

None.

4. Meetings

a) Municipal Council Meeting Update

Staff and members have made RVCA budget and work plan presentations at several Council and committee meetings including Township of Rideau Lakes Council, Township of South Frontenac Council, Leeds & Grenville County Council and Township of Merrickville-Wolford Environmental Advisory Committee. All municipalities who requested a presentation were visited. It was clear that the municipalities want and need more regular information from RVCA and that a plan to do so will be brought forward at a meeting later this spring.

5. Accounts Paid, January 1 - 31, 2003

Mr. Craig presented the Accounts Paid for January. Board members were assured that RVCA is following a comprehensive policy for computer equipment and service requirements as we implement the three-year work plan.

Motion 2 **Moved by:** Wendy Stewart
 Seconded by: Alan Arbuckle

That the Accounts Paid, January 1 - 31, 2003 be approved.

Motion Carried

6. Expenditure and Revenue Summary, January 31, 2003

Information not available; postponed to the March 20, 2003 meeting.

7. Staff Report - Jock River Flood Risk Mapping

Mr Reid reported to the Board that this item is a follow-up from the November 21, 2002 Board meeting at which time uncertainty was expressed as to the extent of the topographic base mapping that would be provided by the City of Ottawa. Mr Reid reported that base mapping for the full study area was now being undertaken by the City and that a communications strategy (attached as pages 3-4 of the Agenda) to inform residents of the project has been started. Staff will consult with the City Councillors in the study area as to the need for Item #5 in the Communications Strategy, assembling a list of riparian landowners.

Motion 3 **Moved by:** Bill Stevenson
 Seconded by: Michael McEwan

That the Board of Directors receive the report on Jock River Flood Risk Mapping.

Motion Carried

8. Staff Report - Purchase of Vehicle

Cliff Craig directed Directors attention to the Staff Report on this item on page 5 of the Agenda. Discussion followed on the benefits of purchase over lease at this time and of how the Vehicle Reserve Fund will be replenished by mileage charges for vehicle use.

Motion 4 **Moved by:** Alan Arbuckle
 Seconded by: Wendy Stewart

That RVCA purchase a 2003 S-10 4 X 4 Sonoma 4 door crew cab model from McNeil Motors for the price of \$28,038 plus taxes and licencing, to replace the leased water management vehicle.

Motion Carried

9. February Activity Reports

Cliff Craig presented the Reports.

Motion 5 **Moved by:** Bill Stevenson
 Seconded by: Stephen Bird

That the February Activity Reports be accepted.

Motion Carried

10. Members Inquiries

None.

11. New Business

Discussion arose as to the disposition of fines arising from court cases dealing with the alteration of natural watercourses under the *Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario* such as the recent Cavanagh case in the City of Ottawa. Apparently, as a result of the downloading of the provincial offences responsibility to the municipalities by the province, fines generated by the offences are kept by the municipality for the operation of the Provincial Offences Court. Wendy Stewart to follow up on the process and on how much is kept for court costs and if there is a possibility of directing some into rehabilitation of the offending work.

David Taylor asked whether or not the Board was taking a position on the recent decision by Minister of the Environment Chris Stockwell on the OMYA water taking permit and a faxed letter from Michael Cassidy on the same subject was distributed to the Board. Both interventions were caused by an inaccurate story in today s Ottawa Citizen.

Cliff Craig briefly recapped the mounting phone calls and press interest in the Minister s decision such that staff intended to bring the subject

forward to the Board for direction as to the RVCA s position (or not).

After discussion, the Board confirmed that it is not the role of RVCA to express any opinion on the merits of a decision by the Minister of the Environment. RVCA s interest in the issue is to move forward with environmental monitoring to verify the assumptions and estimates upon which decisions are made, and to implement the Tay River Watershed Management Plan. RVCA s technical input provided to the Ministry of the Environment s Southeastern Region Office in Kingston and to the Environmental Review Tribunal is already on the public record. Inquiries about the water taking permit should be directed to the responsible technical person, Mr Bruce Reid. Inquiries regarding the relationship between RVCA, RVC Foundation and their donors should be referred to Charles Billington or Dell Hallett.

Chair John Miller reported on recent Conservation Ontario meetings in Toronto. Topics of interest include trail fencing, mining claims on Conservation lands, West Nile Virus and its effects on agriculture and wildlife and a new forest pest called the emerald ash borer.

Wendy Stewart announced the upcoming retirement get-together for Jim Dempsey after 36 years of professional engineering service with the City of Ottawa. Jim is a former RVCA member and has worked on many joint projects between the City, RVCA and other partners.

12. In-Camera - Personnel

This item is postponed to the March 20 meeting of the Board in light of the absence of the General Manager and some key financial information.

12. Upcoming Meetings

- Joint Advisory Board and Board of Directors Vote on Levy, Feb 27, 2003
- Board of Directors - March 20, 2003

13. Adjournment The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:30 pm.

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**Chair,
John Miller**

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**Recording Secretary,
Charles Billington**