

June 16, 2011

The Board of Directors Meeting of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority was held on the above date, at the St. Clair Township Municipal offices, in Mooretown, at the hour of 1:00 p.m.

Directors Present: Andy Bruziewicz, Chair; Larry MacKenzie Vice Chair; Steve Arnold, Bill Bilton, Tony Bruinink, Terry Burrell, Elizabeth Davis-Dagg, Joe Faas, Rod Glen, Helen Havlik, Kevin Marriott, Steve Miller, Lonny Napper, Frank Nemcek

Directors Regrets: Norm Giffen, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Jon McEachran, Dan McMillan, Martin Vink, Jeff Wesley

Also Present for all or part of Meeting:

- Ralph Coe, General Manager
- Brian McDougall, Director of Watershed Services
- Rick Battson, Director of Communication
- Patty Hayman, Director of Planning & Research
- Kevan Baker, Director of Conservation Areas
- Bill Dakin, Director of Financial Services
- Kyle Pratt, Plympton-Wyoming
- Carlie Burns, Plympton-Wyoming
- Will Nywening, County of Lambton

The Chair requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.

BD-11-075

Havlik - Marriott

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held April 21, 2011, be approved as distributed”

CARRIED

The General Manager’s Report was presented:

- Source Water Protection - Thames-Sydenham Region - the 2011/12 Memorandum of Understanding based on the Business Plan is expected to be approved within the next few weeks. The total funds available for the Thames-Sydenham Region is approximately \$1,200,000.00 comprised of Operating/Administration and Water Budget. There was a \$200,000.00 reduction in funding and the business plan has been adjusted to meet the needs of the program through carry forward and adjustments.
- Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association: Annual General Meeting - May 19, 2011 - SLEA’s annual report references several programs and partnerships we are involved with the St. Clair and SLEA. SLEA’s General Manager, Dean Edwardson, sits on the Source Protection Committee, the Sediment Remedial Action plan along with some AOC work we are undertaking. The annual report acknowledges the long standing (14 year) and valued partnership with the Conservation Authority and their continued support for our Conservation Education Program. Their sponsorship (\$30,000 per year) has permitted over 61,000 students to learn curriculum based environmental programs on the St. Clair River and water quality
- Lake Huron Shoreline East Shores - Great Lakes - funding for watershed action plan

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- Lambton Shores Tributaries. (St. Clair Region) On May 25, staff met with MOE Great Lakes Advisor to develop a watershed/work plan for the Lambton Shores tributaries (including Ipperwash beach) in the St. Clair Region.
- this is one of 5 sites on the Lake Huron Shoreline from Bruce Peninsula to Sarnia that received funding.
- funding to develop the plan is from MOE Canada Ontario Agreement (COA).
- we have since met with John Byrne, CAO of Lambton Shores and the administrator of Kettle Stoney Point. Part was an information gathering meeting and will continue and the other is our agreement to participate in the Aquafest—a water quality and cultural awareness event planned for Ipperwash Beach on August 6th.
- Weather, work plans, and operations:
 - most programs have been impacted by the wet spring weather. The paddle day of May 28 along the Sydenham River in Strathroy was cancelled, as we were in flood safety alert. Accessibility to construction sites such as Guthrie Shoreline protection has delayed the official opening till later in the year, as work was not able to continue.
 - tree planting is delayed by weeks and the cold storage facility has been critical for the trees, however the impact on tree survival may still be realized.
 - the low flow crossing as the access road to A.W Campbell Conservation Area and campground has been overtopped several times this season causing logistic and safety issues. Trailer access to campsites has also been challenged to limit damage to the sites. Staff remains optimistic on program delivery although challenged with the setbacks.
- Transfer payments - (Ministry of Natural Resources) –
 - \$310,000 from the Ministry of Natural Resources to support the flood control. Nothing has been received from the province to date however is expected early summer.
 - grants - verbal approval has been received from MOE and Environment Canada on several significant projects of the Area of Concern: (St. Clair River) – sediment studies, shoreline enhancements, Habitat Stewardship Program, water quality sampling and the co-ordinators support. The work of the programs continues while we await the contracts and payment process.
- Bus Tour/Board meeting – June 16
 - the Tour will be held on Thursday, June 16th leaving from St. Clair Township municipal offices promptly at 9:00 am. Lunch will follow with the board meeting to begin in St. Clair Township Municipal offices at 1:00 p.m.
 - the Official opening of the Guthrie Park shore protection project has been delayed due to weather impact on site conditions and construction delay along with scheduling conflicts for some key contributors.
- Memorial Forest Dedication: the Denning Bros. Memorial Forest Dedication (Strathroy) was held on Sunday, May 29. The ceremony took place at United Church in Strathroy, as the heavy rainfall from the spring had the memorial forest site too wet for use. Several hundred people attended. Duncan Skinner, President of the Foundation provided remarks, including the Mayor, Joanne Vanderhayden, clergy and followed by family members of Hoot Gibson who spoke on behalf of all families. Norm Giffen and Steve Arnold attended the dedication.
- Staffing - this year the Authority will employ approximately 65 staff throughout various times of the year. The majority are employment programs who assist with implementing conservation programs and projects throughout the region. Impacting this year's programs in part is the

reduction of the Job Creation Program of approximately 9 technical and field positions. We have been advised it should not impact next year's program; however terms of the programs are being changed.

