



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: December 12, 2019 Time: 10:00 a.m.
Administration Office, Strathroy

Directors Present: Alan Broad, John Brennan, Pat Brown, Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice Chair; Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, Mark McGill, Carmen McGregor, Steve Miller, Laurie Scott, Mike Stark, Jerry Westgate

Regrets: Dan McMillan, Frank Nemcek, Ron Schenk

Staff Present: Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning and Regulations; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Michelle Gallant, Regulations Officer; Sarah Hume, Payroll/ Accounting Clerk; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Jeff Sharp, Conservation Services Technician; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas

Guests: Elizabeth Cummings, Ray Dobbin, Lynne Brogden

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. It was 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-19-185

MacKinnon – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors adopts the agenda for the meeting as presented.”
CARRIED

Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed.

BD-19-186

Burrell – Brennan

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held November 14, 2019, be approved as distributed.”

CARRIED

BD-19-187

Burrell – Brown

“That the Board of Directors adjourn the regular Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. and convene as a Hearing Board pursuant to Ontario Regulation 171/06 – ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses’ Regulation to consider Application No. R#2019-037 from the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex.”

CARRIED

Hearing procedures were reviewed and confirmation from all parties that notification and documentation was received within the necessary time frame.

The Chair requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest on any item within the hearing agenda in that a Director may have a pecuniary interest and gave his remarks:

“We are now going to conduct a hearing under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act in respect of an application by the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex for permission to alter a watercourse (to enclose a natural watercourse under section 4 of the Drainage Act named the North Branch of the Haggerty, or Haggerty No. 1).

The Authority has adopted regulations under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act which requires the permission of the Authority for development within an area regulated by the Authority in order to ensure no adverse affect on the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or pollution or conservation of land, or to permit alteration to a shoreline or watercourse or interference with a wetland.

The Authority staff have reviewed the application and supporting information and provided the applicant with a response and made arrangements for this hearing to be scheduled. A staff report has been prepared and provided to the Hearing Board members and the applicant as part of this hearing.

The Conservation Authorities Act (Section 28 [12]) provides that:

"Permission required under a regulation made under clause (1) (b) or (c) shall not be refused or granted subject to conditions unless the person requesting permission has been given the opportunity to require a hearing before the authority or, if the authority so directs, before the authority's executive committee."

In holding this hearing, the Hearing Board is to determine whether or not a permit is to be issued. In doing so, the Hearing Board can only consider the application in the form that is before us, the staff report, such evidence as may be given and the submissions to be made on behalf of the applicant.

The proceedings will be conducted according to the Statutory Powers Procedure Act. Under Section 5 of the Canada Evidence Act, a witness may refuse to answer any

question on the ground that the answer may tend to criminate the person, or may tend to establish his/her liability to a civil proceeding at the instance of the Crown or of any person.

The procedure in general shall be informal without the evidence before it being given under oath or affirmation.

If the applicant has any questions to ask of the Hearing Board or of the Authority representative, they must be directed to the Chair of the Board.”

The following directors were present for roll-call: Alan Broad, John Brennan, Pat Brown, Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice Chair; Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, Mark McGill, Carmen McGregor, Steve Miller, Laurie Scott, Jerry Westgate.

SCRCA Staff Michelle Gallant presented the nature and location of the subject application and the conclusions.

SCRCA Staff report was presented by Michelle Gallant.

A report was presented by Ray Dobbin, P.Eng., representing the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex (the applicant).

The Hearing Board requested clarification from both SCRCA staff and the applicant.

BD-19-188

Scott – Loosley

“That the Hearing Board move in-camera at 10:50 am to deliberate information provided regarding Application #2019-037 with the General Manager remaining.”

CARRIED

BD-19-189

Scott – Mackinnon

“That the Hearing Board rise and report at 11:09 a.m.”

CARRIED

Recorded Vote in Reference to BD-19-190

Director	For	Against
MacKinnon, Betty Ann		x
Nemcek, Frank (regrets)	-	-
Faas, Joe	x	
McGregor, Carmen		x
Broad, Al	x	
Marriott, Kevin	x	
Scott, Lorie		x

McMillan, Dan (regrets)	-	-
Loosley, Brad	x	
Schenk, Ron (regrets)	-	-
Gordon, Larry		x
Bruziewicz, Andy		x
Burrell, Terry		x
Stark, Mike (abstained)	-	-
McGill, Mark	x	
Brown, Pat	x	
Miller, Steve		x
Brennan, John	x	
Kennes, Frank	x	
Westgate, Jerry	x	
Totals	9	7

BD-19-190

Loosely – Broad

“That the Hearing Board in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation Authorities Act, held a hearing for the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, Application No. R#2019-037 on December 12, 2019 and hereby approves the application and directs staff to issue a Notice of Decision accompanied by the required conditions.”

CARRIED

BD-19-191

MacKinnon – McGregor

“That the Hearing Board adjourns the Hearing and reconvenes as a Board the Board of Directors at 11:14 a.m.”

CARRIED

BD-19-192

Stark – Scott

“That the Board of Directors requests a full and complete report of the costs associated with core and ancillary mandates to be presented at a Lambton County Councilor’s meeting in April of 2020, which will be made open to all Municipal level parties and SCRCA Directors.”

