



March LRCA Board Meeting
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
March 26, 2025, at 4:30 PM
130 Conservation Road

Members Present:

Robert Beatty, Donna Blunt, Rudy Buitenhuis, Trevor Giertuga (part of meeting), Sheelagh Hendrick, Greg Johnsen, Brian Kurikka, Jim Vezina

Members Not Present

Albert Aiello, Grant Arnold, Dan Calvert

Also Present:

Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer
Mark, Ambrose, Finance Manager
Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager
Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager
Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager
Melanie O'Riley, Administrative Clerk/Receptionist, recorder of Minutes

Before the start of the Meeting, Donna Blunt, Chair, introduced new Staff person, Coralie Cote, Planning and Regulation Technician.

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: #48/25

Motion moved by Sheelagh Hendrick and motion seconded by Greg Johnson. **CARRIED.**

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority 2nd Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, be adopted as published.

Motion: #49/25

Motion moved by Greg Johnson and motion seconded by Sheelagh Hendrick. **CARRIED.**

5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:35 p.m.

Motion: #50/25

Motion moved by Greg Johnson and motion seconded by Sheelagh Hendrick. **CARRIED.**

THAT: we go into Open Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Motion: #51/25

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

THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority February 26, 2025 meeting be adopted as published.

Motion: #52/25

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

THAT: the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority supports in principle, leasing 1111 Fort William Road to the City of Thunder Bay, subject to the execution of an acceptable lease agreement, approval from the Minister and final approval of the Board of Directors.

Motion: #53/25

Motion moved by Greg Johnson and motion seconded by Jim Vezina. **CARRIED.**

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. STAFF REPORTS

8.1. Emergency Heating Equipment Replacement at LRCA Administrative Building

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report LM-06-2025 related to the LRCA Administrative Building's boiler and split wall mounted air conditioner/heating units.

THAT: an emergency purchase of a new boiler and split wall mounted air conditioner/heating units with inverters be purchased from Allied Air, with the total cost being appropriated from the Administrative Maintenance Reserve, be approved.

Motion: #54/25

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

8.2. Lakehead Coastal Resilience Shoreline Management Plan - Project Award Recommendation

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report FPMAP-01-2025 related to awarding the contract to complete the Lakehead Coastal Resilience Shoreline Management Plan Project.

THAT: the proposal submitted by KGS Group dated March 24, 2025 to complete the Lakehead Coastal Resilience Shoreline Management Plan be accepted for a cost of \$624,991.73, not including HST be approved.

Motion: #55/25

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

8.3. Maps of Regulated Areas - Annual Update 2024

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report DEVREG-03-2025 related to the Maps of Regulated Areas 2024 update.

THAT: Staff Report DEVREG-03-2025 be received AND FURTHER THAT the updates 1001 to 1020 to LRCA Screening Maps be approved.

Motion: #56/25

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

8.4. Strategic Plan Annual Report

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report STRAT-01-2025 related to the 2024 Strategic Plan annual summary report.

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

Motion: #57/25

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

9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

9.1. Monthly Treasurer's Report

Members were provided with the monthly Treasurer's Report for February's Administration and Capital.

10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

THAT: having examined the accounts for the period February 1, 2025 to February 28, 2025 cheque #3487 to #3506 for \$12,699.33 and preauthorized payments of \$129,374.25 for a total of \$142,073.58, we approve their payment.

Motion: #58/25

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

11. REGULATORY ROLE

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

12. PROJECTS UPDATE

12.1. Communications Manager Projects Update

Members were provided with the draft 2024 Annual Report. The final annual report will be provided at the April Board meeting for Board approval.

It was noted that new LRCA branded hoodies and a new t-shirt design are available for sale.

12.2. Lands Manager Projects Update

None.

12.3. Watershed Manager Projects Update

Members were advised that the Source Protection Committee (SPC) held a meeting and discussed the draft tenth annual progress report, which is due to Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) on May 1, 2025, as required by the *Clean Water Act*. A Source Protection Authority Meeting will be held on April 30, 2025, to receive and adopt the tenth Annual Progress Report for submission to the Director of MECP.

It was noted that the March 15, 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 March 15th.

It was noted that a Flood Watch message was issued on March 14, 2025, for the Lakehead Region and remained in effect until March 17, 2025.

It was noted that the 36th Annual Spring Melt Meeting would be held on March 31, 2025.

It was noted that a Cyanobacteria (Blue-Green Algae) Open House was held on March 25, 2025, and was very well attended.

13. NEW BUSINESS

Trevor Giertuga joined the meeting.

Brian Kurikka, Municipality of Neebing Counselor, advised the Board that due to on-going vandalism on municipal land, they have installed monitoring cameras.

Tammy Cook, CAO, advised the Board that Conservation Authorities oversight have moved from the Ministry of Natural Resources portfolio back to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

It was noted that long-time employee Roman Augustyn has passed away.

14. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

THAT: the time being 5:55 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business we adjourn.

Motion: #59/25

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

Donna Bunt
Chair

Jammy Cook
Chief Administrative Officer