- Source Water Policy Advisor: Melissa Kiddie has been hired on a 12 month contract through Source Protection funds and will be based out of the St. Clair Office with time shared at the Upper Thames office. Melissa will provide technical support and policy writing of Source Water Protection Policies which will be recommended as a key component of the final Source Water Protection Plan. Melissa fills in for Ingrid Vandershot who is on maternity leave.
- Land negotiations update: (Foundation)
 - Rondeau Bay- the survey is complete and for this 28 acre wetlands parcel on the north side of Rondeau Bay abutting the Bates Conservation Lands. A meeting has been requested with Chatham Kent planning staff to review the plans and the purchase offer will be made to the landowner by Ducks Unlimited.
 - Dow Wetlands: the draft agreement for the land donation and stewardship fund is now being reviewed by staff and will include legal review. Dow provided the 2011 education and maintenance funds for the wetlands outside the agreement this year as we finalize the terms and transfer.
- dates:
 - April 22 - Authority/Foundation Earth day displays at the TD branch in Strathroy
 - April 29- Campgrounds opened for 2011 season - positive start.
 - April 24 - SWP GM's Management Meeting re: staffing, budget, business plan, future roles etc.
 - May 11 Tree Planting/Education Day - 250 plus students attended.
 - May 13 - Mayor's Breakfast for Middlesex Community Living - 400 attended.
 - May 19 - Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association- Annual General Meeting
 - May 29 - Denning Bros. Memorial Forest Dedication - Strathroy 400-500 attended
 - June 16 - Board meeting and Bus Tour
 - June 27- Conservation Ontario Council Meeting, Toronto, regular meeting
 - June 30 - Lambton County Warden's Charity Picnic.
 - August 6 - Aquafest- Ipperwash Beach.
 - Guthrie Park Shore Protection – Official opening to be determined.

BD-11-076

Arnold - Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report, dated June 6, 2011.”

CARRIED

A Conservation Area Update was reviewed:

- Overnight Camper Geographic Trends: (based on 2010 camping permits)
 - A.W. Campbell Conservation Area: Lambton County 31%; Middlesex County 19%; Chatham-Kent 15%; Other Ontario 15%; Essex County 10%; Sarnia 7%; London 2%; Outside Canada 1%
 - L.C. Henderson Conservation Area: Other Ontario 28%; Lambton County 19%; Sarnia 18%; Chatham-Kent 14%; Essex County 11%; Middlesex County 5%; London 4%; Other Canada 1%
 - Warwick Conservation Area: Lambton County 27%; Other Ontario 23%; Sarnia 20%;

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Middlesex County 14%; London 6%; Chatham-Kent 4%; Essex County 3%; Outside Canada 3%

- Seasonal Camper Geographic Trends:
 - A.W. Campbell Conservation Area: South Lambton & Kent County 25 %; West Middlesex 25 %; Alvinston, Inwood, Watford 23%, Central/Western Lambton County 12 %; Other 6%
 - L.C. Henderson Conservation Area: Sarnia & Area 46 %; Petrolia 19%; South Lambton/Kent County 17 %; East Lambton 9 %, Essex 6%; Other Ontario 2%; Michigan 1%
 - Warwick Conservation Area: Sarnia & Area 42%; Watford, Forest, Wyoming, Alvinston 19%, London 9%, Petrolia, Oil Springs, Oil City 9%; West Middlesex 8%, South Lambton/Kent County 13%
- L.C. Henderson CA:
 - concrete pool to be renovated with new interior plaster and tile, work to be completed by Hollandia Pools of Lambeth total amount for the contract was \$ 23,000.00
 - a new water line has been installed to the trailer dumping station
 - main washrooms have been painted
 - upon plan approval, a new 32 ft x 40 ft building is to be constructed as a visitor center for campers activities and public rentals for family events & reunions (Foundation Project)
 - 3 new bulletin boards have been constructed and installed
- A.W. Campbell CA:
 - renovations to the main washroom building are complete. These included 2 new shower stalls, new washroom partitions, new sinks and counter top, new roughed in plumbing and fixtures and ceramic tile installed on the floors and walls in the shower areas, total cost for this project was \$ 25,000.00.
 - 10 existing campsites to be upgraded with new underground hydro.
 - 4 new trail identification signs have been installed.
 - the interior of the gatehouse has been painted.
 - 2 new rental canoes have been purchased (Foundation)
 - a new canoe rack and docking system has been constructed (Foundation)
 - 25 students from Lambton College Fire School conducted a fire safety day during the May long weekend
- Warwick CA:
 - renovations to the woodlot men's washroom are complete. These improvements included 2 new shower stalls (1 handicap), new washroom partitions, new sinks and counter top, new roughed in plumbing and fixtures and ceramic tile installed on the floors and walls in the shower areas. Total cost for this project was \$ 30,000.00.
 - renovations are complete to the pool washroom and shower areas. These renovations include upgrades to the exterior of the building and 2 shower areas to have new shower stalls and ceramic tile installed on the floor and walls.
 - a number of picnic tables have be repaired
 - a new gazebo will be constructed overlooking the lake (camper association project).
 - underground hydro will be upgraded to two campsites in C sections.
 - two new playground accessories have been purchased and installed (Friends of Warwick)
 - a full calendar of events have been planned for the 2011 camping season

