



February LRCA Board Meeting
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
February 26, 2025 at 4:30 PM
130 Conservation Road/Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Albert Aiello, Robert Beatty, Donna Blunt, Rudy Buitenhuis, Dan Calvert, Trevor Giertuga, Sheelagh Hendrick, Greg Johnsen, Brian Kurikka, Jim Vezina

Members Present (Remote):

Grant Arnold

Also Present:

Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer

Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager

Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager

Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager

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

John Collin, City Manager, City of Thunder Bay, part of Meeting

Deanna Walker, Manager, Reality Services, City of Thunder Bay, part of Meeting

Rilee Willianen, Encampment Response Plan Lead, City of Thunder Bay, part of Meeting

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: #35/25

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

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority 71st Annual Meeting held on Wednesday, January 29, 2025 be adopted as published.

Motion: #36/25

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

5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:32 p.m.

Motion: #37/25

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

THAT: we go into Open Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Motion: #38/25

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

THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority January 29, 2025 meeting be adopted as published.

Motion: #39/25

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

City of Thunder Bay representatives left the meeting.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. STAFF REPORTS

8.1. Kam River Erosion Control, Victor Broadway - Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Plan – 2025

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report KAMEC-01-2025 related to Kam River Erosion Control, Victor Broadway Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Program.

THAT: Staff Report KAMEC-01-2025 be received.

Motion: #40/25

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

8.2. 2024 Victor Street Monitoring Reports

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report KAMEC-02-2024 related to the 2024 Victor Street Slope Monitoring Reports.

THAT: Staff Report KAMEC-02-2024 and the Victor Street Slope Monitoring Report, dated October 4, 2024, and the Victor Street Slope Monitoring Report, dated December 5, 2024 be received.

Motion: #41/25

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

8.3. 2024 Asset Management Plan Strategy Update

Members reviewed Staff Report LM-03-2025 related to updates to the 2024 Asset Management Plan Strategy.

THAT: Staff Report LM-03-2025 be received for information.

Motion: #42/25

Motion moved by Robert Beatty 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 January's Administration and Capital.

9.2. Administrative By-Law Update

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report Policy-By-Law No. 1, Administrative By-Law Version 6.0. The Administrative By-Law was amended to incorporate various updates as recommended by Conservation Ontario in order to improve and keep the document current.

THAT: Administrative By-Law No. 1/2018, Version 6.0 be approved.

Motion: #43/25

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

9.3. Conservation Authorities Act Hearing Guidelines Update

Members reviewed and discussed Policy-DEVREG-09-2025 related to the updated LRCA's *Conservation Authorities Act Hearing Guidelines* (Version 4.0) to reflect the various changes to the Act and the enactment of O.Reg. 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits.

THAT: Conservation Authorities Act Hearing Guidelines, Version 4.0 be approved.

Motion: #44/25

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

9.4. Remuneration of Members 2025 Policy Update

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report Policy-BOD-06-2025 which updated the per diem rate and provided the 2025 remuneration rate for Members per the policy.

THAT: Board Policy BOD-06: Remuneration of Members be amended as outlined in Staff Report Policy BOD-06-2025.

Motion: #45/25

Motion moved by Brian Kurikka and motion seconded by Jim Vezina. **CARRIED.**

10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

THAT: having examined the accounts for the period January 1, 2025 to January 31, 2025 cheque #3459 to #3486 for \$88,507.82 and preauthorized payments of \$126,286.88 for a total of \$214,794.70, we approve their payment.

Motion: #46/25

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

11. REGULATORY ROLE

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

12. PROJECTS UPDATE

12.1. Communication Manager Projects Update

Members were advised that the LRCA will be participating at the CLE Spring Home & Garden Show in April.

Members were advised that the Education Coordinator will be conducting education programs in partnership with the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board (TBCDSB) in March. A financial contribution of \$4,700 from TBCDSB was made to carry out the program.

12.2. Lands Manager Projects Update

None.

12.3. Watershed Manager Projects Update

It was noted that February 14, 2025 snow surveys indicated that the snow survey locations were slightly below average for snow depth and water content, when compared to the historical averages for February 15.

It was noted that the water level of Lake Superior continues to be below average.

It was noted that LRCA staff presented at the “2025 Invasive Species Forum” related to the Thunder Bay Regional Phragmites Collaboration. It was noted that LRCA Environmental Planner, Michelle Willows and Watershed Biologist, Jessie McFadden were awarded a “Leadership Award” by the Sault Ste. Marie-based Invasive Species Centre, a non-profit organization, on their efforts to remove and control invasive phragmites.

13. NEW BUSINESS

None.

14. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

THAT: the time being 6:27 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business we adjourn.

Motion: #47/25

Motion moved by Brian Kurikka and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

Donna Blunt

Chair

Jammy Cook

Chief Administrative Officer