

April 15, 2010

The Board of Directors Meeting of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority was held on the above date, at the Administration Office, in Strathroy, at the hour of 1:00 p.m.

Present: Andy Bruziewicz, Chair, Steve Arnold, Vice Chair, Bill Bilton, Tony Bruinink, Terry Burrell, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Carolyn Jamieson, Larry MacKenzie, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, Dan McMillan, Allan McNeil, Steve Miller, Lonny Napper, Martin Vink

Absent: Percival Heath, Jon McEachran, Tom McGregor, John Phair

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new director, Allan McNeil. Chairman Bruziewicz 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-10-029

Bruinink - Napper

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held February 18, 2010, be approved as distributed.”

CARRIED

The General Manager’s Report was presented:

- St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation - Annual General Meeting on March 4, 2010. Highlights of the meeting include:
 - Celebrating 37 years supporting conservation in the St. Clair Region - Incorporated May 11, 1973
 - 2010 Board of Directors: (elected March 4, 2010):
Duncan Skinner - President
Lyn Goddard - Vice President
Melvin Dale - Treasurer
John Simmons, Ken Brooks, William Bilton, Ottavio Colosimo, Rex Crawford, Laura Margetts, Norm Giffen, John Mitchell, Andy Bruziewicz, Cathy Evers.
 - Key programs:
 - Trees St Clair: Memorial Forest Program (4 funeral homes and individual program) 10,200 trees to date; Community Forestry Fund – school yards, municipal parks, public lands
 - Land Acquisition: Natural Areas Fund - to sustain non revenue producing natural areas; acquiring 13 significant properties to date for the St. Clair Region (and area)
 - Conservation Education Fund: to sustain Conservation Education programs in the St Clair (supporting over 10,000 students annually), supplies, materials, staff support, conservation education capital (\$60,000 annually)
 - Scholarship Funds (Trust funds): A. W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship fund (2 - \$1000 scholarships annually); Tony Stranak Scholarship Fund. (1- \$500 scholarship annually); Mary Jo Arnold Scholarship Fund (1- \$500 scholarship annually)
 - Special Projects:
 - Bingo supporting conservation education, trails, tree planting, and outdoor recreation
 - Species at risk, research, education,

Board of Directors Meeting, April 15, 2010

- Partnership projects i.e. Enviro-Friends of Coldstream, Dresden Horticultural Society, Point Edward Waterfront
- Capital donations: (recent)
 - Outdoor Education Centre – Lorne C. Henderson CA. (refurbish 2007)
 - Visitor centre for Conservation Area visitors (new) – Warwick Conservation Area (2008)
 - Cold storage building for forestry- Clark Wright Conservation Area (2008)
 - Workshop - A.W.Campbell Conservation Area (2009)
 - Playground Equipment for campground conservation areas (2010)
- 2009 Financial Highlights

Foundation Assets: as of December 31, 2009 (in brackets 2008 comparisons)

 - Capital Assets - Lands: \$2,592,857.00 (no change)
 - Restricted/Reserve Funds: 1,135,055 (\$861,869.00).
 - General Fund: \$359,559.00 (\$374,069)
 - Revenue of: \$367,906.00 (\$ 369,468.00)
 - Expenditures/donations of: \$110,194.00 (\$160,848.00)
 - Net: \$ 257,712.00 (\$210,167.00)
- 2009 Donations/Expenditures -
 - \$ 99,736.00 to the Conservation Authority to support, Forestry, Outdoor Education and Conservation Area development, scholarships, general expenditures, transfer to other partners, i.e Dresden Horticultural Society, Enviro-Friends of Coldstream etc.
 - \$10,458.00 of Bingo funds spent to support the outdoor education and recreation programs and services of the Authority
 - decrease in general funds of \$12,455.00
 - increase in restricted and reserve funds of \$272,786.00
 - the Foundation holds 13 properties with a market value at time of donation of \$2,592,857.00.
 - total assets of the Foundation- \$3,831,514.00
- 2010 Foundation budget was approved including their donation requirements to the Authority based on the Conservation Authority's 2010 budget. Approximately \$103,660.00 to be donated.
- 2 additional land donations under consideration/negotiation
- \$59,660 in corporate donations to the Outdoor Education program
 - Memorial forest programs continue with approximately \$16,000.00 in revenue
 - \$20,000 - land management (agricultural leases, oil and gas revenue to support the Authority programs)
 - \$3000.00 - net income is used to support trail work, forestry, outdoor education etc.
 - \$2000 - \$3000 in special events such as the Canoe race
 - \$3000 for Scholarship (4)
 - many additional individual donations supporting various programs throughout the year.
- Bates Trust (Stewardship) Fund: On April 3, 2009 we received an additional \$175,000.00 with the fund balance now at \$426,707.00
- President's Award: presented at the discretion of the Board for outstanding contributions to conservation and the Foundation. Approved by the Foundation Board at the AGM:

“That the Board of Directors award the 2009 President’s Award to Gary Ingram, Pran Mehta, Murray Kemp, and John Williams for their commitment to conservation through the dedication of the Glenview Conservation Lands and Stewardship funds to support this legacy.”

- lead by Gary Ingram on behalf of the Shareholders of Glenview Estates.
 - has dedicated 80 acres of conservation, valley and woodlands within the Township of Enniskillen and Town of Petrolia for the dedication through an irrevocable trust agreement for future generations
 - established (initial \$10,000) and committed to the growth of a Stewardship/Trust fund to support the ongoing maintenance and development of the property
 - established a roadside or property tree planting program through Phases 1-3 of the Glenview Estates
 - in co-operation with the Conservation Authority developed an educational piece as part of the Homeowner Package in the Subdivision Agreement that supports the program of “Living in Harmony with Natural Areas” An opportunity to educate the homeowners to respect and enjoy the natural environment that surrounds them in these conservation lands.
 - it has been suggested that the Authority Annual Project/Bus Tour include a stop at the Glenview Conservation Lands to recognize this donation. The President’s award can be presented at that time. This is tentatively set for June 10, 2010
- 2010 Provincial Grant: 2010 Business Plan to MNR was submitted in February 2010. We anticipate similar grants as previous years from MNR for water management, operations etc. Approximately \$310,000.00. This amount has not changed since 1997. MNR has indicated they will transfer the fund in early May. Generally we do not see the transfer payments until late summer. All subject to Provincial budget of March 2010.
- Source Water Protection: report in section of the meeting. Funding for Thames Sydenham Source Protection program is being funded through transfer payments. The 2010/11 work plan has been submitted and remains competitive to meet the terms of the Clean Water Act. It is expected the funding of approximately \$1.5 million for the Thames Sydenham will be supported by the province.
- Conservation Ontario: the Annual General Meeting of Conservation Ontario will be held April 26th in Toronto. Elections will be held for Chair, Vice-Chairs and Board of Directors. Conservation Ontario has been instrumental in negotiating input to Source Protection Planning, requests for funding for infrastructure, partnerships with DFO, MNR grant funding for critical programs and facilities, new federal and provincial funding opportunities and Section 28 Generic Regulations.
- Staffing:
 - Conservation Areas/McKeough 12- regular seasonal staff (varying terms and hours) (Superintendents, Maintenance Foremen, Security, Gatehouse) plus 25 summer/seasonal.
 - Experience Program (Provincial) 2 -7 weeks - beginning May. Park maintenance, dam inspections and clean up. \$5400.00 grant
 - Summer Job Service (Lambton College) supported \$2.00 per hour subsidy on 14 positions. (Lifeguards, park maintenance, visitor services, tree planters) \$11,378.00 grant).
 - Tree Planting/Larvicide - 6 seasonal staff for tree planting/larvicide will be hired mid/late April to the end of August. (subject to approval of funding from Lambton Health Unit- West Nile application program)
 - Federal Job Creation Program has provided 9 positions for up to 51 weeks beginning in

