



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2026
Approved July 8, 2026

Members in attendance:

Doug Brunton, Chair	Norfolk County
Chris Van Paassen, Vice-Chair	Norfolk County
Dave Beres	Town of Tillsonburg
Robert Chambers	County of Brant
Michael Columbus	Norfolk County
Ed Ketchabaw	Municipality of Bayham/Township of Malahide
Tom Masschaele	Norfolk County
Debera McKeen	Haldimand County
Jim Palmer	Township of Norwich
Peter Ypma	Township of South-West Oxford

Regrets:

Shelley Ann Bentley	Haldimand County
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Staff in attendance:

Judy Maxwell, General Manager
Aaron LeDuc, Manager of Corporate Services
Leigh-Anne Mauthe, Manager of Watershed Services
Saifur Rahman, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure
Paul Gagnon, Lands & Waters Supervisor
Jessica King, Social Media and Marketing Associate
Nicole Sullivan, HR Coordinator/Executive Assistant

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 2026.

2. Additional Agenda Items

None

3. Approval of the Agenda

A-76/26

Moved by J. Palmer
Seconded by D. Beres

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approves the agenda as circulated.

Carried

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

a) Board of Directors Meeting of May 6, 2026

A-77/26

Moved by T. Masschaele

Seconded by D. McKeen

THAT the minutes of the LPRCA Board of Directors Meeting held May 6, 2026 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

6. Business Arising

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

7. Review of Committee Minutes

None

8. Correspondence

None

9. Development Applications

a) Section 28 Regulations Approved Permits (L. Mauthe)

Leigh-Anne Mauthe presented the report.

There were no questions.

A-78/26

Moved by P. Ypma

Seconded by M. Columbus

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the staff approved Section 28 Regulation Approved Permits report dated June 3, 2026 as information.

Carried

10. New Business

a) General Manager's Report (J. Maxwell)

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

Judy Maxwell presented the report, discussing the meeting held with Ernst & Young earlier in the day on June 3rd and the meeting with other General Managers and the Chief Conservation Executive Office. The meeting with Ernst & Young allowed for LPRCA staff to highlight the risks and concerns for transition that LPRCA has, along with highlighting the uniqueness of the region and history of the organization. The meeting with the Chief Conservation Executive Office gave a few more projected timelines. Specifically, mid-July is when the Project Executives should be hired and the transition committees to formally start, as well as a timeline for the Minister's Direction in regards to the 2027 Budget process.

Mike Columbus asked staff about a Watershed Tour hosted by LPRCA for the Board in the 2026 year as this will be the last one. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that there was nothing planned. Staff can look into potential dates that will not interfere with other pressing business matters, but this may not be feasible depending on the upcoming Minister's Directions and timelines.

Jim Palmer asked staff if the new location of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) is close to other previously infected sites. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that the newly found infected locations are close to other blocks of discovered HWA. HWA is spreading quickly and LPRCA is targeting locations with spray when able, which has shown to have some improvement. Paul Gagnon added that the newly discovered locations in Bayham is of concern as Bayham has a large population of Hemlock trees that their loss could have an ecological impact on the cold-water streams.

Jim Palmer asked how the spray was done. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that the spray was done via back-pack sprayers by staff. The chemical is a basal spray and works its way through the bark of the tree.

Dave Beres asked staff if any LPRCA services have been limited or suspended during this transition period. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that everything at LPRCA is business as usual and that the goal of the Province is no service interruptions.

A-79/26

Moved by D. McKeen
Seconded by J. Palmer

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the General Manager's Report for May 2026 as information.

Carried

b) 2026 Christmas Operating Schedule (A. LeDuc)

Aaron LeDuc presented the report.

There were no questions.

A-80/26

Moved by M. Columbus
Seconded by T. Masschaele

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debra McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors closes operations from December 25, 2026 to January 1, 2027 (except for emergency response);

AND,

THAT staff working be granted one complimentary day off with pay;

AND,

THAT staff are required to utilize two (2) vacation days during the period or take unpaid leave.

Carried

c) Regulations and Provincial Offenses Officer Appointment (L. Mauthe)

Leigh-Anne Mauthe presented the report.

There were no questions.

A-81/26

Moved by D. Beres

Seconded by P. Ypma

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors appoint Braedan Ristine, Resource Planner as an LPRCA Regulations Officer and Provincial Offences Officer for the purpose of compliance and enforcement of any regulation made under Section 28 and 29, as per subsection 30.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and the *Trespass to Property Act*.

Carried

d) 2026 Tree Planting and Extensions Services (P. Gagnon)

Paul Gagnon presented the report, and noted one correction on the second page from eight erosion control projects to seven.

Jim Palmer asked staff where the most planted cover crop acres were located. Paul Gagnon informed the Board that most of the cover crops were planted in Norfolk County.

Mike Columbus asked staff about the cutbacks in tree planting programs and the reduction in the number of trees planted by LPRCA this year. Paul Gagnon informed the Board that the Federal government did not add to any contracts, but was honouring the ones already signed, which for Forest Canada goes until 2031. There were other factors which contributed to less trees being planted in the region.

A-82/26

Moved by E. Ketchabaw

Seconded by P. Ypma

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the Tree Planting Program & Extension Services update as information.

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

11. Closed Meeting

No closed meeting.

Next meeting: July 8, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting

Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Doug Brunton
Chair

Judy Maxwell
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma