

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

**Thursday, May 9, 2024**

**Meeting #04/2024**

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**PRESENT:**

Paul Buchner	Chairperson	Township of South-West Oxford
Arthur Oslach	Member	Town of Aylmer
Scott Lewis	Member	Township of Malahide
Morgaine Halpin	Vice-Chairperson	Municipality of Central Elgin

**STAFF:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Gary Clarke	Member	City of St. Thomas
Gerrit Kremers	Resource Planning Coordinator	

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Rob Perry	Reporter, the Aylmer Express
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**WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

<u>Motion # 44/2024</u>	M. Halpin	A. Oslach	CARRIED
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THAT, the Agenda for the May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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 # 45/2024                      A. Oslach                      M. Halpin                      CARRIED

THAT, the Minutes of Full Authority Meeting #03/2024 (April 11, 2024), 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 24 to FA 27/2024 – Monthly Staff Reports, were presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 46/2024                      M. Halpin                      A. Oslach                      CARRIED

THAT, Staff Reports FA 24 to FA 27 for the month of April, 2024 be noted and filed.

Report FA 28/2024 – April Summary of Revenue and Expenditures, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 47/2024                      S. Lewis                      A. Oslach                      CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 28/2024 (April Summary of Revenue & Expenditures), be noted and filed.

Report FA 29/2024 – Accounts Paid, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 48/2024                      M. Halpin                      S. Lewis                      CARRIED

THAT, Accounts Paid totaling \$152,886.89, be approved as presented in Report FA 29/2024.

Report FA 30/2024 – 2024 Budget and Levy Re-Approval was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 49/2024

S. Lewis

A. Oslach

CARRIED

THAT, the 2024 Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Budget totalling \$1,766,342.24 be adopted as presented;

AND THAT, the 2024 Municipal General Levy in the amount of \$442,474.36 be approved as amended.

Member's Name	Municipality	CVA Apportionment %	Yes	No
Scott Lewis	Township of Malahide	36.8620%	X	
Morgaine Halpin	Municipality of Central Elgin	27.9653%	X	
Arthur Oslach	Town of Aylmer	25.5975%	X	
Gary Clarke	City of St. Thomas	6.1215%		
Paul Buchner	Township of South-West Oxford	3.4537%	X	

Report FA 31/2024 – Conservation Ontario Council Meeting, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 50/2024

S. Lewis

A. Oslach

CARRIED

THAT, the information outlined in Report FA 31/2024, be noted and filed.

Report FA 32/2024 –Summer Employment Programs was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 51/2024

S. Lewis

M. Halpin

CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority acknowledge receipt of the information on the 2024 Summer Employment Programs as outlined in Report FA 32/2024.

Report FA 33/2024 –Southwestern Regional Envirothon Competition was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 52/2024

A. Oslach

M. Halpin

CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 33/2024, be noted and filed.

### **GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT:**

- Met with Ian Begg and Phil in regard to the creation of a promotional video focused on drone footage taken of the Springwater Conservation Area Day Use Area and East Campground.
- Reviewed the Lake Erie Action plan meeting materials for the April 3, 2024 meeting.
- Completed the April Full Authority Agenda and Source Protection Authority agenda package.

- Completed a consultation for the CCCA's insurance program and upgraded the program to the necessary required coverages to properly protect the CCCA.
- Attended a Southwestern Region General Managers meeting at the GRCA where status of watershed stewardship and watershed health monitoring services and implementation of O. Reg. 41/24 was discussed. I led a discussion on the progress of Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy, the Conservation Areas Strategy and how people have built Indigenous connections and engagement contacts.
- Attended Conservation Ontario's Annual General Meeting.
- Working towards seeking Indigenous Engagement in regard to some of our mandated objectives. Mr. Gerry Richer has been a great advocate for the Conservation Authority and is trying to assist in the creation of relationships with local indigenous communities on behalf of the CCCA. I have connected with Lauren Jones from Oshweken, Wildlife and Stewardship Manager, Lands and Resources Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council.
- Held a monthly staff meeting to address any concerns issues etc. and give the group a chance to have discussion as a whole. These meetings will continue on a monthly basis assisting in keeping open lines of communication and keep everyone on the same page in regard to projects, works completed or works to be completed.
- Held a Health and Safety meeting to discuss annual procedures, approve minutes and approve any new business before the 2024 Camping season.
- Completed the Section 39, 2023-2024-year end report for MNRF and submitted it before the April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 deadline.
- Started preparing reports etc. for the May Land Management Committee meeting and discussing necessary changes required moving forward.
- Renewed Forestry Pesticide license.
- Completed my renewal of my small drinking water system certification.
- Continual work on the Conservation Areas Strategy, Watershed Strategy, and Land Inventory.
- Completed the initial application for SCP Employer Sponsor Application through Metis Nation of Ontario in regard to getting Logan Belanger's wage subsidized for his work term.
- Worked with staff to plan and approve an Eclipse viewing day. Roughly 99 vehicles attended the Springwater East campground for viewing.
- Progressively working through the CCCA annual insurance package to assure we have the proper coverages we require. As soon as I hear back from the broker in regard to getting appraisals done I can start retaining quotes on whatever the broker may not be able to provide an adequate appraisal on.
- Met with staff at the OPC to discuss and implement the 2024 workday and to get the Path of Honor Agreement signed for another two year period.
- Started compiling the Tourism Relief Fund final submission.

Motion # 53/2024

S. Lewis

A. Oslach

CARRIED

THAT, the Copied Correspondence and Correspondence Register for April, 2024, be noted and filed.

Motion # 54/2024                      A. Oslach                      M. Halpin                      CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority adjourn to Closed Session at 10:27 a.m.

Motion # 55/2024                      S. Lewis                      M. Halpin                      CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority rise with report at 10:30 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING / TERMINATION:**

The next meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2024, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

Motion # 56/2024                      S. Lewis                      A. Oslach                      CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority be terminated at 10:33a.m.

  
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General Manager / Secretary –Treasurer

  
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Authority Chairperson