



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Virtual Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2020
Approved June 3, 2020

Members in attendance: Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Valerie Donnell, Roger Geysens, Tom Masschaele, Stewart Patterson, John Scholten and Peter Ypma

Staff in attendance: J. Maxwell, A. LeDuc, B. Hodi, D. Thain and D. McLachlan

Regrets: Kristal Chopp and Ken Hewitt

*R Geysens joined at 7pm

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm Wednesday, May 6, 2020.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

None

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

DEPUTATIONS

None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A-44/20 moved: J. Scholten seconded: D. Beres

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors Annual General Meeting held February 28, 2020, and Special Meeting via teleconference held April 22, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

None

REVIEW OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

None

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Kristal Chopp, Michael Columbus, Valerie Donnell,
Roger Geysens, Ken Hewitt, Tom Masschaele, Stewart Patterson, John Scholten, Peter Ypma

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Municipality of Chatham-Kent letter to the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Re: Resolution to Support Role of Conservation Authorities
- b) Township of South West Oxford letter to the Honourable Dave MacKenzie, Member of Parliament Re: Commitment to Plant Two Billion Trees
- c) Message from the Honourable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Re: Release of *Protecting People and Property: Ontario's Flooding Strategy*

No discussion.

A-45/20

moved: V. Donnell

seconded: P. Ypma

THAT the correspondence outlined in the Board of Director's Agenda of May 6, 2020 be received as information.

CARRIED

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

- a) Staff Approved applications

Staff approved 63 applications since the last meeting in February. LPRCA-3/20, LPRCA-4/20, LPRCA-5/20, LPRCA-6/20, LPRCA-8/20, LPRCA-11/20, LPRCA-12/20, LPRCA-13/20, LPRCA-14/20, LPRCA-15/20, LPRCA-16/20, LPRCA-17/20, LPRCA-18/20, LPRCA-19/20, LPRCA-20/20, LPRCA-21/20, LPRCA-22/20, LPRCA-23/20, LPRCA-24/20, LPRCA-25/20, LPRCA-26/20, LPRCA-27/20, LPRCA-29/20, LPRCA-30/20, LPRCA-31/20, LPRCA-32/20, LPRCA-33/20, LPRCA-34/20, LPRCA-35/20, LPRCA-36/20, LPRCA-37/20, LPRCA-38/20, LPRCA-39/20, LPRCA-40/20, LPRCA-41/20, LPRCA-42/20, LPRCA-43/20, LPRCA-44/20, LPRCA-45/20, LPRCA-46/20, LPRCA-47/20, LPRCA-48/20 renewal, LPRCA-49/20, LPRCA-50/20, LPRCA-51/20, LPRCA-52/20, LPRCA-53/20, LPRCA-54/20, LPRCA-55/20, LPRCA-56/20, LPRCA-57/20, LPRCA-58/20, LPRCA-59/20, LPRCA-60/20, LPRCA-61/20, LPRCA-62/20, LPRCA-68/20, LPRCA-69/20, LPRCA-71/20, LPRCA-72/20, LPRCA-73/20, LPRCA-74/20 and LPRCA-75/20.

A-46/20

moved: J. Scholten

seconded: T. Masschaele

That the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the Staff Approved Section 28 Regulation Applications report dated April 16, 2020 as information.

CARRIED

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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b) New applications

The Planning Department recommended approval for ten applications.

A-47/20 moved: V. Donnell seconded: R. Chambers

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approves the following Development Applications contained within the background section of this report:

A. For Work under Section 28 Regulations, Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulations (R.R.O. 1990 Reg. 178/06),

<i>LPRCA-65/20</i>	<i>LPRCA-82/20</i>	<i>LPRCA-87/20</i>
<i>LPRCA-70/20</i>	<i>LPRCA-83/20</i>	<i>LPRCA-88/20</i>
<i>LPRCA-77/20</i>	<i>LPRCA-84/20</i>	
<i>LPRCA-81/20</i>	<i>LPRCA-85/20</i>	

B. That the designated officers of LPRCA be authorized to complete the approval process for this Development Application, as far as it relates to LPRCA's mandate and related Regulations.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

a) GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The senior management team has managed the organization through the Covid-19 pandemic with modifications. Staffing has been reduced, seasonal hiring has been deferred, campground openings have been delayed, and staff are working on contingency camping guidelines. Staff managing the Flood Forecasting and Warning system are working from home, as are Planning staff who have received a similar number of applications this year, as in 2019 to date. The General Manager thanked the Chair, the Board, and the staff for their support during this challenging time.

A-48/20 moved: P. Ypma seconded: D. Beres

That the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the General Manager's Report for March and April 2020 as information.

CARRIED

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Kristal Chopp, Michael Columbus, Valerie Donnell, Roger Geysens, Ken Hewitt, Tom Masschaele, Stewart Patterson, John Scholten, Peter Ypma

b) MARCH 2020 DELEGATED DUTIES SUMMARY

On March 20, 2020, the Chair cancelled the April 1 meeting and the Board delegated four specific duties to the General Manager to ensure continuity of operations.

1. Approval of procurement activities that have already been approved in the budget which quotes are within the budgeted amount

Procurement activities included two motor pool tenders, campground septic tender, spring restoration tender, Backus agricultural land rental tender, and ecological surveys request for quotes. All were within the budgeted amounts.

Member Valerie Donnell questioned the Motor Pool tender to purchase two Side-by-Sides which will be followed up at the June meeting.

2. Approval of planning applications that staff is recommending for approval

Three applications were approved: LPRCA-63/20, LPRCA-64/20 and LPRCA-66/20.

3. Approval of forestry prescriptions

Forest management prescriptions/operating plans were approved for the Swick King Tract (Block #1), the Devos Tract and the Tarcza/Hird/Roberts Tract (Block #2).

4. Approval of forestry tender

The forestry tender was awarded to Leonard Pilkey for the Harris-Floyd Tract – Block #1 in the amount of \$80,175 which was within the expected bid range.

A-49/20 moved: T. Masschaele seconded: S. Patterson

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the March 2020 Delegated Duties Summary report as information.

CARRIED

Roger Geysens joined the meeting.

c) 1ST QUARTER 2020 BUDGET PERFORMANCE REPORT

Staff provided a summary of the budget vs actual comparison for revenues and expenditures as of March 31st, 2020. LPRCA is currently at 18.7% of budget with revenues up 18.9% and expenses up 11/% for the same period year over year. Excluding items not included in the budget, the revenues and expenses are in line with the 2020 budget and the deficit of \$5,765 is favourable in comparison with the same period in 2019.

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Due to the state of emergency declared in March 2020, staff have taken steps to restrict spending and reduce expenses, including compensation through staff reduction and the postponement of seasonal hires. A projection as to the potential annual cost savings was prepared and with the action taken to date, staff projected a worst-case scenario of an annual operating deficit of \$172,511 or 3.88% of budget.

Member Dave Beres requested information on the LPRCA investment performance at this time. Staff noted that the bond portfolio is doing well as bonds are currently above the historical average and an Audit and Finance Committee meeting will be arranged in the coming weeks to review the investment portfolio.

Staff provided an update and projection on the outstanding capital projects as requested by Chair Michael Columbus.

Member Pete Ypma inquired if management is anticipating any difficulty in rehiring seasonal staff later in the season. Most of the park supervisors and assistants have been secured. Interviews were conducted prior to the office closure and potential new hires were provided with verbal, conditional offers pending the re-opening of the parks and staffing requirements. Rehiring will depend on the availability of those potential new hires and their interest in, potentially, modified job duties.

A-50/20 moved: P. Ypma seconded: V. Donnell

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the 1st Quarter 2020 Budget Performance Report as at March 31st, 2020 as information.

CARRIED

d) APRIL 2020 FLOOD EVENT AND WATERSHED CONDITIONS UPDATE

Water supplies across the Great Lakes are still well-above average. The month of April saw record highs for Lakes Huron, St. Clair and Erie.

Lake Erie was 86cm above average in March and 90cm above average at the start of April, 33cm higher than last April and 12 cm higher than the previous April monthly record of 1985. The Lake ended the month of April stable at 81cm above the monthly average.

A Flood Watch was issued April 8 for the Lake Erie shoreline and Haldimand County residents and businesses within Flood Zone 1. No significant flooding was noted with this event.

A Flood Warning was issued April 13 for the Lake Erie shoreline and Haldimand County residents and businesses within Flood Zone 3. Gauges indicated slightly less flooding than that which occurred during the October 2019 events, except along the Long Point

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Causeway as Norfolk County staff reported flooding depths higher than the October 2019 events and the most significant flooding since the 1980's.

Lake Erie started May 77cm above the monthly average and 8cm higher than the record set in May 2019. There is still potential for record highs to be set in May 2020.


Responding to a question from T. Masschaele, staff noted that the gauge at Long Point is manual and the inner bay would benefit from an Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) gauge. The issue has been raised with ECCC staff, however, there is no concrete plan at this time.

A-51/20 moved: J. Scholten seconded: T. Masschaele

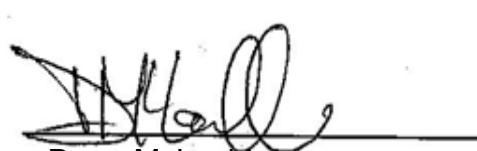
THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the April 13, 2020 Flood Event and Watershed Conditions Update report as information.

CARRIED

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.



Michael Columbus
Chair



Dana McLachlan
Administrative Assistant

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