CARRIED

Special Advisor’s Report of Flooding:

- Doug McNeil was appointed as Ontario’s Special Advisor on Flooding by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Honourable John Yakabuski, on July 18, 2019
- The duties of the Special Advisor were to:
 - review the province’s current flood management framework
 - consider policies and activities which influenced spring flooding

- consider both Great Lakes and urban flooding
 - provide expert advice to the Minister
 - make recommendations to the government on opportunities to improve the existing flood policy framework
- The Advisor, working with the Ministry, completed a nine-day community tour over two weeks in early September 2019, highlighting the variance in issues, geographies and responsibilities
- Tour stops included a mix of provincial department meetings; agency meetings; municipal and conservation authority roundtables; and guided tours of locally impacted areas
- Community tours took place in Ottawa, Pembroke, North Bay, Toronto, Muskoka, Cambridge and London (attended by Board Member Terry Burrell and Director of Water Resources Girish Sankar)
- The report is broken into 8 Chapters - 1) Introduction; 2) The Review Process; 3) Background and the 2019 Flooding in Ontario; 4) Region Specific Situations; 5) Ontario's Approach to Managing Flood Risk; and 6) Challenges and Opportunities to Managing Flood Risk; 7) Recommendations to External Agencies; 8) Fiscal Pressures and Capacity Issues
- The report contains 66 recommendations
- Conservation Authorities play a key role in many of the recommendations
- The report is available in its entirety at Ontario.ca/floodreport

Programs / Services Summary:

- As requested by the Board of Directors at the October 2019 meeting, the following table outlines in greater detail, the mandate origin, timelines, financial responsibility, legislated responsibility, strategic plan directive.

BD-19-193

Broad – Brown

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated December 3, 2019.”

CARRIED

A verbal report of the Conservation Ontario Council meeting held on December 10, 2019 was given. The Flood report was discussed at length. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), who reinforced the Province’s message and gave the strong impression that MECP is passionate about conservation and is seeking to gain a stronger understanding of the work of Conservation Authorities. At the time of the meeting, there remained 4 Conservation Authorities that have not yet met with the Minister for consultation. The Conservation Ontario Chair urged members to continue pursuing face to face meetings with MPPs and highlighted the importance of relationship building.

BD-19-194

Brown – Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal report from the Conservation Ontario Council meeting of December 10, 2019.”

CARRIED

The report on Business Arising from the November 14, 2019 Board of Directors meeting was reviewed.

BD-19-195

MacKinnon – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the November 14, 2019 meeting.”

CARRIED

2019 Camping Statistics:

- Overall campground revenue up 0.5%
- Seasonal camping revenue up 1.7%
- Daily camping revenue up 4.8%

Campground Upgrades 2019:

Warwick Conservation Area

- Fibre optic internet cable installed this fall to the gatehouse, workshop, and visitor’s centre
- Wi-Fi will be available to campers in two locations
 1. New ‘internet café’ building between the visitor’s centre and the pool
 2. New pavilion behind the gatehouse
- 200m of reservoir shoreline naturalized
- New pollinator garden
- New drainage installed along 4 seasonal lots
- New drainage installed in the main day use area
- 2 hydro panels replaced
- New dock constructed

L.C. Henderson

- 2 hydro panels replaced
- 2 60 gallon hot water heaters replaced
- 2 new portable washrooms
- Safety upgrades for education department and campers including a walking lane along the roadway into the park, new boardwalk into pond, upgraded trails
- Repairs to the dumping station pump system

A.W. Campbell

- Roof replacement on pool building and Group A shelter

- 1 hydro panel replaced
- 2 new portable washrooms
- New chemical feed pumps for the pool

Day Use Conservation Area Updates:

- Bridgeview CA wetland construction close to completion, pollinator habitat, tree planting, and site rehabilitation to be completed in Spring
- Bridgeview CA oil day storage tank removal complete (7 storage tanks)
- Coldstream CA boardwalk trail was closed for a couple months due to boardwalk damage and hazard tree concerns; hazard trees removed by Middlesex Centre and CA staff, trail reopened in November
- Additional section of walkway constructed to access Highland Glen boat ramp due to high lake levels
- Boardwalk repairs in Strathroy CA, Coldstream CA, and Clark Wright CA
- Hazard trees removed in Strathroy CA (99), Clark Wright CA (13), Coldstream CA (16), Wawanosh CA (47)
- Forty-two memorial forest trees planted throughout the Conservation Areas

BD-19-196

Miller – Westgate

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas update, dated November 30, 2019.”

CARRIED

Highland Glen Conservation Area comprises approximately 26 acres of predominantly wooded land. Situated on the Lake Huron shoreline, it is located in Plympton-Wyoming approximately 10km west of Forest. The property was purchased as two parcels, one in 1976 and one in 1977. The Conservation Area contains an access roadway, parking lot, pavilion, and boat ramp with seawall and groyne protection.

The groyne on the west side of the boat ramp was constructed by the landowner prior to acquisition by the Authority. In 1986/87 the access road, parking lot, and boat ramp were constructed. Due to safety concerns at the ramp, additional protection was constructed in 1990. The works consisted of a steel sheet pile and armour stone breakwall on the northeast side of the ramp and a steel sheet pile curtain wall connected to the existing groyne on the southwest side.

In late November, staff observed damage to the seawall protection. The steel sheet pile on the original groyne at the west side has been removed by wave action.

Financial Impact:

The cost to repair the damage is unknown at this time. Two contractors have been contacted to provide an approximate cost to repair the damage.

(October 17, 1996)

EC-96-150

Dedecker – Skinner

“That the Executive Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that Highland Glen be designated a regional conservation area and further that staff of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the Township of Plympton endeavour to raise funds to offset the cost to general levy including establishing a user fee for launching boats.”

CARRIED

(November 21, 1996)

GM-96-157

Rankin – Webb

“That the Board of Directors approves the recommendation from the Executive Committee, that the Highland Glen Conservation Area be designated a regional conservation area in 1997 and beyond.”

CARRIED

As a regional conservation area, the costs associated with the property are paid through a non-matching levy (general levy) and revenues generated by the boat ramp. Annual revenues are approximately \$6,000 - \$10,000.

BD-19-197

MacKinnon – Marriott

“That the Board of Director’s acknowledges the report dated December 10, 2019, on the damages to the groyne at Highland Glen.”