- Highland Glen Conservation Area:
 - the harbor and boat ramp area have been dredged to provide a safe harbor and access to Lake Huron.
- Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area:
 - two new conservation area signs to be installed adjacent to highway 402.
 - through municipal drainage improvement works, a new culvert will be installed on the entrance roadway to the conservation area.
 - Duck's Unlimited is proposing extensive improvements to the water control structure in the south pond of the conservation area.
- Strathroy Conservation Area:
 - 5 new water trail access signs have been installed along the route.
 - a number of boardwalks have been repositioned and repaired due to winter and spring flooding.
 - the water trail paddle day had to be postponed on May 28th due to high water levels, we plan to reschedule this event for a later date.
- Marketing in 2011 - our conservation areas will be marketed in the following publications or events in 2011:
 - Sarnia Lambton Tourism Guide, Middlesex County Guide and Chatham-Kent Guide
 - camping ads have been placed on MyFm, Strathroy-Middlesex Chamber of Commerce and the Age Dispatch websites
 - web ads have been placed on CKSY Chatham and CHYR Leamington radio stations
 - Blue Water Tourism Guide (in partnership with other Conservation Authorities)
 - Middlesex Home & Leisure Show (Strathroy Gemini Complex – April 30th)
 - Conservation Ontario Conservation Areas Guide, an updated guide advertising conservation areas in Ontario will be completed this year
 - Grafiks Marketing and Communications will be completing a new conservation area visitor guide
 - we accepted campsite reservations for our 3 campgrounds at the administration office from January to the end of April. Camping reservation totals to the end of April for the three regional campgrounds amounted \$ 61,000.00 in revenue (HST adjusted). This can be compared to \$ 61,000.00 in revenue in 2010.
 - seasonal camping numbers have increase in 2011, to the end of May a total of 383 seasonal campers have registered in our 3 campgrounds, up from 370 in 2010; seasonal campers registered at each campground are 180 at Warwick (174 in 2010); 114 at L.C. Henderson (112 in 2010) and 89 at A.W. Campbell (84 in 2010).

BD-11-077

Miller - Bruinink

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas Update, dated May 31, 2011 on regional campgrounds and Conservation Area activities.”

CARRIED

A report on Conservation Area Campground revenue and expenditures was discussed.

- Revenues to June are down 1.85% and expenditures are up 1.7% from 2010 and overall campgrounds are running a surplus.

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BD-11-078**Glen - Bilton**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Area Campground revenue and expenditure report to April 30, 2011.”

CARRIED

A staff report on water levels, current and flood conditions was presented.

- Watershed Precipitation: the entire watershed received significant precipitation throughout April with May being one of the wettest on record. While there were no significant single rain events there was a pattern of frequent rainy days with an average of 22 days having precipitation in May. As a result monthly precipitation totals were much higher in May with Sarnia at 184% of the normal at 128.4mm (5 inches) and Strathroy 163% of the normal at 120.6mm (4.8 inches). By comparison, Windsor received 225% of its normal
- the percentage of total precipitation received year to date with Sarnia having received 41% of the expected yearly total and Strathroy receiving 52%, however rainfall is not evenly distributed throughout the year and drier summer months may impact on overall yearly percentages as we move toward the end of 2011.
- regional three month averages reflect the higher precipitation in spring at 156.4% overall while six month and twelve month numbers are very close to normal.
- Streamflows: as expected, streamflows have remained high over the entire spring period. With the higher than normal precipitation patterns we have experienced periods of continuous high flow in the last two weeks of April and again in last two weeks of May resulting in a High Water Safety Bulletin being issued. Flows have moderated into June and are anticipated to return to normal seasonal levels throughout the summer months. Wallaceburg water levels showed a consistent increase of 60cm (23.6 inches) throughout April and May to accommodate the increased rainfall but are now trending toward normal levels.
- Flood Threat is now significantly reduced as we move into summer months. With lower anticipated precipitation through June and into July, levels will continue to return to normal. Conditions could change rapidly should there be significant intense rainfall over a short period resulting in localized flood conditions in floodplain areas. Advisories will continue to be provided as watershed conditions dictate.
- Groundwater: as part of ongoing hydrologic operations groundwater levels are monitored on a regular basis as part of the Authorities commitment to the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN). Data relating to the depth of water is collected monthly and water quality testing is performed on a yearly basis at a series of wells throughout the watershed. The seasonal variation for selected wells indicates a slight upward trend in 2011 as higher precipitation levels translate into increased groundwater. While a large number of factors can influence groundwater levels within aquifers including the type of soils, infiltration rates etc., a comparison of 2010 over 2011 data confirms higher groundwater levels throughout the watershed ranging from 30cm (11 inches) to a high of 1 metre (39 inches). Seasonal fluctuations will continue to be monitored and reported in future reports.
- Weather Forecast (as reported by Weather network, Environment Canada)
 - 1-5 days - clear and sunny with seasonably warm temperatures
 - 5-10 days - average temperatures with occasional light rain – 24 to 26C
 - June - sunny and trending warmer than average into July

- Summer - sunny and hot with below average precipitation and the possibility of thunderstorms. Hottest in late June, mid-July and late August.

