Latornell Symposium, November 19-21, 2008

Ten RVCA staff and members attended this worthwhile event. The quality of speakers and networking opportunities make it one of the top conservation conferences in Canada. Directors mentioned that RVCA should consider nominating one or more Conservation Pioneers for next year's symposium.

6. Accounts Paid, October 1 - 31, 2008

Dell Hallett explained all transaction questions for the Directors.

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

That the Accounts Paid, October 1 - 31, 2008, be approved.

Motion Carried

7. Expenditure and Revenue Summary to October 31, 2008

Dell Hallett gave a verbal summary of expenditures and revenues to the end of October. The situation has not substantially changed since the end of September report. We still expect a modest surplus at year end which will be used to replenish the necessary reserves in 2009.

Motion 3	Moved by:	John H. Miller
	Seconded by:	Ed Hand

That the verbal Expenditure and Revenue Summary to October 31, 2008 be received.

Motion Carried

8. Staff Report – 2008 Group Benefits Renewal

Dell Hallett presented the Staff Report and answered questions from the Directors. The complete coverage information package was received by us on October 24th and a one page summary was distributed with the November Agenda package. Dell assured Directors that the negotiations on behalf of the 36 CAs provides us with a much better rate than if we tried it on our own or in some smaller group. Dell explained the composition and function of the Group Insurance and Benefits Committee. Although the rates are creeping up, it is believed that the group benefits package is still very competitive. A detailed summary of employee benefits is attached to the minutes.

Motion 4 **Moved by:** Ken Graham
 Seconded by: John H. Miller

That the RVCA Board of Directors approve the 2008 Group Benefit Renewal, the terms of which have already been accepted by the Group Insurance and Benefits Committee.

Motion Carried

9. Staff Report – RVCA 2008 Meeting Schedule

Discussion arose concerning the afternoon meetings and the differing start times.

Motion 5 **Moved by:** David Crowley
 Seconded by: Ed Hand

That the RVCA redraft the 2009 Meeting Schedule as follows: starting in January 2009, keep the established dates for all meetings (Board of Directors, Executive Committee and Advisory Boards), have all meetings start at 7 pm, and try this arrangement for one year.

Motion Carried

10. Staff Report – RVCC Indoor Space Interim Rental Policy for 2009

Charles answered Directors' questions about this matter. The Interim Policy is a balance between providing reasonable access to the space and avoiding excess cost to the RVCA. Directors foresaw an eventual link to the use of outdoor space within the RVCA's footprint.

Motion 6

Moved by:

David Crowley

Seconded by:

Michael McEwen

That the RVCA Board of Directors approve the RVCC Indoor Space Interim Rental Policy for 2009 with one modification being the raising of the Security Deposit to \$250 per use.

Motion Carried

11. Staff Report – Britannia Village Flood Control Project

The following activities were carried on consent:

1. That Delcan Corporation be authorized to proceed with Phase 2 of the program of engineering services outlined in the proposal dated January 18, 2008 (as amended by a revised “Detailed Budget Breakdown” dated February 6, 2008), provided that the overall cost of the engineering services (Phase I and Phase II) shall not exceed the upset limit of \$105,500 (including fees and disbursements, exclusive of GST).
2. That the General Manager be authorized to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between RVCA and the City of Ottawa with respect to the Britannia Village Flood Control Project.

12. Staff Report – 2008 Fees for Section 28 Regulations Program

The following recommendation was carried on consent:

That the amended Fee Schedule “B” (Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulations 2009) be approved for the Section 28 regulation program with implementation effective January 1, 2009 and further that letters be written informing individual municipalities in the watershed of the new fees, that a posting be provided on our web site and that notices be placed in local (community) newspapers informing the public and the development community.

13. Staff Report – Watershed Watch Program

Dell Hallett asked for Director feedback on the proposed Summary of Watershed Watch information. The Directors universally agreed that this was an important and valuable piece of work. It was also recognized that many of the lake association members in the watershed are anxious to have this level of detail or more. However, following a thorough discussion, consensus was that a narrative, plain language “executive summary” briefly explaining the trends on each lake would also be useful. Directors feel that an executive summary and this chart available on the RVCA website would satisfy most users’ needs.

14. November Activity Reports

Carried on consent.

15. Member Inquiries

Members re-emphasized the very constructive nature of the all-Ottawa members meeting. Collaboration will be pursued on several fronts including forest management, certain park management situations, acquisition of natural urban features (possibly using the RVC Foundation) and joint procurement strategies. Board expressed satisfaction on the pending meeting of GMs to develop an approach to these issues and requested a report back in the upcoming months on a proposed MOU for joint procurement and administration.

16. New Business

Dell reported on receipt of a letter from Montague Township Council which expresses concern about the preliminary 2009 budget and asks that RVCA respect a levy increase of no more than the assessment growth being 2%.

17. Upcoming Meetings

a) **RVCA Board of Directors, Thursday, December 18, 2008, 1:30 pm, Rideau Valley Conservation Centre, Monterey Boardroom**

18. In-Camera

Motion 7	Moved by:	Cathy Willoughby
	Seconded by:	Ken Graham

That the Board move in-camera.

Motion Carried

Motion 8	Moved by:	Cathy Willoughby
	Seconded by:	Ken Graham

That the Board move out-of-camera.

Motion Carried

19. Adjournment The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4 pm.

Alan Arbuckle
Chair

Charles Billington
Recording Secretary