CARRIED

Highlights:

- Spring freshet is anticipated to be severe, with high concern for ice jamming and high snow melt inputs compounded by high lake levels
- Wind storm caused backflow in Wallaceburg, resulting in minor flooding
- Seasonal outlook for winter is anticipated to bring seasonal to below seasonal temperatures, and higher than normal precipitation
- Lake levels anticipated to fall slightly within the month, but exceed record levels in early 2020
- The watershed had 8-12cm of snow on the November 15 snow survey

Flood Threat

The flood threat as of this report is low as a result of above freezing temperatures and no heavy snow or rain in the forecast. However, strong westerly winds have the ability to cause backflow in Wallaceburg, quickly elevating water levels. This was experienced on November 27th, where sustained winds and gusts up to 80km/h pushed water over the top of the bank in downtown Wallaceburg.

Nevertheless, long term model forecasts are anticipating below seasonal temperatures and above seasonal precipitation inputs in the coming months, which have the potential to elevate the flood risk to severe due to the increased likelihood of ice jamming and high snowmelt. Forecasted record high lake levels will also create difficulty during the spring flood.

Precipitation Conditions

No new data for monthly precipitation totals since last board report, dated November 4, 2019. Updated monthly totals will be available for the following board meeting.

- Average snow depths (SD) across the watershed ranged between 8-12 cm, with snow-water equivalent ranging between 15-24mm
- Snow had no crust (A) and soil was mostly unfrozen wet (UW)
- Temperatures above freezing were seen days after the snow fell and complete melt occurred

Great Lakes Levels

- Water levels are up compared to this time last year
- Water levels are anticipated to fall next month, but only slightly
- Lake Huron is forecasted to exceed record-high water levels starting in December 2019 and continuing into April 2020
- Lake St. Clair is forecasted to meet the record-high water level in December 2019, and then exceed records in January 2020, continuing into April 2020

Seasonal Outlook

Seasonal outlooks are provided each month by Jerry Shields, meteorologist for the Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services branch of the MNRF. This information is used internally to prepare for potential increased flood or drought conditions in the distant future. A summary of the outlook is provided below:

- December 2019 and January 2020 are forecasted to receive greater than seasonal precipitation amounts
- December 2019 and January 2020 are anticipated to be at seasonal temperatures, however February 2020 is forecasted as being colder than seasonal
- The conditions for Winter 2019 are modelled very similarly to those experienced in Winter 2004/05, during which saw treacherous blizzards, extreme cold, and a long winter into April.

In summary, if these modelled conditions come to fruition, our region could expect a severe freshet with high amounts of snow melt and thick ice, which would pose an ice jam risk.

BD-19-198**Nemcek – Scott****“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 30, 2019 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”****CARRIED**

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Status
Courtright Park	Courtright Park Shoreline restoration – Phase 3	Shoreline work at Courtright Park along St. Clair River using armourstone and riprap.	Tender process ongoing
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 2	Carry out construction of Phase 2 from the recommendation of engineering study.	Construction to start January 2, 2020. Permit applications underway
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Dam equipment repair and painting	Paint Dam equipment and waterproof the gate house and repair equipment as necessary	Ongoing
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Vegetation Management Plan	Channel and drain repairs along the floodway	Ongoing

Status Update: Phase II

- Phase II work is tendered to complete 75 meters of shoreline
- Additional shoreline work will be completed. Extent of this will be determined mid-January
- Cope Construction will be starting the shoreline work in January 2020
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies
- Modification to the design to not include groynes has been recommended by the City of Sarnia.
- This will expedite permit process and funds can be utilized towards revetment work along Brights Grove.

Status Update: Phase III

- A budget of \$750,000 has been confirmed for the project (St. Clair Township \$450,000; DMAF - \$300,000)
- 60 meters of shoreline revetment will be completed in this phase III
- Tenders were advertised for this phase of the project on November 20, 2019
- Tenders will be available for pick up from November 26, 2019

- Tenders close on December 10, 2019
- Staff will review the tenders and make a recommendation to the Board Meeting on December 12.
- Staff are coordinating with MNRF and DFO for permits
- Construction is expected to begin early January 2020

Permits for projects from fisheries and oceans have not been received and review of projects with groyne installations are taking longer than expected. To expedite this, SCRCA and the City of Sarnia are moving ahead without groyne design in this phase of shoreline work to ensure shoreline revetment work gets moving. We understand the importance of groyne and will continue to have discussion with the permitting agencies to allow groyne installation. We will prepare another application to include installation of groynes and once approved, will implement the installation as soon as possible.

Director’s Comments:

Director Mike Stark requested that it be recorded that the City of Sarnia’s position on the installation of groynes is not reflected within this report. In response, SCRCA staff gave the following explanation:

Permits for projects from Fisheries and Oceans have not been received and review of projects with groyne installations are taking longer than expected. To expedite this, SCRCA and staff from the city of Sarnia are moving ahead without groyne design in this phase of shoreline work to ensure shoreline revetment work gets moving. We understand the importance of groyne and will continue to have discussions with the permitting agencies to allow groyne installation. We will prepare another application to include installation of groynes and once approved, will implement the installation as soon as possible.

A concern was brought forth on behalf of private landowner Lynne Brogden, whose shoreline property in Brights Grove is being effected by erosion. The question was posed whether we could extend MNRF and DFO permits to private landowners for shoreline protection on their properties. It is possible for SCRCA to look at our own permitting for shoreline protection, however an extension of external permits to include private land is not.

BD-19-199

Scott – Bruziewicz

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Water and Erosion Projects dated November 26, 2019.”

CARRIED

Status Update: Phase II

- SCRCA and City of Sarnia staff are working to maximize funds received through a recent DMAF grant
- Cope Construction has been awarded this work.