BD-11-079**Napper - Marriott**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”

CARRIED

A Staff Report on Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects was presented.

- applications have been reviewed by a committee of provincial and Conservation Authority staff representatives.
- the following projects have been recommended to the Minister of Natural Resources:
 - Cathcart Park - Control Project - Repair - Shore Protection Revitalization Phase 1
Total \$350, 000 - Grant Recommended \$175,000
 - McKeough Dam - Repair - Floodway Slump Erosion Control
Total \$60,000 - Grant Recommended \$30,000
 - ARDA Dykes - Repair – Toe protection and re-vegetation of bank
Total \$15,000 - Grant Recommended \$7,500
 - Wallaceburg Retaining Wall – Study – Inspection of the retaining walls in Wallaceburg
 - Total \$25,000 – Grant Recommended \$12,500
 - Engineering Inspection – Study – Engineering review of the authority owned structures
Total \$40,000 – Grant Recommended \$20,000
- upon confirmation of the Minister’s approval, some of the projects will be undertaken in 2011 where budgets permit and the remainder will be placed in the 2012 budget and completed in early 2012.

BD-11-080**Davis-Dagg - Faas**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 on the ongoing Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects across the watershed and acknowledges the projects which have been recommended to the Minister of Natural Resources by the WECI Project Review Committee including status updates on the previously funding projects and projects submitted for 2011-2012 funding.”

CARRIED

A Staff Report on the Guthrie Park Shore Protection Revitalization Project reviewed:

- similar to most projects underway this spring, this project has been delayed by over a month as site conditions barely permitted access by man, let alone the heavy equipment required for a project of this nature
- Coores Construction was able to undertake repair works to the new sidewalk around the washroom building as well as construction over 50 metres of timber curbing while the construction site was in poor condition, however it was not until last week when heavy equipment could be operation on site

- Coores Construction continues to target June 16th for the completion of the work, however with the significant weather delays this presents a challenge
- this week, armour stones rimming the parking lot and walkway will be placed in their final position, soil and top dress will be added to the habitat pod and fine grading should begin
- concrete curbs, paving of the parking lot and the walkway, completion of the timber curb and final landscaping will be allocated for the week of June 13th
- despite the contractors efforts to complete the project in time for the Bus Tour, the decision was made to postpone the opening of the project to July in order for the finishing touches to be completed and St. Clair Township's newest addition to the Park, a large fountain to be up and running for the opening

BD-11-081**Glen - Burrell**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 on the Guthrie Park Shore Protection Revitalization Project.”

CARRIED

A staff report on the Cathcart Park Shore Protection Revitalization Project was discussed:

- Status Update:
 - a contact list has been developed for the Class Environmental Assessment for the above noted project which includes the adjacent landowners, as well as the commenting and approval agencies for a project of this nature
 - the Project Plan document, required under the Class Environmental Assessment, which outlines the existing conditions and the alternatives reviewed is completed in draft
 - draft designs have been created for the new shore protection along the shoreline in Cathcart Park (below)
 - the design includes sections of sloped rip rap revetment and stepped armourstone, and in some areas aquatic habitat enhancements have been added
 - additional options for discussion include improvements to or replacement of the existing boat ramp and island access bridge, offshore aquatic habitat, additional boat moorings and the creation of a beach area
 - the document and designs will be presented to St. Clair Township Council on June 13th with the comments from the Council meeting to be presented verbally to the Board.

BD-11-082**Napper - Bruinink**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 regarding the on-going Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Design for Cathcart Park Shore Protection Revitalization Project.”

CARRIED

A staff report on the Lake Huron Southeast Shores Initiative was reviewed.

- last year federal and provincial ministries arranged a series of meetings with both leadership and technical staff from local organizations, counties and municipalities to take a closer look at the studies and projects underway on the southeast shoreline of Lake Huron

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- the objective was to open an exchange of the works being completed and to plot a course toward expanding these works along the entire shoreline
- the short term result has been the ranking of the top 5 priority watersheds along the Lake and the intention to obtain funding to undertake action plans for these areas
- Lambton Shore Tributaries watershed within the SCRCA was ranked in the Top 5
- Ministry of Environment staff have proposed that as much as \$35,000 may be available to complete such an Action Plan for the Lambton Shore Tributaries area
- a proposal has been drafted to be reviewed with MOE for the Action Plan to be developed by the SCRCA in concert with a large number of partners with a target for completion by the end of 2011
- existing Authority staff are proposed to work with 2 contract staff to undertake the creation of the plan the will target several local issues – woodchips, phragmites, algae, bacteria, vehicular access to the beach, limited washroom facilities, waterfowl and pets – and these understood issues will be confirmed with surveys and direct contact with the municipality and local groups as well as using scientific testing to confirm the problems
- if the proposal is successful, it is intended that the project commence before the end of the month

BD-11-083**Marriott - MacKenzie**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 on the Lake Huron Southeast Shores Initiative and an Action Plan to be written for the Lambton Shores Tributaries with up to \$35,000 in potential funding from the Ministry of Environment.”

