

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 **9/20** **November 26, 2020**

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

Chair Leenhouts called the meeting to order at 6:52 pm.
A roll call was taken to confirm attendance.

1.0 Agenda Review

Chair Leenhouts reviewed the Agenda. Sommer Casgrain-Robertson requested that the Board's Rules of Procedure be waived to add a report on the Jock River Subwatershed Study as Agenda Item #8.

Motion 1-201126	Moved by:	Andy Jozefowicz
	Seconded by:	Brian Dowdall

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority waive their Rules of Procedure to amend the Agenda.

Carried

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2-201126 **Moved by:** Jamie Crawford
Seconded by: Gerry Boyce

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

Carried

3.0 Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were identified.

4.0 Approval of Minutes of November 5, 2020

Motion 3-201126 **Moved by:** George Sachs
Seconded by: Dale McLenaghan

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting #08/20, November 5, 2020 as circulated.

Carried

5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

6.0 Tractor Purchase

Terry Davidson, Director of Engineering and Regulations, spoke to the need to replace RVCA's Montana tractor and responded to questions regarding the proposed purchase of a Massey Ferguson 4707 tractor.

Motion 4-201126 **Moved by:** George Sachs
Seconded by: Melissa Sullivan

That the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves the purchase of a Massey Ferguson 4707 Tractor from Dan R. Equipment in the amount of \$59,600 plus all applicable taxes with the purchase funded by the vehicle reserve.

Motion Carried

7.0 Interim Timeline Reporting for Section 28 Applications

Glen McDonald, Director of Science and Planning, presented the interim timeline reporting for Section 28 applications and responded to questions.

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that the shortened timelines were a conservation authority initiative and were not government imposed. As such, no performance penalties exist.

Motion 5-201126 **Moved by:** Anne Robinson
Seconded by: Dale McLenaghan

That the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority receive this report for information.

Motion Carried

8.0 Jock River Subwatershed Study Update

Brian Stratton, Manager of Engineering Services, presented an update on the Jock River Subwatershed Study and responded to questions.

Motion 6-201126 **Moved by:** Carolyn Bresee
Seconded by: Brian Dowdall

That the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approves Stantec Consulting Ltd. to complete the Jock River Reach 1 Subwatershed Study Update at a cost of \$65,070 plus HST.

Motion Carried

9.0 Conservation Ontario 2021 Levy

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson presented Conservation Ontario's 2021 Levy and responded to questions.

Motion 7-201126 **Moved by:** Barclay Cormack
Seconded by: Anne Robinson

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority approve payment in the amount of \$44,815 to Conservation Ontario for their 2021 levy to the RVCA.

Motion Carried

10.0 2021 Draft Budget and Workplan

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson presented RVCA's 2021 Workplan noting that the Workplan was the same as presented on November 5, 2020 except for the addition of the new Baxter Conservation Area pedestrian bridge and boardwalk as a capital project.

Kathy Dallaire, Manager of Finance, advised that the capital budget section of the 2021 Draft Budget had been revised to include \$1,070,000 for the new pedestrian bridge and boardwalk with 80% coming from external funding and 20% coming from reserves. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reiterated that all capital projects over \$25,000 are still subject to Board approval before proceeding and that the Board may need to prioritize projects should RVCA not be successful in securing external funding.

Motion 8-201126

Moved by:

Jamie Crawford

Seconded by:

Rob Rothgeb

THAT the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority receives the attached 2021 Draft Budget and Levy Apportionment sheet and directs staff to circulate it to all member municipalities for review and comment along with RVCA's 2021 Workplan.

Motion Carried

11.0 Bill 229, Schedule 6 – Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson provided an overview of Bill 229, Schedule 6 and responded to questions. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson advised that Bill 229 has been referred to Standing Committee for three days of public hearings and that the Government of Ontario is hoping to have the Bill passed before the Legislature rises on December 10.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson highlighted that environmental groups had been quick to mobilize their support for Conservation Authorities and that the RVCA had obtained motions of support from the City of Ottawa, Frontenac County, the County of Lanark, and the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville. Staff will now undertake broader public outreach.

The Board directed RVCA's Chair to send a letter to the Province requesting that Schedule 6 be withdrawn from Bill 229. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson agreed to circulate a copy of the letter to all member municipalities for their consideration and use. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson encouraged Board members and lower-tier municipalities to contact their MPP or Minister Yurek if they have concerns regarding Schedule 6 as the process is moving quickly.

Shawn Pankow confirmed that the Town of Smiths Falls has passed a letter of support at their recent Council meeting as there was wide-spread support for the conservation authorities and concern regarding Schedule 6.

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson thanked Melissa Sullivan for her help in facilitating a meeting with Mayor Robin Jones which led to RVCA being able to make a presentation to the County of Leeds & Grenville regarding the proposed legislative amendments. Ms. Sullivan advised that she had participated in one of MECP's Webinars for Stakeholders and was disappointed by the reaction of some stakeholders to the amendments.

In response to a question from a member, Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that municipalities in the Rideau watershed had voiced concerns that the proposed amendments in Schedule 6 will erode watershed-based decision-making and that there was an overall frustration among municipalities with the province's use of omnibus bills to amend important pieces of legislation without adequate consultation.

Motion 9-201126 **Moved by:** Melissa Sullivan
Seconded by: Judy Brown

That the Board of Directors of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority direct the Chair to submit a letter to the Province of Ontario on behalf of the Conservation Authority calling for the withdrawal of Schedule 6 from Bill 229.

Motion Carried

12.0 Meetings

- a) Conservation Ontario Strategic Plan Meeting (Members Services): November 9, 2020
- b) MECP Webinar for Conservation Authorities (Bill 229): November 9, 2020
- c) General Manager's Meeting (Bill 229): November 9, 2020
- d) MECP Webinars for Stakeholders (Bill 229): November 13, 16 & 17, 2020
- e) General Manager's Meeting (Bill 229): November 16, 2020
- f) Frontenac County Council Presentation (Bill 229, LiDAR): November 18, 2020
- g) Lanark County COW Presentation (Bill 229, LiDAR): November 18, 2020
- h) Leeds & Grenville County Council Presentation (Bill 229): November 19, 2020
- i) Leeds & Grenville CAOs Presentation (LiDAR): November 20, 2020
- j) Lanark CAOs Presentation (LiDAR): November 23, 2020
- k) Frontenac CAOs Presentation (LiDAR): November 23, 2020
- l) Conservation Ontario Strategic Plan Meeting (Advocacy): November 26, 2020

Upcoming

- m) RVCF Board of Directors meeting: December 9, 2020
- n) Conservation Ontario Council meeting: December 14, 2020
- o) RVCA Board of Directors meeting: January 28, 2021

13.0 Member Inquiries

In response to a question from a member, Sommer Casgrain-Robertson confirmed that staff have been updating Section 28 policies and some draft sections were circulated to municipal staff for comment. Glen McDonald, Director of Science and Planning, added that staff are contemplating the creation of a municipal working group that would review draft policies and solicit input from other sectors.

14.0 New Business

None.

15.0 Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m. on a motion by Andy Jozefowicz which was seconded by Judy Brown.

Pieter Leenhouts
Chair

Michelle Paton
Recording Secretary

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer