

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

Meeting Held Electronically due to COVID-19 State of Emergency

APPROVED MINUTES

Board of Directors **5/20** **August 27, 2020**

Present:	Gerry Boyce Judy Brown Barclay Cormack Julie Graveline Andy Jozefowicz Dale McLenaghan Gene Richardson Rob Rothgeb Melissa Sullivan	Carolyn Bresee Vince Carroll Brian Dowdall Victor Heese Pieter Leenhouts Shawn Pankow Anne Robinson George Sachs
Staff:	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson Terry Davidson	Dan Cooper Michelle Paton
Regrets:	Pat Barr George Darouze Don Halpenny	Jamie Crawford Guy Desjardins Scott Moffatt

Chair Leenhouts called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
A roll call was done to confirm attendance.

1.0 Agenda Review

Chair Leenhouts reviewed the Agenda.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 1-200827	Moved by:	Brian Dowdall
	Seconded by:	Julie Graveline

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

Carried

3.0 Declaration of Interest

Chair Leenhouts explained the rationale behind this Agenda item. No declarations of interest were identified.

4.0 Approval of Minutes of July 23, 2020

Motion 2-200827 **Moved by:** Vince Carroll
Seconded by: Gerry Boyce

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting #04/20, July 23, 2020 as circulated.

Carried

5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

Agenda Item 9.0 – RVCA Office Roof Repair

Chair Leenhouts clarified that he had misunderstood part of the discussion and now realizes that the existing roof on the building will not be removed and that the remediation product that was approved will be applied overtop of the existing. He extended his apologies to Terry Davidson and Shane Olive for the way in which he responded to the agenda item.

6.0 Bilberry Creek Specialized Geotechnical Investigation (Phase II)

Terry Davidson, Director of Engineering and Regulations, updated the Board on Phase II of the Hazard Mapping for Bilberry Creek and responded to questions.

Mr. Davidson answered questions about how RVCA’s regulations would apply to development and redevelopment in the area once the factor of safety and setback lines are determined. He also confirmed that RVCA and City of Ottawa staff are working together with the local Councillors on a communications strategy which will include a public open house and direct mail notice.

Motion 3-200827 **Moved by:** Andy Jozefowicz
Seconded by: Carolyn Bresee

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves GEMTEC Consulting Engineers and Scientists Limited to complete Phase II of the Bilberry Creek Specialized Geotechnical Investigation (Slope

Stability Assessment and Hazard Analysis) at a cost of \$119,921 plus HST subject to a signed funding agreement with the City of Ottawa; and

THAT RVCA staff be allowed to approve Additional Investigation Requirements (15% contingency) up to a total maximum of \$17,988 plus HST to complete hazard mapping.

Motion Carried

7.0 COVID-19 Pandemic Response Update

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, General Manager, gave an update on RVCA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and responded to questions.

In response to a suggestion from a member, Sommer Casgrain-Robertson agreed that COVID signage should be installed at Conservation Area water access points.

Pieter Leenhouts recommended that Board members consider downloading the federal COVID Alert application.

Dan Cooper, Director of Conservation Lands and Stewardship, answered questions about RVCA's Forest School being offered at Foley Mountain and Baxter Conservation Areas. He explained that a maximum of sixteen children attend one day per week for a total of 12 weeks and that a Kinder Program (ages 3 to 5) is offered one half day per week and the other four days are open to students ages 4 to 10.

Motion 4-200827

Moved by:

Rob Rothgeb

Seconded by:

Melissa Sullivan

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority receive this report for information and approve RVCA's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion Carried

8.0 Meetings

a) Conservation Ontario Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Steering Committee: August 11, 2020

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that this committee continues to meet. Conservation Ontario is developing a pre-consultation guidance document which outlines best practices for pre-consultation between conservation authorities, municipalities and planning and regulation clients. It is anticipated that this document should roll out this Fall.

- b) AMO Virtual Conference: August 17-19, 2020
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson noted that Minister Yurek was asked about the status of *Conservation Authorities Act* review and responded that his ministry is working on regulatory and legislative changes for this Fall.
- c) Eastern Ontario CA General Managers: August 25, 2020
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that this group continues to meet on a regular basis which has been very beneficial.

