

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

Thursday, November 9, 2023

Meeting #09/2023

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:

<u>Motion # 100/2023</u>	M. Halpin	A. Oslach	CARRIED
--------------------------	-----------	-----------	---------

THAT, the Agenda for the November 9, 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 # 101/2023 A. Oslach G. Clarke CARRIED

THAT, the Minutes of Full Authority Meeting #08/2023 (October 12, 2023), be accepted as circulated.

Motion # 102/2023 M. Halpin A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the Minutes of Interview Committee Meeting #IC03/2023 (September 15, 2023), be adopted 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 83 to FA 86/2023 – Monthly Staff Reports, were presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 103/2023 G. Clarke M. Halpin CARRIED

THAT, Staff Reports FA 83 to FA 86 for the month of October, 2023, be noted and filed.

Report FA 87/2023 – October Summary of Revenue and Expenditures, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 104/2023 M. Halpin A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 87/2023 (October Summary of Revenue and Expenditures), be noted and filed.

Report FA 88/2023 – Accounts Paid, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 105/2023 A. Oslach G. Clarke CARRIED

THAT, Accounts Paid totaling \$93, 267.42 be approved as presented in Report FA 88/2023.

Report FA 89/2023 – Christmas Office Closure was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 106/2023 G. Clarke S. Lewis CARRIED

THAT, the Christmas Office closure schedule be approved as presented; and further,

THAT, staff receive a "floater" day off in lieu of the unused Staff Appreciation Day(s), and use vacation time and/or overtime credits to cover any other days not covered in the Personnel Policy.

Report FA 90/2023 – Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Ice Management Plan, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 107/2023

M. Halpin

A. Oslach

CARRIED

THAT, the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, Board of Directors endorse the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Ice Management Plan, 2023, as described in Report FA 90/2023, and in compliance with Conservation Authorities Act, ONTARIO REGULATION 686/21, MANDATORY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, Consolidation Period: From January 1, 2023 to the e-Laws current date.

Report FA 91/2023 – Catfish Creek Channel Sounding, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 108/2023

A. Oslach

G. Clarke

CARRIED

THAT, the channel sounding observations described in Report 91/2023, be received as information at this time.

Report FA 92/2023 – Approved Section 28 Applications, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 109/2023

M. Halpin

A. Oslach

CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority receive the staff approved Section 28 Regulation Applications Report FA 92/2023, as information.

Report FA 93/2023 – Springwater Pond Winter Drawdown, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 110/2023

S. Lewis

G. Clarke

CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 93/2023 be received as information at this time.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT:

- Continual support towards the 2024-2034 CCCA Strategic Plan. A rough draft has been created and approved by the board. A public consultation survey and consultation letter has been created to seek public, partner and municipal feedback. The survey will close November 24, 2023
- Completed the flood mitigation report which highlighted efforts made by the Authority since the flood of February 17, 2022.
- Ongoing budget deliberations. Seeking staff input etc. to narrow down the needs vs the wants for the 2024 Fiscal Year.
- Completed a presentation on HEC-HMS and presented it at a Port Bruce Rate Payers meeting on October 25. The PBRA is interested in making a donation, the CCCA will also contribute and seek municipal support in 2024 and the idea is to leverage the money through the FHIMP program to create some HEC HMS modelling.
- Assisted with the coordination and approval for a hazard tree removal in the Jaffa Outdoor Education Center outdoor classroom. Remnant Beech trees affected by the Beech Bark Disease were felled creating a safe space for the students and a space for the understory to flourish and rejuvenate.

- Attended a FHIMP update meeting. Progress was discussed in regards to where we are at with the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program which will provide an updated set of flood lines for the hamlet of Port Bruce.
- Attended an asset management webinar. A follow up session was conducted at the TRCA Headquarters in November. This will assist staff in regards to the mandatory asset management components the CCCA is required to complete as per the Conservation Authorities Act.
- Assisted in completing an expression of interest in regard to a grant from the Federal Government. The Government of Canada is investing \$12.5 million from the CAAF (climate action awareness fund) to support projects that will increase environmental literacy of young Canadians as part of the long-term solutions to tackle climate change. The submission included upgrades to our educational programming much needed improvements to transform the schoolhouse into the Springwater Education Center
- Attended the October 25, 2023 Port Bruce Rate Payers Association meeting at North Shore Marina. A presentation was presented to the PBRA in regards to HEC-HMS modeling and its capabilities. Earlier in 2023 the PBRA approached the authority in regard to a donation they would like to make for something that would assist in flood mitigation/ prevention. Staff thought the HEC HMS software was most efficient tool everyone could benefit from which would provide lead time well in advance of an event.
- Review of the preliminary budget with staff.
- Attended a General Managers meeting. Discussion was held around mandatory deliverables such as Asset Management Plans, Land inventory, Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy Conservation Areas Strategy and Ice Management Plans. Updates were provided by CO staff in regard to Trees Canada Agreements, Ecosystem Protection and Climate mitigation Fund, Natural Resources Canada Climate Resilient Coastal Communities Program.

Motion # 111/2023

S. Lewis

A. Oslach

CARRIED

THAT, the Correspondence Registers for October, 2023, be noted and filed.

NEXT MEETING / TERMINATION:

The next meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2023, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

Motion # 112/2023

G. Clarke

A. Oslach

CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority be terminated at 10:23 a.m.


General Manager / Secretary –Treasurer


Authority Chairperson