

RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Box 599, 3889 Rideau Valley Drive
Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A5
(613) 692-3571, 1-800-267-3504

APPROVED MINUTES

Board of Directors **October 23, 2008** **10/08**

Present: Alan Arbuckle Dwight Bennett
 Glenn Brooks David Crowley
 Ken Graham Ed Hand
 John H. Miller Cathy Willoughby

Staff: Charles Billington Martin Czarski
 Rudy Dyck Jim Ellis
 Dell Hallett Don Maciver
 Bruce Reid

Regrets: Steve Desroches Clive Doucet
 Michael McEwen Maria McRae

1. Unveiling of Baxter Family Plaque

Mr Joseph Baxter, his wife Marjorie and several family members were on hand for the unveiling of a bronze plaque commemorating the Baxter family's close-to-60-year history on the land now known as the Baxter Conservation Area. The plaque will be on permanent display in the McManus Interpretive Centre. This indoor ceremony followed the earlier outdoor ceremony in which the funding partners were recognized.

2. Declaration of Interest None.

3. Consent Agenda

Motion 1 **Moved by:** Ed Hand
 Seconded by: Cathy Willoughby

That Agenda items #4, 7, 11 and 13 be approved by mutual consent of the Directors.

Motion Carried

4. Approval of Minutes, September 25, 2008

The minutes of Board of Directors Meeting, #9/08, September 25, 2008, were approved on consent.

5. Business Arising from Minutes None.

6. Meetings

a) Conservation Ontario Council Meeting, October 6, 2008

Ken Graham briefly reviewed the heavy agenda of the meeting. Highlights include a modest increase in RVCA fee to Conservation Ontario for 2009 and a presentation on lessons learned in the South Lake Simcoe area where a developer and the community are locked in a dispute.

b) RVCA Upper Advisory Board Meeting, October 18, 2008

The meeting was preceded by the Official Opening of the Phase II Trail and Bridge at the Meisel Woods Conservation Area. John Miller reviewed the salient points of the Upper Board meeting including the RVCA 2009 Preliminary Budget (approved) and a delegation of lake associations making the case for more RVCA involvement in lake management planning. A half-person-year is included in the 2009 Preliminary Budget.

c) RVCA Middle Advisory Board Meeting, October 21, 2008

Cathy Willoughby went over the key points including progress on the Montague School Project (report forthcoming from Larry O'Grady) and the Preliminary Budget. The Board urged RVCA to keep discretionary spending to a minimum and that fiscal restraint be exercised on behalf of the Middle Board municipalities. Advice from the Board of Directors was to, where possible, deal in dollars and cents instead of percentages (which can be very misleading), and to consider staff visits to those municipalities who ask to provide more context to the budget.

d) Tri-Valley Conservation Award Gala Event, October 22, 2008

Charles reported on the very successful Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala held the night before during which 13 community conservation prizes were distributed to volunteers and groups in the Mississippi, Rideau and South Nation watersheds.

Motion 2

Moved by:

John H. Miller

Seconded by:

Dwight Bennett

That the RVCA Board of Directors offer sincere congratulations to Mary Bryden and her Gala Organizing Committee on this very beneficial event, and further, that the Board urge the Committee to consider holding the Tri-Valley Conservation Awards ceremony on an annual basis.

Motion Carried

7. Accounts Paid, September 1 - 30, 2008

The Accounts Paid, September 1 - 30, 2008, were approved on consent.

8. **RVCA Expenditure and Revenue Summary at September 30, 2008**

Dell Hallett lead a discussion on the Expenditure and Revenue Summary for end of September. We anticipate a slight surplus at year end which could be used to start building or rebuilding several depleted reserves including the badly-needed Planning Reserve and Infrastructure Reserve.

Motion 3 **Moved by:** David Crowley
 Seconded by: Ken Graham

That the RVCA Expenditure and Revenue Summary at September 30, 2008, be received.

Motion Carried

9. **Staff Report – Haggart Island Dams – Tay River Update on Restoration/Reconstruction Project**

Bruce Reid answered Directors' questions on the Staff Report which concludes that the best option for these structures is to dismantle the degraded dams and stabilize the area taking care of important elements such as fish habitat, equitable flow in the two channels, and local aesthetics.

Motion 4 **Moved by:** Ken Graham
 Seconded by: Cathy Willoughby

1. That RVCA and the Town of Perth initiate a study and design process that will lead eventually to the partial dismantling of the weirs of the Haggart Island Dam and stabilization of their remaining elements, to achieve the following objectives:

- Apportionment of flow between the Little Tay and Main Tay channels as would have been present under natural conditions
- A stable river cross-section for hydrometric monitoring
- Fish (walleye) passage through the site (on the main channel) during fish migration seasons
- Acceptable upstream water surface profiles, in terms of aquatic habitat, navigability and local aesthetics

2. That the RVCA seek funding from the MNR - WECl program in 2009-2010 for surveys and studies required to support the project identified in recommendation 1 above, using a portion of funds presently held in reserve for future dam reconstruction as the matching local funding.

3. That the RVCA and the Town of Perth take no further action towards implementation of the full dam reconstruction option that was identified in the 2004 feasibility study, on the basis that the option is too costly in relation to anticipated benefits from undertaking it.

Motion Carried

10. Staff Report – Wetlands Prioritization Project (WPP)

Martin Czarski, RVCA Watershed Ecologist, reviewed the report with the Board. With the amount of wetland information now available, municipalities might consider approaching RVCA to check the wetland priorities list.

Motion 5 **Moved by:** Glenn Brooks
Seconded by: Cathy Willoughby

That the Staff Report – Wetlands Prioritization Project (WPP) was received for information purposes.

Motion Carried

11. Staff Report – Proposed Lake Simcoe Protection Act (Bill 99)

RVCA Board of Directors endorsed the Conservation Ontario motion C.W. #38/08 on consent. A letter will follow to the Province.

12. Staff Report – 2009 Fees for Planning Advisory Program

Don Maciver reviewed the rationale and the proposed fee increases starting in January 2009. Cost-recovery in the Planning Advisory Program is currently around 90%. The fee increase will give leeway to hire new staff for the projected increase in workload. Municipalities will be duly informed of the change in fee structure as soon as possible.

Motion 6 **Moved by:** David Crowley
Seconded by: John H. Miller

That the amended Fee Schedules “A” (Planning Advisory Program 2009), “C” (Technical Advisory Services 2009) and “D” (Technical Report Review 2009) be approved for implementation effective January 01, 2009 and further that letters be written informing individual municipal approval authorities in the watershed, 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.

Motion Carried

13. October Activity Reports

Received on consent.

14. Member Inquiries None.

15. New Business

Merrickville-Wolford is seeking funding for replacement of their sewage treatment plant.

Motion 7 Moved by: Dwight Bennett
Seconded by: Ed Hand

That the RVCA send a letter in support of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford's application for funding from the Building Canada Fund – Communities Component for the replacement of the Village's sewage treatment plant.

Motion Carried

16. Upcoming Meetings

**a) RVCA Board of Directors, Thursday, November 27, 2008,
1:30 pm, Rideau Valley Conservation Centre, Monterey
Room**

17. Adjournment The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:25 pm.

Alan Arbuckle
Chair

Charles Billington
Recording Secretary