April. (Interviewing and accepting applications now) listed on website, newspapers. We have received approximately 32,707.00 in additional grant funding to support the participants. wage equivalent is \$130,707.00 grant.

- Career Focus: Biological Technician - 26 weeks - \$14,500 in salary funding. To begin late April, early May. GIS Technician - 26 weeks - \$14,500 in salary funding – to begin late April, early May
- Conservation Areas pass: your 2010 windshield pass available at the board meeting - provides free day use entry to the Conservation Areas in the St. Clair Region. In addition directors have your wallet sized Conservation Ontario card which will permit for all Conservation Areas in the province.
- Schneider vs. St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (Coldstream Conservation Area): Ms Schneider legal counsel appealed to the Supreme Court to have the case heard. The leave or request was dismissed on March 18, 2010 .
 - LEAVES TO APPEAL DISMISSED
 - TORTS: NEGLIGENCE; OCCUPIER'S LIABILITY: the Applicant Ms. Schneider sustained a serious ankle injury when she struck a snow-covered concrete wall as she was cross-country skiing with her family at the Coldstream Conservation Area. The St. Clair Conservation Authority had built a concrete wall in a lake, that rose six inches above the water level. It once served to operate a water wheel but had been inoperable since the 1980's. Ms. Schneider sued for negligence, claiming that the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority failed in its duty of care towards her. At trial, Tausendfreund J. ruled in favour of Ms. Schneider but also ruled that her negligence had played a part in the accident. The St. Clair Conservation Authority appealed the judgment while Ms. Schneider cross appealed on the question of contributory negligence. The C.A., allowed the appeal, set aside the trial judgment and dismissed the cross appeal. Issues here include the following: occupier's liability; what is the entirety of the public recreation area.
Angela Jo-Anne Schneider v. St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (Ont. C.A., September 9, 2009) (33408) "with costs"

Congratulations: 2010 Outstanding Business Achievement Awards - Sarnia –Lambton Chamber of Commerce.

Congratulations to Jon McEachran who took home honours as top Young Entrepreneur for his work at the Vidal Street Industrial Park.

Condolences: we were saddened by the passing of Cathleen Graham (Alvinston) on March 9, 2010 at the young age of 44. Cathleen worked at the A.W. Campbell and Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Areas as a seasonal employee for the past 3 seasons and was scheduled to return this spring. Condolences and a tribute on behalf of the Chair, Board and staff were extended to the family

BD-10- 030

Faas - Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated March 25, 2010.”

CARRIED

Minutes of the the March 1st Conservation Ontario meeting were reviewed.

**BD-10-031
Miller - Bilton**

“The Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Ontario meeting minutes of March 1, 2010 which includes passing of the 2010 budget.”

CARRIED

A Conservation Area Update was reviewed:

- Background:
 - the Conservation Authority owns 14 conservation areas in the watershed
 - of those 14 conservation areas, 6 are managed by the local municipality and 8 are operated by the Conservation Authority
 - of these 8, 3 conservation areas are regional campgrounds which attract campers from primarily southwestern Ontario
 - our three regional campgrounds have over 500 campsites and over 380 seasonal campers
 - our campgrounds are self sufficient and require no tax dollars to operate
 - profits obtained are used to offset capital improvements within these regional conservation areas
- Seasonal Camper Geographic Trends: (based on 2009 seasonal campers)
 - 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 Conservation Area:
 - the lobby area floor in the main washroom building has been upgraded with coloured concrete with a saw cut design
 - the original steel lobby doors have been replaced with all glass modern aluminium entry door and side lights
 - main pavilion to be moved out of campground area and located off the main parking area (pavilion to be serviced with hydro and water)
 - playground equipment to be installed as a project of the St. Clair Conservation Foundation
 - motion sensor lighting to be installed in the main washroom building as an energy conservation initiative
- A.W. Campbell Conservation Area:
 - hydro service to be upgraded to 11 existing campsites (upgrade to include new underground and receptacles)
 - water supply pump house has been upgraded with new exterior siding and entrance door
 - visitor centre has been renovated with new kitchen cupboards and sink for camper events and activities
 - a new entrance door has been installed and the deck overhang has been closed in at the visitor’s centre
 - motion sensor lighting to be installed in the pool washrooms
 - playground equipment to be installed as a project of the St. Clair Conservation Foundation

- Warwick Conservation Area:
 - the woodlot women's washroom is currently under renovations; when completed the washrooms will have all new roughed in plumbing and fixtures, 2 new shower areas, ceramic tile floors, new counter tops and sinks and new ventilation system
 - 14 parkview campsites to be serviced with upgraded hydro and water
 - a portion of the existing playground equipment to be repainted and powdered coated
 - motion sensor lighting to be installed in the main campground and woodlot campground washrooms
 - playground equipment to be installed as a project of the St. Clair Conservation Foundation
- Highland Glen Conservation Area:
 - the harbour and boat ramp area has been dredged so to provide a safe harbour and access to Lake Huron
 - staff have completed a general spring cleanup of the conservation area
- Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area:
 - staff will continue to work with Ducks Unlimited to regulate water levels in the south pond, when water levels stabilize, the trail along the south shore will be re-established
 - staff have completed a general spring cleanup and inspection of the trails at the conservation area
- Strathroy Conservation Area:
 - a number of boardwalks have been re-established and repaired due to spring flooding which occurred in the conservation area and wetlands this year
 - the second phase of the water trail will be completed this year, the water trail is a partnership project of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc and the Conservation Authority
 - Water Trail Paddle Day will be held on Saturday, May 29 from 9 to 1 pm at the skate board park access point to the Sydenham River
- Shetland Conservation Area:
 - the annual Sydenham Canoe Race is scheduled for Sunday, April 18th, the finish line and social gathering takes place at the conservation area
- Marketing in 2010:
 - our conservation areas will be marketed in the following publications or events in 2009:
 - camping ads have been placed in 6 weekly newspapers from early April to July
 - Sarnia Lambton Tourism Guide
 - Blue Water Tourism Guide (in partnership with other Conservation Authorities)
 - Middlesex Home & Leisure Show (Strathroy Gemini complex – April 24th)
 - Conservation Ontario Conservation Areas Guide – this guide has been produced to highlight selected conservation areas throughout Ontario
 - staff have continued to market and promote our conservation area campgrounds over the winter months, we accept reservations at the administration office during regular office hours; to the end of March a total of \$ 42,000.00 worth of reservations have been taken for our 3 regional campground up 50 percent from last year when staff received \$28,000.00 in reservations for the same time period

BD-10-032

MacKenzie - Jamieson

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas Update, dated March 29, 2010, including capital development, 2010 staffing and grass cutting contracts.”

CARRIED

Disposal of surplus equipment was discussed.

- the following equipment is recommended for disposal and will be sold through the public tender process with sealed bids:
 - mid 1970's Ford 1600 diesel tractor - located at L.C. Henderson Conservation Area, tractor is no longer used for CA operations and is in running condition
 - road grader – this is a ride on grader that dates back to pre 1980's and is no longer used for CA operation, it is in working condition
 - float trailer – 8 ft x 10 ft float trailer, is no longer used for CA operation
 - 1996 Kawasaki Mule RTV Model 2510 – non functional, requiring costly repairs & ongoing maintenance (Conservation Services Dept.)

BD-10-033

Burrell - McMillan

“That the Board of Directors approves the disposal of surplus equipment as shown on Schedule A and dated March 30, 2010.”

CARRIED

A Staff Report on the monthly activity summary from the Watershed Services Department was discussed.

Drinking Water Source Protection

- review stressed watersheds and permits within region
- review impact of Certificates of Approval on intake protection zones in the SP region
- Intake Protection Zone 2 delineation, drainage analysis and draft review
- Outline scope of work for Intake Protection Zone 3 for the Thames, Sydenham & Region
- funding agreement review and finalization
- review of current and analysis of future pumping rates for region's groundwater wells
- completed and reviewed all components of assessment report including maps and Appendices for posting to SP web page
- threats identification and summary tables for assessment reports
- review, comment and make appropriate changes to assessment reports, section and system summaries
- Flood Forecast & Warning
 - Flood Forecasting software revision review and agreements for transfer
 - ongoing refinement of internal web based reporting
 - review and update hydrologic station and gauge datum
 - Data acquisition and analysis
 - Snow surveys completed bi-weekly
 - Ice Breaking Vessels – tracking availability
 - flood monitoring
 - review regional CA status of bulletin, advisories and warning notification standards
- Low Water Response
 - data collection, review and analysis
 - Low Water Response meeting preparation
- Reforestation/Conservation Services
 - project designs for spring planting 2010
 - writing funding proposal for seed collection to Libro Financial Community Builders Grant
 - collected Sycamore seed
 - seed events at Lambton College and Lambton County Developmental Services in Petrolia,

- approximately 1800 seeds of both Red and Bur oak, to produce 900 seedlings presentations for Trees Ontario program delivery agents (PDA) meeting and Reforestation - Landowner Information Workshop
- Trees Ontario 50 Million Tree - grant proposals for 2010 tree planting – 5 sites totalling 24,400 trees, covering 32 acres
- Waste Management Warwick Twp – Planning and proposals for spring project construction work for \$100,000 landscape screening, bioremediation and wetland/storm water pond habitat work
- Middlesex Clean Water Program landowner project site visits
- Woodlot Management
 - marked 2 private land woodlots
 - developed executive summary for the Lambton County Heritage Forest Plan
 - drafted work schedule 2010 for Lambton County Lands
 - updated logger contact list
 - drafted residents letter for management to occur at Maple Subdivision woodlot
- Drain Maintenance Program
 - currently have approximately 25 kilometres to treat this summer
- Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure
 - monitoring reports and funding applications for Guthrie Park
 - preparation of RFP for Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Design for Cathcart Park Erosion Control Project Revitalization
- McKeough Dam & Upstream Lands
 - grass cutting contracts sent out to low tenders
 - site meeting with consultants to monitor and repair cracks at the dam outlet structure
 - a detailed floodway inspection and a dam safety review is underway
 - RFP for Engineering review of W. Darcy McKeough floodway operating criteria
- Land Management
 - Registered Plan of Survey for Wilkesport houses reviewed/approved
- Water Quality
 - sample bottles and chemicals ordered for spring sampling
 - review current status of well reporting and acquire additional data from South Camden well
- Water Quantity (PGMN)
 - continue ongoing groundwater quantity sampling and data management
- Fish Habitat Review
 - negotiated timing window extension between 2 municipalities and DFO to allow farm culvert repair in C-K and culvert and drain works for First Solar
- Natural Heritage
 - Lambton Natural Heritage Study – finalized site selection, letter to landowners, list of pre-selected consultants and Request for Proposals document
 - reviewed draft Recovery Strategy for Dwarf Hackberry with respect to management of Lambton County Heritage Forest
 - summarized HSP activities and wrote background articles for annual Aquatic Species at Risk newsletter

Joe Faas, director from Chatham-Kent asked a question regarding the number of trees planted in Chatham-Kent in the last 4 -5 years. Brian McDougall will report all the trees planted in all municipalities at the next Board meeting,

A question was asked about the possibility of a Low Water Response meeting. It is expected that a meeting may be held in May.

BD-10-034

MacKinnon - Faas

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the monthly activity summary dated April 1, 2010, from the Watershed Services Department for February and March 2010.”

CARRIED

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

- Watershed Precipitation: precipitation levels remain significantly below average throughout the spring with the monthly average for March ranging from a low of 18% in the upper parts of the watershed to slightly higher numbers in the south and west areas. Rain events were widely distributed in the January to March period and total accumulations were often less than a total of 10mm (0.39 in) as indicated at several stations. The three month regional average was also much lower at only 56%. While the Strathroy through to Warwick region had significant lake effect snowfall, mostly in January, the quarterly average was still only 75% of the normal precipitation in these areas as noted in fig 3. Lower precipitation during March helped to reduce the threat of flooding with the warmer temperatures and snow melt during the first part of the month. Lower precipitation levels are also anticipated to continue into April and May and yearly averages to date remain slightly lower at 84% overall.
- Streamflows: streamflows remained seasonally low throughout January and February with anticipated 60% bank-full conditions. Peak flows did result in some flow into floodplain areas in mid-March from most watercourses in the watershed. Selected gauge data at Brigden and Dresden is noted in fig 5 and illustrates similar conditions during this period across the region. Ice conditions did not present a major concern on the Sydenham River and did not impede river flows to any great extent. With moderate temperatures coupled with cooler nights and no additional significant precipitation, the spring thaw period resulted in minimal impact overall. Levels at Wallaceburg increased less than 1 metre (39 ins) from the low in February to the peak in March. Generally flow conditions have now returned to seasonal norms and will continue to accommodate any further precipitation during the spring months without concern.
- Flood Threat: there is a low risk of flood events moving into April and May due to elimination of all snowpack across the entire watershed.

BD-10-035

Bruinink - Napper

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”

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 10 (2009-2010)
 - Environment Canada and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources funding a combined grant of \$184,000

- twenty best management practices (BMP) projects were approved for funded including: 14 riparian buffer projects, a wetland construction or enhancement projects and 5 projects that combine riparian buffer with streambank stabilization or wetland enhancement projects
- annual newsletters will be delivered to every household in the watershed early this month
- Year 11 (2010-2011) applications have been submitted to both Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources for support for this project
 - proposed include similar projects to those undertaken in recent years as well as a survey to be undertaken through the website to obtain and understanding of the public's knowledge of species at risk and the importance of the habitat of the Sydenham River
 - the application to Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship program requested \$250,000 in funding support
 - the application to the Species At Risk Fund under MNR requested \$50,000 in funding support
- Clean Water Project
 - County and Municipal funding continues for this program again in 2010
 - similar to the last several years of this program a suite of best management practices projects will be supported by the program in 2010
- an additional application was made for funding of a suite of best management practices projects in the St. Clair River Area of Concern. The application was made to the United States Environmental Protection Agency under a funding umbrella to support improvements in Great Lakes water quality.

BD-10-036**Burrell - Miller**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010, on the Healthy Watersheds programs across the watershed.”

CARRIED

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

- applications for grants have been submitted for funding for in 2010-2011 for the project in the table below
- applications will be reviewed by a committee of provincial and conservation authority staff representatives later this month and will be ranked in comparison to all submitted projects from across the Province
- a list of approved projects is anticipated in May or early June
 - Cathcart Park Erosion Control Project - Class EA & Detailed Design Phase II - completion of requirements of the class EA and creation of final detailed design.
 - Lake Huron Shoreline Structures - Lake Huron Shoreline Plan - a study to monitor 180 km of Ontario Lake Huron Shoreline, evaluate performance of existing structures and propose design considerations for new shoreline protection works. This Study is geared to further understand the lake Huron shoreline erosion and predict future recession rates.
 - W. Darcy McKeough Dam - McKeough Floodway Operating Criteria Review - engineering study and legal review to assess current operating criteria, existing easements and

recommend potential changes based on 25 years of accumulated data and experience in dealing with extreme events.

- Head Street Dam - Spillway Redistribution - redistribution and/or addition of rip rap on spillway surface to reduce erosion and improve flow
- Courtright Waterfront Park Erosion Control Project - Safety Repairs & Shoreline Improvement - repairs to existing, failing shore protection, removal of a significant amount of rebar and discarded steel, and infilling of voids in adjacent table which are a public safety concern
- Guthrie Park Erosion Control Project - Shore Protection Revitalization Phase III - continued installation of a combination of armourstone / rip rap revetment to replace existing failing steel sheet pile wall
- Seagar Park Erosion Control Project - Drain and Outlet Repairs - repairs to the existing drain behind the steel sheet pile wall and to the drain outlet
- Sarnia Erosion Control Project - Shore Protection Repair - reconstruction a reach of shore protection that is failing from armourstone cracking and breaking down and erosion behind the revetment endangering the road being protected by the revetment
- Running Creek Dykes - Dyke Erosion Control - repair and reconstruct failing section of Dyke including construction of toe protection and revegetation
- repair and reconstruct failing section of Dyke including construction of toe protection and revegetation
- 2005 - 2006 WECI Projects
 - Weir #2 (LCH) - Decommissioning / Revitalization Plan - Phase II of the Plan is underway including a review of the environmental impacts and impacts on CA activities - investigating opportunities to partner with Ducks Unlimited
- 2007 - 2008 WECI Projects
 - McKeough Dam - Watercourse Obstruction Removal - winter weather did not provide enough frost to permit access to a large blockage on Bear Creek - Staff are negotiating access to this site with the plan to undertake removal
- 2008 - 2009 WECI Projects
 - McKeough Dam - Drop Structure Crack Repair Phase II - Authority staff have met with product suppliers from Phase I to review existing conditions and ensure that the appropriate product and application techniques are used when planned repairs are undertaken this summer
- 2009 - 2010 WECI Projects
 - ARDA Dyke - Hazard Tree Removal Along Wren Line - scheduled to be completed in fall of 2010
 - McKeough Dam
 - Crossing Repair - scheduled for completion in April
 - Diversion Berm Erosion Repair - scheduled to be completed in the summer
 - Dam Safety Review - to be completed in spring or summer 2010
 - Centennial Park - Splash Pad Repair and Drainage Improvements
 - Guthrie Park - Shore Protection Revitalization Phase II - the project was substantially complete on January 21 with topsoil, sod and landscaping to be completed
 - Cathcart Park - Erosion Protection Revitalization Study - consultants have submitted proposals which are being reviewed by Township & Authority staff with a recommendation to be provided at the Board Meeting

BD-10-037

MacKinnon - MacKenzie

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010 on the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects across the watershed.”

CARRIED

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

- Phase II
 - heavy construction was completed and substantial completion was declared on January 21st
 - fencing on the site was adjusted to open the parking lot back up to the public (parking lot was regarded this week post frost)
 - top soil and sod will be placed on the surface of the site in spring
 - soil will also be placed in the habitat pods within the stepped armourstone reaches of the revetment and the habitat pod and the remainder of the site will be planted with trees, shrubs and near shore vegetation as soon as topsoil placement is complete
 - reports are being submitted to obtain the funding for works completed under Phase II
- Phase III
 - a funding application was submitted to the United States National Fish & Wildlife Federation for a grant to assist in the re-establishment of habitat within Great Lakes Areas of Concern – unfortunately this application was not successful
 - a response to a request for funding from the Community Adjustment Fund is anticipated in the near future

BD-10-038

Burrell - McMillan

”That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010 on the Guthrie Park Shore Protection Revitalization Project.”

CARRIED

A Staff Report on the Cathcart Park Erosion Protection Revitalization Project was presented.

- the project site is located north of Sombra along the east shore of the St. Clair River. The site includes a shoreline starting at the south of Clay Creek and stretches south a distance of approximately 1340 meters (includes internal channels).
- a preliminary review of the shoreline at Cathcart Park undertaken by Shoreplan Engineering Ltd. in 2005 determined that the sheet pile walls were failing and the shore protection needed to be revitalized.
- as a follow up to the study, request for proposals were sent out to pre-selected consultants for shoreline revitalization at Cathcart Park.
- along with shoreline revitalization emphasis was laid on the following
 - prevention of further erosion and river sedimentation
 - control loss of land in this area
 - improved public access to the waterfront
 - improvement of aquatic habitats in the river
 - improved general appearance of the area
 - reduction in future maintenance costs
- a site meeting was arranged at Cathcart Park with the chosen consultants on Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 10:30 am

BD-10-039

Miller - Arnold

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010 on the Cathcart Park Erosion Protection Revitalization Study, including class environmental assessment requirements and detailed design for new shore protection, approves the request for proposals for the project and accepts the proposal submitted by Shoreplan to undertake the study with the first phase of the project to be completed to the extent of the current budget and the remainder of the work contingent upon funding approval.”

CARRIED

A report on the Lambton and Sarnia Natural Heritage Study was presented.

- Lambton County, Sarnia, Carolinian Canada Coalition and the SCRCA have initiated a Natural Heritage Study for Lambton and Sarnia
- the goal is to have good baseline data to select significant natural areas and to make recommendations to protect a natural heritage system that can be incorporated into Official Plans of the County and the local municipalities
- the Technical Advisory Committee includes:
 - Dave Posliff and Peter Corbett, Planning and Development Services, Lambton
 - Nancy Bourgeois and Jordan Fohkens, Planning and Building Department, Sarnia
 - Nikki May, Sarnia Urban Wildlife Committee and Carolinian Canada Coalition
 - Muriel Andreae, Watershed Services, SCRCA
 - Ministry of Natural Resources staff: Ron Gould and Daraleigh Irving
- the SCRCA has received an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant for \$75,000 over three years to hire a biological consultant to survey between ten and twenty woodland patches in Lambton and Sarnia
- most of the mapping and database work will be completed through in-kind support from Lambton and Sarnia with a volunteer from the Sarnia Urban Wildlife Committee providing administrative assistance
- it has been recommended that the Steering Committee be composed of council or Board representative from Lambton County, City of Sarnia, Lambton County Agricultural Advisory Committee, Rural Lambton Stewardship Network and the SCRCA
- the Steering Committee would hold an orientation meeting this spring then meet annually to review the status of the project and provide direction and recommendations

BD-10-040

Bruinink - Napper

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 24, 2010 on the Lambton and Sarnia Natural Heritage Study and receipt of the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant in the amount of \$75,000 to support the study and further appoints Steve Arnold to represent the Conservation Authority on the Steering Committee.”

CARRIED

BD-10-041**Burrell - Marriott**

“That the Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager to award the contract for the Lambton and Sarnia Natural Heritage Study Life Science Inventory, subject to availability of funds and recommendations from the Technical Advisory Committee.”

CARRIED

A report on McKeough Property 46 was reviewed. Steve Arnold declared a Conflict of Interest and left the room. He did not participate in the discussion or vote.

- Background
 - during land assembly for the McKeough Floodway from 1978 to 1991 various buildings were acquired with the floodplain lands
 - homes and outbuildings within the flood easement area were removed in the 1980s.
 - homes outside the flood easement areas were retained and rented as income properties for the Conservation Authority.
 - during this thirty year period numerous tenants have passed through and the houses have aged.
 - it is increasingly difficult to find reliable tenants
 - local housing costs are low as mortgage rates are low and in Wallaceburg single family homes can be purchased for less than \$50,000
 - the cost benefit for the SCRCA to maintain the remaining homes to provide income for other conservation projects has become debatable.
 - in 2009 the Board approved the demolition of two houses on the McKeough properties and the sale of one house.
 - the two houses were demolished in February. A conditional offer was accepted on the house at 3252 Douglas Street and is awaiting provincial approval to close the sale
- 3256 Douglas Street (lease if not sell)

this house has been rented regularly since it was acquired in 1986 but it has been vacant since September 2009.

 - the house is subject to vandalism and ongoing major and minor maintenance is required.
 - sale of the house at 3252 Douglas Street (immediately north) produced many inquiries regarding sale of 3256 Douglas Street so the real estate market is active in Wilkesport
 - the house is located on a double lot of record and can therefore be sold without a severance. The building itself is more than 120’ from the McKeough floodline but the southeast corner of the property includes approx. 120 square feet of flood easement.
 - SCRCA will retain and register our flood easement rights over this corner
 - MPAC indicates the house has an assessed value of \$127,750.
 - we will contract an appraisal and request that real estate agents provide their estimate of market value before signing a listing agreement.
 - all CA property sales are conditional on provincial approval.
 - this property was acquired with 100% provincial funding. Our condition for sale from the Province will require that these funds can be retained by the Conservation Authority for further conservation work as per MNR policies and procedures for use of provincial funds. In the past, proceeds from sale of McKeough lands has been retained in the McKeough Upstream lands account for work associated with the project and maintenance of the lands.

BD-10-042**Faas - Jamieson**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 24, 2010 on McKeough Property 46 at 3256 Douglas Street, Wilkesport and that the property is surplus to the needs of the Conservation Authority and further if a satisfactory lease is not available, staff be authorized to list this property with a Real Estate agent for sale with the proceeds to be used to further the objects of the Authority under Section 21 of the Conservation Authorities Act.”

CARRIED

A report on woodlot management was discussed.

- Private Lands
 - this past winter 2009/2010 woodlot management services were provided to 4 private landowners and 4 properties for the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority
 - although the focus for the remainder of 2010 will be Authority owned and managed lands we will continue providing woodlot management services to private lands
- Authority Owned or Managed
 - Lambton County properties
 - put together a draft work schedule for 2010, including trails, inventories, timber harvesting, invasive species control, plantation tending, and tree planting
 - will be attending the Biodiversity Strategy Plan for Port Franks meetings, which are being held by the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority
- Authority and Foundation Properties
 - develop a work plan for 2010 from the priorities established in the 2008 inventory report
 - perform a forest health inventory at the Evoy Property (St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation)
 - mail out letters to Maples Subdivision residents and mark the ash for removal because of Emerald Ash Borer.

The director from Plympton Wyoming requested that a copy of the letter be mailed to the municipal office.

BD-10-043**MacKinnon - Giffen**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010 on woodlot management activities completed in the fall of 2009 and winter of 2010 as well as planned works for the remainder of 2010.”

CARRIED

The report on conservation services project was presented.

- Tree Planting Program
 - 95 acres of afforestation totaling 70,000 trees is scheduled for this spring
 - 27 individual projects ranging from 500 to 6,500 trees per site
 - approximately 10,000 trees will be planted by a 5 person hand planting crew and the remaining 60,000 are to be planted by a pair of 3 person machine planting crews
 - \$85,000 in approved grant for landowners coming from Trees Ontario Foundation, Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Program, Canada-Ontario Farm Stewardship Program, Clean Water Program and Lambton Stewardship St. Clair River Habitat Program
 - another 40 landowners have purchased 8,000 trees to plant on their own

- there are four corporate planting projects taking part in this year's tree planting program Enbridge Gas, Union Gas, OPG Lambton and Invenergy Services Canada
- trees are expected to arrive the week of April 19th and planting expected to start soon after arrival depending on weather and site conditions
- Waste Management – Twin Creeks Landfill - Spring Schedule
 - screening berm tree planting – \$87,000 in large stock trees are planned for planting along Nauvoo Rd and Zion Line in Warwick Twp
 - wetland habitat creation in 4 storm water management ponds
 - 7000 hybrid poplar cuttings to be planted to finish last spring's 50 acre phyto-remediation project
 - planting is scheduled to start April 20th and continue until June

BD-10-044

Marriott - Bilton

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010 on Conservation Services projects planned for 2010.”

CARRIED

Regulations Summary Reports dated February 28, 2010 and March 31, 2010, were reviewed.

BD-10-045

Faas - Giffen

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Summary Reports on *“Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses”* Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated February 28, 2010 and March 31, 2010.”

CARRIED

A report on the Girgis appeal to the Mining and Lands Commissioner was explained.

- a hearing was held at the January 28, 2010 meeting of the SCRCA Executive Committee to review Application # 10359, submitted by Mona Girgis to construct a new dwelling on the subject property. Application # 10359 was refused by the Executive Committee.
- upon reception of the written Notice of Decision from the Authority, the applicant had 30 days to submit a written appeal to the Minister of Natural Resources. The Authority has received confirmation from the office of the Mining and Lands Commissioner of Ontario, that the applicant has formally appealed the decision of the Authority to the Minister.
- the ORDER TO FILE provides an outline of the process utilized by the office of the Mining and Lands Commissioner in an attempt to reach a resolution prior to an actual hearing, including mediated pre-hearing meetings and timelines for submission of documents for each side.
- the correspondence also requests notification in writing whether or not the Authority will retain counsel.
- as per the correspondence from the Mining and Lands Commissioner, SCRCA will need to retain counsel and organize a pre-hearing conference in an effort to refine all issues to ensure that staff time is allocated appropriately.
- Ms. Girgis has provided the attached correspondence indicating that she may not retain counsel to represent them in their appeal to the Mining and Lands Commissioner, as they feel their money may be better spent pursuing litigation against the SCRCA, Township, County, as well as MNR and Ontario Attorney General.

- Bluepoint Drive is being considered as a location to visit on this year's bus tour.

BD-10-046

Bilton - MacKinnon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 25, 2010 regarding Ms. Mona Girgis’ appeal to the Mining and Lands Commissioner regarding SCRCA’s decision to refuse permission for Application #10359; and that Grant Inglis be retained as counsel to represent the Authority with funds being expended from the Planning Reserve (Legal Costs).”

CARRIED

A report on the changes to the Regulations Committee “Terms of Reference”.

- the original Terms of Reference were established in 1997, there have been several changes that require the Terms of Reference to be revisited. They are:
 - approval of the Generic Regulation “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” which replaces the former “Fill, Construction and Alteration to Waterways”.
 - expertise gained in house with Regulations personnel and recent Provincial Regulation guidelines available to staff.
 - need to reduce administration costs and streamline approval process.
 - Mining and Lands Commissioner hearing guidelines, which state that there cannot be a potential for an ‘apprehension of bias’ when applications are heard before the Executive or Full Board of Directors. Other Conservation Authorities and legal have advised to avoid having the Chair or General Manager be privy to application details that may go to a ‘Hearing’ before the Board/Executive as this may be construed as a ‘apprehension of bias’. When decisions are made at the Hearing stage (as was the case with M. Girgis hearing held in January of this year), it is common procedure for staff and the applicant to leave while the Hearing Committee goes “in camera”. If the Chair or General Manager have heard or reviewed the application previous to the Hearing Committee (ie. via a Regulations Committee), they are obliged to leave as well as there may be a perceived ‘apprehension of bias’. To avoid this, it is recommended the Regulations Committee Terms of Reference be revised to omit the Chair and General Manager as official members. However, “controversial” applications will be reviewed with the General Manager in a more informal review manner (ie. via Supervisor meetings).
 - the Terms of Reference need to be reflective of the changes the Authority has made to the “expanded staff approval” policies in 2007.
 - this change in the internal staff procedure will more closely follow our adjacent Conservation Authority Regulation permitting review processes.
- all applications are still forwarded to the Full Authority Board meetings for ratification via a “Regulations Reports” as per usual procedure.

BD-10-047

Miller - Arnold

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 26, 2010 and approves the changes to the Regulations Committee “Terms of Reference” and that the revised “Terms of Reference” be incorporated in the Regulations manual.”

CARRIED

Planning Activity Summary Report for February and March 2010 was reviewed.

BD-10-048

Vink - Giffen

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports for February and March 2010.”

CARRIED

A Staff Report on the St. Clair River AOC Watershed Plan was explained.

- at the request of the Technical Steering Committee, ENVIRON has expanded the options to be reviewed for sediment management.
- the Technical Steering Committee approved development of statements of work to support additional field work this summer to further study the river bottom.
- water lots are being searched to determine ownership and if easements exist for pipelines or other obstacles that could impede remediation work.
- the final report will document sediment remediation options considered, estimate costs for each and propose a preferred alternative.
- the public will be consulted on the assessment and preferred options. Following approval by Environment Canada and the Ministry of the Environment, an engineering design workplan for the preferred alternative will be developed.
- work by the consultant is proposed to be completed by August, 2010.
- other AOC related activities
 - consulting with public partners - Friends of the St Clair River, the Rural Lambton Stewardship Network and the Michigan State Public Advisory Council;
 - reviewing the AOC delisting criteria. These are the performance measures against which actions and environmental conditions are compared to determine if the problems in the area of concern have been addressed;
 - preparing for public meetings scheduled for the summer to consult on the findings of the assessment project; and
 - advancing the work plan to delist the Area of Concern. The goal of the Federal and Provincial governments is to delist as many areas of concern as possible by 2015.

BD-10-049

Arnold - MacKenzie

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2010 on the St. Clair River AOC Program including the Sediment Management Options project update.”

CARRIED

Adoption of the Terms of Reference for the Lambton Shores Shoreline Management Plan was considered.

- Background: in 1996, the SCRCA completed the Lake Huron Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) for Point Edward, Sarnia and Plympton Wyoming. The Plan was completed following the high lake levels in 1986 and the Provinces desire to develop a long term strategy for shoreline management. Authority staff have been utilizing the hazard limits for flooding and erosion derived from this Plan since 1996. In 2006, the former “No-Mans Land”/Southwest Bosanquet portion of Lambton Shores (LS) fell under the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s jurisdiction. The Lambton Shores shoreline consists of bluffs, coastal provincially significant wetlands and dynamic beach (Ipperwash Beach) and as such is regulated by the Authority under its “Development with Wetlands &

Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulation. A Shoreline Management Plan is needed for this stretch of shoreline to properly implement planning and regulation policies similar to what has been done for the remainder of the Lake Huron shoreline.