CARRIED

A staff report on the Healthy Watersheds programs was discussed:

- Sydenham River Habitat Stewardship Program (Environment Canada and Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) Species at Risk (SAR))
 - Year 12 (2011-2012)
 - applications have been submitted to both the above noted agencies requesting funding to support technical and financial support for best management practices projects as well as outreach and education program funding for 2011-2012
 - the proposed suite of best management practices projects includes riparian buffers, streambank stabilization, livestock restriction fencing, wetland creation and enhancement and sediment traps and irrigation ponds
 - the outreach and education aspects of the proposal include in-class and on-site education program for school age children, attendance and displays at agricultural meetings and the annual Sydenham River Species At Risk Newsletter
 - responses to the applications are expected later this month

BD-11-084**Bilton - Miller**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011, on the Healthy Watersheds programs across the region.”

CARRIED

A staff report on Conservation Services Tree Planting Programs was discussed.

- April showers didn't bring May flowers....it brought May thunderstorms....with some areas receiving over 100 mm above normal in April and May, tree planting has been delayed substantially
- Tree Planting Program
 - trees seedlings were lifted in mid April and delivery to the Authority in late April
 - poor weather and inaccessible site conditions have delayed planting significantly but it should be wrapped up later this week with approximately 6,000 trees left to plant
 - both of the corporate planting projects taking part in this year's tree planting program are complete as of today - Enbridge Gas and Lambton County Bowens creek property
- Vegetation Control
 - similar to the planting program, weather and site conditions have significantly impact the timing of the vegetation control around the newly planted trees as well as those planted over the past several years
 - staff have been adjusting their work schedules to try to complete the work when the weather conditions permit but they remain more than a week behind
- Waste Management – Twin Creeks Landfill - Spring Schedule
 - planting of the side slopes commenced this week with the improved weather and will continue for several weeks as significant plantings are scheduled for this spring

BD-11-085

Glen - Havlik

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 regarding spring 2011 tree planting on private, corporate and public lands.”

CARRIED

A staff report on the Lambton County Community Health Services' West Nile Virus response program was presented.

- Lambton County Community Health Services (LCCHS) has contracted the Authority again this year to continue undertaking the treatment of catch basins with larvicide
- each of the last 2 years, the Authority has applied the pellets (pictured on the right) to each of the catch basins in Lambton County – providing approximately 60 days of protection from mosquito larvae development within the catch basins
- Authority staff will apply two treatments to each of the ~15,000 catch basins in Lambton County in July and August of this year at a cost of \$79,640.00
- prior to the 2012 budget development, Authority and LCCHS staff will be reviewing options to provide better protection to the residents of Lambton County using a combination of treatment methods to ensure that the protection will extend later into the year – estimated costs for alternatives outlined to date range from \$90,000 - \$100,000
- four post secondary students will be hired to conduct the work after tree planting is completed
- permit applications have been submitted along with letters of support from the municipalities of the County
- in mid-late June, staff will undertake one or two assessment reviews of a selection of catch basins with the intent of counting the number of mosquito larvae present
- this information is provided to Lambton County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Christopher

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Greensmith, who then provides the direction to proceed with the first round treatment of the catch basins

BD-11-086

Davis-Dagg - Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 regarding the Authority’s agreement with Lambton County to undertake the application of Larvicide to catch basins as part of Lambton County Community Health Services West Nile Virus Program.”

CARRIED

Regulations Committee Reports dated April 30 and May 31, 2011 were considered.

BD-11-087

Faas - Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Committee Reports on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated April 30, 2011 and May 31, 2011.”

CARRIED

Planning Activity Summary Report for April and May 2011 was reviewed.

BD-11-088

Nemcek - MacKenzie

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports for April and May 2011.”

CARRIED

A staff report on the St. Clair River AOC was presented.

- Contaminated Sediment Management Options Project Update: ENVIRON International Corporation is continuing to evaluate options to manage contaminated sediments in the St Clair River Area of Concern under the federally/provincially approved COA (Canada Ontario Agreement) Framework. The following status report is current to June 3, 2011.
 - Canadian Seabed Research (CSR), a firm specializing in bottom and sub-bottom marine surveys, submitted their final report including the geodatabase for the Areas of Interest (AOI). The AOIs are adjacent to the Suncor and Shell docks and Guthrie Park. This completes the first of three remaining studies of the areas of interest. The survey revealed several large physical items in the vicinity of the docks. The information will be provided to ENVIRON to help decide on potential sediment remediation actions.
 - The Sediment Technical Committee reviewed the report submitted by CSR and was satisfied that it meets the contract expectations.
 - Funding approval from the provincial government has been received for the final two studies of the AOI, a geochemical and geotechnical characterization of the St. Clair River AOIs. The studies will help to better define the areas that require management and are proposed to be undertaken this field season. The Request for Proposals for the contract was advertised and placed on MERX (Canada’s electronic tendering service for

government contracts). One proposal was received from Pollutech. The Sediment Technical Committee will complete its review of the documentation received May 31, 2011 from Pollutech and make a recommendation. The SCRCA is waiting for the federal government to approve their share of the study prior to formally awarding the project. If funds are approved, the Conservation Authority will manage the contract(s). The value of the contract(s) is approximately \$266,000. As you are aware, the Board of Directors passed the following motion at the April Board meeting:

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) update from the Remedial Action Plan Coordinator, dated April 5, 2011 and further that the General Manager or his designate be authorized to sign the contract(s) with the successful proponent(s) for geochemical/geotechnical field work, based on the Sediment Technical Team recommendations and subject to written approval of Environment Canada and Ministry of the Environment funds.”

