

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Meeting #07/2023

PRESENT:

Paul Buchner	Chairperson	Township of South-West Oxford
Morgaine Halpin	Vice-Chairperson	Municipality of Central Elgin
Arthur Oslach	Member	Town of Aylmer
Gary Clarke	Member	City of St. Thomas
Scott Lewis	Member	Township of Malahide

STAFF:

Dusty Underhill	General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer
Susan Simmons	Financial Services Coordinator
Gerrit Kremers	Resource Planning Coordinator
Al Bradford	Conservation Area Supervisor
Peter Dragunas	Water Management Technician
Brittany Bell	Program Support Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rob Perry Reporter, the Aylmer Express

WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Buchner welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at (10:00 a.m.).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion # 88/2023 M. Halpin A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the Agenda for the September 14, 2023, Full Authority meeting be adopted as circulated.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:

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

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO AUDIO / VIDEO RECORD MEETING:

The Chairperson asked for disclosures of intentions to audio or video record the meeting. No one indicated any such intentions at this time.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion # 89/2023 G. Clarke A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the Minutes of Full Authority Meeting #06/2023 (August 10, 2023), be accepted as circulated.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

No one reported any outstanding business to discuss from the previous Minutes.

PUBLIC / SPECIAL DELEGATIONS:

None

REPORTS:

Reports FA 67 to FA 70/2023 – Monthly Staff Reports, were presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 90/2023 G. Clarke M. Halpin CARRIED

THAT, Staff Reports FA 67 to FA 70 for the month of August, be noted and filed.

Report FA 71/2023 – August Summary of Revenue and Expenditures, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 91/2023 G. Clarke A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 71/2023 (August Summary of Revenue and Expenditures), be noted and filed.

Report FA 72/2023 – Accounts Paid, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 92/2023 S. Lewis G. Clarke CARRIED

THAT, Accounts Paid totaling \$66,337.71, be approved as presented in Report FA 72/2023.

Report FA 73/2023 – 2024 Budget Direction was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 93/2023 A. Oslach G. Clarke CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority authorize a 3% C.P.I index to prepare the 2024 Draft Budget.

Motion # 94/2023 M. Halpin A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the full Authority approve the preparation of a 2024 Draft Budget that includes a levy increase of 9%.

Recorded Vote:

Morgaine Halpin	Central Elgin	YES	9%
Arthur Oslach	Aylmer	YES	9%
Scott Lewis	Malahide	YES	9%
Paul Buchner	Township of South West Oxford	YES	9%
Gary Clarke	City of St. Thomas	NO	9%

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT:

- The General Manager, Water Management Technician, and Resource Planning Coordinator attended a meeting with Malahide Township in regard to a flood awareness day held in Port Bruce on September 9, 2023. Ideas were generated as per what discussion will entail at our booth in regards to flood control which lead to the creation of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authorities Provincial Flood and Ice Mandate Brochure which highlights our roles as a Conservation Authority. It was used for dispersal to local residents at the flood workshop and is also available in the administration office.
- Completed staff mid-term employee performance appraisals.
- Met with Tracey Lacerte Western Region Liaison for OPP. Tracey has been an excellent line of communication between local detachments such as Elgin County OPP and Aylmer Police services in relaying event information and concerns to determine where assistance may be needed in regard to long weekends, special events, and issues that arise from time to time.
- Attended a Lake Erie Regional Management Committee meeting. Updates to the Catfish Creek Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan, under s. 36 of the Act, are currently under review by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. Lake Erie Source Protection Region provided feedback to Conservation Ontario on drinking water source protection program/process improvements and eligible activities for the 2024-26 Transfer Payment Agreement. Conservation Ontario has submitted discussion papers on each topic to MECP for consideration.
- Started compiling a 10 year strategy document. Meeting with staff to discuss draft and receive input. Surveys will go out to the General Public for feedback electronically and then a draft will be brought to the board for discussion and revision where the directors see fit.
- Completed numerous surveys for Conservation Ontario in regards to newly mandated objectives through the CA Act.
- Started reviewing the old historical Watershed Strategy to utilize it as a basis for the newly mandated Core Resourced Based Watershed Strategy as it has a lot of information already required in the original document.
- Completed an Enbridge Growing Communities Grant for funding to assist in the offset of costs to host an ELP annual planting day.
- Registered AI and Gerrit for the Conservation Areas Workshop held in October.
- Budget preparation and direction for the 2024 budget.

Motion # 95/2023 M. Halpin A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the Correspondence Register and Copied Correspondence for August, 2023, be noted and filed.

Motion # 96/2023 G. Clarke M. Halpin CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority adjourn to Closed Session at 10:39 a.m.

Motion # 97/2023

A. Oslach

S. Lewis

CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority rise with report at 10:50 a.m.

Motion # 98/2023

A. Oslach

S. Lewis

CARRIED

THAT, the Committee of the Whole authorize the General Manager, Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to fulfill all signatory requirement and any other related tasks to finalize the sale of 1.2 acres from 9982 Hacienda Road to Mr. David Blatz.

NEXT MEETING / TERMINATION:

The next meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2023, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

Motion # 99/2023

G. Clarke

S. Lewis

CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority be terminated at 10:53 a.m.



General Manager / Secretary –Treasurer



Authority Chairperson