- Construction crew has been mobilized on site
- Construction is expected to begin December 15, 2019
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies
- Groynes have been removed from the shoreline design at the request of City of Sarnia Staff to expedite the permit process and focus on revetment work

Status Update: Phase III

- Phase III work has been tendered to complete 225 meters of shoreline.
- This work will start at Helen Avenue towards Westgate Crescent
- Tenders has be advertised for this phase of the project last week
- Tenders are expected to close on January 7, 2019
- Construction is expected to begin third week of January, 2019
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies
- Groynes have been removed from the shoreline design at the request of City Staff and to expedite the permit process and focus on revetment work

Status Update: Old Lakeshore road east

- Shoreline work work has been tendered to complete 260 meters of shoreline.
- Tenders has be advertised for this phase of the project last week
- Tenders are expected to close on January 8, 2019
- Construction is expected to begin third week of January, 2019
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 11, 2019 regarding the update to Phase 2 – Bright Grove shoreline project and other shoreline projects. The board further directs staff to acquire and review tender documents from contractors for a) Courtright shoreline project – Phase 3, b) Phase 3 - Brights Grove shoreline project and 3) Old Lakeshore road east and and further delegates the Chair and General Manager to approve the preferred contractor and sign necessary contracts, subject to confirmation that all costs to undertake the work will be covered through the available funding.

BD-19-200

Brown – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 11, 2019 regarding the update to Phase 2 – Bright Grove shoreline project and other shoreline projects. The board further directs staff to acquire and review tender documents from contractors for a) Courtright shoreline project – Phase 3, b) Phase 3 - Brights Grove shoreline project and 3) Old Lakeshore road east and and further delegates the Chair and General Manager to approve the preferred contractor and sign necessary contracts, subject to confirmation that all costs to undertake the work will be covered through the available funding.”

CARRIED

Moore Wildlife Habitat Management Area was visited by Allen Woodliffe on three occasions in late 2019 to search for moths and other invertebrates attracted by a black light.

Allen Woodliffe, a retired MNRF ecologist, grew up on a farm just outside of Rondeau Provincial Park. He was a seasonal park naturalist at Rondeau and then the full time park naturalist for about 13 years, before continuing his career at Ontario Ministry Of Natural Resources career as the District Ecologist for Chatham and Aylmer Districts. He retired at the end of 2011 after 36 years with OMNR. Allen is a well-known and respected and is often being asked to lend his ecological opinion and expertise to local projects.

A report summarizing his findings was circulated to Board members. Overall, 60 species of moths and 13 other insects were identified. Seven species of these moths are likely to be uncommon in Ontario. Liatris Borer (*Papaipema beeriana*), whose identification is pending final confirmation, is possibly a new species for Canada! Moth specialists have narrowed down the specimen found at Moore to be either *P. beeriana* or *P. necopina*, but due to the bronzy scales, are leaning towards *P. beeriana*. Either species one would be an excellent find, because there are a 2-3 records for *P. necopina* in Ontario/Canada and surprisingly, only 2-3 records for it in the USA.

There is a lot of potential for many more moth species to be documented from this site, especially since the quality of the Sydenham River is well known for supporting less common and even rare species of fauna.

BD-19-201

Gordon – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 27, 2019 on Black Lighting for Insects at Moore Wildlife Area, Lambton County, 2019.”

CARRIED

The monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for the month of October, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-202

Scott – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for the month of October, 2019.”

CARRIED

The Regulations Activity Summary Report on ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses’ Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for the month of October, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-203

Miller – Scott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report on ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses’ Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for the month of October, 2019.”

CARRIED

Pre-Consultation/Processing Fee

When the SCRCA first point of contact staff member gets a walk-in, phone call, phone message or email from a landowner inquiring about their property, potential development and SCRCA requirements, SCRCA staff will outline verbally and generally follow up with an email the following;

- SCRCA understanding of the proposed development (pole barn, new dwelling, etc.);
- What portions (if any) of the subject property are regulated by the Authority under “Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses” (Ontario Regulation 171/06) regulations implemented by the Authority pursuant to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act;
- Written permission of the Authority is required prior to commencement of development activities within a regulated area. Development activities include: construction, reconstruction, or placement of a structure; placement or removal of fill; re-grading; altering a watercourse or shoreline; or interfering with the function of a wetland;
- The approximate area regulated by the Authority either by way of map in an email or link to SCRCA online mapping;
- If the landowner is proposing to develop (e.g. pole barn, new dwelling, etc.) completely outside of the regulated area the written permission from the Authority will not be required.
 - SCRCA can review a submitted site plan showing proposed works outside regulated area and issue a clearance email confirming further permission from the SCRCA is not required for works outside the regulated area;
- If the landowner is proposing to develop (i.e. pole barn, new dwelling, etc.) within the regulated area they are asked to please provide a preliminary sketch showing the proposed location of the new structure, and to be sure to include dimensions of the new structure, and any other construction details they may have at this point. The \$100 processing fee is then applied to review the propose works in the regulated area and provide preliminary pre-consultation review of the proposal and a written response outlining detailed application requirements and process (should a formal permit be require), or for routine works provide a streamlined written permission via email;
- The pre-consultation and processing fee also allows front line staff to perform initial screening of a Planning and Regulations submitted application, and work with

proponents to ensure a complete application with all relevant information is received. This is to ensure there are no delays in the review process.

Financial Impact:

The processing fee for 2019 as of September has generated \$20,500 in revenue.

Background (From September 19, 2019 Board Report 14.5):

Further to SCRCA April 2019 Board Report 6.2, and September 2019 Board Report 14.4, the provincial government has released several consultations, draft proposals and proposed amendments to legislation to ensure that conservation authorities focus and deliver on their core mandate of protecting people and property from flooding and other natural hazards and conserving natural resources, while at the same time increasing housing supply and streamline the development approvals process to align with their goals.

CO established a small working group to identify recommendations for solutions that will address the issues identified by the government around the housing supply while still protecting natural hazards management and plan review activities required to protect the health and safety of Ontario's watersheds and residents.

The CO working group developed the following three key solutions that staff will work on with the development and construction community and municipalities. Through these activities we will also identify any other specific concerns to be addressed.

1. Improve Client Service and Accountability;
2. Increase speed of approvals; and,
3. Reduce "red tape" and regulatory burden.