- following the Sediment Technical Committee review and recommendation, the General Manager or his designate will award the contract so the project can be initiated this field season. This is subject to federal funding approval.
- Other AOC related activities
 - the Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC) and the Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC) have endorsed the Canadian revised delisting criteria
 - both the CRIC and BPAC also endorsed the report which summarizes the assessment of tainting of Fish and wildlife flavour BUI, which recommended that this BUI should be re-designated from *requires further assessment to not impaired*.
 - the CRIC met in January, at the Walpole Island First Nation Heritage Centre. The committee was updated on a number of initiatives and plans were developed to report on the accomplishments of the 2007-10 AOC work plan.
 - the RAP Coordinator and staff from EC have met with the WIFN Heritage Committee and Aamjiwnaang Chief and Council to ask advice about the level of consultation expected with the First Nations communities on the two government decisions referred to above.
 - the St. Clair River Bi-national Public Advisory Council (BPAC) met April 8, 2011. Domtar paper reported on process and infrastructure changes being made to their facility to address paper fibre and bacteria problems in the river. Fishermen in attendance reported observing improvement to the problem over the past months. The company committed to additional improvements. Grant request proposals that will be submitted for Great Lakes Restoration funding were discussed.
 - the AOC Coordinator will be making presentations on the status of the St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to municipal councils located in the AOC. Presentations to the Township of St. Clair, the City of Sarnia and the Village of Point Edward are being scheduled for the month of June, 2011. The final presentation will be made to Chatham-Kent Council in September.

BD-11-089

Miller - Napper

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 on the status of the final two sediment studies of the Areas of Interest and other AOC related activities on the St. Clair River.”

CARRIED

Authority revenue and expenditures to April 30, 2011, were reviewed.

BD-11-090

Burrell - Faas

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to April 30, 2011, as it relates to the budget.”

CARRIED

April and May 2011 disbursements totaling \$650,890.00 were considered.

BD-11-100

Marriott - Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors approves the April and May 2011 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$ 650,890.00.”

CARRIED

A status report on general levy received to date was discussed.

BD-11-101

Bruinink - Davis-Dagg

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2011 general levy receipts to June 3, 2011.”

CARRIED

A staff report on insurance premium comparisons was discussed.

	2009	2010	2011	2011-2010
				% + / -
Property Insurance	10,444	14,066	11950	-15 %
Crime Coverage	974	974	974	0 %
Vehicles	5,282	5,182	5,182	0%
Umbrella Liability	6,103	7,961	10,083	+27 %

Directors & Officers Liability	939	918	880	-4%
Boiler & Machinery Liability	285	285	285	0%
Commercial General Liability	46,796	51,356	56,492	+10 %
Errors & Omissions	6,741	6,741	7,052	+5 %
Includes taxes	77564	87,483	92,900	6%

- SCRCA is a participant in Conservation Ontario's group insurance program we have incurred an increase of \$5,417 in premium from 2010 to 2011. This increased is based on the fact that all of the insurance products with the exception of the Umbrella Liability and the General Liability are directly charged to each individual authority. However with the two Liability products they are billed to the group in a lump sum premium, the premium is then allocated based on the following factors: "Receipt; acreage of land; number of campsites; number of swimming areas; number of dams and weirs; total dykes in meters and storage capacity of dams."
- the formula used for this allocation, based on the above factors, is approved by the Insurance Committee, however over the past several years the allocation of the premium has not necessarily followed that formula. As a result a number of Authorities have been unfairly applied a larger portion of the premium than was required and therefore have been subsidizing a number of other Authorities in their share of the premium. SCRCA was one of the Authorities that were being subsidized.
- to correct the inequities in the process, the changes were therefore phased in over two renewal periods, last year 2010 and this year 2011. Therefore we have experienced above normal increases in the Liability portion of our insurance for the last two years.

BD-11-102**Davis-Dagg - Glen**

"That the Board of Directors acknowledges the insurance premium comparison report dated June 3, 2011 and further approves the payment for the 2011 premiums of \$92,900 and investigate the referenced apportioning formula and rates to ensure that it is applied fairly and equitably to the participating Conservation Authorities."

CARRIED

The Health and Safety report was considered.

- Workwell Audit.
 - in April 2009, the Authority was given notice that we had been selected to undergo a Workwell audit by the WSIB. On February 11, 2010 the Authority underwent that Workwell. The audit mainly consisted of a review of the Authority's Health and Safety documentation, interviewing of several of the Authority staff and then a visit to the

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Conservation Services workshop. On March 22, 2010 we received the result of that audit. There are several items that need to be addressed in preparation for his return visit November 9, 2010, which was proposed by the Auditor until February 8, 2011.