Upcoming

- d) RVCA Foundation AGM and Board of Directors Meeting: September 9, 2020
- e) Provincial CA General Managers: September 10, 2020
- f) RVCA Board of Directors Meeting: September 24, 2020
- g) Conservation Ontario Council: September 28, 2020
- h) Ontario East Municipal Conference: October 21-22, 2020
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson advised that the Eastern CAs have been successful in securing two speaking sessions at this year's two-day virtual conference. CA staff are currently working on pulling together a joint 45-minute presentation which will address Development Review and Changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

9.0 Member Inquiries

None

10.0 New Business

None

11.0 Correspondence

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson presented the following correspondence:

- a) Frontenac County Council – Resolution of Support for Conservation Authorities (February 21, 2020)
- b) Leeds and Grenville County Council – Resolution of Support for Conservation Authorities (July 23, 2020)
- c) Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority – Letter to Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Re: Funding of Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (July 13, 2020)
- d) Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority – Letter to Member Municipalities Re: Funding of Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (July 13, 2020)
- e) Conservation Ontario – Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Timeline Reporting (June 26, 2020)
- f) Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry – Response to Conservation Ontario Re: Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Timeline Reporting (August 11, 2020)

Regarding items a) and b), Sommer Casgrain-Robertson advised that it is not too late for municipalities to pass a resolution of support for local conservation authorities as the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks has not introduced the next round of changes yet to the *Conservation Authorities Act*. In response to a question, Ms. Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that the City of Ottawa has not submitted a resolution but has on numerous occasions expressed its support for Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and South Nation Conservation in delegations with Provincial Ministers. The City is also working with the conservation authorities to determine the best way for the City to express its support.

Regarding items c) and d), Sommer Casgrain-Robertson noted that Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority had raised concerns about shortfalls in Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECl) funding and potential adverse impacts on municipal budgets. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson directed Members to the draft Motion on Page 22 of the Board package and indicated that the Board could endorse the motion if they were in support of the position taken by MVCA. George Sachs confirmed that Drummond/North Elmsley had supported MVCA's motion on Tuesday evening. Barclay Cormack recommended that the RVCA Board endorse and support the draft motion, especially for the carry-over of funds. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson walked through the motion with the Board and indicated what amendments should be made to make it appropriate for RVCA, amendments included removing the fourth whereas statement, changing "MVCA" to "CAs" and "this municipality" to "municipalities in the fifth whereas statement, and changing "CAO" to "GM" and "Council" to "the Board of Directors" in the be it resolved statement.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson also clarified that MVCA has sent the attached letter and draft motion to municipalities within the Mississippi Valley watershed which includes some of RVCA's member municipalities.

Motion 5-200827

Moved by:

George Sachs

Seconded by:

Barclay Cormack

Whereas the province reaffirmed its commitment to "continue its cost share funding arrangement with municipalities to...support high priority repairs to conservation authority infrastructure" in its March 2020 *Ontario Flooding Strategy*;

And whereas the province allocated \$5 million annually for this purpose in 2003 and has not increased or indexed the funding envelop in 17 years;

And whereas demand for replacement and upgrade of water and erosion control assets is ever increasing due to aging infrastructure and the impacts of climate change;

And whereas, should funding not be received from the province for these and other conservation authority capital projects, the burden of those costs will fall in part to municipalities;

Now therefore, be it resolved that the General Manager draft a letter on behalf of the Board of Directors for submission to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing supporting the letter from the MVCA and requesting that funding of the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECl) program be significantly increased and that program rules be adjusted to allow for reasonable construction periods and the carry-over of funds between fiscal years.

Motion Carried

Motion 6-200827	Moved by:	Carolyn Bresee
	Seconded by:	Judy Brown

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority direct the General Manager to circulate a copy of the aforementioned letter and motion to municipalities in the Rideau watershed.

Motion Carried

15.0 Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m. on a motion by Andy Jozefowicz which was seconded by Julie Graveline.

Pieter Leenhouts
Chair

Michelle Paton
Recording Secretary

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer