

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

Hybrid meeting held in-person and electronically

APPROVED MINUTES

Board of Directors	4/23	Thursday, May 25, 2023
Present:	Jeff Banks Gerry Boyce Mel Foster Susan Irwin Shawn Pankow Anne Robinson Gary Waterfield	Anne Barr Barry Card Steve Fournier Morgan Kenny Angela Pierman Kristin Strackerjan Adrian Wynands
Staff:	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson Terry Davidson Glen McDonald	Dan Cooper Diane Downey Marissa Grondin
Regrets:	Brian Dowdall Theresa Kavanagh Wilson Lo	Charlene Godfrey Pieter Leenhouts David Brown

Chair Strackerjan called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. She welcomed and introduced new member Anne Barr, Councillor from Merrickville-Wolford.

1.0 Roll Call

General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer conducted a roll call. She also informed members that Councillor Shawn Menard from the City of Ottawa had to step down from the Board due to scheduling conflicts and has been replaced by Councillor David Brown.

2.0 Land Acknowledgement Statement

Chair Strackerjan gave the Land Acknowledgement statement.

3.0 Agenda Review

Chair Strackerjan reviewed the Agenda.

Councillor Banks addressed comments he made at the last Board of Directors meeting regarding water quality in Upper Rideau Lake.

4.0 Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 1-230523

Moved by: Adrian Wynands
Seconded by: Gary Waterfield

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority adopts the Agenda as circulated.

Resolution Carried

5.0 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6.0 Approval of Minutes of May 25, 2023

Resolution 2-230523

Moved by: Susan Irwin
Seconded by: Angela Pierman

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting #04/23, May 25, 2023 as circulated.

Resolution Carried

7.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising.

8.0 Boat Purchase

Terry Davidson, Director of Engineering and Regulations explained the need for RVCA to purchase a pontoon boat so staff could safely and efficiently conduct septic inspections and reinspections on water access only properties. The boat will also be used to install docks at some conservation areas and undertake inspections of remote conservation lands including island properties.

In response to a member inquiry about the average number of inspections per year, Mr. Davidson explained that the number of inspections has increased significantly in the middle and upper watershed with higher levels of development since the pandemic and the expansion of the Part 8 septic program in 2022.

Mr. Davidson explained that the boat would be added to RVCA's fleet and that future maintenance costs would be covered by the vehicle and equipment reserve. Mr. Davidson confirmed that an existing boat worth

approximately \$5,000 would be sold and those funds added to the reserve. He also expects to get at least 30 years out of a new pontoon boat.

Mr. Davidson confirmed that RVCA's trucks have the towing capacity to transport a pontoon boat.

Resolution 3-230523

Moved by: Adrian Wynands
Seconded by: Anne Robinson

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approve the purchase of a 2023 Legend Pontoon Boat (18 feet) from Orleans Boat World for \$46,325 plus applicable taxes;

AND THAT the purchase be funded from RVCA's Septic Reinspection and Part 8 Septic Program reserves.

Resolution Carried

9.0 Proposed Provincial Planning Statement

Glen McDonald reviewed the Proposed Provincial Planning Statement and provided staff's initial thoughts on the proposed changes.

In response to questions, Mr. McDonald agreed to circulate RVCA's comments to municipal staff as soon as possible so municipalities could integrate them into their own submissions. He also confirmed that a final copy of RVCA's submission to the province along with Conservation Ontario's submission will form part of the agenda package in July.

Some members commented that their councils also have concerns with the proposed changes, that recent legislative changes are creating a wedge in the positive working relationship between municipalities and conservation authorities and that municipalities and conservation authorities will need to work together on a path forward with the province.

In response to additional questions and concerns, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that Conservation Ontario requests meetings with key ministers to discuss legislative changes in addition to submitting ERO comments. She also indicated that conservation authorities work with municipalities and AMO where there are areas of common interest or concern when developing comments.

Chair Strackerjan commented that there is strong municipal support for conservation authorities and that this was reinforced at the last Conservation Ontario Council meeting.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson indicated that staff could assess if any aspects of the proposed changes would warrant social media outreach.

Resolution 4-230523

Moved by:

Anne Barr

Seconded by:

Gerry Boyce

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority receive the attached report for information and direct staff to submit comments to Conservation Ontario and the Environmental Registry of Ontario regarding Posting Number 019-6813: *Review of Proposed Policies adapted from A Place to Grow and Provincial Policy Statement to form a new provincial planning policy instrument.*

Resolution Carried

10.0 Updated Hearing Procedures Under Section 28

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, General Manager reviewed proposed changes to RVCA's procedures for Section 28 hearings.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson. indicated that RVCA averages two to three hearings per year, but that the number is highly variable depending on the volume and nature of the applications it receives in any given year.