- after a lot of hard work by the Joint Health and Safety Committee and the assistance of our two JCP we passed the audit and have been maintaining and implementing the new program since with great success
- Road to Zero.
 - on March 10, 2011 the Authority was approached by the Public Services Health and Safety Association to participate in their - Road to Zero - Health and Safety Improvement Program which looks at reducing workplace injuries and accidents to zero. After the initial meeting we have highlighted our area of improvement as slips, trips, and falls, we have begun to work on a training program to raise the awareness of these types of injuries and how that can be prevented. This new program once developed will become part of the employee orientation program.
- Divisional Court Ruling:
 - there was a Ministry of Labour order back in March 27, 2008 that ordered Blue Mountain to report the death of guest of the resort, who drowned in one of the resorts pools back on December 24, 2007. The Ministry of Labour stated that pursuant to section 51(1) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act which provides that if a person is killed or critically injured from any cause at a workplace, the employer must report the occurrence to the Ministry of Labour. Blue Mountain appealed this order to the Labour Board and then further applied to the Divisional Court for a judicial review of the Labour Board decision. Please see the attached report dated May 30, 2011. The Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) will be reviewing this issue at our next JHSC meeting Thurs. June 30, 2011.

BD-11-103

Nemcek - Napper

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Health and Safety report dated June 3, 2011.”

CARRIED

A Staff Report on the Sarnia Bay Marina was presented.

- Background: in 2006 the Sarnia Bay Marina was transferred from the St. Clair Parks Commission to the City of Sarnia as part of an overall program of transferring assets and dissolution of the Parks Commission. This 300 berth marina is rated as one of the top Marinas on the Great Lakes and is strategically located on the St. Clair River and Lake Huron.
- 2006 operation: as a transition to the Public, through a Request for Proposals process, the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the St. Clair Parks Commission signed a one year management agreement for the year with Bridgeview for the management of the facility. The operations and reporting provided stability and proved successful for this year of transition.
- 2007-2011 Operations: the Conservation Authority, Fred Galloway (consultant), Lambton County, and the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation developed and sought RFP's for the operation of the Sarnia Bay Marina with intent of a 5 year proposal for operation. The selection committee for review and recommendation was comprised of representatives from the Conservation Authority, Consultant, Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, St. Lawrence Parks Commission (Marina

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operator) and the Boating Association. Seven (7) proposals were received and the recommendation was for Dave Brown, Managing Partner for Bridgeview Marina to operate for a 5 year term.

- Agreements/Contracts:
 - Contract management: the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority was requested by the City of Sarnia to manage the agreement on behalf of the City and sign a agreement with the Contractor. The goal was independent management to meet the terms of the agreement. A 5 year agreement with the city was signed to compliment the operator's agreement. This agreement expires November 30, 2011.
- Operator/Manager
 - the 5 year agreement for the operation, marketing, capital investment and profit sharing with the City of Sarnia was signed with Dave Brown, of Bridgeview Marina. This agreement is between Bridgeview Marina Ltd and the Conservation Authority. It was established directly with the Conservation Authority as a third party for decision, reporting and all approvals; reports etc. were to be through the Conservation Authority. This agreement expires November 30, 2011 as well.
- Current operator:
 - The current operator excels at customer service, operations, innovative marketing, and partnership development (i e... Bayfest). They were the preferred choice based on the proposals to operate the marina on behalf of the City. They have increased the seasonal boater roster from 92 in 2006 to 156 in 2010 almost a 70% increase over 5 years. Not only has seasonal boaters increased, they have also increased the tourist boater traffic, for example the two weeks in July surrounding Bayfest have been completely sold out for the past two years and same is true for this coming July. The addition of the swimming pool in 2007 also increased traffic and made the Marina more "family friendly". In 2010 they added the wakeboard course which was featured at the Toronto Boat Show this past January, this serves to draw in the tourist boater as well as provide another amenity for the seasonal boaters. Also in 2010 there was the addition of "D" pier which has 50 unserviced (no hydro or water) slips which serve as overflow slips for busy weekends like Bayfest and provide a low cost option for temporary mooring of Sea Doo's and fishing boats.
 - the shortfall has been meeting the reporting commitments, communication and following the process agreed to in the agreement. Ensuring public assets and return on investment to the City and public accountability is critical in this process. See the graph below for some of the financial trends.
- Future: will continue discussions with the city as to the process for the 2012 season and forward. This discussion revolves around the two current agreements, first and foremost is the relationship going forward between the City of Sarnia and the Conservation Authority as to what roles each will play. Then secondly the agreement with the operator of the marina, the final decision rests solely with the City of Sarnia as the owner of the marina.

BD-11-104**Marriott - Davis-Dagg**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Sarnia Bay Marina report and financial trends, dated June 3, 2011, including contracts with the operator and the City of Sarnia.”

CARRIED

A staff report on Education Program was discussed:

- Spring Education Programs:
 - L. C. Henderson C.A.: fully booked until June 28th - 2,200 students expected this spring.
 - Dow Wetlands and In school programs: Total for April 1 – May 30 = 679
- Special Events
 - Connecting Families to Nature: April 5th at the Lambton Inn. Part of the Sustainable Energy Forum through Lambton College.
 - Canoe Race: Apr. 17 - over 60 boats participated on a foul weather day. Over \$4,000.00 was raised for Conservation Education.
 - Sustainable Energy Event: May 7 at the Lambton Inn. Displays and presentations throughout day in the Ball Room. Recycling depots were set-up in the parking lot for the public to drop off batteries, cell phones and other electronics.
 - Tree Planting: Mike Weir Park May 7 - 68 trees planted in cooperation with Union Gas, Arbor Week Committee, Urban Wildlife Committee and SCRCA staff
 - Watershed CSI Challenge: May 14 - 125 Brownies, Girl Guides and their leaders visited Henderson for the CSI Watershed Challenge. All participants received a crest for participating.
 - Hike: May 28th on Strathroy Trails. Focus was Species at Risk.
- Meetings:
 - Children’s Water Festival (CWF) Meeting in Chatham at the MNR Office.
 - the Committee would like to show case all stations outside. This would eliminate the use of the Safety village where there is a rental fee. MOE is no longer funding CWF events which is a loss of \$5,000.00. in revenue.
 - Friends of the St. Clair River
 - Brain storm projects for the year. Dow Wetlands was mentioned as a site for restoration work. Dow Wetlands is in the A1 AOC. A presentation on the Children’s Water Festival was made and the Committee agreed to support the event by contributing \$2,500. (\$1,000.00 to support an activity center and \$1,500.00 for busing.)
- Upcoming Events
 - June 4th International Trails Day Event: providing green activities after the walk. Sponsored by the Sarnia Health Unit and SCRCA
 - June 4 – 5 Art Walk: providing a Mini Water Festival for the event. Thousands of people will be attending
 - June 11th Funfest: display and games all day for children of all ages. Venue is set-up at Centennial Park. Sponsored by the City of Sarnia Recreation Department.
 - Geocaching at Lambton College. On June 13 staff will teach a geocaching workshop to Lambton College Faculty for their Professional Development Day:

- Other:
 - Marsh Monitoring Training Day – 7 new people were trained to monitor Marshes. Marshes currently monitored are: Strathroy Marsh, Marsh behind Strathroy High School, Canatara Park, Perch Creek, Dow Wetlands, Wawanosh C.A., Lorne Henderson C.A., Roberta Wetland & Marthaville Wetland.
 - Conservation In Crisis: program has been updated to use GPS equipment. Grade 7 & 8 students attend this program. The GPS equipment allows them to participate in a self-guided tour in lieu of being led on an interpretive walk.
 - Arbor Week Contest: local students were invited to write a radio ad about the importance of trees. The winning entry was at Cathcart School and each member of the class received a 2 foot sugar maple sapling to plant at their own home.
 - Native Planting: Riverview Central School in Sombra. Staff assisted in developing and designing a garden and also helped to plant species suitable to the site. All construction and planting was done by the eco club at the school.
 - Perch Creek Habitat Area Enhancement Project: Gr. 12, St. Clair High Environmental Class. 80 prairie plants, aquatic plants, shrubs and trees were planted around the south pond. 10 bird houses were also placed around the pond. All supplies were paid for by a grant rewarded to the class for the purpose of restoring a habitat in their community.

BD-11-105**Miller - Burrell**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 1, 2011, including spring education programs, special events and meetings.”

CARRIED

A staff report on regarding scholarship winners was discussed.

BD-11-106**Davis-Dagg - Faas**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report and the process for selection of scholarship winners dated June 8, 2011.”

CARRIED

A staff report on the status of the development of intake protection zones for the St. Clair Region Assessment Report was reviewed.

- the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority offers scholarships for graduating high school students living in or attending a high school within the region under jurisdiction of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. Students must be pursuing an education in a conservation/environmental related course of study (eg. forestry, biology, geography, hydrology, ecology) in a recognized Canadian University or College.
- the Conservation Scholarship program rewards these students based on their academic achievement and their demonstrated interest and involvement with the environment. The Scholarship is funded through trust funds with the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation and w created through donations from individuals and organizations.
 - A.W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship: two \$1,000 awards

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- Tony Stranak Conservation Scholarship: one \$500 award
- Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship: one \$500 award
- this year, we received 16 applications. The applications will be reviewed and selections made by a committee established by the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation and includes Cathy Evers and Lynn Goddard (members of the Board of Directors) with support from Rick Battson. The selection of the Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship is done in consultation with Steve Arnold. The scholarships will be awarded in July.

BD-11-107

Bilton - Glen

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2011 updating the status of the development of intake protection zones for the St. Clair Region Assessment Report.”

CARRIED

The meeting went In Camera to discuss legal issues.

BD-11-108

Faas - Arnold

“That the Board of Directors go in camera at 2:20 p.m. to discuss legal issues with Authority staff and Carlie Burns, Kyle Pratt and Will Nywening remaining.”

CARRIED

BD-11-109

Burrell - Davis-Dagg

“That the Board of Directors rise and report at 3:00 p.m.”

CARRIED

BD-11-110

Napper - Havlik

“That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority withdraw its appeal against Plympton-Wyoming from the Ontario Municipal Board.”

3 in favour / 9 opposed

DEFEATED

The motion from the April board meeting stands.

BD-11-111

Bilton - Burrell

“That the meeting be adjourned.”



Andy Bruziewicz
Chairman

Ralph Coe
General Manager

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