SCRCA Focus on Pre-Consultation in 2019

In 2019, SCRCA began addressing three solutions mentioned above by establishing a dedicated first point of contact staff member for the Planning and Regulations Department and kicking off the use of a new document management system developed over the previous year. This front-line customer service initiative allowed an increased focus on communication with the applicant during the pre-consultation process, which is resulting in improved efficiencies, timely responses on complete application requirements, and identifying the appropriate studies/technical information required for a proposal. When improved pre-consultation is undertaken prior to submission of an application, the SCRCA can move seamlessly towards processing the application and issuing the permit. Also, with the help of the document management system the department is able to document file progress, track correspondence and collect appropriate fees for services rendered during the pre-consultation process and thereafter. This makes the expectations, process, fees etc. clear from the on-set, which streamlines the process for both the applicant and the CA.

This commitment to pre-consultation and improved customer service has decreased SCRCA response time on permit application requirements. With continued dedication, this sets us up to strive towards achieving the greatly reduced best-practices and turnaround times that the 'CO Guideline for Client Service' standards has outlined for all CAs. Reduced timelines recommended by CO are shown in tables below.

Recommendations:

Routine Permit Applications				
	Time to confirm permit application requirements after pre-consultation	Time to Confirm Complete Application	Timeline to Issue Permit (from complete application)	Total Timeline
CALC Guidelines (calendar days)	21	21	30	72
CO Client Service Standards Guideline (calendar days)	7	10	14	31

Minor Permit Applications				
	Time to confirm permit application requirements after pre-consultation	Time to Confirm Complete Application	Timeline to Issue Permit (from complete application)	Total Timeline
CALC Guidelines (calendar days)	21	21	30	72
CO Client Service Standards Guideline (calendar days)	7	14	21	42

Major Permit Applications				
	Time to confirm permit application requirements after pre-consultation	Time to Confirm Complete Application	Timeline to Issue Permit (from complete application)	Total Timeline
CALC Guidelines (calendar days)	21	21	90	132

CO Client Service Standards Guideline (calendar days)	14	21	28	63
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While improving our pre-consultation process the SCRCA Planning and Regulations department has also been able to continue to keep our complete permit application turnaround time at average to well under the current CALC guideline 30 days as directed by the board. These timelines are currently reported to the Board at each meeting. It should be further noted that Planning and Regulations applications, and compliance and enforcement demands continue to increase.

As identified in the September 2019 Board Report 14.4, further streamlining initiatives are underway. Staff resources are required to meet the updated timelines, and costs associated with implementing the best practices will need to be recovered through CA fees.

It is important to ensure that staff resources continue to be provided to offer timely pre-consultation opportunities, and meet complete permit review timelines and compliance and enforcement objectives.

Strategic Objectives(s):

Implementation the Conservation Ontario Streamlining Initiatives will help to achieve the following goals of the SCRCA Strategic Plan.

- Develop and maintain programs that will protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion.

Director’s Comments:

It was enquired whether SCRCA has a pre-project checklist for developers listing all steps and requirements to obtain a permit. Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning informed Directors that the SCRCA Planning Department is currently working towards a checklist, which will be posted online and available in office when complete. Directors thanked staff for proving this report.

BD-19-204

Bruziewicz – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 3, 2019 on SCRCA Pre-Consultation and Processing Fees.”

CARRIED

Background (From April 20, 2017 Board Report):

SCRCA follows the CO/OMAFRA approved DART protocol for the maintenance of municipal drains. The goal was to develop a means for municipalities and conservation authorities to fulfil their responsibilities under the Drainage Act and Conservation

Authorities Act respectively without compromising the intent of either statute. A protocol does not currently exist for new drains under section 4 or improvements to drains under section 78 of the *Drainage Act*.

SCRCA's process prior to 2017 was not to require written permission under O.R. 171/06 for enclosures taking place under the Drainage Act. The SCRCA provided comments and advice, based on our mandate, to the *Drainage Act* process for new engineer's reports created under section 4 and/or 78 of the *Drainage Act*. Under the *Drainage Act*, the Authority is limited in the reports or studies that it can request in support of the proposed enclosure.

For those enclosures of natural watercourses or private drainage systems when not occurring under the *Drainage Act*, the proposals require written permission under Regulation 171/06.

If municipal drain enclosures are carried out (with or without a CA Act S.28 permit) and impact regulated areas with respect to the CA's regulatory responsibilities under the CA Act the CA could be held liable for not undertaking or enforcing its regulatory responsibilities (flooding and erosion impacts).

Ontario Regulation 171/06 requires prior written permission of the SCRCA for enclosures of open municipal drains since it involves alterations to a watercourse. Drains are defined as watercourses under the Act. Requiring written permission for drain enclosures enables the SCRCA to seek information, as deemed appropriate, to reduce the impacts of flooding and erosion. The Authority seeks such information as part of an application under O.R.171/06 and not as part of the *Drainage Act* drain review process.

Other Conservation Authorities:

- As of 2017 the ABCA, LTVCA, ERCA, UTRCA, required written permission (or permits) for drain enclosures.

Over the years, the number of proposed and actual enclosures of open drains and watercourses has increased in Southwestern Ontario. The majority of these enclosures of Municipal drains occur in the upper portions or the headwaters. These headwater systems have important functions.

Enclosures can have negative and cumulative impacts, including:

- increased floodplains
- downstream/upstream flooding
- overland erosion
- increased sediment loads
- degraded stream health (i.e. water quality/ecological functions)

The following motion was carried:

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated March 6, 2017, on the need for O. Regulation 171/06 written permission for drain enclosures and directs SCRCA staff to present a motion and policy to require O.R. 171/06 permission for Drain Enclosures.”

Background (From September 21, 2017 Board Report);

The interim guidelines were developed and presented to the Board (see item 13.4a SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy in this package). They were to be in place until the comprehensive SCRCA Regulations Policy including an Inference to Watercourses section is finalized (ongoing).

Administration of service:

- Similar to the DART protocol review process approved by the Board April 18, 2014, Biology Section staff completed the drain enclosure review and reporting with ratification by Planning and Regulations Section/ Regulations Officer. (This administrative process was a natural transition as a result of the former Department of Fisheries and Oceans agreements). As with the DART protocol, SCRCA Ontario Regulation 171/06 “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” applies to municipal drain enclosures and a proposed Drain Enclosure Policy and guideline would be followed for streamlining purposes. The impacts to flooding and erosion studies, if required, would require review by the SCRCA Engineer. Appropriate review fees would apply in these cases.

The following motion was carried:

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated August 30, 2017, on the need for O. Regulation 171/06 written permission for drain enclosures and supplemental guidelines and directs SCRCA staff to require O. Regulation 171/06 permission for Drain Enclosures and further that fees be recuperated based on current SCRCA Regulation Fees.”

Background (From September 2017 to June 2019 and to Present)

- September 21, 2017 to August 2018;
 - SCRCA staff at drain meetings (onsite or information meeting) or notified thru written correspondence, provided drainage superintendents with information that a SCRCA O.R. 171/06 review is required under Drain Enclosure Policy, for drain enclosures and that the SCRCA generally does not support enclosures, email follow-up generally given with Regulations Officer contact info;
- August 2018 to June 2019 and to Present;
 - SCRCA staff provide formal written comments with a copy of the Drain Enclosure Policy outlining if the type of enclosures would be permitted by

SCRCA staff, and explaining how the Drain Enclosure Policy is implemented;

Background (From June 27, 2019 Board Report)

The SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy, SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process Cover Letter, and SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process was sent to municipal representatives and drainage superintendents via email on June 17, 2019, and reported to the SCRCA Board at our June 27, 2019 meeting. See board report 12.5 in June 27, 2019 board package.

The SCRCA outlined it is committed to ongoing and improved engagement with the Municipality on our Drainage Act Review Process and offers an open invitation to meet and/or discuss any questions or comments they may have.

The information outlined that SCRCA Biology Department staff completing Municipal Drain review has recently completed regulations training to be qualified as a Provincial Offences Officer. This will enable the SCRCA to provide an improved level of service and efficiency by having a regulations trained staff member dedicated to Municipal Drain review. This allows the SCRCA to have a single point of contact to provide regulations review and approvals on all drain related matters.

Background (September 19, 2019 Board Meeting)

Directors asked that the drain enclosure policy be brought to the Board of Directors meeting for review.

Next Steps

There has been ongoing discussions with the SCRCA Board and our member municipalities/drain superintendents on the implementation of the Drain Enclosure Policy. Staff of the SCRCA understands that better communication, education and consultation is required around the Drain Enclosure Policy to improve our regulatory review process.

SCRCA staff recommend that engagement/consultation with our watershed drainage superintendents and municipal representatives for comments on the policy be undertaken.

Financial Implications:

Fees will be recuperated based on current SCRCA Regulation Fee's.

Conservation Strategy

Supports Goals 1, 2 and 3 of Strategic Plan

Directors Comments:

It was requested that the Drain Enclosure Policy be distributed to Municipal Clerks and Drainage Departments.

BD-19-205

Marriott – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy dated December 3, 2019, and direct staff to consult with Drainage Superintendents and our member Municipalities for comments on the policy.”

CARRIED

Further to the November 14th Staff Report 11.3 and the request by Directors at the November Board meeting, SCRCA staff (Brian McDougall and Dallas Cundick) scheduled conference calls with our 17 member municipality Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and/or Clerks. SCRCA staff have held discussions with 16 municipalities (final CAO discussion scheduled for January 8, 2020).

Highlights:

The following highlights from the discussions with planners was further confirmed in the discussions with the CAO/Clerks.

- Duplication of duties was not identified as an issue or a concern by watershed municipalities.
- No redundancy in tasks completed by SCRCA staff for planning applications was identified by watershed municipalities.
- Improved communication will benefit processes on the part of all parties.
- Updated memorandum(s) of understanding (MOU) will provide opportunity to: clarify roles and each organizations responsibilities, improve process, educate and inform all parties and the public.
- All watershed municipalities identified the need for the SCRCA’s natural heritage commenting service. This expertise is not available at any of the planning offices in the region and is costly to be acquired from the private sector.

Additional Discussion Points with CAO/Clerks:

The following comments were received grouped by specific topics:

Planning Comments – Format and Content

- Utilize plain language and improve format.
- Make clear SCRCA recommendations regarding the planning application to the municipality (e.g. premature, no objection, no objection subject to conditions, deferral because more information is required, refusal – application is not supported by CA policies and/or PPS policies). If applicable, list outstanding technical information required to obtain approval.

- Outline clearly comments in regard to CA role in plan review;
 - Delegated Responsibility and Statutory Comments
 - Advisory Comments
 - through our responsibilities as a service provider through MOU
 - through our role as a public body, pursuant to the Planning Act
 - under the Clean Water Act, 2006
 - As an Adjacent Landowner
 - Additional Advisory Comments
 - These would apply if/when there are comments that relate to:
 - Provincial plans as defined under the Planning Act
 - Remedial Action Plans
 - Pertinent Watershed Plan
- Have reports focus on provincial policy and how they are interpreted, including introducing SCRCA regulations and technical guidelines.
- Ensure wording is precise so it can be used as conditions of approval.
- Template format for reports, which separates material that is directly relevant and recommended conditions from standardized language.
- Should SCRCA include additional advisory comments, such as other agency requirements?
 - Majority of Municipalities felt:
 - Important to include, more information provided, the better, helps with the decision making process and brings issues to the forefront.
 - CA role needs to be very clear however (i.e. comments are delegated responsibility and statutory comments, or advisory comments based on MOU, or additional advisory comments).
 - Continue communication with municipal planners and member municipalities.
 - Minority of Municipalities felt:
 - Stick to SCRCA responsibilities and province delegated role and mandate, mixed reaction when we give these reminders.
 - Appreciated, but concerned with optics if too many comments are provided outside of the CA mandate. Should look at ways of communicating outside of formal comments.

MOU Updates

- SCRCA should utilize the process to improve communication and education for councils, staff, stakeholders, etc. (planning 101 sessions).
- Support for county level MOU documents with municipal signatures.
- Support for individual municipal agreements with some member municipalities (i.e. proactive councils).
- Include building official in the process.

Pre-Consultation

- Importance of early engagement and SCRCA involvement;

- Continued need for SCRCA planning staff to be available to discuss with member municipalities and planner in early stages.
- New techniques of pre-consultation processes are being developed throughout the watershed and SCRCA staff can be involved.
 - Municipalities with formal regularly schedules pre-consultation meeting process appreciate the SCRCA attending or calling in, resulting in less of duplication.
- Important for SCRCA to be at the table for high-level initial meetings without a fee being charged.

Fee Schedule

- Ensure clear timely process for notification which ensures lower tier municipalities are notified of fee schedule updates.
- From a customer service standpoint, work towards an improved fee guide and schedule to update the municipality on fee updates and implementation (supports communicating answers to the public).
- Support for one stop shop and collecting fees at municipal offices.
- Some municipalities find fees significant.
- Communication and discussion with for municipalities and between CAs on the differences in fees and levy structures for municipalities that share more than one CA.

Rural Surplus Farm Dwelling Severance, Rural Severance for Merged Parcels, and Re-Zoning to Downgraded Use

- Review process and communication for when fees and comments are required for SCRCA review on above applications when no new buildings are proposed.
- Review process and communication for when formal pre-consultation letters are provided, and when is it appropriate to also provide detailed formal comments on planning applications.

Ontario Regulation 171/06 Permitting

- CAOs hear more of the concerns from public in regard to SCRCA regulations permitting timelines and fees.
- It would be appropriate for SCRCA to have on-going discussion with Chief Building Officials regarding the day to day processes in the regulations review of building permits to ensure efficiencies and common understanding.
- CAOs are hoping for clarity in rural floodplain, trust that new mapping will be more accurate and make more sense.

Actions:

SCRCA has begun to undertake the following actions:

Planning Comments, MOUs, Fee Schedule, Pre-Consultation

- Continue the discussion about process improvements with member municipalities and signing of MOUs.
- Circulating notice of the 2020 Fee Schedule with an interpretation Fee Guide.
- Make revisions to commenting report templates.
- In accordance with CO Client Service and Streamlining Initiative, SCRCA is utilizing the following guidance documents to improve service, educate and inform all parties and the public.
 - CA Planning Comments Templates
 - CA-Municipality MOU Template for Planning and Development Review
 - Guideline for CA Fee Administration Policies (Plan Review and Permitting)
 - Client Service Standards for Conservation Authority Plan and Permit Review

Pre-Consultation

- Attending as required new formal pre-consultation meetings regularly scheduled by municipalities on a monthly basis.
- Provide initial screening of applications at no charge.

Rural Surplus Farm Dwelling Severance, Rural Severance for Merged Parcels, and Re-Zoning to Downgraded Use

- Continued communication with member municipalities, to discuss clear guidelines when comments are required and when they are not, including specific examples.

Ontario Regulation 171/06

- SCRCA will have on-going discussions with CBOs, regarding the day to day processes in the regulations review of building permits to ensure efficiencies and common understanding.

Strategic Objectives:

Goal 1 – Develop and maintain programs that will protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion

Goal 4 – Build a stronger and more valued organization through business excellence

Director’s Comments:

SCRCA Staff were thanked for this report.

BD-19-206

Scott – Broad

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Plan Input and Review Discussion with Member Municipality CAO’s, and further acknowledges the following highlights from these discussions as described in the report handed out in today’s meeting.”

CARRIED

Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Coordinator

At the end of the summer, Kelly Johnson, RAP Coordinator for the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) accepted a position with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. In the interim, Donna Blue, Manager of Communications, has been fulfilling the RAP Coordinator role. This will continue until Agreements with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) are finalized in the spring.

Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC)

The CRIC has released their 2012-2017 Report of Accomplishments for the St. Clair River AOC. This document reports on the actions and accomplishments achieved during the 2012-2017 Work Plan period. The report is available in hard copy (upon request) and online at the recently re-designed Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR) community group website (www.friendsofstclair.ca).

The CRIC is currently creating a new work plan that will span the years 2017-2022.

Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)

The BPAC held a meeting at the Maawn Doosh Gumig Community Centre at Aamjiwnaang First Nation on November 14, 2019.

The meeting focused on the status assessment report for the ‘Fish Tumours or Other Deformities’ Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI). A re-designation recommendation was put forth by the CRIC to change its current designation from ‘Requires Further Assessment’ to ‘Not Impaired’.

Fish Tumours or Other Deformities:

To assess the ‘Fish Tumours or Other Deformities’ BUI, two focused fish studies were conducted in the AOC to determine the prevalence of cancerous liver tumours in species of fish collected from the St. Clair River.

Shorthead Redhorse Sucker (2002 – 2006):

Over a four year period, 126 Shorthead Redhorse Suckers (*Moxostoma macrolepidotum*) were collected from the St. Clair River and assessed for liver tumour prevalence. The average age of the fish was 10 and no liver neoplasms were detected

in any of the fish collected from the river. In comparison, there was one fish (out of 100 assessed) at the Lake Huron reference site where a liver neoplasm was reported.

Brown Bullhead (2013 – 2014):

Over two years, 60 Brown Bullhead (*Ameiurus nebulosus*) fish were collected from the Walpole Island First Nation delta. The majority of fish were older than five years old and no liver neoplasms were detected. These data were corroborated by the results of a recent sediment study conducted throughout the delta that detected low levels of contaminants.

The Shorthead Redhorse Sucker and Brown Bullhead species of fish were used in this assessment as they 1) are both benthic-dwelling fish who are continuously exposed to local sediment, 2) they do not migrate far from their local habitat and 3) there is extensive information available for both species throughout the Great Lakes.

These studies suggested that the prevalence of liver tumours in the St. Clair River AOC is no greater than un-impacted reference sites (e.g., Lake Huron). No tumours were detected in the two studies which warranted the CRIC to recommend that the “Fish Tumours or Other Deformities” BUI on the Canadian side of the St. Clair River AOC be re-designated to “Not Impaired”.

The BPAC passed a motion that accepted the CRIC’s recommendation to re-designate this BUI to “Not Impaired” (with one abstention). The status assessment will move forward in the re-designation process which includes further engagement with local First Nation communities (if required), review by federal, provincial and state senior management, and posting for public comment.

BD-19-207

Burrell – Gordon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 21, 2019 regarding the St. Clair River Area of Concern.”

CARRIED

Minutes of the September 25, 2019 Joint Health and Safety Committee were reviewed.

BD-19-208

McGregor – Scott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the September 25, 2019 meeting minutes of the Joint Health and Safety Committee.”

CARRIED

The revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-209

Stark – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2019, as it relates to the budget.”

CARRIED

The November 2019 disbursements were reviewed.

BD-19-210

Miller – Scott

“That the Board of Directors approves the November 2019 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$315,082.73.”

CARRIED

The status report on the 2019 general levy received to date was reviewed.

BD-19-211

Burrell – Scott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2019 general levy receipts to date.”

CARRIED

The investment reports to October 31, 2019 were reviewed.

BD-19-212

Burrell – McGregor

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the investment reports to October 31, 2019.”

CARRIED

A verbal summary of comments received to date on the 2020 Draft Budget was given by Tracy Prince, Director of Finance. While most contact has been for clarification only, a written letter from St. Clair Township and City of Sarnia Councils. Representatives from Strathroy-Caradoc also confirmed willingness to accept the increase but noted that they are not prepared to face the same level of increase in the next year.

BD-19-213

Burrell – MacKinnon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal summary of comments received to date on the 2020 Draft Budget.”

CARRIED

Municipal Funding Summary	2020	2020	Representative	y/n	Vote
	Budget Total CVA Apport.%	Budget CVA Apport.%			
Municipality					
Adelaide Metcalfe Tp	1.8762%	1.8762%	Betty Ann MacKinnon	y	
Brooke-Alvinston Tp	1.7442%	1.7442%	Frank Nemcek		
Chatham-Kent M		6.4984%	Joe Faas	y	
Chatham-Kent M	12.9967%	6.4984%	Carmen McGregor	y	
Dawn-Euphemia Tp	2.6871%	2.6871%	Alan Broad	n	
Enniskillen Tp	1.8919%	1.8919%	Kevin Marriott	y	
Lambton Shores M	4.9427%	4.9427%	Lori Scott	y	
Middlesex Centre M	2.2008%	2.2008%	Dan MacMillan		
Newbury V	0.1543%	0.1543%	Mark McGill	y	
Oil Springs V	0.1984%	0.1984%	Kevin Marriott	y	
Petrolia T	2.5218%	2.5218%	Brad Loosley	n	
Plympton-Wyoming T	5.3724%	5.3724%	Ron Schenk		
Point Edward V	2.2099%	2.2099%	Larry Gordon	y	
Sarnia C		12.6978%	Terry Burrell	y	
Sarnia C		12.6978%	Mike Stark	y	
Sarnia C	38.0933%	12.6978%	Andy Bruziewicz	y	
Southwest Middlesex M	1.1595%	1.1595%	Mark McGill	y	
St. Clair Tp		5.5992%	Pat Brown	y	
St. Clair Tp	11.1983%	5.5992%	Steve Miller	y	
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp		4.2736%	Frank Kennes	y	
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp	8.5471%	4.2736%	John Brennan	y	
Warwick Tp	2.2055%	2.2055%	Jerry Westgate	y	
	100%	100%			
				85.474%	Yes
				5.209%	No
Total of CVA Levy Apportionment Present				90.683%	Total
	Vote Passed By			94.256%	
	Vote for			17	

BD-19-214

Burrell – Stark

“That the Board of Directors approves the 2020 budget of \$8,570,407 with a non-matching general levy of \$908,926 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the Modified Current Value Assessment of each Municipality within the Authority’s area of jurisdiction.”

CARRIED

BD-19-215

Bruziewicz – Brennan

“That the Board of Directors approves the 2020 budget of \$8,570,407 with a municipal matching general levy of \$161,000 including finalized Modified Current Value Assessment values, updates to specific projects and municipal comments received to date.”

CARRIED

BD-19-216

Stark – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2019 regarding the disposal of nonessential and surplus equipment and approves the disposal method as outlined.”

CARRIED

BD-19-217

Loosley – Kennes

“That the Board of Directors move in-camera at 12.33 p.m. to discuss Conservation Awards and personnel information with the General Manager, Manager of Communications, Director of Finance and Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator remaining.”

CARRIED

BD-19-218

McGregor – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors rise and report at 12:48 p.m.”

CARRIED

Under New Business

Directors discussed the recent articles in the press including landowner concerns regarding shoreline protection. SCRCA is unable to issue permits for erosion control on a third party property to protect an applicant’s property. Further, there are concerns for creating a wave action of erosion along the shoreline. Conversations with MP Marilyn Gladu will continue on this topic. SCRCA is looking into a blanket study giving possible solutions. Part of such an investigation will include consulting with neighboring Conservation Authorities with jurisdiction along shorelines. SCRCA is working toward funding opportunities to provide this.

Directors reviewed correspondence from the Shoreline Erosion Collective Coalition (SECC) received on December 11, 2019 requesting to speak at today’s meeting. Representatives of SECC were made aware of SCRCA’s delegation policy and requirements. SECC are seeking a town-hall public meeting in Plympton-Wyoming and request that SCRCA are in attendance. Details will be passed on to the Board of Directors when available.

Challenges experienced during the closure of the McKeough Dam were mentioned. Staff will address these concerns at the upcoming Flood Action Committee meeting in January, 2020 with a report back to the Executive Committee for information. SCRCA staff will present the history of the McKeough Dam operations as well as operation criteria at these meetings.

Directors shared well wishes for the holiday season and New Year.

BD-19-219
Loolsley – Brennan
“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED



Joe Faas
Chair



Brian McDougall
General Manager