- Status: budgetary approvals have now been obtained from the participating municipalities (Lambton Shore, Plympton-Wyoming, Sarnia and Point Edward) and the draft Terms of Reference have been circulated to the municipal planners for comment. The Terms of Reference is attached as Appendix 1. The Authority would now like to proceed with this project with completion planned for December 2010.

The directors questioned if the chief and council had been advised of the work. The Terms of Reference and project proposed would be forwarded to Kettle Stoney Point Chief and Council.

BD-10-050

Marriott - Arnold

“That the Board of Directors approves the Terms of Reference dated March 24, 2010, for the Lambton Shores Shoreline Management Plan and update to the 1996 Plan, and further authorizes the General Manager or his designate to award the project to the successful consultant in order to adhere to the project schedule.”

CARRIED

Representatives for the Lake Huron Shoreline Steering Committee were considered.

- as outlined in the Terms of Reference, a Steering Committee is recommended to review project documentation and provide input. Housekeeping changes are planned for the existing document, however, due to higher erosion rates in Plympton Wyoming it is recommended a Lambton Shores municipal representative and a Plympton Wyoming representative participate on the Committee if possible.

The directors recommended that staff are to request that the municipalities appoint a representative to the Steering Committee.

BD-10-051

Bruinink - MacKenzie

“That the Board of Directors requests that staff contact municipalities along Lake Huron shoreline within the St. Clair Region with the opportunity to appoint a municipal representative to participate on the Shoreline Steering Committee for the Shoreline Management Plan update in 2010 as outlined in the Terms of Reference.”

CARRIED

Authority revenue and expenditures to February 28, 2010, were reviewed.

BD-10-052

Jamieson - Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to February 28, 2010, as it relates to the budget.”

CARRIED

January, February and March 2010 disbursements totaling \$1,185,855.02 were considered.

BD-10-053

Miller - McMillan

“That the Board of Directors approves the January, February and March 2010 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,185,855.02.”

CARRIED

A status report on general levy received to date was discussed. Approximately 59% of the general levy has been paid to date.

BD-10-054

Giffen - Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2010 general levy receipts to date.”

CARRIED

A Status Report on Honourarium/Per Diem and Travelling Allowances for directors for 2009 was discussed.

BD-10-055

MacKinnon - Bruinink

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Status Summary report on directors’ expenses from January 1 to December 31, 2009.”

CARRIED

A Health and Safety update was presented.

- WSIB - Claim appeal status - attended an appeal hearing at the WSIB in London on March 8, 2010. A former employee of the Authority was appealing a November 2008 decision by WSIB, which the injured worker had fully recovered and therefore was no longer entitled to benefits. The injured worker’s representative was not only appealing the decision but was also seeking the right to claim a secondary lower back injury which was brought on by the initial injury. On March 12, 2010 we received notice that the Appeals Officer had granted the appeal and was therefore reopening the claim. We will be submitting an appeal to his decision as we feel there were several pieces of information that strongly point to the fact the worker had fully recovered.
- Workwell Audit- results and action plan. - 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 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.
- the JHSC (Joint Health and Safety Committee) met March 31, 2010 as part of their regularly scheduled quarterly meetings. Both of the above items were reviewed. As a result of the items requiring attention from the Workwell audit, we have switched to monthly meetings to ensure that the timeline to address the items raised by the audit are met in a timely fashion. The committee has been reviewing all aspects to the health and safety program here at the Authority and will be bringing an updated health and safety policy and manual to the June meeting of the Board of Directors. We are in the process of bringing on a JCP (Job Creation Program) participant to assist the JHSC with updating the healthy and safety program and ensure the items raised by the Workwell audit will be met. This person will also assist the Authority in meeting its requirements under the Accessibility Act. Our hope is to have this person in place by early to mid April.

BD-10-056

Arnold - Miller

"That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Health and Safety update, dated April 6, 2010."

CARRIED

A staff report on the draft proposed assessment report for the Source Protection Area was presented.

- the draft proposed Assessment Report for the St. Clair Region Source Protection Area has been posted at www.sourcewaterprotection.on.ca for comment as part of a consultation process as per the Clean Water Act (2006) Ontario Regulation 287/07. Letters along with a CD of the report were also sent to municipalities, First Nations, neighbouring Source Protection Region and Great Lake contacts. Ads have been placed in several newspapers notifying the public of this and promoting a series of three open houses. Hard copies of the report have been placed for viewing at four locations:
 - St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Administration Office
 - Village of Point Edward Municipal Office
 - Wallaceburg Municipal Building
 - Petrolia Town Hall
- in advance of these official open houses, three open houses were held in Sarnia and Wallaceburg. These open houses were locally focused and provided information on the vulnerability and threats assessment of proposed Intake Protection Zones (LAWSS, Petrolia Water Treatment Plant and Wallaceburg Water Treatment Plant). They also provided information on the local municipal drinking water systems. Almost 4,400 individual invitations were mailed to those living within the Intake Protection Zones. Approximately 110 people attended the open houses. Information collected from these open houses was included in this Draft Proposed Assessment Report.
 - The three upcoming open houses are as follows:
 - April 13 - Wallaceburg Municipal Building, 3:00 – 7:00
 - April 15 – Huron Oaks Recreation Centre, 3:00 – 7:00
 - April 20 – SCRCA Administration Office. 3:00 – 7:00
 These meetings will be focused more on the draft document as a whole.
- the St. Clair Region Source Protection Area (SCRSPA) Draft Proposed Assessment Report includes:
 - the identification of vulnerable areas associated with municipal drinking water sources,
 - the types of activities which would be considered threats in those vulnerable areas,
 - any water quality issues associated with the raw (untreated) water to municipal drinking water systems which could be addressed through source protection planning,
 - a water budget which assesses areas where the quantity of water available for the municipal drinking water source may be stressed, and
 - general background material which might be useful in developing a Source Protection Plan.
- once the Assessment Report is completed the Source Protection Committee (SPC) can move on to developing a plan to reduce the threats to drinking water sources.
- the Clean Water Act requires that the SPC provide a copy of the notice of posting to property owners who the committee believes may be engaged in activities which are or would be significant threats to the drinking water sources. In the SCRSPA significant threats are only possible in the IPZ-1 for Wallaceburg Water Treatment Plant and IPZ-1 for the Lambton Area Water Supply System. Through the work of the Source Protection Committee to date, no such activities have been identified and therefore no notices have been sent to landowners.

BD-10-057**MacKenzie - Bilton**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 25, 2010 on the posting of the draft proposed assessment report for the St. Clair Region Source Protection Area.”

CARRIED

A report on Special Events was reviewed.

- 2010 Special Events
 - A.W. Campbell Maple Syrup Festival, March 20 - 21, A.W. Campbell Conservation Area
 - Sydenham River Canoe Race, April 18, Shetland Conservation Area
 - Earth Day, April 22 - Displays put up in two branches of TD Bank (Strathroy and Sarnia) to recognize TD Friends of the Environment Foundation donations
 - Strathroy River Clean-Up, Strathroy Conservation Area
 - Trails Open – Strathroy Water Paddle, May 29, Centennial Park, Strathroy
 - Denning Bros. Funeral Home Memorial Forest Dedication, May 30, Centennial Park
 - Denning's Forest Chapel Memorial Forest Dedication, June 6, Shores Recreation Centre, Lambton Shores
 - Member's Project Tour, June 10
 - Trails Open – Geocaching Event, September 12, Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area
 - McKenzie and Blundy Memorial Forest Dedication, September 19, Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area
 - Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication, September 26, Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area
 - Chatham-Kent Children's Water Festival date tba
- two events are being planned as part of the provincial Trails Open initiative in cooperation with the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) and Conservation Ontario (CO). These events are advertised through both OHT's and CO's website as well as our local promotion. This program is an excellent way to promote the wide variety of outdoor opportunities available at Conservation Areas across the province.
 - Sydenham Water Trail Paddle Day
Date: Saturday, May 29
Time: 9:00 am – 1 p.m.
Location: Town of Strathroy (meet at Centennial Park at the skate board park, Albert Street). People may bring their own canoe or kayak or Canoe Water Adventuring (local canoe outfitter) will supply canoes at no charge for people interested in exploring the water trail in town along the Sydenham River.
 - A Geocaching Adventure
Date: Sunday, September 12
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area . Explore L.C. Henderson Conservation Area with a “Geocaching Twist” Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunt which uses a global positioning system (GPS) unit to locate a hidden cache (treasure). Walk along the trails of the 115 hectare wetlands/forested habitat and bring your GPS receiver to discover the excitement of Geocaching . A limited number of GPS receivers will be available to borrow. A laptop will be set up to upload the coordinates to your GPS

BD-10-058

MacKenzie - McMillan

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 25, 2010 on the Special Events including Trails Open events planned for 2010.”

CARRIED

Results of the Board of Directors survey were discussed.

BD-10-059

Marriott - Bilton

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 25, 2010 on the results of the Board of Director survey on communication.”

CARRIED

Plans for this year’s proposed project tour were explained.

- staff is proposing a Members’ Appreciation Tour and Barbeque on Thursday, June 10, 9:00 – 1:00. A bus tour would leave and return to the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area by 12:00. A barbeque lunch would follow prior to Authority Board meeting which would start at or near 1:00 p.m. at the mezzanine of the Greenwood Recreation Centre at 4065 Dufferin Avenue, Petrolia. Highlights of Tour include:
 - Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area
 - displays of conservation services equipment
 - discussion of community partnerships
 - new playground equipment
 - camping
 - conservation education displays and activities
 - Glenview Estates
 - visit the site of this exciting new land donation to the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation
 - presentation of President’s Award (presented by the Conservation Foundation)
 - Bridgeview Conservation Area
 - municipal and community partnerships
 - Petrolia Discovery
 - discover the origins of the Oil Industry
 - Blue Point - Shoreline 101
 - learn about our efforts to update the shoreline management plan to include Lambton Shores
 - look at some of the challenging issues the board faces in dealing with an active shoreline
 - Great Stops along the Lake – Beach, Boat Ramps, and Rocks
 - C.J. McEwen Conservation Area
 - Highland Glen Conservation Area
 - Bright’s Grove Erosion Control Project – our largest erosion control project which includes armor stone revetment and groynes
 - More Parks
 - Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area
 - Perch Creek Habitat Management Area

- Marthaville Habitat Management Area
- Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area
 - barbeque hosted by the Field Staff
- in addition to these major topics, other Authority programs and projects will be discussed at appropriate spots along the tour route.

BD-10-060**MacKenzie - Giffen**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 25, 2010 on the proposed project tour scheduled for June 10, 2010.”

CARRIED

A staff report on Conservation Education was discussed.

- Maple Syrup Program: despite shortening the program duration to 2 weeks from 3 weeks, the Sugar Bush Tours were very popular this season. Attendance increased by 275 students over 2009. Warm, sunny days followed by cold frosty nights contributed to excellent “sap dripping” weather, much to the delight of participating students. Total Attendance: 742 participants, (467 in 2009.)
- Maple Syrup Festival: cooler weather still managed to attract over 1,000 people to A.W. Campbell C.A. for the 38th Annual Festival. Historical methods of Native, Pioneer and Modern methods of syrup collection and production were on display. The Alvinston Firefighters provided delicious pancake and sausage meals at the Alvinston Arena.
- January Outdoor Programs: 189 students enjoyed this year’s snow at L.C. Henderson C.A. Programs included Geocaching, Orienteering, and Nature In Winter.
- In School Programs: Jan/Feb:

River Rap:	423
Go with the Flow:	2,068
River Bottom Critters:	2,261.
- River Critters has been run in January and February since its inception. Due to increased demand, programs were offered in the first week of March and three more “waiting list” bookings will be completed in April. SLEA will be “show casing” this program in their Annual Report.
- Geocaching: the “*Garmin e-Trex Legend*” GPS units purchased by the Foundation in 2008, are being regularly used as Geocaching continues to gain in popularity. Curriculum related topics are enhanced with the aid of these high tech instruments. In addition to regular class field trips, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and many School Enrichment Programs are booking the activity for the enhanced learning opportunities they provide.
- Children’s Water Festival: funding, new activity stations and bus payment, were discussed. It was decided that all schools participating in the Festival will pay for their bussing with the exception of the volunteers from the high schools. “Beach Closures” will be the topic for a new activity station this year. The SCRCA will provide 3 staff to assist over a 5 day period for the Festival.
- Upcoming events:
 - Marsh Monitoring Workshop at LCH all day, April 10, 2010
 - Earth Fair Port Huron, presenting the River Rap program, April 16, 2010
 - Sydenham River Canoe Race: Sunday April 18, 2010
 - Earth day TD bank, (Sarnia and Strathroy) April 22, 2010
 - OSEE conference presenting the River Rap program, April 29, 2010

BD-10-061

McNeil - Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Education Report, dated March 26, 2010, including the maple syrup program and festival, outdoor programs, in-school programs, geocaching, children’s water festival and upcoming events.”

CARRIED

BD-10-062

Bilton - MacKenzie

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

Andy Bruziewicz
Chairman

Ralph Coe
General Manager