

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Thursday, February 19th, 2015

Meeting #01/2015

The 64th Annual General Meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority was held at the East Elgin Community Complex.

PRESENT:

Sally Martyn	Chairperson	Municipality of Central Elgin
Jim Jenkins	Outgoing Member	Township of Malahide
Arthur Oslach	Member	Town of Aylmer
Mark Tinlin	Member	City of St. Thomas
Anne Vanhoucke	Member	Township of South-West Oxford
Rick Cerna	Incoming Member	Township of Malahide

STAFF:

Kim Smale	General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer
Susan Mann	Financial Services Coordinator
Ed Pietrzak	Conservation Areas Supervisor
Tony Difazio	Resource Planning Coordinator
Peter Dragunas	Water Management Technician
Laura Ronayne	Program Support Assistant
Ric Wellwood	Fundraising / Communications Coordinator
Dusty Underhill	Field Technician

GUESTS:

Craig Ashbaugh	Chairperson, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee
Gary Austin	Elgin-Middlesex Woodlot Association
Pete Barbour	Alternate Member, Town of Aylmer
Laura Blondeau	CCCA Supporter
Fred Bozso	Chairperson, Catfish Creek Irrigation Advisory Committee
Craig Bradford	Reporter, The Aylmer Express
Kit Brown	Elgin Stewardship Council
Kevin & Faye Butters	Conservation Award Recipients
Ron Casier	Canadian Chestnut Council
Michael Columbus	Chairperson, Long Point Region C.A.
Cathy Crane	Port Bruce Ratepayers Association
Dan Dale	CCCA Supporter
Jacqueline Deleebeek	CCCA Supporter
Paul Ens	Warden, County of Elgin
Cliff Evanitski	General Manager, Long Point Region C.A.
George Fairservice	CCCA Volunteer
Will Goodhue	Guest, Conservation Scholarship Recipient
Clarence Helkaa	Elgin Stewardship Council
Sarah Hodgkiss	Carolinian Canada Coalition
Sara Howe	Carolinian Canada Coalition
Al Hurst	St. Thomas Field Naturalists
Heather Jackson	Mayor, City of St. Thomas
Jeanette Jenkins	CCCA Supporter
Herb Kebbel	Order of Good Cheer
Tim Kelly	London Life Insurance
Ena Kielstra	CCCA Supporter
Daria Koscinski	Guest Speaker, Thames Talbot Land Trust
Karen Laine	Executive Director, Elgin-St. Thomas Community Foundation
Bill Luyks	Auditor, Graham Scott Enns
Bill Mackie	Chairperson, Kettle Creek C.A.
Keith Malcolm	Elgin Stewardship Council
David Marr	Mayor, Municipality of Central Elgin
John Martyn	CCCA Supporter
Betsy McClure	Stewardship Coordinator, Kettle Creek C.A.
David Mennill	Mayor, Township of Malahide
Erin Mutch	Learning Coordinator, TVDSB

Sam Regier	Recipient, Student Scholarship
Jennifer Reynaert	C.A.O., Town of Aylmer
Gerry Richer	CCCA Supporter
Lori Baldwin-Sands	CCCA Outgoing Member
Al Sharpe	Director, Elgin Hiking Trail Club
Duncan Sinclair	Teacher, Environmental Leadership Program
Todd Sprague	Hamilton Ward & Cathers Insurance
Henry Tenhoor	CCCA Supporter
Fons Vandenbroek	Regional Director, Elgin Federation of Agriculture
Elizabeth VanHooren	General Manager, Kettle Creek C.A.
Roger Vanhoucke	CCCA Supporter
Mark Wales	Member, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee
Jeff Yurek	MPP, Elgin-Middlesex-London

WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Martyn welcomed everyone to the 64th Annual General Meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority and called the proceedings to order at (2:00 p.m.).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

<u>Motion # 01/2015</u>	A. Vanhoucke	A. Oslach	CARRIED
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THAT, the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting be adopted as circulated.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

No one had a pecuniary interest to disclose at this time.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Chairperson Martyn introduced the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Board of Directors, Staff, and Special Guests in attendance.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

<u>Motion # 02/2015</u>	A. Oslach	A. Vanhoucke	CARRIED
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THAT, the Minutes of Full Authority Meeting # 10/2014 (December 12, 2014), be accepted as circulated.

<u>Motion # 03/2015</u>	A. Vanhoucke	M. Tinlin	CARRIED
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THAT, the Minutes of Personnel / Finance Committee Meeting # PF 01/2015 (January 22, 2015), be accepted as circulated.

2014 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Bill Luyks of Graham Scott Enns Chartered Accountants presented the 2014 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority.

He stated that the Financial Statements present fairly, in all material respects, the statement of financial position of the CCCA as at December 31, 2014, and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net assets, and cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for public sector entities.

The audience was advised that full copies of the Financial Statements are available at the CCCA Office upon request.

<u>Motion # 04/2015</u>	A. Oslach	A. Vanhoucke	CARRIED
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THAT, the Financial Statements of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority as at December 31, 2014, be adopted as circulated.

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE:

Chairperson Martyn delivered her Annual Message to the audience. A condensed version is included on the first page of the 2014 Annual Report.

ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION:

The General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer presented the 2014 Annual Report. He highlighted four (4) of the major accomplishments in 2014 which included the Watershed Stewardship Program, the development of a new county-wide Shoreline Management Plan, the approval of the Catfish Creek Source Protection Plan, and the acquisition of 18 hectares of Species at Risk habitat.

Motion # 05/2015 A. Vanhoucke M. Tinlin CARRIED

THAT, the 2014 Annual Report be adopted as presented.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION:

Chairperson Martyn called Member Oslach to the podium to present Certificates of Appreciation to Outgoing Members Lori Baldwin-Sands, City of St. Thomas (4 years) and Jim Jenkins, Township of Malahide (3 years).

Member Oslach thanked both of them for their outstanding service and dedication toward conservation and the work of the CCCA during their time on the Board of Directors.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Elizabeth VanHooren, General Manager of the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority was asked to conduct the elections for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the year 2015.

Ms. VanHooren reviewed the election procedures and declared all offices vacant. She then read the names of the current members eligible to vote and asked for the appointment of two scrutineers in the event of an election.

Motion # 06/2015 M. Tinlin A. Vanhoucke CARRIED

THAT, Cliff Evanitski and Craig Ashbaugh act as scrutineers in the event of an election; and further,

THAT, the scrutineers distribute ballots to the eligible voting members, tabulate and report the results of the vote, and destroy all ballots.

Ms. VanHooren called for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the CCCA for 2015.

Arthur Oslach nominated Sally Martyn.

Nominations for Chairperson were called for a second and third time.

Motion # 07/2015 A. Vanhoucke A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, nominations for the position of Chairperson be closed.

Sally Martyn was acclaimed Chairperson for 2015.

Ms. VanHooren called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the CCCA for 2015.

Anne Vanhoucke nominated Arthur Oslach.

Ms. VanHooren called for nominations a second and third time.

Motion # 08/2015 M. Tinlin A. Vanhoucke CARRIED

THAT, nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson be closed.

Arthur Oslach was acclaimed Vice-Chairperson for 2015.

Sally Martyn assumed the Chair to continue the meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Chairperson Martyn called upon Jim Jenkins to introduce Daria Koscinski, Conservation Property Manager with the Thames Talbot Land Trust.

Daria began her talk by thanking the CCCA for the opportunity to speak at the Annual General Meeting about the Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT). She noted that the TTLT is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of lands and waters with significant natural, recreational, scenic, historical, and agricultural value.

Their name reflects the geographical context and cultural heritage of the lands along the Thames River and historic Talbot Trail in Southwestern Ontario, with an area of focus including Middlesex, Elgin, Perth, and Oxford Counties. The TTLT currently owns and manages 12 properties in the Carolinian Life Zone, protecting over 400 hectares of land. She mentioned that the TTLT is fuelled by volunteers and explained how the public could become more involved through volunteer opportunities.

Jim Jenkins thanked Daria for her talk and presented her with a small token of appreciation on behalf of the Conservation Authority.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:

Member Vanhoucke awarded the 13th Annual Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Scholarship Award to Sam Regier. Sam is currently attending East Elgin Secondary School and will be pursuing her post-secondary education in Environmental Resource Management at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay.

CONSERVATION AWARD:

Member Mark Tinlin was called upon to present the Conservation Award to “The Butters Family” in recognition of their efforts to initiate several stewardship projects on their farm to restore wildlife habitat and enhance water quality in the Nineteen Creek Watershed.

Kevin and Faye Butters were in attendance to receive the Award on behalf of their family. Kevin thanked the CCCA for the recognition and stated that their commitment to environmental stewardship started with the enthusiasm and education of their son while attending the Environmental Leadership Program. He concluded by thanking the staff for their assistance and professionalism during the construction of the various restoration projects.

OTHER BUSINESS:

<u>Motion # 09/2015</u>	A. Vanhoucke	A. Oslach	CARRIED
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THAT, Sally Martyn, Chairperson, Arthur Oslach, Vice-Chairperson, and Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer, be designated as Signing Officers for Authority business in the year 2015; and further,

THAT, Susan Mann, Financial Services Coordinator, be assigned with signing authority for payroll items and utility accounts; and further;

That, the borrowing maximum for 2015 be up to the sum of \$175,000.00.

<u>Motion # 10/2015</u>	A. Oslach	A. Vanhoucke	CARRIED
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THAT, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Aylmer Branch, be appointed the Authority's banking institution for the year 2015.

<u>Motion # 11/2015</u>	A. Vanhoucke	A. Oslach	CARRIED
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THAT, the Legal Firm of McKenzie Lake Lawyers LLP be appointed as the Authority Solicitors for the year 2015 to deal with matters of litigation; and further,

That, the Law Firm of Bowsher + Bowsher be appointed to deal with matters of real estate for the year 2015.

Motion # 12/2015 A. Oslach A. Vanhoucke CARRIED

THAT, Graham Scott Enns LLP Chartered Accountants be appointed as the Authority's Auditor for the year 2015.

ADJOURNMENT:

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Chairperson Martyn invited everyone to stay for refreshments and networking opportunities.

Motion # 13/2015 A. Vanhoucke A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the Annual General Meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority be adjourned at (3:20 p.m.).

General Manager / Secretary –Treasurer

Authority Chairperson