



November LRCA Board Meeting Minutes
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
November 27, 2024 at 4:30 PM
130 Conservation Road/Microsoft Teams

Members Present: Albert Aiello, Grant Arnold, Robert Beatty, Donna Blunt, Rudy Buitenhuis, Dan Calvert, Trevor Giertuga, Sheelagh Hendrick, Jim Vezina

Members Present Virtually: Greg Johnsen

Members Absent: Brian Kurikka

Also Present:

Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer

Mark Ambrose, Finance Officer

Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager

Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager

Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager

Melanie O'Riley, Administrative Clerk/Receptionist, recorder of Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

THAT: the Agenda be adopted as published.

Motion: #117/24

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Ninth Regular Meeting held on October 30, 2024 be adopted as published.

Motion: #118/24

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Grant Arnold. **CARRIED.**

5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

No In-Camera meeting was held.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. STAFF REPORTS

8.1. Conservation Lands Inventory

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-13-2024 related to the LRCA's Conservation Lands Inventory.

THAT: Staff Report CORP-13-2024 be received AND FURTHER THAT the Conservation Lands Inventory be approved.

Motion: #119/24

Motion moved by Jim Vezina and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

8.2. Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-15-2024 related to the final Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy.

THAT: Staff Report CORP-15-2024 be received AND FURTHER THAT the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Version 1.0 be approved.

Motion: #120/24

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Grant Arnold. **CARRIED.**

8.3. Section 28 Permit Timelines and Compliance Reporting Policy

Members reviewed and discussed Policy DEVREG-07-2024 related to Section 28 Permit Timelines and Compliance Reporting Policy.

THAT: Development Regulations Policy DEVREG-07-2024, Section 28 Permit Timelines and Compliance Reporting Policy under O. Reg. 41/24 and O. Reg. 686/21 be adopted.

Motion: #121/24

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

8.4. Stewardship Program Project Summary – 2024

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report STEW-03-2024 which summarized the 2024 Stewardship Program projects. It was noted that over \$1,000,000 in external funding had been obtained for Stewardship programs since 2020.

THAT: Staff Report STEW-03-2024 be received.

Motion: #122/24

Motion moved by Grant Arnold and motion seconded by Jim Vezina. **CARRIED.**

8.5. Conservation Area Water Quality Monitoring Report 2024

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report WM-01-2024 related to the 2024 Conservation Area Water Monitoring Program. It was noted that one occurrence of blue green algae was detected that resulted in Hazelwood Lake being posted with an advisory for two weeks.

THAT: the Staff Report WM-01-2024 be received AND FURTHER THAT the Conservation Area Water Monitoring Program will continue in 2025.

Motion: #123/24

Motion moved by Jim Vezina and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

9.1. Monthly Treasurer's Report

Members were provided with the monthly treasurer's report for October's Administration and Capital

9.2. Conservation Authorities Act - Transition Plan, Phase I and II Regulations Deliverable Completion

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-14-2024 which summarized the final deliverables required in the updated *Conservation Authorities Act* and associated regulations. It was noted that all required deliverables as part of the updates to the *Conservation Authorities Act* have been completed as mandated prior to the December 31, 2024 deadline.

THAT: Staff Report CORP-14-2024 be received for information.

Motion: #124/24

Motion moved by Jim Vezina and motion seconded by Grant Arnold. **CARRIED.**

THAT: The CAO and Chair are authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Thunder Bay related to the Risk of Natural Hazard Program - Victor Street Erosion.

Motion: #125/24

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Jim Vezina. **CARRIED.**

9.3. Final 2025 Budget

Members reviewed and discussed the 2025 Budget and Levy.

THAT: the 2025 Budget levy apportionment as outlined in Version 2.0 of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Final Budget be approved AND FURTHER THAT a copy of the final budget will be provided to the Minister of Natural Resources and all Member Municipalities.

Recorded Weighted Vote:

Municipality	Member	Vote %	Vote
Conmee	Grant Arnold	1.57%	Yes
Dorion	Robert Beatty	1.01%	Yes
Gillies	Rudy Buitenhuis	0.88%	Yes
Neebing	Brian Kurikka	7.88%	Absent
O'Connor	Jim Vezina	1.67%	Yes
Oliver Paipoonge	Dan Calvert	19.63%	Yes
Shuniah	Donna Blunt	17.36%	Yes
Thunder Bay	Sheelagh Hendrick	12.50%	Yes
Thunder Bay	Trevor Giertuga	12.50%	Yes
Thunder Bay	Albert Aiello	12.50%	Yes
Thunder Bay	Greg Johnsen	12.50%	Yes

Motion: #126/24

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Sheelagh Hendrick. **CARRIED**.

THAT: in 2025 the following will be appropriated from the following reserves: Operating Capital Reserve \$65,000; Vehicle and Equipment Reserve \$5,470; Conservation Area Major Maintenance Capital Reserve \$299,990; Administrative Facility Reserve \$178,520 and Forest Management Reserve \$4,781.

Motion: #127/24

Motion moved by Sheelagh Hendrick and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED**.

THAT: the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority adopts the 2025 Budget Document, Version 2.0 for a total budget of \$4,574,963.

Motion: #128/24

Motion moved by Sheelagh Hendrick and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED**.

9.4. Corporate Services Policy Update

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report POLICY-FIN-05-2024 related to the updated Finance Policy for the annual procurement of Corporate Services.

THAT: the updated Finance Policy FIN-05: Corporate Services as outlined in Staff Report POLICY-FIN-05-2024 be adopted.

Motion: #129/24

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

THAT: having examined the accounts for the period October 1, 2024 to October 31, 2024 cheque #3378 to #3411 for \$84,573.27 and preauthorized payments of \$173,316.24 for a total of \$257,889.51, we approve their payment.

Motion: #130/24

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**

11. REGULATORY ROLE

Members were provided with the summaries of the Plan Review program and Section 28 permits issued since last meeting.

12. PROJECTS UPDATE

12.1. Communications Manager Projects Update

It was noted that the LRCA was successful in acquiring \$5,000 in funding for a mural at the Administrative Office as part of the CEDC Tourism Muralscapes funding application.

It was noted that 10, 000 copies of the 2025 LRCA Fundraising Calendar were ordered, and were being distributed in the Community.

12.2. Lands Manager Projects Update

It was noted that a parking barrier was installed at the top parking lot at Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area to block vehicles from accessing the grassed picnic area and causing damage to the lawn. The gate which was separating the two main parking lots was moved (allowing access to both parking lots) and reinstalled leading to the garage and storage area to restrict public access to that area.

It was noted that a new entrance sign was installed at Cascades Conservation Area. The sign was designed by Luc Despres of Despres Metal Artwork.

12.3. Watershed Manager Projects Update

It was noted that the LRCA's area of jurisdiction remains in a Level I Low Water advisory.

It was noted that Lake Superior water levels continue to be drier than average for the month of October.

It was noted that the GIS/Water Resources Technologist and Environmental Planner attended the Regional Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network meeting. It was also noted that the LRCA has volunteered to participate in PWQMN's winter sampling program for 2024/2025. The first winter sampling day occurred on November 18, 2024.

It was noted that sampling under the Provincial Ground Water Monitoring Network (PGMN) program was completed for 2024.

13. NEW BUSINESS

None.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on January 29, 2025 at 4:30 p.m., which will be the Annual General Meeting and elections.

15. ADJOURNMENT

THAT: the time being 5:12 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business we adjourn.

Motion: #131/24

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**

Chair

Donna Blunt

Jammy Cook
Chief Administrative Officer