A member of the Executive Committee commented that they found the training session with legal counsel to be informative.

Resolution 5-230523

Moved by:

Angela Pierman

Seconded by:

Susan Irwin

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approve the attached *RVCA Hearing Procedures under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act*;

AND THAT they supersede the procedures approved on November 25, 2021 which took effect on December 10, 2021.

Resolution Carried

11.0 Activity Report: April and May 2023

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson summarized RVCA's program highlights for April and May 2023.

A member who attended the seven millionth tree planting event informed members that Mayor Sutcliffe thanked staff for their continued conservation work and that he was very aware of the important work conservation authorities undertake.

In response to a member inquiry, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson indicated that if municipalities would like to work with RVCA on a project that they can reach out to her directly and she will connect them with the right staff member. She

added that staff typically plan restoration projects a year in advance so lead time is helpful.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson also clarified that conservation authority staff take the field samples for the province's surface water and groundwater monitoring programs. The province covers lab fees and some equipment costs but does not reimburse conservation authorities for staff time.

Chair Strackerjan commented on the success of the Stillwater Creek wetland restoration project and noted that it was great to see RVCA staff member Jennifer Lamoreaux recognized as a key project partner and leader in wetland restoration.

12.0 Category 3 Programs and Services Business Case

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson gave an overview of the Category 3 Programs and Services Business Case and indicated that she would be reaching out to municipalities for a council delegation shortly to present both the business case and RVCA's 2022 Annual Report. She clarified that both documents would be included in Council agendas in advance as part of her delegation.

Multiple members indicated that their council is likely to support the business case as the category 3 programs and services are valued by the municipality.

A member added that it is imperative for members who sit on council to educate new council members on the importance of this work.

In response to a question, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson indicated that if the City of Ottawa did not support category 3 programs it would change the scope and scale of those programs, as the City provides 91% of RVCA's levy. However, staff are hopeful that Council will support the agreement given the value of the programs to the City.

In response to additional questions, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that neighbouring conservation authorities are working to coordinate presentations to council where possible for shared municipalities and that staff are working with SNC and MVCA on a joint approach to the City of Ottawa.

Resolution 6-230523

Moved by:

Adrian Wynands

Seconded by:

Gary Waterfield

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves the attached Category 3 Programs and Services business case for municipal engagement;

THAT staff be permitted to make minor corrections and edits before circulating a final version to municipalities;

AND THAT the Board of Directors approve entering into Category 3 agreements with participating municipalities for these programs and services as per the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Resolution Carried

13.0 Meetings

- a) Summer Student Orientation Session: May 1, 2023
- b) AMCTO Training (Rules of Parliamentary Procedure): May 3, 2023
- c) Lake Networking Group meeting: May 9, 2023
- d) 7 Millionth Tree Celebration: May 13, 2023
- e) Stillwater Creek Wetland Restoration Celebration: May 24, 2023

Upcoming

- f) RVCF AGM and Meeting: June 14, 2023
- g) RVCA Watershed Tour: June 22, 2023 (full day at Foley Mountain)
- h) Conservation Ontario Council Meeting: June 26, 2023
- i) General Managers Meeting: June 27 & 28, 2023

14.0 Member Inquiries

A member inquired about the timeline for posting Board of Director meeting minutes. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson explained that draft minutes are posted within 30 days of a meeting and an email is sent to municipalities following each meeting with a link to the approved minutes for the previous meeting, a summary of the most recent meeting and the date of the next meeting.

15.0 New Business

None

16.0 Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m. on a resolution by Steve Fournier which was seconded by Jeff Banks.

Kristin Strackerjan
Chair

Marissa Grondin
Recording Secretary

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Wifi:

RVCA Guest

WaterRiver00!



RVCA Board of Directors

Thursday, May 25, 2023



1.0 Roll Call



2.0 Land Acknowledgement Statement



3.0 Agenda Review



4.0 Adoption of Agenda

Resolution:

That the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority adopts the Agenda as circulated.

5.0 Declaration of Interest

Current or past meeting



6.0 Approval of Minutes from April 27, 2023

Resolution:

That the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting #04/23, April 27 as circulated.

7.0 Business Arising From Minutes



8.0 Boat Purchase

Resolution:

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16.0 Adjournment

